

miles.
total. stages.

- 312 13 *El-Maḡta*, 'the Ford' (5½ hrs. from Narseila); tidal creek running in from the sea, only fordable at one place at low tide. In the middle of the tidal current there is a fort and watch-tower from which a custodian, maintained by the Sheikh of Abu Dhabi, directs caravans when and where to cross; - a small guard is stationed at the fort. The track then lies across a level, saline plain.
- 322 10 **ABU DHABI**, principal town on the Trucial Coast; see I, p. 337 f.

[An alternative route from Bireimi to *El-Maḡta* runs to the N. of the main route via *Nahshalah*, where wells and date-trees are reported, about 16 m. to the N. of *Rakhkham* (see above, p. 335). Between Bireimi and *Nahshalah* the route is divided into three fairly equal stages at the two watering-places *Jariyīn* and *Asweihān*.]

ROUTE 74

HOFŪF—BIREIMI—RAS EL-KHEIMAH

Authorities: For the first part of route to Bireimi, native information obtained by Prideaux, 1906; Bireimi to Ras el-Kheimah, Cox, 1905; Burchardt, 1904, travelled from Hofūf to Dōhat es-Salwa, but he gives few details.

General Direction: SE., then E., then NE.

Distance: Crow-fly, 385 miles; road, 592 miles.

Character and Supplies: see p. 63 f.

HOFŪF, town; see I, p. 305:

Dir. E., at first by well-defined road, across stony plain.

1 m. *Beni Nahu*, hamlet of 20 houses on N. of route.

1½ m. **Beni Na'ām**, village of 200 houses, on N.

1½ m. **Fudhūl**, village of 250 houses, on S.

2 m. **Maneizlah**, village of 250 houses. The track becomes less well-defined.