

it reminded me very visibily of the main gorge of the Colorado river in the Grand Canyon during high water. Looking at this dirty rushing water ut was not hard to understand how it should come about that Naaman, the Syrian general should have protesttd against dipping himself seven times in the jordan to cure himself of leprosy and have thought that Abana and Parphar, the beautiful rivers of Damascus were better.

The jordan pours about six million tons of fresh water into the Dead sea. Just above the dead sea the valley widens out to ahplain fourteen miles across. The plain of Jericho, here it is hot all the year around and very hot in the summer time. The valley is very fertile where any water come on it. Where there is no water it is parched and dry and entirely without vegetation . A short distance north of Jericho I remember riding on horsebackone evening through a part where some small steams came down from the eastern slopes as a result the high growth was so thick that I could scarcely see the narrow path through it, hwile the high bushes came up above my knees ~~after~~ though I was sitting on the back of the horse and at times when very little of the horse was visibile above the undergrowth. The next mornning I rode through a section where there was no water coming down from the mountains ans the ground was as hard and as dry aanthe pavement.

The Jordan river ends in the Dead Sea, it pours its six million tons of fresh water into this sea every day but nothing ever flows out. The Dead Sea is forty seven and a half miles long and ten miles widein its widest place, surrounded by bleak, rocky, barren mountains, with the sun balzing down upon its shore, its blue waters give the impression of wonderful coolness and comfort, and making a most pleasant

in the landsape, nor does this is this impression proven false when one steps into the water for it is very cool and pleasant, it becomes unpleasant only when one tries to swim rapidly in it and splashes some of the water into his eyes. when I did so I found them smarting most unbearably. The water holdsin solution about twenty five rper cent of ~~is~~ composed principally of salt, chloride magnesium, and chloride of calsium . It is bitter to the taste, its density is so great that I felt that I sand intat only a little deeper than my diaphragm, while if I lay on my back it seemed as if fully half of my body was above the water.