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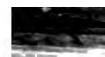
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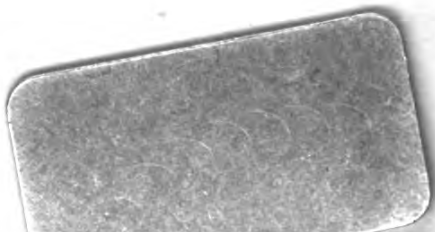




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TUTTI FRUTTI.

VOL. II.

LONDON:
C. ROWORTH AND SONS, BLUE YARD,
TEMPLE BAR.

TUTTI FRUTTI,

BY THE AUTHOR OF

“THE TOUR OF A GERMAN PRINCE.”

“ Diversi son degli uomini i capricci,
A chi piaccion le torte, a chi i pasticci.”

Goldoni.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

LONDON:

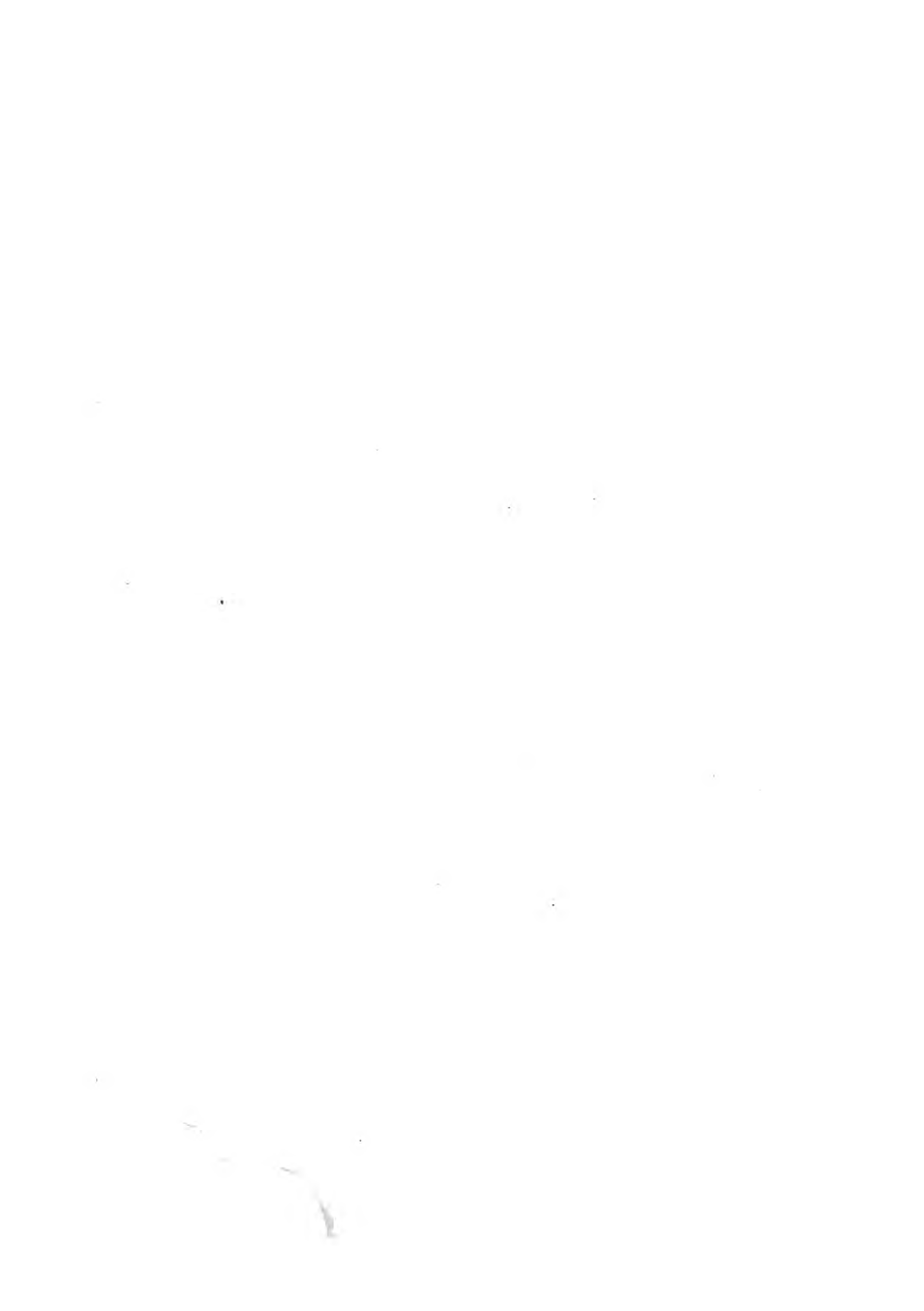
BACH AND CO.

BOOKSELLERS AND PUBLISHERS TO HER MAJESTY,

21, SOHO SQUARE.

—
1834.

285



TUTTI FRUTTI.

SCENES AND SKETCHES

OF

A TOUR IN THE RIESENGBIRGE.

VOL. II.

B

SCENES AND SKETCHES
OF
A TOUR IN THE RIESENGBIRGE.

Through weeds and thorns, and matted underwood,
I force my way ; now climb, and now descend
O'er rocks, or bare or mossy, with wild foot
Crushing the purple whorts ; while oft unseen,
Hurrying along the drifted forest-leaves,
The scared snake rustles. Onward still I toil,
I know not, ask not whither ! A new joy,
Lovely as light, sudden as summer gust,
And gladsome as the first-born of the spring,
Beckons me on, or follows from behind,
Playmate or guide ! The master passion quell'd,
I feel that I am free.—*Coleridge.*

I HAD long led a very solitary life in my castle, as my society consisted only of architects, gardeners, &c. &c. This annoyance

originated in my passion for building, landscape-gardening, and other improvements, which alternately afforded me vexation and delight. At length this long-continued feverish excitement exhausted me, and I eagerly pined for tranquillity and repose, pure contemplative recreation; for though the creating impulse is one of nature's most precious gifts, yet care and anxiety are too frequently its concomitants.

It was on a cheering, radiant morning, that I determined to tear myself away and commence a pedestrian tour to the distant blue mountains. I travelled through dark, dreary forests, and gay smiling plains, in search of new adventures. Not that I was armed with the lance and sword of the middle ages, but merely with the peaceable paraphernalia of the nineteenth century—a walking-stick in my hand, and a note-book in my pocket.

I gave orders to an old groom to follow me at a distance with one of my best hunters, and

with what would have been called, in the aforesaid middle ages, "a sumpter horse;" the former, I intended, should relieve me occasionally from the fatigues of walking, and the latter was the bearer of a canteen, amply supplied with such necessaries as I required, when I might feel inclined to breakfast or dine al fresco. I did not forget, also, to provide for my mind's nourishment by taking with me a few books. This gipsy method of enjoying life contains, in my opinion, an indescribable charm, of which I have never become weary.

The aspect of the weather became threatening, but I had scarcely completed about twenty miles, when the azure blue of heaven appeared in streaks behind the dark veil of the gray clouds; the sun's golden beams glanced brightly over the range of hills covered with the blooming heath and the purple-berried bilberry-bushes, while each glorious ray caused in my bosom a thrill of delight and pleasure; for it seemed as if the all-bountiful, all-gracious

God looked down upon me from the blue depths above. It was long since any such manifestation had revealed itself, for my ideas and feelings had become so absorbed in the occupations of active life, that I had entirely lost my God; at least, I sought in vain for the admonitions of the silent monitor within me, so that at length I seemed as if removed from my own proper element.

I now felt released from the trammels which had confined me, and enjoyed my re-awakened religious feelings, together with the blessings and beauties of nature; a pure stream of happiness ran through me, resembling the life-giving influence of magnetism. For oh! how powerful are the delights and consolations of religion!

Cheered and inspirited, I travelled more rapidly, and as the evening was throwing her sable mantle over the earth, I arrived at the extremity of the forest, and beheld the hospitable dwelling of a landed proprietor, with whom I had formerly been on terms of inti-

macy, and shared various scenes of many-coloured life. We had not met for many years, and it was only report that informed me of several domestic afflictions, which had carried sorrow into his peaceful retreat. The heaviest blow of fate was, that his daughter, universally celebrated for her beauty, lost her reason in consequence of an ill-fated attachment to an inferior in rank, disapproved by her father, and which so alarmingly increased, that it was found necessary to confine her in a mad-house in the neighbouring town of W——.

Several years had elapsed since this mournful event, and I hoped to find, that the deep distress of her parents had become softened beneath the lenient influence of time; I therefore determined to demand hospitality for the night.

The dust-covered pedestrian entered unannounced into the garden, where, under a linden bower, which the departing rays of the setting sun had tinted with gold and purple, the family were assembled at their evening repast. The

domestic arrangements of my friend were made conformably with old customs and with military punctuality ; he dined precisely at twelve, and supped at eight, being the same division of time as is followed by the fashionable world in London and Paris, only with different appellations.

Some minutes elapsed before I was recognized by my old comrade, and I had equal difficulty in identifying the stooping form and silver hair of the being before me, with the undaunted fiery dark-haired captain of cavalry ; upon announcing myself, I was immediately remembered, and his reception of me was most kind and cordial.

He introduced me to his lady, whose general demeanour was extremely imposing ; the deep lines of melancholy in her countenance were united with the bearing of a haughty, determined spirit. I was then made acquainted with their son and daughter-in-law, between whom was seated a lovely boy about ten years' old, that I concluded was the son of the young people ; but upon making an observation to this effect, I was

answered by the pretty young woman slightly blushing in the negative, adding, that he was only a near relative. A suppressed sigh, and a dark cloud which passed over the countenance of the elder lady, afforded me a clue to the nature of the boy's relationship. I instantly changed the conversation, when I was informed, that his lady, their son and daughter-in-law, intended to set out that night for the metropolis, to arrange some important business relative to an estate entailed on the Baroness, which rendered their presence indispensable; the Major, whose health was impaired by wounds he had formerly received, remained at home, and he urged me to beguile him of his solitude by passing a few days with him. We conversed much upon the aspect of the domestic political horizon, with which he was extremely dissatisfied; for instance, he considered it oppressive, as an old subject of Saxony, that, notwithstanding the solemn pledge of the Prussian government to the contrary, the landed proprietors, — who under their former rulers

had been exempted from custom-house duties, from being compelled to purchase salt from the government, from excise, from having soldiers billeted upon them, and other similar exactions, —were condemned to see all these privileges wrested from them without the slightest indemnification; added to the loss of income, they were burdened by a variety of new taxes; this, united with the emancipation of the serfs, had reduced them to a condition both hopeless and miserable.

The old gentleman was particularly irritated against the vexatious interference of the civil officers, whose ignorance of local customs, of the peculiar relations between the proprietors and the peasants, and of the law as it formerly existed, aided by their presumption, arbitrary power, and love of chicanery, had betrayed them into innumerable errors. “You know, my dear H——,” said my friend, “that formerly a commission consisting of thirty or at most forty persons was sufficient for the administration of an entire province, whereas at present, for half a

province, one hundred additional commissioners are appointed, and the nobility, who exercised in public affairs an influence proportionate to their rank, have sunk into insignificance.

“ One of my friends, the late regretted president of the government of Erdmansdorf, informed me, that, when he was sent to take possession of the government of Cleves, he found there only a prefect and four councillors of state; yet every thing was in order, the accounts perfectly balanced, and nothing omitted that was necessary. The new government was installed, whose officers exceeded twenty, and when three months had elapsed, the corporation had contracted a debt to a large amount.

“ The French minister judged correctly, when he said, that by the side of every prefect a gallows should be erected, upon which to hang him, if he should prove a perfidious servant of the community.

“ On the contrary, in our Hydra-like corpora-

tions, each head governs according to his own judgment, and to the utmost extent of his authority. We have prefects, Landrätthe, and representatives who no longer represent the people, but are become mere civil officers of the government, whose commands they are obliged unhesitatingly to follow. Civil directors of every description, commanders of the Landwehr, press upon me on every side ; when I require the services of my domestics and labourers, I am told, they are obliged to leave me for several weeks to practise military evolutions ! In the mean time, I have the pleasure of contemplating all my affairs at home remaining in statu quo. You might perhaps suppose my horses, at least, received the benefit of the Sabbath Day, and were allowed to doze peaceably in their stables. Oh, no ! their presence is required to perform the duties of cavalry chargers ; it is really ridiculous. Some time ago, my bailiff, who to me is almost indispensable, was summoned to attend a shoot-

ing exercise, about thirteen leagues from hence, for fourteen days ; even the officers were convinced of its inutility ; for, as my bailiff told me, when he returned, ‘ This important exercise consisted in discharging a few shots out of a bad firelock ; whereas, if he had remained at home, he could have practised far more effectually with his own fowling-piece, and at the same time have fulfilled the duties of his office.’ ”

“ Stop ! stop ! my friend,” exclaimed I, “ no declamatory tirade against the Landwehr ; every thing is capable of two interpretations ; inconvenience, and even abuses, may sometimes arise from it ; but what can be the reason that a man of your penetration and judgment, is not convinced of the important benefits which result to the country from that great institution ! No, my friend, you may depend upon it, that the arming of a nation, in the same manner as it exists in our country, is the pride of the present century ! Since the time of Napoleon,



nothing so stupendously magnificent has appeared in Europe! and future ages will acknowledge and appreciate its importance. I concede, that in some instances, it is productive of individual inconvenience, and may be prejudicial to the advancement of national industry; but this is unavoidable, and how many important benefits does it not confer upon the nation to counterbalance the evils! The advantages, when considered in a military point of view, are incalculable; its influence upon civilization is no less striking; a decided amelioration of the national character is already visible, and displays itself by more refined manners and improved morality; the degree of intelligence and information which are, by its means, already diffused, must excite astonishment and admiration; the extraordinary difference in those who are engaged in military duties, and those who are not, is palpably evident, not only in their external appearance, but generally speaking in their conduct.

“No persons are more competent to decide on this question than the landed proprietors, for we behold in the Landwehr the only elements of obedience and subordination, particularly as these valuable ingredients in the formation of the social character are become nearly extinct; compare our military with our civil department, contemplate the arrogant presumption of the latter, their conceit, their ostentatious display of authority, their restless endeavours to bring rank and hereditary power into disrepute, and you will, like me, feel perfectly convinced, that we are indebted only to our military system, united with the high veneration and deep affection which the entire nation entertain towards the king, for all that we enjoy of good order and tranquillity; when nearly the whole of Germany was in a state of feverish excitement, Prussia, not through a deficiency in general intelligence, but in the midst of its diffusion, remained undisturbed. A military organization of the whole nation has been re-

peatedly pronounced to be a dangerous and unmanageable engine, but the result has been entirely different, for this very organization has been the means of effectually restraining the factious and turbulent. We owe this blessing alone to its founder, our revered monarch; to that elevated individual, who has devoted the activity and energy of a whole life to perfect a system which has produced the happiest effects.

“No, no, my brave old comrade, leave to me undisputed possession of my beloved Landwehr; this tremendous newly-invented machine is too excellent to be even partially defective; on the contrary, our pen and paper despots I willingly resign to the castigation of an old officer of the Grand Army.”

“Protect them,” answered the old hero, with a mixture of animation and bitterness, “that would be a difficult undertaking; we poor tormented landed proprietors may sing the old song—‘No peace by day or night, just like Leporello.’ Look at that packet on the side-table

which the postman brought a short time before your arrival ; I am afraid to open it before supper, for fear of destroying my appetite ; in fact, every week produces a new ordinance or a new regulation, as if for no other purpose than to increase the revenue of the Post-office ; they frequently chase each other day by day like threatening thunder-clouds. One day, for instance, I received commands to erect, under penalty of a fine, in our miserable village, three lazarettos for the reception of those infected with the pestilence, together with such a multitude of attendant accessories, that I positively think it would make bankrupts of the whole community ; at the same time the unfortunate peasants, in the midst of their hay-making, were obliged to leave the fields and form a cordon against the cholera. Another day a mandate was transmitted enjoining me to construct, within the space of nine days, finger-posts at all the cross-roads throughout my domain ; and if I neglected the injunction, I was

to be fined ten rix dollars. On a third occasion orders were sent me to repair what is usually termed a soft road, that is, one principally composed of sand.

“ Well, after much trouble and expense, I erected a lazaretto in each of the miserable villages, and, *pro forma*, dispatched a few villagers to manœuvre on the frontier, for the purpose of defending it against the attacks of the dreaded Azreel who was now advancing. The ensuing week I received a confidential note from the prefect, saying, that government, for the present at least, had changed their plans respecting the mode of defence against the invader ; secondly, the *chaussée*, which proved an expensive undertaking, is finished, and now it is discovered that no person can drive over it in wet weather, as they must either continue their route as usual, over corn fields and meadows, or consent to remain in the road of mud all night. My finger-posts were maliciously transplanted by some of my wicked neighbours, and I was

obliged to 'chew the sour apple' and replace them by others; a friendly neighbour, however, kindly advised me to wait, as I might possibly receive contrary orders. Like myself, he also planted his finger-posts, but wisely wrote no directions upon them, and they have never been molested. Besides, of what utility can they be? the natives are well acquainted with the roads, and strangers rarely visit our wilderness. I followed his advice, and heard no more of the finger-posts.* It was probably a dream of some theoretical state commissioner that direction-posts would be productive of great public usefulness, and having demonstrated the proposition to his own satisfaction, it was decreed that we poor *soufre-douleurs* should bear

* The most singular plan of making finger-posts that I have seen practised, was that of the eccentric Count O——, who, in a Catholic province transformed all the crucifixes at the cross-roads into direction posts, and the outstretched arm of Christ was to be seen pointing, with the distance and the name of the next town written upon it.

the cost of constructing them. The mandate went forth, but its execution was never inquired into.

