# BIBLE ILLUSTRATIONS: OR, A DESCRIPTION OF MANNERS AND CUSTOMS PECULIAR TO THE EAST, ESPECIALLY EXPLANATORY OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

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Bible Illustrations: Or, a Description of Manners and Customs Peculiar to the East, Especially Explanatory of the Holy Scriptures by B. H. Draper

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## B. H. DRAPER

# BIBLE ILLUSTRATIONS: OR, A DESCRIPTION OF MANNERS AND CUSTOMS PECULIAR TO THE EAST, ESPECIALLY EXPLANATORY OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES





The Mirage or Glowing Sandy Plain. Issiah xxxv. 7.



Posture at Meals in the East. Luke xiv 16

### BIBLE ILLUSTRATIONS;

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### A DESCRIPTION OF

### MANNERS AND CUSTOMS

PECULIAR TO THE EAST,

ESPECIALLY

### EXPLANATORY OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES.

BY THE

REV B. H. DRAPER, Author of "Scripture Stories from the Old and New Testament."

AMERICAN EDITION WITH MANY IMPROVEMENTS.
ILLUSTRATED BY ENGRAVINGS.

BOSTON: CARTER, HENDEE & Co. 1832.

3v.

### ADVERTISEMENT

TO THE ENGLISH EDITION.

A knowledge of the customs and manners of the East is absolutely necessary to a right understanding of the Scriptures. Most persons can recollect, when they were young, how singular and difficult some parts of the Bible appeared, which, from their enlarged information, they now regard as very simple and beautiful.

It was not possible that a volume of this size could include the whole of those customs to which there are manifold allusions in the Sacred Writings; it however comprehends many of the most interesting and instructive, and such as are amply sufficient to prove that the Scriptures are accurate in their representations, and worthy of respect, even where, at the first sight, the sense does not immediately appear.

It is hoped, that the ensuing pages will be permitted to occupy a place among those useful volumes which the young will be allured to read on the hallowed hours between the intervals of public worship on the Lord's Day; and that some of the instructors of the rising generation will employ them in their labour as conducive to that variety which is so exceedingly agreeable and necessary to their enlarged success.

SOUTHAMPTON, 1831.

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### INTRODUCTION.

Mr. Berron resided at a handsome country seat on the coast of Hampshire in England. In early life he had been engaged in the busy pursuits of commerce, in the neighborhood of London. These he had now relinquished. His state of health rendered the sea-air necessary to his welfare; and as his father had left him a considerable fortune, he was well able to give up the profits of trade to those who had more need of them.

And he was as willing to do so, as he was able; for he was fond of a retired, contemplative life. And especially was this the case, when he had lost his wife, who died after a long illness, leaving a fine little boy to his care. He determined, therefore, to gratify the best wishes of his heart, by devoting his leisure hoursto the education of this child. His sentiments on this, important subject, were in unison with those of Cow-