“ But as the climax of all our miseries, the pettifogging lawyers, a brood of venomous insects, have daily multiplied since we have become subjects of — ; these prowl about the villages like wolves, instigating the peasants to commence processes against their lords, in order that they may at their own convenience ‘ catch fish in the troubled waters.’ I have been already, *bon gré, mal gré*, embroiled in ten or twelve such processes ; but this is a mere trifle, for my neighbours are plunged, through their instrumentality, into such a vortex of litigation that, however incredible it may appear, in a population of fourteen thousand upwards of three hundred are engaged in endless law contests. The blessings of modern liberalism, and the great rôle which the peasants are one day to act, has driven all common sense out of their heads ; our former rulers compelled them to keep in their proper

places, because they were conversant with the real state of affairs; the present only concern themselves about destroying all obstacles that obstruct the execution of their own theories. The most nonsensical appeal is listened to with attention, and driven through three courts; but then we know that, out of humanity, the complaints of the peasants must not be neglected. As in the Catholic religion, every thing must be believed, even that five is the sum total of twice two, when the Pope commands it; so it is with us, every grievance, real or imaginary, is attended to; for instance, if A. maintained that B. was his father, and therefore claimed of him the means of subsistence, this appeal would be regarded with favourable attention, even if it was proved that A. was ten years older than B.

“ The court of law seldom releases those who are once caught by its fangs, if the unfortunate victim has money; but if the suitor is destitute of this life-blood of a law-suit, then they inquire if the adversary is rich, because they always

manage affairs so conveniently, that the principal share of the costs shall fall upon the rich man, while he who has nothing to lose is protected by his plea of poverty; and even if the rich man should win the process he gains nothing, because his adversary is—a beggar.

“The provincial government had lately occasion to write to me respecting my distilleries, when, notwithstanding my military grade, notwithstanding my patent of nobility, which must certainly be of some value so long as titles are permitted to exist,—in spite, I say, of both these, the superscription of that interesting document was ‘To the Brandy Distiller of ——!’ I have preserved the envelope as a curious memorial of the present manners of the acting government commissioners in our country.”

This was too much for my gravity; “Do not be angry,” my dear friend; “depend upon it the writer of that letter was a wit, who was acquainted with your weak side; we cannot feel displeased at so excellent a joke, and I do not doubt you will

guard that important *couvert* with the same care as your letters of nobility of anno 1100."

This remark did not provoke the faintest smile on the countenance of my friend, who continued with renewed energy, "I tell you the country is becoming every day poorer, partly owing to the causes I have mentioned, and partly to the taxes, which are trebled. Another circumstance, which I cannot omit mentioning, is the ill-advised lenity of the government towards malefactors, which has contributed not a little to deteriorate the morality of the lower orders. Robbers, poachers, and vagabonds of every description have increased in such fearful numbers, that they have almost obtained the mastery.

"I had myself a rascally gamekeeper, who, instead of discharging the duties of his office, became a poacher, and had even the effrontery to acknowledge that he had only sold seven head of deer! And what was his punishment? Why, six weeks' imprisonment and the loss of

his cockade! the annunciation of the last part of the sentence, had no other effect upon him than to produce a violent fit of laughter. In extensive wooded districts, there is frequently more wood stolen than is sold, and it is so difficult to obtain decisive evidence, as the people mutually assist each other, that detection is nearly impossible. I regret to say, they seem to regard perjury as a species of entertainment, in consequence of the disuse of all religious solemnities when oaths are administered, which are treated with as much levity as a comedy, and give rise to the most irreverent pleasantries. I recently heard a fellow say to his neighbour, in a court of justice, 'My first feelings are Preus'ch courant' (Prussian money); with this he parodied the hymn, 'Mein erst Gefühl ist Preis und Dank' (My first feelings are praise and gratitude).

“ Four of these wood-stealers and poachers were, a short time since, found in the very act. A battle ensued, and one of my game-keepers

was dreadfully wounded ; for this, the scoundrels were merely condemned to three weeks' imprisonment, because I could only produce one competent witness, and the law requires two ! the testimony of those in my own service not being admitted ; yet the fact was so clearly proved, that justice itself could not doubt the offence ; and, as might be expected, the rascals gloried publicly in the deed. Owing to this immunity for crime, it could be no matter of surprise, that the vagabonds very shortly repeated their visit, when a second battle was the consequence ; they defended themselves with desperation, and during the conflict one of them was dangerously wounded by a blow from a huntsman's dagger, given by my game-keeper. When the trial of the faithful fellow came on, they set up a dreadful shout, and threatened the most horrible vengeance if their comrade should die : as fate would have it, this did not happen ; and I was indebted alone to some accidental, but fortunate circumstances, that the

poor fellow escaped the dangers which menaced him ; the whole affair, however, put me to very great expense.

“ The bias of justice in favour of the *canaille*, is but too generally prevalent ; if, however, their opponent in a court of law happens to be possessed of birth and wealth, without being an officer of one of the civil commissions, then he has no chance : this is very natural in a country where the aristocracy, i. e. landed proprietors, have been supplanted by the *bureaucracy*. For, as a talented author lately remarked with some degree of truth, ‘ Prussia is unjustly termed a military State, whereas in reality she has been long a State under the sway of civil officers.’ ”

“ In future, I shall endeavour to protect myself as well as I can, but I would not advise any poacher, or wood-stealer, to meet me alone in the woods. I know how to act, and as our most *merciful law* will not condemn a delinquent, unless on the testimony of two witnesses, I shall endeavour to turn this circumstance to

my own advantage. The impunity with which offenders escape, is not confined to wood-stealers and poachers ; for, a short time since, three or four very aggravated cases of house-breaking occurred in my immediate neighbourhood. The delinquents were universally known. But what does that signify ? When one of these nightly depredators breaks in through the window, the unfortunate master of the house must submissively demand whether the unwelcome intruder really intended to steal or murder, or whether he had any other benevolent determination ! after making these preliminary inquiries, if he still resolutely keeps his ground and seizes you by the throat, then, and not till then, are you justified in attacking him ; that is, if the power of protecting yourself is left ! But even this must be done with the greatest care and circumspection, for fear of injuring the person of the beloved robber ! However, as I before told you, I am determined to defend myself with blows, and that quickly."

“ I am really astonished,” said I, (interrupting him somewhat impatiently, for I was become ennuyé,) “ how you have escaped with life in this den of thieves ; but come, come ! pause a little, or you will be choked with your own philippics. I fear, my friend, you are one of those who are never contented with things as they exist, and see every object with a jaundiced eye ; believe me, I could, if I pleased, in a few minutes, turn the whole of your arguments against yourself. I suspect the reason you are so imbibbered against the civil officers is, because you are not numbered among them yourself, and I can safely wager a ducat, that if you were appointed either a councillor of state, or to some sinecure post, you would bid farewell to railing ; but let us lay on the shelf these disagreeable topics, and amuse ourselves by discussing the past events of our youth.”

My intemperate old friend, whose ill-humour was as violent as it was unjust, and who had exaggerated the evils, and overlooked the bright

side of things, still continued splenetic, occasionally swallowing large draughts of sugar and water. His lady looked at me with an expression of anxiety in her countenance, then turning smilingly to her husband, said, "Augustus, you permit these annoyances to weigh too heavily upon your spirits." She was right, for my old friend, when in the army, had been, not only an ill-humoured companion, but indiscreet and quarrelsome, and for that reason, had been avoided by many of our comrades, as we all well knew, that he was ever ready to support any opinion he might embrace, whether right or wrong, first by violent language, and then by blows. I remember one of his habits was, like Lord Byron, to place his sword and pistols by his bed side before he retired to rest. Still he had many good qualities, and generally displayed both justice and magnanimity in his actions towards his fellow-men. But the predominating weakness of his mind, which broke out only too frequently, was his indomitable

pride of nobility; this had been severely punished, and, unfortunately, at the expense of an only daughter's happiness.

“ My dear,” continued his wife, “ do not irritate yourself any further ;” for (she added with a sigh) “ we have a far greater evil to support than this, which, in comparison, is a mere sting of a wasp.” “ Oh! it is too true,” answered the old warrior, while the full warm tear dimmed his aged eye. “ I alone am the author of that calamity ; perhaps I was wrong in not adapting my mind to the spirit of the times, and renouncing that prejudice,—a strict regard for the honour of our name and family,—which we have cherished for centuries, and have till now preserved unimpaired. But, believe me, my children, it is, like others, a deep, unfathomable influence, which no mortal can explain ; it may be fate, happiness, or misfortune. I, alas! have tasted but little of enjoyment ; all my actions have been blighted by an evil destiny ; my enterprizes have nearly all terminated

unsuccessfully,—even in childhood, what miseries did I not endure !

“ My parents were patterns of the most perfect domestic affection. I cannot recall to memory having witnessed the slightest disagreement between them ; they were, in the fullest sense of the word, one heart and one soul. My father was in the army, and having unfortunately incurred the displeasure of a great personage, was suddenly discharged under the pretence of ill health ; this wounded him deeply,—add to which, having no personal fortune, he was obliged to support himself, a wife, and seven children, upon a pension of fifteen rix-dollars a month. For a short time, he endeavoured to contend against adverse fortune, but his feelings rendered him unequal to the task. A friend who took a deep interest in the welfare of the family, had invited us to spend some days at his country-house. My father remained at home, and when we returned from our visit, he was no where visible ; this,

for some hours, did not excite either anxiety or suspicion; but as he did not make his appearance at dinner, we became apprehensive that some accident had befallen him. While we were speculating upon the causes which might have occasioned his absence, a letter arrived, containing the patent for re-instating him in his military rank; we now became doubly solicitous for his re-appearance, and I flew hastily in search of him, delighted to be the bearer of such happy intelligence; upon inquiry, I found that he had been seen going out at the R— gate. I sought vainly for him in every direction, and on my return home, my uneasiness increased, for I found he was not arrived; at this moment the clock struck three; I looked up, and beheld on the top of it the key of his study, which he was accustomed never to part with. A suspicion of the real truth flashed across my mind; I obtained possession of it unperceived, and flew to the study. The first thing that struck me was a large

packet, and I observed with horror, that his fowling-piece was missing; I tore open the letter, and found my worst fears realized. The words in which he took leave of us, were heart-rending. He recommended his family to the care of a merciful God, as he was unable to provide for them, and could no longer live with honour, and concluded, saying, ‘ my last words are a prayer to Almighty God, who hath tried me so severely, to receive you under his all-powerful protection; you will find my debts paid to this day, and my affairs perfectly arranged; therefore, I can depart this life with the credit of an honest man. God will help you!’

“ What a task was left for me, to announce to my mother and family, that my father had died by his own hand! My painful narrative was scarcely related to my frantic parent, when the mutilated remains of my father were carried into the house; we were informed that he had been found in a morass,

with his head shattered to pieces ! He had probably, while standing on its brink, placed the muzzle of the gun in his mouth. But I must draw a veil over the melancholy scene ; the very remembrance of it is capable of poisoning the entire stream of life.

“ Eight days after this, my mother,—what a mockery of fate ! came into possession of an hereditary estate, which, if it were not sufficient to furnish luxuries, secured to us a competency. She survived the shock only half a year, and was never afterwards seen to smile !

“ Being the eldest, the whole care of the family now devolved upon me, which duty I fulfilled without relinquishing my military profession. When I first entered the army, I was compelled to serve under the banner of Napoleon ; but my compulsory service became, ultimately, the object of my highest enthusiasm.

“ The prospect of a brilliant career was opened to me, by the distinctions I received

from the commander-in-chief; when the Colossus fell, by the avenging thunderbolt of heaven! and all his attendant stars fell with him. In Russia, I lost every thing, and barely escaped with my life; afterwards, like many others of my countrymen, I was seized with a fit of patriotism, and drew my sword against my old comrades; I had again the good fortune to be distinguished by my new commander, but I was obliged to consign to oblivion my dearly-earned orders; however, I obtained those which I now wear, and was advanced on the field of battle to the rank of Major; fortune once more smiled upon me, but like an ignis fatuus delighting in mischief, she winged the cannon-ball, which deprived me of my right leg, and my last hope sunk with it in the grave!

“ During this interval, my brothers and sisters, with the exception of one of the latter, had paid the debt of nature. I took possession of the entailed property, now burdened with

debts ; but it has added little to my comfort, for with it, I have been torn from my legitimate sovereign whom I had served and —”

Here his son observing the increasing irritation of his father, looked expressively at his young wife, who got up, brought him his pipe ; then tenderly embracing him, said with a voice of playful anger, “ Father, my dearest father, you are most unjust towards heaven who has granted you so many blessings to compensate those you have lost ; even if your only possession were the tender affection of this small circle of human beings, would you not be rich ?” “ My good, amiable Sophia ! thou art right,” rejoined the veteran in a softened tone ; then pressing her hand to his lips, “ thou art still what thou hast ever been, the David to drive the evil spirit out of Saul.”

By this amiable young lady’s seasonable interference, the conversation assumed a more lively, agreeable character, and various anecdotes were related of olden time, with which the memory of

my friend was amply furnished; now evidently mounting his hobby, he exclaimed, "Yes, my children, the great Emperor was a man formed in quite a different mould from those who flourish in our days; he knew how to manage men and to gain the affection of his soldiers; with him no specious appearance of zeal for the service had any effect without the reality. I shall never forget when I first saw him, after the battle of Heilsberg, on the 2d of June, 1807, where he reviewed our troops; every word he spoke was full of meaning, and he condescendingly attended to the most minute details; he walked slowly in front along our lines, and examined individually the muskets and accoutrements, to be convinced by personal inspection, that every thing was efficient and in good order. He commanded several private soldiers to step forward in front of the ranks, and demanded their knapsacks, unpacked them himself to be certain that nothing was deficient, and that the contents corresponded with the inventory. He then caused

several men to discharge their fire-arms, to ascertain that they also were in good condition; the only thing he censured was, that the men carried no other shoes but those on their feet, and immediately commanded an aide-de-camp, in the most peremptory manner, to cause six thousand pairs to be delivered the next day to the troops. The order was punctually attended to.

“ He exhibited the same solicitude for the comfort of his men at Presburg in Hungary; we were crossing the bridge over the Danube, when Napoleon suddenly stopped, and, to the no small astonishment of the officers, pinched several of the men on the thigh; none of us could imagine at the moment what singular fancy had taken possession of the Emperor, till, addressing the officers, he exclaimed with vivacity, ‘ Why, at this late season of the year, have not the men woollen clothes under their trowsers? I hope for the future you will pay more attention to their health; for the preservation of that, and the

maintenance of good order, are your principal duties,—pomp, show, and parade, are but secondary considerations.’ Our phlegmatic countrymen were perfectly electrified at witnessing the anxiety of the Emperor for our comforts, and burst spontaneously into long and continued vivats.

“ We were on the most friendly terms with our French comrades, who are excellent companions so long as they are victorious; their irrepressible vivacity and constant cheerfulness render them incomparable soldiers; I remember, as if it only happened yesterday, during the siege of Dantzic, which was most bravely defended by the Prussians, consequently those in the entrenchment suffered pretty severely, when one day as two soldiers were carrying a plank intended to have been made use of as a platform for a battery, it was shivered to pieces by a cannon-ball without doing any injury to the bearers except hurling them to the ground; we sprung to assist them, but perceiving they had received no other injury than

a tumble, we laughed most heartily. But now commenced their fun; the same brave fellows hoisted the splintered plank upon their shoulders amidst the thickest rain of bullets, paraded it up and down cheered by the loud acclamations of the troops, and challenged the enemy to try the same experiment again: thus the farce was continued for upwards of half an hour, till the officers obliged them to desist. Another time, when we were before the suburbs of Oliva, a mine was sprung by the besieged, which committed great havoc in our army. Irritated by the loss of our comrades, whose death we could not avenge, some of the men ran to an apothecary's at a short distance, pulled down a stately Moor, who, crowned with variegated plumes and with a long pipe in his mouth, had for many years performed the duty of a sign; he was laid upon a small hand grenade, and sprung into the air as a substitute for a sacré Prussien; wood endured the shock better than flesh and blood, for he descended minus only his pipe

and feathers: this device was a source of great amusement to the men, for, during the whole day, the Moor was obliged to fly in the air as long as a limb remained. In this sport hundreds of officers and men joined, like children enjoying their Christmas gambols.

“ Marshal Lefevre frequently rode into our camp to inspect us, but only remained a short time; he generally galloped along the front of the lines, and issued his commands in the most laconic manner; he pointedly distinguished my countrymen, whom he addressed in their native language, and evidently piqued himself on this acquisition, which, in the mouth of a Frenchman, both in the construction of the phrases and the pronunciation, sounded most ludicrous. The guttural ‘ch’ he invariably pronounced as if it were written ‘k.’ ‘I am perfectly satisfied with you,’ said he to the officers, ‘as I shall always be when you perform your duty; you are all the sons of respectable parents, and well educated; you see here before you, a marshal of France,

and yet I am only the son of a peasant. I owe my elevation solely to my attention and strict obedience to orders; continue then implicitly to obey my commands and those of your superior officers, and you will in process of time arrive at a grade as high as that which I now fill. Adieu! my friends, adieu!' Thus saying, he rode off amidst thunders of applause, mingled with the laughter of the soldiers.

“He showed his partiality to the German Legion on several occasions; among others, he selected the second battalion of our regiment as a sort of life-guard for himself at his head-quarters in the village of Bruste, and, while the other troops were engaged day and night in the entrenchments, this battalion lived in such secure comfort, that at last, they became quite careless. Major T——, the commander, and his officers, instead of keeping guard at the alarm-house, reposed comfortably in their beds in an adjoining building, where they procured as many accommodations and conveniences as circumstances

would admit. One night, as the whole party were enjoying the beauties of 'nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep,' with no other guard on duty than a solitary lamp, the door flew open and the marshal entered—'What ho!' he called out, dreadfully enraged, 'I made you my life-guards, you contemptible, lazy, cowardly rascals: is this your service? is this your vigilance and watchfulness? Know you not that I am a marshal of France, and that the power of life and death is vested in me? I shall immediately order every one of you to be shot.' Thus he continued for some time in the greatest fury; the poor Major, more dead than alive, stood trembling before him in his robe de nuit deprived of utterance. In the meantime, Lieutenant L——, who slept behind the door, almost jumped into his uniform, and darted unseen past the Marshal, like an arrow, to the guard-house to give the alarm. 'You must,' said he, to the officer on duty, 'instantly send out a number of small patrols to intercept the Marshal on his return home in every direction, and de-

mand the password so often, that he shall be hoarse with answering before he gets to his quarters: for, oh comrades, he has found us all in bed!' They were immediately on the alert, and L. returned to the door of the alarm-house. 'Who goes there?' demanded the Lieutenant with stentorian voice; the Marshal proceeded a few paces when he was again questioned, and so on till he had been stopped by what he imagined to be ten different sentinels: he then re-directed his steps to the dormitory of the officers. The poor Major was by this time dressing himself and beating his servant for not giving the different articles of his uniform quicker, but these all fell from his trembling hands when he perceived the dreaded Marshal; now, thought he, the dead march will immediately commence, but the awful spectre laughing heartily turned towards the Major in the most friendly manner—'My dear fellow, the streets are so well guarded, and you can depend, I find, so confidently upon your officers and men, that my head-quarters are

perfectly protected; therefore, in Heaven's name, take another nap: I am no longer angry—Good night!

“ Marshal Davoust was not so indulgent. When we were at Warsaw, in the winter of 18—, we received orders to repair to St. John's Church, to assist in the celebration of military mass, which includes the ceremony of presenting arms kneeling. This occurred during a dreadfully severe frost; our General, being of the Reformed Church, protested against it, on the plea that his troops being Protestants were unacquainted with the forms of Catholic worship. ‘ Oh, very well!’ replied the Marshal; ‘ as you feel a repugnance to enter the church, remain outside, but continue marching in parade: my commands are peremptory.’ During these two eternal hours we were nearly frozen, and cursed most heartily both the Marshal and our own General; for we should have preferred infinitely to have remained in the warm church, even if we had been obliged to

worship the Golden Calf of the ancient Israelites.

“ Marshal Davoust was a severe and inexorable judge in cases of embezzlement of the military funds. A wealthy Ordonnateur-en-Chef, hitherto a most respectable man, was found guilty of this crime ; he was sentenced to be placed in front of the troops on public parade, with an immense placard attached to his breast, upon which was written in large characters, that it might be read by the whole of the assembled troops, ‘ Condemned to the gallies for fraud.’ He was then conducted by the gens-d’armes to his wretched destination.”

“ Yes,” replied I, “ the discipline of the French army was severe, but generally speaking excellent. On its march to Russia, two regiments of the Guards halted at the town of M—, when one of the captains took a fancy to my park as a commodious place in which to exercise his troops, but my opinion on this point not

coinciding with his, I remonstrated politely with the officer, which had no other effect than to provoke a retort couched in most discourteous language; being the weaker party, I was obliged to submit, but revenged myself by complaining to General Kirchner, who was then my guest *à la militaire*. Poor fellow! he subsequently fell, together with Duroc, near Görlitz. The General, on hearing my complaint, immediately repaired to the park, and not only ordered the practice to be discontinued, but placed the officer under arrest; then, turning to me, said, ‘*Monsieur, tant qu’il restera ici, vous ne le verrez plus.*’ I confess I am a little doubtful, whether a similar act of courtesy would have been performed by any of the superior officers of our own army.

“At another time, the General of a division, Count St. Sulpice, having established his headquarters at my castle, his fourrier compelled the whole of my servants to abdicate their empire, *i. e.* the kitchen, and behaved in other respects

very insolently; the banished sovereigns came in full costume complaining to me, when I immediately commanded two stout game-keepers to seize the usurper, place him beyond the frontiers of the empire and resume possession; however, to prevent any more revolutions of this nature and its attendant dangers, I rode in search of the General, to whom I laughingly said, 'Votre chef-de-cuisine, mon Général, est le contraire de Don Quixote.' 'Que voulez-vous dire?' cried the General astonished and slightly irritated, 'Je veux dire, que Don Quixote prit les guinguettes pour des châteaux et que votre cuisinier prend les châteaux pour des guinguettes.' Upon which I related to him the occurrence; with the most prompt attention to my wishes he commanded the whole of his retinue to quit my castle, with the exception of his valet-de-chambre. Does not such conduct deserve the highest commendation? Let us be just, even to our enemies."

"Most assuredly," replied my friend, "that

army was strongly characterized by a certain description of greatness, and not a little tinctured by romance. What a strange little band, for instance, was that of the Mamelukes! After the battle of Bautzen, which cost them fourteen men, only half a squadron remained; they were commanded by the elegant Colonel Jerman, a native of Saxony, whose conquests among the fair sex, I really believe, were even more numerous than those in the field; at this time, the squadron numbered but very few Egyptians among its members, one had however recently arrived from Bethlehem, and another from Jerusalem; it contained scarcely any Frenchmen, but was composed of men from almost every nation upon earth. The oldest of the Egyptians I frequently invited to take coffee with me, he smoked his long pipe and appeared to enjoy heartily his cross-legged tête-à-tête upon a sofa-cushion, which he invariably placed upon the floor. He related to me many amusing anecdotes of the Egyptian war, and

always regarded Napoleon as a species of magician; he expressed the greatest gratitude, that he had been brought from his native country—‘We were,’ said he, ‘first exercised upon the coast, and when afterwards placed on board a ship, I concluded that this formed part of the evolutions, and I continued of this opinion until my native shores entirely receded from my view.’ This squadron were the best mounted and most expert horsemen of all the French cavalry; they were kept under the strictest discipline, but their large stirrup-irons were not adapted for executing close evolutions, and when a charge was made, they rattled against each other like hundreds of tin-pots. I remember that previous to the inspection of the Mamelukes, who were drawn up in a field, divided from the high road by a broad ditch, at the moment that General Lefevre Desnouettes was observed advancing, accompanied by his staff, Colonel Jerman in his splendid uniform flew like an arrow across the trench, (here at least twelve feet in breadth,)

reined in his horse at the feet of the General, and, in the most graceful military style, saluted him and requested his commands ; which having received, he turned his fleet docile Arabian, and, with the swiftness of the wind, again cleared the ditch, and placed himself at the head of his troops.

“ A ball was given about this time by a young soldier, on what to him at least was really a festive occasion. He was a private in the Guards, and had at the battle of Bautzen distinguished himself so much as to attract the attention of the Emperor, who caused his name to be written down, but took no further notice of it ; during the last week of the truce, an ordnance-officer arrived at head-quarters and inquired after the soldier, who happened to be dining with a comrade at a small inn. The officer sought him, and delivered a packet, which contained his patent as captain in the same regiment in which he had made his debut, together with an order for three thousand francs to defray the expenses

of his equipment. I chanced to be at the same hotel, and I never beheld any man betray such extatic delight as did this mustachioed warrior. With true French vivacity he tore from his finger a gold ring and a gold watch from his side, and throwing them to the landlord, requested that each of his comrades, who should visit the house that day, might be regaled at his expense. He compelled all around him to drink a large glass of wine to the health of the Emperor; we congratulated him upon his good fortune, and admired 'la finesse du petit caporal' * in giving him such a distinguished post in the very regiment in which he had commenced his career. In a few days afterwards, he gave his comrades the ball, on which was probably expended the greater part of his equipment money; but at that time, money was lightly regarded, each individual living only for the present; futurity gave

* A pet name for Napoleon among the soldiers.

little concern to those who knew not if it would exist for them."

"But that is not always the case," answered the son, "and many old warriors know from experience, that gloomy presages frequently fill the minds of those whose days are numbered. I remember an anecdote of this kind which my father-in-law, who was an eye witness, related to me. The Saxon and Prussian armies were encamped together near Biessingen, when, one day, a captain of cavalry entered the tent of my father, who commanded the Carbiniers, to announce that he wished to make his will. The colonel laughed at this singular proposition, particularly as there was no expectation of an attack, and attempted to direct his attention from such gloomy ideas; but all his endeavours were fruitless, for the captain obstinately maintained, that he was firmly impressed with the conviction his death was approaching, and should die miserable if he neglected to provide for his wife and children; his wishes were ac-

cordingly complied with, and singular to relate, he fell the same night.

“ His servant recounted to us the particulars of his melancholy exit ; ‘ I slept,’ said he, ‘ near the horses ; during the night my master came, and commanded me to saddle the brown horse, and to bring him as quick as possible to the tent door. This order very much astonished me, as the captain never rode the animal himself, on account of his not being sure-footed and feeble in the crupper ; however orders must be obeyed, and I made the horse ready ; when I arrived at the door, I found the captain fast asleep in the open tent ; I entered and called out loudly that the horse was waiting ; he awoke and demanded with evident astonishment, who had ordered him ; I replied, he himself, a few minutes since. ‘ Nonsense,’ said my master, angrily, ‘ you are either intoxicated or dreaming ; I never came near you, return the horse to his stable.’ At that moment the drums beat to arms unexpectedly, and the captain had scarcely

time to spring into the saddle when the skirmish commenced, for the enemy had surprised our quarters in every direction; the Carbiniers had received orders to commence the attack, and fortunately, after a little severe fighting, we were victorious; but our captain fell, as the inefficient animal on which he was mounted threw him, while attempting to spring over a ditch, and like Max Piccolomini, he was trod to atoms by his own men.’ ”

“ This,” rejoined I, “ is a singular history, but I remember a similar circumstance which occurred in the year 1813. I accompanied Colonel G——, by the order of my commander-in-chief, upon an expedition to the Netherlands. On our march, we surprised the enemy in every direction, who had considered themselves perfectly secure; we were consequently generally victorious. Our detachment consisted of five hundred Cossacks and two squadrons of Saxon cavalry, commanded by Major B——. Since the year 1806, he had

followed a military career ; he had served in the French army, and had even survived the Russian campaign, the burning of Moscow, and the crossing the Beresina ; he was an officer of the Legion of Honour, and had left the French service for the Saxon with a high character for bravery and military talents. He was in heart and soul a soldier ; war was his element ; but on this day his character appeared suddenly changed. As we were fully acquainted with the heroism he had displayed on all occasions, we could not ascribe his conduct to fear ; in the morning his countenance was so expressive of distress and anxiety, that we unanimously demanded 'if he were unwell ? these enquiries seemed to annoy him, till, at length, he reluctantly acknowledged that he was not indisposed, but much disturbed by a dream, which had been repeated three successive nights, prophesying his death ; adding, with a mournful smile, ' I am now obliged to believe the prediction, and have accordingly made my will ; to you, my

dear H——, I bequeath my favourite Russian horse.' We looked for a moment to be convinced, that he was really serious, and, finding his gravity imperturbable, gave unrestrained license to our merriment.

“The same day we took a small town, (whose name I forget,) made several Gensd'armes prisoners, and unbarred the gates of the state prison, in which we found three Englishmen: poor fellows! they hailed us as guardian angels, and such was their unbounded delight at being so unexpectedly released, that, notwithstanding their national pride, one of them embraced the knees of Major B——, and, sobbing with emotion, wished him eternal happiness. Now, said we, laughing, to the major, how does this salutation correspond with your dreaming presentiment? But B—— shook his head, saying, ‘do you not hear what he says?’ ‘eternal happiness!’ aye, before the sun sets this day, I shall have entered into another life, where sorrow for ever

ceases.' We lingered longer in this town than was prudent, to which error our subsequent adverse fortune was principally referable; for, if we had hurried forward, we should most probably have made prisoners of the whole garrison of Cassel, before they could have had time to plant their artillery on the heights; besides, in consequence of the various reverses which the enemy had hitherto sustained, they had become much dispirited. This small town, which was now in sight, is situated on an eminence, and is approached by a winding road. We received information that the enemy's infantry, aware of our near approach, had taken refuge there, and we confidently expected to be able to take it by a coup-de-main; but we were ignorant that this infantry were four hundred strong, and had sufficient time to make their dispositions. The colonel commanded the Saxon squadron to dislodge the Tirailleurs, who were posted in the numerous thickets; but this attempt failed, and, as a division of infantry were now preparing to

attack us, the Cossacks were ordered to charge them; this they did most gallantly, with one of their terror-striking hurrahs, and drove them with mad impetuosity up the hill; the French infantry retreated in a panic, and perhaps this would have been the moment to have seized our advantage, by following them and entering the town. Unfortunately the Cossacks, dreading an attack in ambuscade, suddenly halted, and positively refused to advance; the colonel, furiously angry, ordered the Saxon squadrons forward, and to enter the town at any risk. We were thus exposed to a twofold misfortune, having the French in front and the Cossacks in our rear. This movement was executed so hastily, that the precaution of sending on a small avant-garde was neglected, and, in utter ignorance of the locality, the entire mass galloped along the narrow chaussée, which, being serpentine, prevented them from seeing more than a few paces in advance. Five or six officers led the attack; Major B—— was riding

by my side, but his appearance was rather that of a spectre than a living being; he was pale as a corpse, his eyes were almost starting from their sockets, and he was evidently scarcely able to hold the reins of his horse. He called out several times, mechanically and in a singular tone of voice, hurrah! totally unlike his former animated, soldier-like encouragement of his men, but more resembling a man talking in a dream. I was astonished to behold this inexplicable conduct in an officer of such undeniable bravery. A few minutes sufficed to bring us to the gate of the town, but the approach to it being serpentine, we found that we could not advance any further, as the French had erected a barricade of waggons, from behind which they discharged a volley from at least three hundred guns, so well directed that it was like one shot, and mowed down all within its reach. My horse fell so suddenly, that I supposed him dead, however I soon perceived that he was only slightly wounded, but my poor friend, the

major, fell without a groan, shot through the head! In short, a young lieutenant and myself were the only persons of the foremost rank who escaped unhurt; and what was still more provoking, the attack entirely failed, for those in the rear scampered off in mad confusion, regardless of our repeated attempts to rally them, until at length we were compelled to follow, though even this was not effected without considerable danger and difficulty, as we received a fresh discharge of musquetry from the enemy.

“ The French, who had probably taken us for the avant-garde of a large army, quietly retreated during the night, and I was commanded the next morning to take possession of the town. This was to me a double gratification, as I felt much curiosity to examine a superb country seat, which had been built here by General Vandamme, and who, during the march of the French armies to Russia, had passed some days at my castle, when he related to me many curious anecdotes respecting his house at

Cassel. The garden, he informed me, was surrounded by iron railings of different patterns taken from German churches, and he had levied contributions on various German convents to fill his cellars with wine. My first object was to visit this house, where I found every thing corresponded with his description; but I permitted no reprisals to be made, except upon the wine, which I found carefully preserved in the cellars. I introduced one old cask to the light of heaven, the contents of which I caused to be divided among my men, and issued strict orders to preserve the beautiful furniture and everything else belonging to the house from injury, a duty which was doubly incumbent upon me, as General Vandamme had protected my property on a former occasion against the ravages of General Ochs and his Westphalians. It was indeed a long period, before this disagreeable name and its disagreeable associations faded from my memory; the recollection of it was revived in rather a singular manner.

“In the year 1816, I was dining at the table of the Elector of Cassel, when I observed an officer, whose appearance struck me as not being altogether unknown; after vainly endeavouring to recognise him, I demanded his name, ‘Colonel Ochs’ was his answer. ‘Oh! then, you are probably a brother of the general of that name? to whom you bear a very great resemblance, but who, I regret to say, behaved very ill in my country during the late war, the inhabitants of which will not easily forget either him or his name.’ The colonel coloured highly and made some unintelligible answer, while the gentleman, who sat next me, endeavoured to attract my attention to another subject, and when an opportunity occurred informed me that it was the general himself I had been addressing, but who had been degraded by his sovereign to his present rank.”

In this and similar conversations the time passed on. We were in excellent spirits; but the hour had now arrived, when it was necessary for

the travellers to make preparations for commencing their moonlight journey ; I accompanied the son to his dressing-room, when he related to me the particulars of his sister's melancholy history without any reserve, as I was an old friend of his father's.

“ The gentleman who acted in the capacity of tutor to my sister and myself became deeply attached to his fair pupil; she returned his attachment with equal ardour, and in a moment of weakness they added guilt to their love. The young man demanded from my father the hand of his beloved girl, but he was instantly discharged and treated with such insulting contumely, that neither had courage to avow the real truth, but hoped, that time and some fortunate circumstance would lead to a termination favourable to their wishes. They occasionally met at a friend's house in the neighbourhood unknown to our parents, but a horrible destiny awaited the young man.

“ One dark night as he was returning from

visiting my sister, his horse fell down a precipice, and he was discovered the next morning literally dashed to pieces. This heart-rending intelligence was imprudently communicated, without any preparation to the unhappy girl; she immediately fell into a death-like fainting fit, and awoke from it, oh God! only to insanity.

“In this wretched state she became a mother, which circumstance, her medical attendants expected, would have operated favourably upon her disorder; but all our hopes were fallacious, she was a mother without being conscious of the delights of one; until at length it was found necessary to place her in a lunatic asylum in the neighbouring town. It was also advisable to remove her from the presence of my father, who had become irritable and almost misanthropic from having the unhappy victim to his own folly and his family pride constantly before him. She still lives in perfect health, but without displaying the slightest ray of intelligence,

either towards us, or her child, who, poor boy, has never received the most remote intimation of his relationship with her, as we are apprehensive it might make an unfavourable impression upon his spirits ; my father is excessively attached to him, and seems to have centered all his love for his lost daughter in her child."

The travellers were by this time ready to depart, and I accompanied them to their carriage; on my return, my spirits much depressed by the distressing narrative I had heard, I found my old friend making punch to drive away, as he said, all recollection of our factious, discontented conversations, and to live over again the days of our youth. This we did to the fullest extent, and it was only as the clock struck midnight, that we retired to rest.

I soon fell into a deep sleep, out of which I was suddenly awoke by a most dreadful shriek ; it appeared to issue from my friend's sleeping room, whom I heard, with many imprecations, calling for a light ; I had scarcely time

to throw on a dressing gown and run out of my room, when I met the child, who told me that somebody was murdering his grandfather, for that he had heard a shot, then a dreadful scream, and lastly a low groan. At this moment, the old servant, much terrified, came with a light, and we entered the major's sleeping-room, which was on the ground-floor; we found him at the door supporting himself with his bloody sword; he immediately called out 'I have given him a pill to sleep upon, the robber was already at my bedside, and was just going to seize me, when I discharged my pistol, but without effect; he then turned quickly round to escape by the window, when drawing my sword, which was quicker than the intruder, I struck him down, and he fell with a horrible cry: by heaven, it was such a blow, that I think, I have nearly cut him in two.' I shuddered involuntarily at the horrid recital, so characteristic of the decisive military character of the major, and congratulated him on his exploit, though my feelings

contradicted my language. 'It will give me trouble enough, I dare say, but an old soldier cannot act like an old woman; here, bring the light, that we may see if we know the rascal; it is probably one of the poachers, they are capable of any act however bad.' I cannot account for the singular revolting sensation I experienced on witnessing the major's excited exultation, but I endeavored to conceal it. A tall figure, enveloped in a gray mantle, lay upon its face, motionless, beneath the window, and a stream of blood was flowing from it; the servant lifted up a corner of the mantel, when the boy, who was now become quite fearless, exclaimed 'he has got women's clothes on.' 'What do you say,' said the old man, 'women's clothes?' In the meantime the servant placed the candle upon the ground, and turned the body; my heart beat rapidly when I beheld, to my great astonishment, the still handsome, though maniac countenance of a woman, with her luxuriant hair flowing in wild disorder. I

turned towards the major who was standing near me, but never shall I forget the dreadful expression of his face; the head of the Gorgon could not have been more frightful; it was overspread by a deathly paleness like the livid hue of a corpse, his whole frame trembled with horror, and the agonies of death appeared already, like flashes of lightning, to convulse his muscles, his hair stood erect, and his staring eyes were fixed with an unmeaning glassy look; but he was silent, not a groan escaped from his stony lips: thus he remained for a few seconds, then uttering a cry, dreadful as the howling of the damned, he fell a corpse upon the lifeless mangled body of—his child!

Gracious God! what a spectacle! it was, indeed, his maniac daughter; she had escaped from confinement, as we subsequently learned, and obtained, by some means, possession of a man's cloak, and wandered about the country; she was probably led by instinct to her father's house, and attracted by the light in his window,

with the cunning frequently found in those unhappy beings, she had broken a pane of glass, and entered the bed room of her sleeping father; but, alas! we have, at least, this consolation, that if her reason returned in her last moments, her sufferings could have been but momentary.

May the fate of the poor boy be brighter and happier than that of his parents, and may he steer life's bark with greater prudence and self command!

Man is, in a great degree, the arbiter of his own destiny, by the influence of his character upon it. Rarely has an individual been punished for his transgressions with such severity as my unhappy friend; and, if we turn from an individual to a nation, seldom has the fate of a people been so lamentably deplorable, as that of the Indians in South America; how, or in what manner, they could be guilty, we know not! but we behold in their

executioners,* the same seeds bring forth the same fruit, either early or late, in this or some future generation ; Nemesis never sleeps ! therefore, let each be careful not to fall into her power, either by sin or folly, for, we may be assured, she punishes both unrelentingly, the one with the right hand, the other with the left.

Recreation was become more than ever indispensable, after witnessing such a distressing occurrence ; as soon, therefore, as I had made every arrangement for my departed friend which duty demanded, I continued my pilgrimage, and sought forgetfulness of the past in romantic delightful solitude. That part of the country which I travelled through, coming

* I do not allude here only to the present miserable state of Old Spain, but also to that of Spanish America, whose inhabitants, without intelligence, are sunk into bigotry,—they sought for freedom without being capable of enjoying its blessings, and have obtained anarchy, the end of which it is scarcely possible to foresee.

from O——, was as fertile and beautiful as the inns are bad and ill conducted; they are even worse than the common wine shops in the black forest. Positively, I should prefer spending a night in the desert, than on such beds as I encountered. Without the accompaniment of what an Irish soldier would call a *baggage waggon*, I should have been subjected to many inconveniences.

Perhaps it will one day happen, that thou, my friendly reader, may visit these hills. I shall, therefore, endeavour to administer to thy comfort, and detail, in what manner I guarded against the various annoyances to which I might be exposed, and earnestly recommend thee under similar circumstances to pursue the same course. Above all things, a bed is necessary, unless you choose to be consigned to one five feet long, and, as Madame de Genlis says, 'de coucher de bout,' being at the same time buried beneath a plumeau of disagreeable smelling feathers, full of tor-

menting little inhabitants, whose lively spirits and indefatigable exertions will deprive you of the possibility of sleep! The most portable kind of bed, and which may be placed either on a sofa, or on the ground, is an air mattress, to which add a pillow of the same material, with the necessary coverings, and you have a bed which can be arranged in a few seconds; the whole, if expedient, may be rolled up in a green cloth and carried in the pocket; this cloth will also answer the purpose of a curtain against the dirty wall. It will likewise be as necessary to prepare for refreshment, as you will find nothing better than burnt veal cooked in fat, butter, or beer; therefore, it would be advisable to provide yourself with the English preparations of cavice and catsup, which have the good property of making the worst preparations of meat agreeable. I recommend also a tea-kettle of English tin, which serves, at the same time, for a coffee machine, and a box for carrying coffee, tea, sugar, and your

spirit-lamp; the whole apparatus takes up hardly as much place as a round hat, and by means of which you can command, in a very few minutes, a delicious repast, as excellent bread, butter and cream are easily attainable in the very poorest cottage in the mountains. For a medicine-chest, I recommend a box of seidlitz or other cooling effervescing powders, and another of quinine pills; the former are admirably calculated for allaying thirst, and the latter are an efficacious remedy against any temporary derangement of the nervous system, or a slight attack of fever; finally, with a good umbrella and the necessary appendages to the toilet, you will find yourself perfectly equipped.

The first night I slept most comfortably on a bed like that I have described, in a room which was at least an inch too low for me. About mid-day I arrived at the summit of the celebrated Goldberg, which once belonged to the family of Niederthal, but has now fallen

into the hands of a banker, who has suddenly accumulated a large fortune. From hence, there is a most extensive, but not very picturesque prospect. The same censure is also applicable to the form of the mountain itself, and to the ruin which crowns it, for it has neither the appearance of a tower nor of any other piece of architecture, but merely presents to the view long, straight, horizontal lines, and looks more like a large shed without a roof, than a castle; add to which, the new proprietor has, by erecting various insignificant modern additions, entirely destroyed whatever beauty it might have had for the eye of the artist.

My guide was a pretty naïve peasant-girl about eighteen, barefooted, but cheerful, healthy and happy. Her conversation and manners were free and unrestrained, which characteristics distinguish the whole feminine population of these happy mountains; they are quite *au fait* at retort, whether in jest or earnest, and never exhibit

the least particle of simpering bashfulness. The active girl carried my great coat and umbrella, and followed me up the steps of the old castle, like a faithful spaniel, to the no small amusement of the guests who were assembled in the court below, dancing to execrable music, and by way of refreshment drinking white beer, whose strength, or rather weakness, renders it perfectly innoxious. The idlers now divided themselves into groups, for the purpose of watching our movements, and gazed at my travelling dress with all the curiosity of the inhabitants of a small town. Mr. Malecke von Goldberg, for so is termed the nouveau gentilhomme, had caused the dangerous parts of the ruin to be furnished with balustrades, which is most praiseworthy; but these *garde-fous*, which are made of boards, represent crenaux and port-holes, instead of corresponding with the general style of the building; this proceeding evinces little taste, either in the proprietor or the architect.

As I was about leaving the castle with my female Cicerone, who was trotting on to show me the way, I was withheld, somewhat roughly, by the castellan, who cried out "No! no! sir, that cannot be permitted—you must pay me a silver-groschen." "Pardon, my most valiant squire, I was ignorant of this tax;" and I delighted him not a little, by presenting him with a dollar *malgré moi*; for it is my custom on such occasions never to receive change, though, perhaps, it would have been wiser to imitate the example of one of our brave generals, who, when rewarding the noble deed of a grenadier, put a Friedrichs-d'or into his hand, but told him to return five rix-dollars out of it, observing, that the Friedrichs-d'or then stood at *agio* from sixteen to eighteen groschens.

The modernized ruin and the mountain, which had exactly the form of an English plum-pudding, gave me but little pleasure, and I now directed my steps towards the castle, in which dwelt the proprietor, hoping, that I

should there meet with something more to my satisfaction. I found a tolerably large, ill-arranged house, built in the old German style, with a tower-clock in the centre, surrounded by short allees of linden trees, and the rudera of the former garden, which was now anglicized, but, as usual, badly kept. There is throughout the whole country a deficiency of large, and a still greater, of beautiful trees, in some measure owing to the detestable custom of stripping them entirely of their leaves every three years for the sheep to feed upon! As I had been informed at the inn, that the family were absent, I went to the old shepherdess and demanded permission to view the interior of the castle. This personage, it appeared, was numbered among the inventarium, and sold with the estate by the Niederthal family. From being so long in their service, she appeared to have become imbued with aristocratical feelings. I was first conducted into the *salle-à-manger*, where, to my great astonishment, I found a

number of family portraits. "Are these," said I, "the ancestors of Mr. Malecke von Goldberg?" "God forbid," answered my conductress animatedly, "they all belong to the Niederthals." "Have they, then, been sold with the estates?" "Oh, dear heaven, no! the Niederthals knew nothing about them; they valued but little such old painted rags; why, those pictures lay torn and full of dust in a rubbish-chamber, where the new proprietor found them, and he has had them repaired and hung up in those old fashioned gilt-frames, that they might, as he said, give an air of antiquity to the place. Right opposite, in the Frau's room, (whom, by the way, she never mentioned by any other appellation,) hang the family of the Maleckes, and truly their appearance is very different."

"Oh! but that is owing to the modern costume;" for it could not be denied, that knights of the Golden Fleece, with their scarfs of blue and red, their long flowing perukes, and the

proud lineaments of nobility stamped on their countenances, together with their haughty dames in hoop petticoats, with Moors and dwarfs supporting their trains, contrasted oddly enough with the peaceable *bureau-life* represented in the family portraits of the Maleckes, attired in their modern pantaloons, and swallow-tailed jackets.

But the brilliance of former ages is dimmed; the frocks and swallow-tailed jackets are in possession of the lordships, and the most certain nobility of our days is a well-stocked purse. In five hundred years the present possessors will also become noble and distinguished by their antiquity; then, perhaps, another modern banker of the year 2325 will supersede the venerable family of the Maleckes, and suspend their half-decayed portraits in the dining room, to impart the appearance of antiquity; thus, the *divina comœdia* continues ever progressing, and nothing under the sun is really

new, although it may possibly shine in a different light.

My guide next explained to me the diminutive lady's bazaar, extolled the well-executed worsted work of her mistress, set in motion a musical snuff-box which sweetly sounded an air from "la gazza ladra," and then led me to the ball-room, where a view of Felseneck, the family castle of the Niederthals, was painted in fresco; here my Cicerone burst into a most vivid description of the magnificence she had witnessed in the castle when young; it appeared to have been a stately building, an imposing feudal possession, encircled by extensive woods and gigantic rocks, commanding a superb prospect over the adjacent country, but, like its lord, is now fast sinking into ruin.

The last room we examined was the principal sleeping room of the family, which contained nothing interesting, unless we can so term a half-worn Cashmere shawl, which was thrown ostentatiously over the state bed; and

though the apartments were intended to advance very decided pretensions to elegance, yet, they entirely failed in the effect; for the whole suite, like those in most of our houses, was defective in that indescribable comfort which the English so well understand, and display even in the most minute particulars; their refined taste invariably renders a residence both agreeable and delightful.

My good shepherdess was astonished that her present mistress did not reside here; but what excited this feeling still more was, that she had often heard her remark, her small country house, near the metropolis, was by far more charming and convenient. This trait of character pleased me, as it was decisive of the taste of the lady; for truly, the little villa, which I had often seen, was certainly by far more elegant and agreeable, and harmonized much better with the station of the family, than the extensive, decayed mansion of ancient nobility, and the domain, without foliage, of Goldberg.

“ It is, most certainly,” continued my loquacious guide, “ a little lonely, but whenever the ‘ quality’ do visit us, it is always the very grandest. A short time since, one of the royal princes passed through the village, in the middle of the night; master, who knew he was expected, kept two servants, dressed in their gala liveries, waiting with champagne at the post-house, where he was expected to change horses; in vain did the prince protest, he should prefer a glass of water; no! no! he was not permitted to depart, until he had tasted our champagne. Was not that a truly noble method of treating a prince?”

“ If ever you should chance to travel again in this direction, you may always know when the family are at home, by the flag waving on the top of the chateau; ‘ master’s is as blue as the sky, and madame’s as white as the snow.’ Only think, the stupid people about here took the Frau’s for a ‘ bed sheet,’ hung out to dry!”

I now left the castle and proceeded on my tour; the day was excessively warm, and the open barren country, from hence to the principal town of the department, exposed me to the full benefit of the sun-beams. I was obliged to convert my umbrella into a parasol, as no other shade was to be found—*en revanche*, the variety of pretty cheerful faces I met with, consoled me for enduring, though much against my inclination, the martyrdom of St. Lawrence; in truth, the humbler classes in this part of the country are generally good-natured and civil, which, together with their beauty, agreeably surprised me, accustomed as I had been in the provinces of ——— to different manners, and the absence of all personal charms.

I passed the night at the government town of this department, but in such a wretched miserable hovel, called, *par complaisance*, “an hotel,” that all my travelling paraphernalia were scarcely sufficient to supply me with the various little comforts indispensable to a weary traveller. My

reader will not be surprised to hear that I recommenced my pedestrian tour early in the morning.

In the immediate vicinity of the town I found a pretty neat church-yard, in which the dead appeared to be lodged with much greater regard to taste and cleanliness than the living. I visited these ever-sleeping inhabitants, and, after perusing several laughable inscriptions, I entered an open house, in which a corpse was laid out, to whose head a bell was suspended: I was informed, this custom, so worthy of imitation, was here universal, and that every person, who dies in the town, is transported to this building, and there kept until decomposition commences. How commendable is this regulation, for modern observation has induced the melancholy conclusion, that more persons are interred alive, than dead! What a horrible idea!

I continued my way through an immense plain of fertile fields, and felt internally animated by the dark gloomy weather, which afforded so

agreeable a contrast to the burning heat of yesterday ; the level aspect of the country appeared to greater advantage by the dusky indistinct horizon, as the distant objects disappeared in shadowy obscurity. The fairy aid of fancy transformed the clouds into stupendous mountains, simple village spires into cathedral domes and towers, distant groups of stately trees into magnificent ruins, and clusters of thickets into extensive dark forests.

I soon arrived at the hotel where I intended to dine, and found the *salle-à-manger* full of strangers seated at their mid-day meal, with the exception of two lovely girls, who were standing at the window evidently discomposed. Travellers must not be timid, especially those of the male creation ; I therefore addressed myself to the deserted fair ones, and commenced a conversation upon ordinary topics, which was at first carried on with bashfulness by the blushing strangers, but in a short time it assumed a more confidential tone ; I expressed my astonishment

at finding them so utterly neglected, and demanded, if I could be of the slightest service.

“You are extremely kind,” replied the eldest, (who certainly could not have been more than eighteen,) “but our friends, with whom we arrived in the journalière, have left us, and we know not whether to sit down to table, or wait for their return.” “I vote for the first, and if you will allow me, I shall endeavour to supply the place of your friends;” the younger, who was still half a child, was overjoyed at my proposition, and the eldest, with the blush of innocence mantling on her cheek, consented.

The rustling of paper behind me caught my attention, and, turning round, I beheld a man of gigantic stature reading a newspaper, who occasionally directed towards our little circle the most malicious glances from small, dark, fiery eyes, shadowed by black, bushy eye-brows; his large mustachios, à-la-hongroise, were of such a blue black, that they would have done honour to Bluebeard himself, while about his mouth

played a sarcastic smile, for the purpose, it would appear, of displaying his large shining teeth. I could not forbear contrasting the fierce-looking half-savage with the angelic countenances of my young companions, for whom I ordered a separate table, and commanded my servant to bring some of my own Hungarian wine, &c.

This my fair guests found so excellent, that we became still more confidential, and they related to me unreservedly every particular concerning their situation in life, family, friends, &c. of which a designing man might have taken advantage. They were the daughters of a clergyman in the neighbourhood, but had lost their parents, and, as is too frequently the case with that class in society, the gifts of fortune had not been showered very lavishly upon them; the eldest was conducting her sister to a school in the principal town of the province, where she also intended to remain some days at the house of a relation; after which she was to return to her brother, with whom she usually resided.

She informed me of the name of the school, of the address of her friend ; in short, in a quarter of an hour, I had become so initiated in their affairs that I might have passed for a member of the family. Still, Mademoiselle Louise had not a little confidence in her own sagacity and knowledge of the world, for she had already twice visited the capital of the province ; “and therefore,” said she, “my brother had not the slightest hesitation in allowing us to travel alone, but merely, by way of precaution, recommended us to the care of Madame Rosenkranz, with whom we are very slightly acquainted, and whose attention, you may perceive, is not extremely vigilant.”

“How happy is it,” replied I, “that, being an utter stranger in the capital, I shall have the pleasure of meeting there such agreeable acquaintances ; and, to prevent awakening suspicion in your friends of any impropriety in receiving the visits of a mere travelling companion, would it not be advisable to introduce me

as a cousin from Vienna? Be assured I am now so well tutored, I shall play my rôle admirably."

"Oh, heavens, no!" cried the beautiful girl, perplexed and confounded; "I am so little accustomed to dissimulation, that I should never be equal to supporting the deception."

I replied like a libertine, (though I internally felt the remonstrances of conscience,) "My dear Louise, will you obdurately rob me of the sweet hope which is already in its bud? What harm can there possibly be in an innocent jest? You must not look serious, but adapt yourself to circumstances, and play your character well in the comedy: I shall also visit that little witch, your sister, at the school, in the same character of cousin."

"Oh, yes!" cried the child of fourteen, rubbing her hands delightedly, "Madame Lagner is always pleased when she has visitors, and we enjoy their society at the same time. A cousin she will certainly not refuse to receive—Oh, pray do not forget to come!"

“Are you not ashamed,” said I, with a serious countenance, and in a voice of tender reproach, “of the unsuspecting confidence of your little sister? how can you, that are so well acquainted with the world, deny me such a pleasant and innocent recreation?”

Entirely bewildered, the clergyman’s daughter of Taubenheim knew not how to answer the tempting seducer; and the evil one led me at that moment to press her hand affectionately in mine under the table, which seemed to penetrate the very soul of the lovely inexperienced girl like electricity, and lighted up her cheeks with a still higher crimson; then quickly withdrawing my hand, “Now,” said I, “our contract is sealed; and you, Henriette, may tell your governess that you expect a cousin from Vienna.” Poor Louise, turning her eyes with a softened expression on me and then on the ground, shook her head, saying—

“It is certainly wrong!”

“What a child you are,” answered I, in an

authoritative voice ; then again taking her hand in the same clandestine manner, I softly whispered,

“ Am not I more than a cousin ? ”

I fancied at this moment that I heard the black demon, who was still sitting upon the sofa reading, mutter between his teeth “ hopeful sinner ! ” A slight shuddering rushed through me—this is also applicable, thought I, to a murderer, a robber, and a seducer—all of whom are “ hopeful sinners ! ” What a pleasant reflection ! But who could withstand the moist deep blue eye, the bewitching blushes, the returned pressure of the sweet girl’s life-warm hand. “ Je me damne,” cried I inwardly, like the monk in a still more critical moment, “ mais que le diable m’emporte, si je puis faire autrement ! ”

This romantic adventure was in excellent progress, and a connoisseur in the gentler sex might confidently predict, that it merely required opportunity and perseverance to accomplish all that could be desired. How weak are women !

but in that weakness consists their loveliness ! therefore, oh, man ! spare, honour, and protect that weakness ! follow not the example I have now described, but that which I shall at a future period recommend.

As all the strangers had now left the room, except the dark-haired solitaire, who appeared to have become part of the sofa, I commenced reading a tale to the charming Louise, in whose welfare I felt deeply interested.

“ You must have heard of the mountains at no great distance from hence, which are haunted by a mountain ghost called ——.” I was in the act of mentioning the name, when we heard a hollow unearthly sound like an echo, which made us start and rise from our seats—at this moment the gigantic figure of the stranger approached the table, laid down the gazette, and smiling scornfully, said with a majestic air :

“ Indulge me so far, as to permit me to be a hearer of your tale.”

Somewhat disconcerted, I replied, “ It is

merely a slight attempt of my own, and I doubt its powers of amusement."

"No ceremony, Sir, read on."

This was spoken in such a singular manner, and with such a commanding voice, that I felt indignant, and was much inclined to quarrel with him; but it seemed as if a higher power restrained me, and I took up the manuscript to continue, when the friends of the young girls entered, excusing their absence by saying, they had been to visit some old acquaintances, at the same time informing the young ladies that the journalière was ready.

They now sprang like a pair of young deer to collect their "seven" little packages, and I to assist them; as she jumped into the carriage, I pressed the hand of the interesting Louise, saying in a low murmur:

"Forget not your poor cousin!" I was answered by a sweet expressive blush and a gentle pressure of the hand; and thus disappeared

from my earnest gaze the amiable sisters beneath the fostering wings of their protecting friends.

I now felt not a little annoyed at finding that I had only the dark, morose-looking stranger for a companion ; he regarded me attentively, then, with something between a sneer and a smile playing on his countenance, said :

“ I dare say you are not now disposed to read your little tale, therefore I will wait until a more favourable opportunity ; you will no doubt visit the mountains, where I shall most certainly meet you :” then proudly bowing he disappeared like an air-bubble.

What a singular being ! Who, or what is he ? His arrogance and presumption had irritated me excessively.

At this moment the arch-looking little chamber-maid peeped through the half-opened door, and demanded in the good-natured confident tone of the people in this part of the country—

“Surely our handsome, elegant gentleman will stop the night with us?”

“Tell me, my saucy lassie,” chucking her gently under her pretty round chin, “how is it that you are all so handsome?”

“We owe that to the mountains,—stay with us and you will see what good care we will take of you. Shall I conduct you to your sleeping-room? You shall have an entirely new bed, and if one is not large enough you shall have two.”

Thus saying, she ran out of the room; and as I was more anxious to see my fair friends in the capital than her double-bed, I followed to pay my reckoning, and to obtain some information respecting my grim acquaintance; but I found on inquiry he was perfectly unknown.

I observed on the wall a row of bells, arranged in the most exact order; a few were adorned with rosettes composed of different-coloured ribbons.

“What do these rosettes indicate?” I demanded of the ever-attentive Cendrillon.

“Oh, they designate the rooms which the handsome young men occupy.”

“So, so—you have now given me a sufficient reason for not stopping in your house,” said I, laughing, “for how it would mortify me to behold mine unadorned.”

“No, indeed: I promise, if you will but stay, to make a rosette with a ribbon so long that I shall be able to kiss it every morning.”

“Oh, you coaxing flatterer! for uttering such an untruth, you shall be punished with a kiss, and—”

“One dollar and four groschen is the reckoning,” croaked a hoarse voice from behind me.

Rather disconcerted, I paid the hostess, who had thus entered *mal-à-propos*. In the meantime, the mischievous little damsel was smothering a laugh in her pocket-handkerchief, and placed her hand significantly upon her heart, as if to tell me how innocent she was of this

unwelcome surprise ; the sly gipsy however achieved her object, for her appeal either to my weakness or my vanity was the means of securing a treble douceur.

I now mounted my horse and proceeded. The country was beautiful, and improved as I advanced towards my destination. A noble river, blooming meadows, green undulating fields, finely wooded with the lofty Zopfberg in the distance, all glittering in the bright sunshine, which chased away in rapid succession the dark lowering clouds. Nothing marred the beauty of the prospect but the detestable allée of poplars, which, as usual, were naked, and now threw their long spectral shadows over the fields like so many tails of " Brobdignagian rats."

In beauty, the town was far inferior to its environs. Breslau, though certainly of great antiquity, is not romantic ; it is as dirty as it is ancient, and everywhere exhibits as much indigence as bad taste. Like Leipsick, Brunswick, and other large towns, a handsome pro-

menade has been made upon the ruins of the demolished fortifications; it is kept in excellent order, and does great honour to the projector, who must have been conversant with his art.

I arrived early, took up my quarters at the Silver Duck, and then commenced a promenade to inspect the lions.

The learned visage and red cap of a student induced me to address him for information, in reply to which he very obligingly offered his services as cicerone.

“This,” said he laconically, “is Breslau’s pride—the modern palace of the Prince Zinkofsky.”

I looked up, and beheld before me a truly noble house, rearing itself proudly out of the blooming trees and flowers of the promenade; its simple, yet tasteful splendour, impressed me most favourably.

“It is too late,” said my conductor, “to see its interior to-night, but I advise you not to neglect it to-morrow, as, during the absence of

the Prince, it is shown with great liberality to strangers. After we have made the tour of this part of the town you must visit the theatre, to see the Canine Comedy, represented by the most talented artistes, who have for a length of time appeared upon our boards."

"How!" said I, "What do you mean?"

"I mean, that we have a troop of the canine species, who act entirely without the aid of man; the only rivals to their fame are a few monkeys; you will be delighted and astonished, particularly with Madame Batavia, a charming poodle, the darling of the public. For myself, I prefer the monkey Furioso; but I will not anticipate your delighted astonishment."

"Charming! I thank you for your consideration: let us then converse upon the merits of your professors—is M. Rückwärts still popular?"

"Why not? Has not the church more pleasure over one repentant sinner, than over a hundred righteous men? He is at present, toge-

ther with the wealthiest and most distinguished persons in the kingdom, united in Bible associations and in a missionary establishment, for the conversion of the children of our country."

"What, in the name of all that is wonderful, have you heathens?"

"Not exactly—but old Christianity goes for nothing until it is converted by modern godliness. For instance, whoever exercises his reason, and does not blindly believe signs and wonders, or more especially if he doubts the existence of the Devil, would be considered more irretrievably damned than the innocent heathens who have not had the advantage of scriptural instruction; besides, as to the latter, the celebrated modern society of 'ocular' and 'oral' evidence have informed us, that after death they shall pass a thousand years in the *intérregnum*, a sort of purgatory! while, on the contrary, the others will not be afforded the most remote chance of salvation." "Les pauvres diables," said I, "perhaps a merciful God will be more

relenting and compassionate than Professor R. and his honourable Bible and conversion society."

"Amen!" answered the student, at the same moment taking off his red cap, he bowed very low, for, like the wolf in the fable, it so happened that the Professor himself was then passing.

Two years later, all this produced good fruit, and, like his prototype, the crab, M. Rückwärts found that going backwards was the best method of marching forwards, for he obtained the patronage of the Crown Prince, and he is now basking in the sunshine of court favour, as I was lately informed by a lady, who writes occasionally for me the *Chronicles of the Metropolis*.

My friendly conductor accompanied me to the door of the Temple of "Thalia Canina," which was already filled with an apparently respectable audience. In a short time, Madame Batavia appeared, and was received with the loud and

continued vivats of the house, which she acknowledged by bowing very gracefully. She at least never coquetted with the boxes or the parterre; though, truly, if a mauvais plaisant had allowed a piece of ham to peep out of his pocket, I doubt much whether the souffleur could have restrained within due bounds her natural appetite.

Fortunately, every thing was preserved in good order, though this was not a little violated, in a brilliant love scene between the king of the Moors and the fascinating Madame Batavia; the latter, in a fit of distraction, quite forgetful of her rose-coloured robe, instead of making her curtsy on her hind legs, made use of her fore-paws, and in this manner displayed to the audience, not her flowing robe, but the labours of the razor upon her hind-quarters, which graceful movement was received with thunders of applause by the "gods" in the gallery. She was, I presume, when too late, made conscious of the error, for, on her arrival behind the scenes,

we heard something which, though it might be termed a sigh, bore a nearer affinity to a howl; perhaps the souffleur had been too severe in his reproaches—however, we had no time for conjecture, as Furioso now came forward, dressed as a knight, with couched spear, to decide in mortal combat his rivalry with the Moor king for the fair heroine Batavia. Twice the lances rebounded on their well-wrought cuirasses—Furioso had already lost his helmet—again they closed—when, oh, act of heroism! the renowned king of the Moors sprung with one bound upon the uncovered head of his opponent, and we all expected he would have been the conqueror; but the instinct of nature prevailed, for, instead of pursuing his advantage, he remained quietly sitting upon his new throne, where he appeared to have been diligently seeking after something, but what I could not discover, even with the assistance of a powerful opera-glass; and, though a traveller, yet I am too fond of truth to record any thing I have not distinctly seen—this, at

least, is certain, he tore from the head of his opponent the laurel wreath, without having gained the honour of victory.

A new and comic scene was now exhibited to the delighted audience. The great despot of the green-room himself strode the field of battle, armed with a weapon more resembling that of a drayman than a valiant knight; at the sight of this formidable antagonist both king and knight evinced evident signs of giving battle, by their loud chattering, and a ferocious display of their masticating instruments of self-defence; however, it was unavailing, notwithstanding the encouragement afforded by the loud vivats of the spectators: the heroes were at length compelled to execute an inglorious retreat, and hide themselves from their relentless pursuer in the veiled recesses of Thalia's Temple.

A considerable time elapsed before the manager, a Frenchman, came forward to stutter his excuses in bad German; he consoled the audience by telling them that, in the next

scene, ample reparation should be made, as Furioso would retrieve his lost honour in a rope-dance.

The renowned artiste appeared, and being now in his proper element, he surpassed description; all the varied evolutions of Diavolo at Franconi's were executed with the most extraordinary facility, and far more than even he could attempt; among other manœuvres he remained suspended on the rope solely by his teeth, and swung himself in the most terrific manner high over the heads of the audience to the top of the ceiling, and then plunged downwards within an inch of the souffleur's box; at another time he hung supported merely by his great toe, like a pendulum, then rose to the top by a magic spring, and with astonishing dexterity regained his former seat. Throughout the whole performance he conducted himself with such prudence and circumspection, that the brute was forgotten, and I know not how I can better express my admiration than by saying

that the Diavolo of Paris rivals the monkey, and the Diavolo of Breslau resembles man.

I shall conclude by making an oration in praise of the highly talented Madame Batavia ; no language can do justice to her inimitable powers as a danseuse ; first she bounded on three legs, then upon two, afterwards upon one side, then changed to the other, now on cross-legs, and ended by hopping about upon one. Not even Taglioni herself, who is certainly highly accomplished in the use of her legs, will ever be able to arrive at this grade of perfection, for a most palpable reason—because she has but two!

At the table d'hote I found indifferent society, bad eatables, and still worse wine ; there was by far more speaking than eating going forward, and Master Heinrich performed the twofold office of jester and waiter to the establishment. One of the guests demanded if it were true that our prima donna (this question referred to one of the human race) was

really married to the Baron Z——? “Es jinge wohl, aber es jeht nicht,” was the answer of Master Heinrich, in the Berlin dialect; a loud laugh from the whole company repaid this attempt at wit. As my wine was bad and sour, I demanded in an under tone of voice, as the waiter passed my chair, if he had no other? “Yes, every sort, my good sir, and one over,” was the answer, loud enough for the whole company to hear; this sally was followed by another peal of laughter. How happy, thought I, are these citizens of Breslau, for how little amuses them! With such reflexions I laid my head on my pillow, and slept soundly until the gay beams of the morning sun chided my drowsiness.

I commenced my promenade at mid-day, and proceeded direct to the palace of the Prince Zinkofsky. I again indulged myself by contemplating its beautiful exterior, but I felt apprehensive on entering I had made some mistake, on account of the disagreeable equestrian

odour and offensive gas which saluted me. To the left I observed a narrow winding wooden staircase, which the porter informed me led to the private apartments of his highness. On the right, close to the stable-door, the magnificent entrance opened on the grand staircase, adorned with gold and bronze balustrades, and covered with scarlet cloth; this terminated in the state apartments, and here at last my tormented nose took leave of the horse-perfumed atmosphere. This range of rooms was most tastefully decorated; but, though many of the individual parts were beautiful, yet the ostentatious parade of splendour everywhere visible, did not correspond with the chandeliers of bronzed-wood and japanned-tin, or the paper-hangings, or the looking-glasses composed of several pieces united; these certainly were not worthy companions of the superb Lyons silk-damask which covered the chairs and sofas, or of the tasteful bronze rosettes which admitted warmth to the rooms. I merely mention these as instances of those

anomalies of negligence which are to be met with in our palaces, but are rarely seen in London or Paris. I also found a number of paintings, the most costly part of which was their gilt frames. For these slight incongruities I was amply compensated on entering the ball-room, the walls of which were a delicate rose-colour; it was lighted from above by a circular window, and surrounded by a gallery supported by Corinthian columns, which presented a most striking imitation of giallo antico. The bronze chandeliers suspended from the beautiful ceiling did not disgrace it; and in keeping with the whole were the green-houses, united with it by a tasteful balcony, from which was visible a charming prospect over the adjacent promenades and distant country.

A tout prendre, it is a beautiful thing, and with a few alterations, which might be easily effected, this princely palace would be worthy of being numbered among the most splendid in the kingdom; and certainly the inhabitants of

Breslau must be highly indebted to the prince for selecting their town for his residence.

I have not the honour of his acquaintance, but I was gratified to observe his portrait (a striking likeness, I was informed,) in the boudoir of the princess, which was elegantly yet whimsically embellished. To judge by this miniature, he is a handsome young man of about two or three-and-twenty, with brown curling hair; he was attired in a red coat with a star and three crosses underneath, white, black, and red. "How happy," said I, "this fortunate being ought to be, young, handsome, distinguished, and rich!" "And in addition to all this," said my conductor, "he possesses an amiable and beautiful wife." Now then, highly favoured mortal, since you have all these enviable possessions, you must forgive me for discovering a few faults in your palace, and pardon the still higher offence of committing them to print.

I now proceeded to visit that part of the pro-

menade which I was unable to see yesterday. It was Sunday, and every part was animated by crowds of people dressed in their holiday costume; it appeared as if all the handsome faces I had encountered on my late tour were exhausted, for I did not perceive one that could be termed beautiful. I was also not a little astonished to behold the number of cake, beer, wine, and coffee-gardens, and frequently read upon the same sign, wine-cellar, coffee-house, and subscription-garden; the conclusion was consequently forced upon me, that the people of this town eat and drink more than usual.

On arriving opposite the stupendous dome, I paused to enjoy *con amore* the beautiful scene; at one glance is visible the flowery fields, now blooming upon the ruined fortifications, the broad river divided into two streams majestically rolling, while five or six ancient churches picturesquely crowned its banks, and reared their lofty spires high above all. My attention was directed from contemplating the pleasing

prospect before me by the loud tolling of the magnificent, hollow-sounding bell of the Sand church, (what an ominous name,) as it summoned the faithful to the blessing. I walked quickly over the bridges and entered the church, which was already filled. It was decorated in a style of oriental tawdriness, pictures, wreaths, and vases of artificial flowers, green, blue, red and yellow columns, glittering with gold and silver ornaments, the whole tasteless, dirty, and constructed in utter defiance of the rules of art; yet the effect of the coup-d'œil was imposing.

The invisible music now commenced, at first resembling the low wailings of women, and then increasing in volume like a peal of thunder, resounded through the vast vaulted fabric.

It must be confessed that it exhibits a singular deficiency, not only of reason but fancy, in those piously inclined, in not conforming to the ancient illusion—the splendid rites of the church of Rome—instead of that melancholy,

mongrel compound between Jesuits and Puritans, Evangelicals and Herrnhuters: Protestant renegades, to whom the commencement of Voltaire's Galimatias is so expressively applicable, "Un jour qu'il faisait nuit!"

I amused myself sometime with the consecrated smoke and music, then tore myself away from the beautiful spectacle, as I wished to see the other churches in the town; but the trouble of my tour was not repaid, as I met with nothing worthy of notice, except the credulity of two Poles, who were admiring a miserable daub in the cathedral, announced as the production of the celebrated Lucas Cranach, and a bishop's cap among the relics, which afforded me much pleasure; it was made of velvet, and so beautifully and deceptively embroidered with straw, that I had much difficulty to convince myself it was not really gold; however it afforded a new illustration of the wisdom of the aphorism "All is not gold that glitters."

From the ecclesiastical I passed on to the

military establishments, as I wished to inspect the bronze statue of the celebrated marshal, formerly its professor, to whose memory the province erected this monument; but, alas! their enthusiasm only arrived at a certain point; they were not, I presume, convinced of the necessity of polishing the granite pedestal; this, like their enthusiasm, remains without lustre. How much more proudly glitters the *iron* hero, Marshal Blücher! I must however declare my preference for a similar work executed by the same master in Berlin; the attitude, when viewed in front, is imposing and expressive, but from the side is rather theatrical and affected; the folds of the mantel also seem woody and clumsy. Unhappily the pedestal is so small that the field-marshal appears to balance himself with difficulty; perhaps it was intended to remind him of the contracted, arduous position in which he was placed at the commencement of his brilliant career.

On a parade day, at Berlin, as the gallant

old hero, so appropriately called by his soldiers, Marshal Vorwärts (forward) was riding past the statue, he observed a boy supporting himself on the pedestal by the legs of the figure, "Come down, my fine fellow," cried the veteran, good-humouredly, "do you not see that I have scarcely room there myself!"

Heaven's bright luminary was gilding the great tuft which crowns the lofty Zopfberg in the distance, and the great tuft which crowns the head of General Tauenzien before me, as I bade a final adieu to Breslau's dirty streets. Yesterday I had the hardihood to criticise the statue of the great marshal; how apropos appeared my censure when I beheld this monument. Is it possible, thought I, at least a thousand years must have elapsed between their separate erection. Upon an ill-shaped, uncouth pedestal, resembling an old fashioned commode, is placed a sarcophagus, upon which reclines a

weeping Bellona; on one side is a medallion of the general in gala uniform, his hair straight and powdered, crowned by a majestic tuft; instead of a shirt-frill is an antique Roman corslet, the lion's head of which appears like a miniature mop issuing out of his bosom. But the most ludicrous is the inscription beneath, in gold letters, "The work of Federusi. Chapter XII." Would it not appear on reading this that he was the author of the Count Tauenzien's Life, and that we have to thank the twelfth chapter of that work for the noble design before us?

I now journeyed onward, but nothing presented itself worthy of notice on the road to Schwaidniz, if we except a few pictures of real life, such as a horse at a blacksmith's door holding up his hoof as gracefully as Madame Batavia does her paw; or a fat gourmand of a village mayor enjoying himself with as much consequence at a village inn, and perhaps over

as great a variety of wines and ragouts, as his brethren in London and Paris.

About mid-day I arrived at Schwaidniz, and relished not a little the cool spacious dining-room at the hotel, and an excellent dinner. It was altogether, for this part of the country, a most superior house; but alas! the "ladies in waiting" were distinguished for anything but beauty, and resembled Hebe in nothing except in fulfilling the office of wine-bearers. Our dinner-table was even enlivened by music, for a Polish nightingale took good care to provide it, and sung above my head in such a bravura style, that his notes pierced my inmost organs of hearing. Notwithstanding this annoyance I could not forbear breaking out into a violent fit of laughter, the cause of which, my dear reader, I shall confide to thee.

It was once my lot to accompany a great minister, who shall be nameless, together with many of his friends and followers, on a promenade; it was that season of the year when the

nightingales cease to sing, and the frogs commence ; our little tour was on the minister's estate, which had been assigned to him as a recompense for his long services, and though a magnificent donation, yet being marshy, it was thickly peopled with these croaking warblers,* who were performing a most unharmonious concert close to us. The minister suddenly stopped, placed his finger significantly on his lips, as if to enjoin silence, and exclaimed with enthusiasm, "Oh! heaven, how gloriously these nightingales pipe!" I laughed heartily at the expense of the excellent old man, in which I was joined by the whole company, and being on terms of intimacy, I ventured to reveal to my friend the real cause of our merriment, when, much to his honour, he merely shrugged his

* Those of my readers who have never left the British shores can form no adequate idea of the loud discordant sounds emitted by these tenants of lakes and morasses, as this species of frogs does not exist in this country.—
Translator.

shoulders, and enjoyed our mirth most cordially.

I heard two newly-arrived travellers, who sat near me, conversing on the beauties of a ruin in the mountains, about five leagues distant, which excited my curiosity. "It is scarcely possible to conceive," said one, "how a man could be so insane as to lose such a property by gambling."

I approached the stranger and solicited a more detailed account.

"Perhaps you are travelling in that direction," was the reply. "If so, I recommend a visit to the Königsburg; it is one of the most beautiful spots I ever beheld; a superbly picturesque ruin, enthroned in the midst of hills covered with stately trees, blooming with luxuriant foliage. The whole of that lordship contained eight villages, which extended as far as the eye can compass from the summit of the watch-tower, all of which the old Baron von Lork lost, in an incredibly short space of time,

at the gaming table. When he died the property was sold and divided ; one bought a mill, another a farm, and the romantic ruin fell to the lot of a doctor.

“ His unhappy son, now reduced to beggary, is a wanderer no one knows whither ; the landlord tells me there are many singular reports concerning him, ‘ that he is gone to America,’ ‘ that he is still lingering among the mountains,’ besides many others which are not very favourable to his character. I knew him well, poor fellow, when a child, a fine noble-spirited boy ; how deplorable to be exiled from such a paradise by a foolish, infatuated father.”

“ How far distant is this ruin, and which is the nearest road ? ” I demanded with eagerness.

“ It is about five short leagues, and if your horses are not fatigued you can reach it this evening ; but when you arrive at the foot of the great mountain called the Hemmschuh, you must descend and take the path along the river

Wiesa through the forest; it is the most picturesque part of the whole mountain district, and considerably the nearest road. At some of the lonely cottages you will easily procure a guide. The weather is delightful and the days are long; you may therefore anticipate a most agreeable evening."

The necessary arrangements for my departure were soon made. I hired a light chaise adapted for mountain travelling, and in less than half an hour I had reached the colossal chain. How pleased I was to find myself once more among these old earth-bubbles called mountains, and how grateful am I that they exist; the pleasures they originate are numerous; they not only bring us nearer to heaven, but from their pure air spring courage and freedom. Here we again find the pure wood-nymph, health, who had been lost in the hypochondriacal plains; here the mind recovers its elasticity; and last, but by no means the least among their joys, the stomach becomes

strengthened; that despot of the soul, that sovereign which rules alike the faithful and the unbeliever, the inhabitant of the hills and the vallies. Mountains! were I a poet, you should inspire my song!

Now, dear reader, I will confess that at Schwaidniz I drank an excellent bottle of wine, which perhaps strengthened my enthusiasm, for I felt perfectly happy without being in the slightest degree intoxicated; nay, smile not incredulously, my doubting reader, it is true, upon my honour, for as I approached the Hemmschuh my spirits became still more elevated, which could not have been the effect of wine. I did not stay long, even to procure a guide, but with the vivacity of youth sprang from my carriage and flew into the dark forest, following the course of the river; the leaves glittered brightly in the golden sunshine, the Wiesa murmured over blocks of rocks like the bourru bienfaisant, gliding slowly and sullenly through

the variegated meadows, and exhaling the balmy fragrance of a hundred flowers.

I was now completely bewildered, my path no longer visible, and, to add to my perplexity, high craggy rocks surrounded me on every side; even the opening by which I had entered had disappeared. At this moment a sun-burnt boy peeped through a chasm, and demanded in the dialect peculiar to the natives "If I had lost my way," adding "I will show you the right one."

This was indeed a true "Deus ex machina!" I answered with alacrity "My good boy, conduct me to Konigsburg, and I will reward you like a king." "With pleasure," answered he, and immediately sprung through an almost invisible aperture. I had no little difficulty in keeping pace with the young urchin, and a hasty march in warm weather we know is not very delightful. On arriving at the bed of the river, my flying guide skipped over the stones

like a marionette in a comedy of puppets, and seemed only to touch the ground for form's sake; but as I passed the cool stream I quite longed to pause and indulge myself with an immersion.

“Stop, stop, I cannot follow you,” I cried out to my mobile conductor; he paused an instant, and demanded, “Are you not accustomed to mounting hills?”

“At least not so rapidly. But say, how came you to find me in the valley of rocks?”

“My master saw you from above, and told me you were his friend, and that I must show you the way up.”

“A friend of mine! who is your master?”

“He is called the lord of the hills,” and dashed forward.

“Stop, once more, pray what is your name?”

“Erdu, please your honour.” I could not extract any more information from the incommunicative Erdu, and the clattering of a mill pre-

vented any further attempts at conversation for the present.

We now entered an almost impenetrable forest, the foliage of which entirely excluded the rays of the sun, and to which it appeared the destroying axe was an utter stranger, for out of the trunks of the primeval, half-decayed fallen pines a young thicket had grown up like Chinese dwarf-trees; the waving feathery bushes of the fern rose to man's height, while the bilberries in full fruit, together with the wild rosemary and moss, thick, luxuriant, and soft as velvet, formed the most agreeable and variegated carpet.

“Let us stop here, Erdy, for a moment to rest,” said I; “its refreshing coolness is inviting, and I am heartily tired.”

“No, not here sir, it is not safe; in half-an-hour we shall arrive at the castle?”

“Not safe! Why what have we to fear, thou Gnome?”

“The mountain ghost,” said he, in an under voice, and flew forward.

I was obliged to follow him, as it would have been nearly impossible to have found my way out of the forest, particularly as we had come to a zig-zag path where no trace of a human foot was visible; at last, after climbing up steep rocks and precipitous ascents, we suddenly arrived at very high walls. The entrance appeared to be by an old iron-gate, and through a small opening in the lindens I perceived the remains of a fallen watch-tower.

“Here is the castle,” cried the boy; “please to give me the reward you promised. Knock at the door and it will be opened.”

I put a dollar into his hand, which did not seem to surprise him; upon which he cast a side-long malicious glance at my purse, repeated his thanks, then darted up the hill with incredible swiftness, and vanished like a sprite from my view. A violent gust of wind now rushed through the majestic lindens, whose

thick shades enveloped the mouldering castle, and two ravens were floating in the last rays of the setting sun around the falling tower.

I imagined myself in the year 1230, and knocked at the iron-gate with a pleasing shudder; three successive times I repeated the call before it was answered; at length, an ill-looking fellow, with long, lank, red hair, made his appearance, and demanded what I wanted so late. It was, in truth, beneath the shades of the trees, already twilight; but to my feelings it was, on that account, the most favourable moment for beholding a ruin. I expressed my wishes, and was allowed to enter.

The moon, splendid and gigantic, was rising from behind the opposite mountains; immersed in her magic light, lay the deep abyss beneath; the rushing of the Wiesa was no longer audible, but, here and there, a silver streak shining in the twilight, indicated its existence. An old maple, whose hollow trunk was filled with loam, which imparted fresh vigour to its almost ex-

tinguished life, was arched over the small parapet on which I stood, and, as it waved in the wind, it seemed like a messenger from the olden time to warn me of the insecurity of the crumbling towers. It was a magnificent scene, whose beauty was increased by the still solitude which reigned.

I always dispense, if possible, with the services of guides, as they destroy the sweet illusions of the fancy ; besides, I was informed that its present proprietor had repaired the parts which decay had rendered dangerous ; indeed, his operations were visible to me the moment I entered, as he had tastelessly pulled down the original drawbridge, and replaced it by one with a modern wooden railing, together with various similar additions, to the great injury of its romantic character. As I wished to be left alone, the red-haired castellan pointed out the way to the tower, assuring me that the steps were perfectly safe ; he left me at the entrance of the banqueting hall, where lizards,

toads and owls, were now the only revellers. Another violent gust of wind rushed through its dilapidated windows, and a half-decayed armorial ensign carved in stone glimmered in the yellow twilight, while the immense chimney was nearly covered by the spreading branches of a large blackberry bush, which now bloomed undisturbed; an opening in the broken wall afforded me an entrance into another large room, which was also filled with wild shrubs; I then passed into an arched cabinet in tolerable preservation; here commenced the winding tower-stairs which led to the highest room, formerly the watch-tower.

Cheerfully singing an old ballad, I mounted the decaying steps, but when I arrived at the room I was in search of, I could scarcely believe I was not dreaming; for I beheld sitting at a stone table, in the middle of the room, the same gigantic figure, whose dark looks had so much annoyed me in the dining-room of the inn, and though he had no other light, except

that emitted by the moon, which shone brightly through the windows, he appeared to be diligently reading; two pistols lay upon the table near the book.

Uncertain how to act, I remained transfixed to the spot; the stranger, however, quickly relieved me from my embarrassment. "Ah," said he, laughing, "you are welcome to the mountains; I have also been reading a tale of Rübezahl by moonlight;" "but, perhaps," continued he, in a friendly tone, "we may now divert each other better; how now, you look as pale at seeing me, as if I was myself the mountain-ghost; I assure you I am a man of flesh and blood like yourself, but you have nevertheless visited an inhospitable castle. The lords of Lork, as you have been correctly informed, are inveterate gamblers, and you now see before you the last of their race; one, whom gaming, although he has never played himself, has deprived of all. Is it then to be wondered that I, the victim of gambling, only

play when I am sure of winning; that moment is arrived; therefore, without any further ceremony,—you carry a well-filled purse, it is my pleasure that we play for it, so I beg you will lay it on the table instantly; come, said he, presenting a pistol, which he held in each hand, at my head—*pair ou impair!*

Resistance was madness; my umbrella was not a weapon to oppose two loaded pistols, and my opponent's evident determination to possess himself of my money at all hazards, could not be doubted; I, therefore, consoled myself, by thinking that such an adventure was not dearly purchased at the rate of fifty Louis-d'ors.

I answered in his own strain, “ My lord of Lork, you have won *impair!* more you cannot win from me at present, as I presume you will leave me my wearing apparel; I grudge it not, but grieve for your hard fate, and still more for the manner you have adopted to improve it; but at present allow me to continue my way

home unmolested, and to enjoy the delightful prospect from the balcony of your castle ; fear not, that this transaction shall ever be revealed to your prejudice, I only beg your word to insure me safe conduct through the mountains."

"Your request is granted, and you may depend upon my protection wherever I can be of the slightest service to you ;—only be cautious, and do not again attempt to entrap my mountain beauties. Adieu!"

Thus saying, he stepped backwards, and like a black cloud passing over the moon, suddenly disappeared, leaving me stupified by amazement, not less at his precipitate retreat, than at the means by which it had been so instantaneously effected ; however, all my endeavours to ascertain his place of egress remained unavailing.

It is the case with some persons, after a danger has been boldly encountered, that fear makes its appearance. One of my old military comrades used to maintain that every man was

vulnerable to its influence. The only difference consisted in the time. "The timid experience it before danger; the coward when menaced by its attack, and the brave, when the excitement is over." In accordance with this rule, my conscience acquits me of cowardice, but timidity and boldness often mingle in me most singularly, so that I am alternately the victim of both.

My situation was any thing but pleasant,—without a farthing in my pocket, and a stranger in this part of the country; however, as the generous gamester had left me my gold watch, I calculated it would procure me the necessary conveniences until I should hear from my banker. As I felt little desire to explore the ruin any further, in two bounds I was at the bottom, ordered the gate to be opened, ran past the red-haired porter, who in vain roared after me for his *douceur*, and thanked Heaven from my inmost soul when I found myself safe on the high road which led to my inn.

It was pretty late when I arrived, and as my host lighted me to my room, he respectfully intimated that I ought not to repeat my visits to the ruin at such unseasonable hours, adding that the mountains had been for some time previous infested by robbers, who had plundered several travellers.

“My host,” said I, “it is useless to dissemble, I have not been better treated; I am at this moment utterly penniless, and consequently feel considerably embarrassed. Here is my gold watch; have the kindness to keep it as a pledge, until I redeem it; and, perhaps you can accommodate me with a few Louis-d’ors, as I leave this place early to morrow.”

“Merciful heavens!” cried the astonished host, “can we not live any longer in our once peaceful, happy mountains? you are most welcome to the money you desire, and can repay me when convenient; keep your watch, I desire no security.”

The next morning, I could scarcely convince

myself that the events of the preceding evening were not a dream, till the sight of my empty purse proved they were full of reality. My first view from the window also reminded me of my adventure, for I beheld the castle in all its magnificence, with its sharp contour appearing as if pencilled on the blue heavens, while the forest, with its countless shades of verdant green, lay shining at its feet; the valley converted into a bleaching ground, resembled a vast lake, whose snowy whiteness, the emblem of innocence, the herald of peace, seemed to reproach the old asylum of robbery on the heights, whose walls had again in the nineteenth century lent their protection to rapine.

I proceeded on my tour as usual *à pied*; the windings of the road added much to its beauty; the different objects, at every turn assumed a new form, like children playing "hide and seek:" the lofty Ballinger alone appeared immoveable, while its more diminutive comrades, covered with ancient oaks and pines, gracefully

bowing their luxuriant branches, together with the murmurs of the forest stream, seemed to salute me at every step.

Man had also done something for the completion of this delightful scene; he had constructed a most excellent *chaussée*; but alas! this was, as usual, bordered with Lombardy poplars, which, fortunately, had not as yet attained sufficient height to obstruct the view.

Since yesterday, I had followed the stony shores of the Wiesa; at present, I took a side road towards the mineral baths, whose season had now commenced. At the first bathing place I visited, I had the good fortune to find an old friend, who was kind enough to replenish my purse, and to whose care I confided the repayment of my landlord at Königsburg. After dinner I journeyed on to the celebrated Stahlbrun, a country village transformed into a bathing-place, the beauty of whose environs had been particularly recommended to me; although I did not anticipate

an adventure, yet such a one as rarely happens to mortals actually befel me; it was, that the landlord of the Golden Sun assured me that I should find accommodations at the Crown better suited to my station, than any he could possibly provide me.

I now drove past several wooden columns, painted in imitation of marble, which were erecting opposite the Crown Hotel, in honour of the crown Prince of Prussia, who was shortly expected. Here they appeared as little inclined to receive me, as my host of the Sun, for not a creature came to welcome me, probably because the bathing-season was about to commence, and they no doubt calculated upon more productive guests. The general appearance of the place gave little indication that it was one of the most favourite bathing-places in the whole country.

Stahlbrun is merely an extensive mountain village, whose houses are a little better than those inhabited by peasants, and only distin-

guished by their bizarre titles; adjoining Bourbon-house I remarked one called the three lilies, not white, but the tri-colore, thus grafting the colours of Napoleon upon the innocent lily; what an admirable device for a man of all parties, who is true to no party!

Upon entering the common sitting-room for travellers, I found a landlady of the most overwhelming amplitude of proportions, reclining upon a couch; the only answer to my demand for a room was a gracious inclination of the head. Her husband, who was gifted with a similar share of embonpoint, was a handsome young man, but somewhat of a simpleton; he excused the indolence of his helpmate by saying that his poor Amalie was yesterday on a party of pleasure at Felseneck, which had produced such an effect that she was not able to move; "Sophie, show the gentleman a room." I felt perfectly satisfied with the change, as Sophie was a pretty, neat girl.

On my return I found the turtle-doves in the

same position ; the husband attentive as a lover, consoling his wearied darling with the most tender endearments.

While waiting for some refreshment, the room filled with all descriptions of vulgar visitors, drinking beer and smoking execrable tobacco, so that my Havannah cigar, which I had chosen for my companion, appeared to be in as bad society as myself. At this moment I heard with astonishment my hostess saying to her husband, in a languishing voice, but evidently intended for me to hear,

Fritz, my dear, did you remark, yesterday, those words of Kotzebue,

“ The torch of Hymen destroys love ! ”

The answer, whispered to the tired invalid, must have been satisfactory, for it was repaid by a most affectionate blow upon her husband's back.

I began to be interested in this original, who seemed a second Lady Quatch, and addressed her, saying, “ Madame, you appear to be con-

versant with the beauties of literature and possessed of a well-informed mind; you must find yourself misplaced in your present situation; take care, do not allow intellectual pursuits to assume an absolute ascendancy, as they are liable to attenuate our bodies and enfeeble our minds."

Instead of replying, she sighed most pathetically. "Madame, you read too much;—am I not right?"

"Alas! it is too true," she answered, with another sigh, evidently pleased at having attracted my attention; "but how can I refrain from reading, since it constitutes my sole recreation? Yet you are correct in your opinion, for it often causes me to suffer deeply, and I quite agree with Schuler when he says—

"How stern is lovely woman's fate on earth."

"What is the continuation of it, dear Fritz?"

"Really, dearest Amalie, I cannot, at this mo-

ment, remember." "Ah! most truly," exclaimed I, continuing the stanza—

"For she must meekly bear each harsh rebuke;
But though her path, with painful thorns is strewn,
Her humble faith will win a heavenly crown."

"Ah! so it is, my good sir; you must certainly be literary, you are so well read."

"You have guessed it madame; I am really an author; my work, entitled the 'Sandomarien True Lovers,' has just appeared, the profits of which defray my travelling expenses; but it is a never-failing maxim with me neither in writing or reading to think much, for as Goethe's Berlichinger idol most justly said—

"Hence drive thy host of thoughts away,
Or they will make thy reason stray."

"That is truly a most beautiful sentence; but you or Goethe may say what you will, I must think."

"Madame, you are wandering in the path of error; are you not acquainted with Lessing?"

“ Yes, sure, the worthy senator of Göriz ; why he lodged with me last year, and fully re-established his health by the waters.”

“ Very well ; remember, he maintains that a woman who thinks is like a man that paints his face.”

“ Pooh ! stuff and nonsense ! the honourable senator only said that out of spite, because he is so pale himself ; however, my opinion is unchangeable.”

“ You are obstinate, madame, excuse me, I beg your pardon, but to a well-informed soul like yours, I may venture to speak philosophischer (philosophically)—

“ Pardon me for interrupting you, but what do you mean by that word—fühlloser-fischer (unfeeling fisher) ? what does it imply ? ”

“ I mean to designate a man whose blood is as cold as a fish in his watery element ; to follow his reasoning you would end by doubting, not only every thing that is not, but every thing that is ; in one word, you would be scep-

tical; for even Kotzebue, whom you so justly eulogize, says in his immortal verse—

“Doubt is the sword of proud imperious man—
The shield of faith is lowly woman’s worth.”

“In other words, you must believe all that your pastor, your doctor, and your husband say; otherwise you cannot be termed devout.”

“Oh! Gemini, you will make me mad. Fritz, what a doubter art thou, or rather a *spectacle*, as I think the gentleman calls it. But, sir, must not my Fritz believe everything I tell him?”

“It would be a sin to doubt it, even for a moment; but the subject seems to have agitated you; for no consideration in the world would I disturb such a susceptible soul as thine, we will therefore choose another topic of conversation; which of our two great authors do you prefer—Schuler or Kotzebue?”

“Oh! Schuler, he is so sublime; still Kotzebue is really a great man, and I possess nearly twelve volumes of his works.”

“ So then, you assign him the first place ? ”

“ Yes, certainly ; for I have put him at the top of my book-case : how tastefully I have arranged it, have I not, my dear Fritz ? ”

It was supper time, and the worthy man was in the act of chewing a large radish, but, on hearing this appeal made to his judgment, quickly wiped his mouth, kissed most tenderly the hand of his blue-stocking wife, and answered with a face full of the most important meaning, “ Nobody can deny that.”

“ But look, my good sir, notwithstanding all you have said against thinking, I must now think again. My husband there formerly never ate radishes, and now he cannot get enough. Yes, yes, Kotzebue was right when he said

“ The torch of Hymen destroys love.”

“ I honour, madame, your acute sagacity, but I am positive, even in spite of the radishes, that Mr. Fritz remains true to his gentle mate.”

Disbelieving reader, if you doubt the veracity of this dialogue, go yourself to Stahlbrun, turn into the Golden Crown, converse with the great "*Literatis*," and her equally great lord—but not master; and as thou hast been so long the companion of my pilgrimage, now follow me to Felseneck, which, in its half-decayed greatness, is still the splendour of the mountains.

I must class Felseneck among the most imposing and beautiful objects I have seen in Europe; and I shall never forget the feeling of delighted surprise (which extorted from me a loud exclamation of rapture) when, having missed my path in ascending, I came by accident to the point called the Giant's Bed. From thence I beheld, at one glance, the whole extent unfolded in all its magnificence; the thick forest of majestic trees rustled solemnly around me; at my feet was the stone wall, deep sunk in the giddy depths beneath, where, in the long-winding dale, a mountain stream traced its

rapid course, till a high isolated rock barred its passage ; upon the summit, like a fairy fabric erected by spirits, stands the kingly castle, towering in the blue ether surrounded by terrace-gardens, which, descending step by step, seemed to bathe their flowers in the cool, clear current of the valley ; opposite, on a still loftier mountain, reposes the ruin of the old ancestral castle of the noble race who flourished here for centuries.

The environs and the distant country are equally rich in the beauties of nature ; on three sides the landscape is shut in by mountains, whose forms are far more picturesque and varied than those surrounding the celebrated vale of Rehberg, which, though loftier, are not so diversified and abrupt in their outline ; on the fourth side the eye ranges over the fertile plains, animated by innumerable towns and villages reposing amidst rich corn fields, meadows, and pastures, the whole skirted at the horizon by a chain of gently-rising hills. Nature has here

lavished her loveliest gifts ; when surveyed as a coup-d'œil, there is scarcely any thing to be wished ; but when considered in detail, we perceive that art could effect numerous improvements, especially in regard to the castle, which, though truly magnificent, presents, on a nearer inspection, various incongruities.

If Warwick Castle had this spot for its site it would be the wonder of the world! and deserve a pilgrimage by all the travellers upon earth.

Unfortunately the proprietor of this beautiful domain, which includes also part of the mountain district in the neighbourhood, and transports the imagination to the mighty barons of the middle ages, is unable to enjoy it. Though a most estimable man, yet he was actuated by the singular desire of constantly purchasing new estates, and I have been informed when the late war broke out he possessed ninety-nine, which would have been increased to a hundred if that event had not occurred ! This mania, aided by

bad advisers and unforeseen circumstances, reduced him to his present unhappy condition; his proud lordships are sequestered, the superb palace is verging to decay, noisome weeds mingle with the few remaining flowers in the garden, and the cattle graze on the waving grass in the castle-yard, which once echoed to the tramp of the proud prancing courser.

The old master of the horse, to whom a trifling pension is allowed by the creditors, conducted me through the interior of the building, which presented nothing remarkable, except the furniture and ancestral portraits, whose antiquity naturally creates interest.

I am not ashamed to say, that I could almost have wept when I beheld the departed grandeur of this noble house, and the desolate state of their once proud residence.

The Count, during the period of his prosperity, held here a superb tournament, which was honoured by the presence of his youthful sovereign. The tribune was erected in the

court of the castle, from which the illustrious monarch awarded the prizes ; while, at present, its only memento is the loose boards, rattling, and the painted canvass, streaming in the wind, the remains of the temporary building that was erected. What a mournful spectacle of departed greatness !

The old master of the horse informed me that the knight, who won the first prize, bore so strong a resemblance to Falstaff, that two horses fell beneath their ponderous load, and it was only by the assistance of a strong cart-horse from the neighbouring brewery that he was enabled to obtain the victory. The beautiful, fascinating queen must have had some difficulty in suppressing her laughter, when she hung the gold chain on the neck of this fortunate successor of the merry knight.

I lingered so late, that the sun was throwing his parting rays over the castle and its beautiful scenery. A storm now commenced, dark thunder-clouds lay thick and heavy upon the hills, the

lightning, like forky-rockets, illumined the whole horizon.

“My lord! my lord!” cried the coachman, “we shall be as wet as frogs;” and at the same time the wind drove the immense drops of rain full in our faces. A carriage at this moment drove past at full gallop, evidently with the intention of seeking shelter; I ordered the coachman to follow, but a cloud of dust soon concealed it from our view; we also hurried forward, till we were stopped by a violent mountain hurricane, and a darkness ensued like that of the darkest night.

“Jesus Maria!” exclaimed the coachman, “What is to be done now?” The power of instinct led the horses immediately to stop, and I felt at the same instant my eyes, mouth and nose filled with sand, as if I were about being buried alive in it; luckily, the pillar of sand whirled past, leaving behind such a horrible atmosphere of dust and gravel, that it was with

difficulty we perceived a steep road which had been taken by the other carriage; we followed as fast as our jaded horses would permit, and found it brought us to the court of a mill, where fortunately an open shed afforded sufficient shelter for our carriage and horses.

The coachman and myself were almost blind, and we entered the mill for the purpose of procuring some water to wash the gravel out of our eyes.

I found the miller an obliging man, who, with his wife, had just arrived in the carriage which preceded us; they politely accommodated me with every thing I wished.

“It is fortunate you reached this place,” said the miller, “the sand whirlwinds of this country are no joke; I was apprehensive your little light carriage and horses would be blown down the hill, for a similar accident happened to a traveller about two years ago on the same spot.”

The growling thunder accompanied his words,

the lightning glared fearfully, the rain was streaming, the mill clattering, and the dimly-burning candles assumed a singular colour as the phosphoric light glanced through the room; my soul felt delighted with the glorious spectacle; I thanked the miller for his kind hospitality, and began conversing with him on the romantic beauty of the evening.

“Ah, sir! if you only knew where you are! it was once such an infernal place that many who got in never left it; an almost impenetrable wood surrounded it, and the mill itself was called the ‘murderer’s mill,’ which name it still retains in the title-deeds; the stream that sets it in motion is called to this day the ‘Devil’s channel;’ and the deep valley underneath has received the appellation of ‘Hell.’”

“Nothing can be more sublime, my good miller—pray relate to me all you can remember of its ominous history.”

“As the story is long, perhaps you will fa-

your me with your company at a future time, for at present the weather is clear, and it is not advisable to delay your departure, as another storm appears threatening."

This was provoking, for I fully anticipated the pleasure of hearing a dreadful tale; but as it was impossible to pass the night at the mill it would have been imprudent to remain longer.

When I was stepping into the carriage, a tall man, enveloped in a cloak, to which was attached a cowl, drawn over his head apparently to shelter him from the rain, came forward from the dark part of the yard, and in a low voice requested permission to ride to Aarberg.

"In the carriage, my friend," said I, "it is impossible; for I have so many packages that there is hardly room for myself: but if you like to ride behind, you are very welcome."

"Who are you?" demanded the suspicious miller, "I have never seen you here before."

"I am a journeyman locksmith of Aarberg,"

replied he of the cowl, pettishly, "and some-time since I assisted in erecting the lightning conductors on your mill."

"Really," drawled the miller, doubtfully, "but you must know, my good friend, that travellers are not much inclined to give strangers a seat in their carriage so late at night,"—(for at this moment the clock struck ten.) "Never mind," said I, "let him come; with a pair of friends like these, (and at the same time I drew my pistols out of the holsters,) I fear nothing, either day or night; besides, I do not believe there is the slightest danger to be apprehended in the mountains—take your seat, master locksmith. Adieu, my worthy miller!—coachman, drive on!"

We had scarcely left the mill half an hour, when the most violent rain began to pour upon us, and two thunder-storms came in contact over our head; it was a magnificent though at the present moment a somewhat provoking spectacle. The whole heavens were momentarily illumined

by one vast blaze of light, and tremendous discharges of heaven's artillery quickly followed each other—picture after picture of the country emerged in rapid succession, like a magic lantern, into the blue flickering light, displaying the mountain crags and tremendous abysses, and then as instantaneously vanishing in the darkest night.

The rain now streamed perpendicularly like a deluge, three flashes of lightning and three peals of thunder burst at one instant upon us, and I could not forbear leaning out of the *ca-lèche* to sympathise with the poor fellow who sat behind, exposed to all the fury of the storm.

“It does not signify, sir, I am accustomed to such weather;” but this was uttered in a totally different tone of voice from that he had assumed at the mill, and which instantly flashed on my recollection as one I had heard before. “Is it possible?” said I, “No, I must be deceived:” but, before I had time to finish my soliloquy, I heard the trampling of horses, and saw, by the

blaze of the lightning, two gens-d'armes riding hastily towards the carriage; I had scarcely time to hear the hurried words of the locksmith, spoken in a low agitated voice—

“If you are possessed of a single spark of generosity, of humanity, say I am your servant; the coachman will not betray me.”

At that instant the gens-d'armes came up to the carriage, and demanded who I was? and whence I came? at the same time apologizing for detaining me, by saying, that the mountains had been for some time the resort of robbers, and they had received the strictest orders to stop and examine all strangers.

I was thus placed in a most disagreeable predicament; perhaps I was to blame, but to betray a confidence reposed in me, be the subject what it may, is so irksome to my feelings that my decision was soon formed.

“I have no passport;” I replied, “I am merely making a tour of pleasure: I hired my carriage at Schwaidnitz, my servant sits behind,

and here is my baggage; do not detain me." At this moment the thunder-storm, as if leagued with the Lord of Lork, (for it was he who had thus thrown himself on my protection,) shook the very earth, and the electric fluid struck an old pine, only ten paces distant, and lighted it up in a stream of fire, which the torrents of rain as quickly extinguished; the terrified horses fell upon their knees, and those of the gens-d'armes reared and plunged frightfully. My coachman, as if in accordance with the secret agreement he had made with Lork, caused the horses to appear so unmanageable that he declared it was impossible to hold them, and dashed forwards at full gallop down the hill, to the imminent danger of dislocating or breaking my bones, leaving the gens-d'armes behind us, of whom we saw nothing more. In a quarter of an hour, the friendly lights of the village of Aarberg gleamed through the darkness, and the storm ceased.

My travelling companion now leaned over

into the carriage, saying, "Permit me here to bid you farewell—never shall I forget your kindness ; believe me," he added, in a voice trembling with emotion, "I deserved a better fate ! in an hour I shall cross the frontier, when I am out of danger ; and in a few weeks perhaps I shall bid a final adieu to Europe—if heaven prospers me through life, I am indebted alone to you ; this conviction is the only recompense I can offer for the generous protection you have afforded me. I have indeed one trifle, which perhaps you will honour me by accepting as a remembrance of the once dreaded Lord of the Mountains. Though neither gold, nor worth gold, yet I know to you it will be valuable ; and now I pray God to protect you, and to be merciful to me—farewell !" Thus saying, he sprang from the carriage and disappeared in the thicket, leaving me with a roll in my hand, which looked like the barrel of a pistol. On opening it, at Aarberg, I found, to my no small surprise, it contained a manuscript, recounting the adven-

tures of his life ; the perusal of it excited in me such interest, that, notwithstanding my fatigue, its pages amused me during the greatest part of the night ; and I have little doubt that any publisher would give me the fifty Louis-d'ors it cost ! But it contains many particulars which, at present, are unfit for publication ; and I felt extremely grateful in being instrumental in assisting the poor fellow across the frontier. For this act the law will assume the right to condemn me, but I also possess a right, which I exercised, as there are cases when all foreign authority ceases, and which can only be determined by conscience.

A beautiful crystal morning succeeded the tempestuous night ; enjoying its refreshing coolness, I continued on my way, as it was my intention to visit the extraordinary rocks of Blutbach, which were not far distant. The road led through a forest—but what a forest ! what superb vegetation bloomed, amidst thousands of gigantic trees shaded in eternal twilight ! In

one place their dark drapery surrounded the sparkling meadows—in another covered the summits of the highest mountains, or descended the steep precipices beneath. The deeper shades of the beech and pine were contrasted with the lighter green of the luxuriant heath, adorned with myriads of rose-coloured wild hyacinths, forget-me-not, and other beautiful flowers; it was indeed a country which accorded in every respect with my taste and feelings—lonely, rich, poetical, ever-changing prospects—nowhere too extensive nor offering too glaring a conclusion to the fancy—and, to complete its loveliness, several mountain streams and torrents flowed through the vallies in innumerable serpentine windings.

When I arrived at Muckersheim, celebrated for its commerce in wine with the neighbouring towns, I found myself at the frontier. The Austrian black and yellow turnpike, carefully fastened, interposed an effectual barrier to my further progress; and it was some time before a tall, meagre, custom-house officer, apparently

in the last stage of consumption, came to the carriage and demanded, "From whence I had come? and whither I was going?"

I answered laconically, "I am come from Lusatia, my name is Flohberg, and I am going to Blutbach;" he shook his head, which, upon his long flexible neck, looked something like a scarecrow.

"Have you no passport?"—"None."

"Where is Lusatia situated? It is a singular name; I never heard of it before."

"No! I am surprised at that—why Lusatia was formerly in Saxony, but it now lies in Silesia."

"How comes that?"

"Oh! an earthquake, a few years since, tore it from the former and hurled it into the latter."

"I am now no wiser than I was before, and I believe you intend to jest with me—I must therefore refer you to the upper inspector."

As I wished to tell my own story, I jumped

out of the carriage, and sought this important personage; he formed a complete contrast with the stork-like appearance of his deputy; he was uncomfortably fat, sallow, bloated and dropsical, and was sitting in his shirt-sleeves in an easy chair; he excused his negligée, upon the plea of indisposition. I repeated the same information I had given the other, and assured him, upon the honour of a gentleman, that I had nothing liable to duty, except a few dozen of Havannah cigars, a couple of tooth-brushes, some sticks of sealing-wax, at the same time putting into his hands a few paper florins.

“ Mr. Flohberg, travel on in heaven’s name,” was the delighted answer: “ I am happy to have made your acquaintance, and wish you a pleasant journey.”

On leaving him, I found the consumptive officer diving his long neck into my carriage like a heron catching fish. “ Take care,” said I, “ there is a self-acting pistol in the

pocket," the very mention of which caused him to start up in an instant; but I observed he had already fished out my portfolio, which being carefully wrapped up in paper, excited his attention; another paper florin proved that it contained no treasonable correspondence; the heavy black and yellow beam then slowly mounted in the air, and I passed through.

Has it ever happened to thee, friendly reader, after exhausting thy astonishment at the wonders of foreign countries, to have discovered objects in thy own neighbourhood still more wonderful, which thou hadst never taken the trouble to examine? and thus it was with me, on observing Felseneck and Blutbach, though each would repay a tour of 500 leagues to see them, yet they were so near my own residence, that I had not, till now, explored their beauties.

This extraordinary labyrinth of rocks, so extensively entwined, and contrary to all the laws of gravitation, so mystical, and above all others I have ever seen, so phantastically formed, ap-

pear to the astonished beholder like a romantic forest, in which rocks and cliffs are the substitutes for trees, or like a town inhabited by Gnomes, called into existence by the magic art of poetry.

The highest of these rocks termed the watch-tower, is about 500 feet in height, but its circumference is not greater than that of the object from which it takes its name. Another of equal altitude, is precisely like an inverted cone. The different romantic forms appear to have been the effect of a revolution in nature's empire, which it is almost impossible not to believe has been intentionally effected. The loftiest trees appear, when compared with these colossal masses, like blades of grass; wherever there is a spot of earth the trees and underwood have taken root, till the whole rocks are nearly covered with vegetation; some of the slender firs, elevated upon the summits or growing out of the almost invisible clefts, seem fastened to

the stone, like Christmas trees, to celebrate the festivities of that season.

The beautiful red moss hangs in wreaths from rock to rock, the variety of whose grotesque figures is inexhaustible. Tradition has baptized many with the most fanciful appellations; here, we have the twins lying close to one another in swaddling-clothes, while over them, the nun is looking up to heaven in despair; for anguish and suffering have transformed her into stone. Not far distant is the Emperor's throne, and, singular enough, the devil's bridge leads to it; but the most deceptive of all, is the rock called the Burgomaster, dressed in his stately peruke.

It happens unfortunately for the lovers of nature, that this lordship, which includes an almost immeasurable forest and eight villages, belongs to a proprietor not possessed of poetic feelings, but to a citizen of Prague, who purchased it a short time since of a bankrupt

nobleman; hitherto, his imagination has not instigated him to any bolder exploit, than to plant another of those detestable alleés of poplars, (which I have so often anathematized,) on each side of the entrance to this valley of wonders.

But we must turn from these horrors of art to the belles horreurs of the cliffs. As if they had been blackened by fire and pressed together, they become narrower, till they almost form a cavern; and at the extreme point to which we can penetrate is a waterfall. It is much to be regretted, that this has not been arranged by art, as it is capable of great improvement, whereas at present it is merely a thread sluggishly straggling over the rocks.

I was the first visitor this year, who beheld the diminutive cataract in all its force; as a considerable quantity of rain had recently fallen, it descended with the most imposing rapidity, when a bat, who was probably quietly sleeping, caught up by its current, was hurled down

nearly a quarter of the fall, before the scared creature remembered it could fly!

At another spot we found an old musician armed with a gun and a bassoon; in his efforts to extract sounds from the former, he displayed total want of acquaintance with his instrument, for he missed fire at least ten times; I laughed heartily, in which I was most obligingly accompanied by the echo. The obstinate instrument at length broke out into a peal of the most awful thunder, which was loudly reverberated from side to side. I sincerely wish this could be imitated in our national theatre at Berlin, where the thunder bears no resemblance to nature, and the lightning, particularly that of genius, is no longer the fashion.

How delightful, thought I, is it, after a long tour à pied, to enjoy in a clean inn, the most delicious trout, fresh from the murmuring stream, whose delicate flavour is equalled only by their cheapness.

After resting from the fatigues of my pro-

menade, I recommenced my route ; it was again raining ; really, mountains are as capricious as Parisian belles, we are never sure of a long continuance of their smiles.

In the distance, I observed the castle of a great general, who has been most unjustly traduced as being too liberal ; whereas, I once heard him say that he never could find it in his heart to acknowledge Washington and Bolivar as heroes, because they had rebelled against their lawful sovereigns. How admirably legitimate !

A few leagues distant, I arrived at Steindorf, the residence of Prince Rossi, the 126th of that name, whose immortal deeds, with those of his ancestors, consist in having made the romantic Pudelberg passable by means of roads and stone steps ! The country here is beautiful ; the entire chain of mountains are covered to their summits with towns, villages, ruins and forests, all together forming a glorious prospect, so rich

and varied, that it awakens the most agreeable sensations.

As I enthusiastically enjoyed the charming landscape, I found myself in a cheerful tone of mind, contented with the present, grateful towards God, and remembering with pleasure those dear friends, who are scattered far distant. Oh! is not affection the only true happiness upon earth, the only feeling which fully satisfies the soul! let piety then assume what shape or form she will, either love to our immortal Creator, or sympathy for our fellow-creatures, the Almighty accepts both, as addressed to himself.

Adlersberg was the extent of my tour: in its church-yard, I bade a final adieu to the blue chain of mountains, then for the last time spread out before me, and also to the cemetery in which the tour of life terminates.

The rays of the sun were splendidly beaming on two monuments before me; the one, magnificent as a Catafalk—the other, the humble

tomb of poverty, adorned with a simple cross ; on the former I read the following inscription :—

HERE LIE THE REMAINS OF THE HIGH AND NOBLE
HERR ALOYSIUS HOFMAN,
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL
AND
RENOWNED MERCHANT
OF
ADLERSBERG.

A sand-stone figure representing mourning, with her hand laid pensively on her breast, was placed over this inscription, and two skeletons supported the drapery, upon which it was engraved.

How much more expressive and laconic was that dedicated to poverty ; on the wooden cross were written the following words :—

HERE TRUDE FLUNKEN SLEEPS ; BENEATH THIS TOMB,
IN BONA PACE, WAITS HER FINAL DOOM.



TUTTI FRUTTI.



THE MODERN ALCIBIADES.

THE MODERN ALCIBIADES.

Homines ad Deos nullâ re propiùs accedunt, quàm salutem
hominibus dando.—*Cicero.*

IT is not always necessary to travel far in order to encounter remarkable incidents, as I had lately an opportunity of proving.

I recently visited Leipsick, for the purpose of testifying my esteem for her patriarch, my unchanging friend of thirty years, the worthy Baumgärtner, Consul-General of Prussia. I had the good fortune to meet at his table a most interesting, and, in many respects, a very remarkable man; and, if I may be allowed, I will relate to my readers a few particulars respecting him.

It is no less a personage than Doctor, Emir, Chan, Alcibiades de Tavernier, formerly a captain in the French Guards, and grandson of the celebrated traveller of that name, but who has traversed a far greater extent of ground, and with more important results than his distinguished relative.

He was severely wounded at the battle of Leipsick, and, as France had lost the soul which animated her, (I mean Napoleon,) he declined re-entering the military service, and pursued, with the most unremitting assiduity, the study of surgery and medicine, having determined for the future to adopt it as a profession; this sudden resolution had its origin in a long-cherished desire, which, when it exists, invariably indicates to men of genius their true career.

After his studies were completed, he commenced an extensive tour to Africa, visited in his route Egypt, Abyssinia, Syria, Arabia, Persia, the ancient empire of the Great Mogul,

Armenia, and by far the most remarkable parts in that great and nearly unknown tract in the centre of Asia, on to the very walls of China; from thence he traversed Chinese-Tartary to Kiachta, and returned by the new Russian military-road to Europe. On this journey he was unfortunately shipwrecked as it were in sight of harbour, for he was attacked by robbers a short distance from the gates of Bucharest, (where he at present resides); they plundered him of his papers, collections, and effects, leaving him and his son, a child of about ten years of age, lifeless; the brave boy had previously seized a gun which lay in the carriage, and shot the captain of the robbers; their recovery was effected slowly, and with difficulty.

The singular events and variety of interesting romantic details contained in these travels, render them not only replete with amusement, but promise to knowledge the most important discoveries. At one time we find the hero, like

Marco Paolo, the minister and favourite of a powerful Tartar prince, and he himself elevated to that dignity; at another, engrossed by the most romantic passion for the loveliest ornament in the seraglio of his new sovereign, in which, after surmounting the greatest dangers, he was finally successful; now commanding powerful armies, and deciding battles; then sustaining the character of chief among the savage hordes. It was also reserved for him to discover the primitive breed of the horse in the centre of Asia, which, it is said, far excels all the Arabian races hitherto known to Europeans. He has also invented a lightning conductor, which appears destined, from its superiority, to supersede that of Franklin. But as the world will probably, ere long, be favoured with the narrative of his adventures from the pen of the distinguished traveller himself, I shall merely relate a singular narrative and an equally singular dialogue, partly transcribed from memory, and

partly confirmed by a manuscript given to me by M. de Tavernier ; therefore, in publishing them, I do not apprehend incurring the charge of robbery by anticipation.

His chief inducement to visit the same quarter of the globe which had been the theatre of his grandfather's exertions, was to establish, by attentive personal investigation, a regular system of the nature of the plague, and other disorders of that class. If we rightly comprehend M. de Tavernier, the foundation of the form it assumes appears to originate more in the juices of the body itself than in contagion, which can only be considered as the occasional cause of its manifestation. "For," says he, "I have more than once seen contagion generate in the same species of disease ; here the yellow-fever, there the plague, and again the cholera, according to the constitutional tendencies of different individuals ; for this cause I even then termed that singular scourge 'le fleau tri-cephal,' and at the same

time discovered in the mountains of Mongolia, which no European had ever before visited, that ice and snow are specifics against these diseases in all their varied forms, and I stopped its ravages in entire hordes merely by conducting them from the plains up to the icy regions on the mountains.

“ Surrounded by these sublime scenes, elated and happy at having made a discovery which tends so materially to benefit the human race, I wrote in my pocket-book the lines which my friends have placed under my portrait at Leipsick :—

AUX MONTAGNES DE LA MONGOLIE.

Je vis dans vos frimas l'âme du feu vital
Et lui fis foudroyer le fleau tri-cephal
De là ma bienfaisante et pénible carrière
Put désormais briller d'une douce lumière.”

It was principally among these mountains, and on the eastern banks of the lake Aral, that the doctor arrived at the conviction that ice is

the true antidote against all contagion ; he has since administered it in innumerable disorders, not only of the class I have mentioned, but even in epilepsy, typhus and malignant, bilious and nervous fevers, nay, even in hydrophobia, with the most happy results.

He asserts that the life of the young King of Hungary was preserved by the Vienna physicians solely through the application of this system, and he himself had various opportunities, during the prevalence of the cholera in Vienna and other cities, of convincing incredulity itself of the decided efficacy of his method of treatment.

He complains that so many have appropriated his system without fully comprehending it, and without proclaiming the source whence it was derived. This, however, he utterly disregards, as fame and personal advantages have not been his objects, but the welfare of his fellow-creatures ; to advance which he has unweariedly

devoted himself and encountered, though not without honour, many dangers.

I shall now fulfil my promise to my readers, and relate the narrative; it is of an event that occurred in October, 1830, and has acquired for its hero, among the inhabitants of the country, the title "du docteur de l'ours." This short history, although it opens to our view a region very different from that which we inhabit, and almost wears the garb of fiction, yet it is not of a more extravagant character than many others of his travelling adventures. I shall give it in Monsieur de Tavernier's own words.

THE BEAR HUNT.

“ We pursued the chase,
When from behind the wood, with rustling sound,
A monstrous bear rushed forth ; his baleful eyes
Shot glowing fire, as wild he sprung on me.
The well-aimed ball
Pierced through his head, and quivered in his brain ;
The monster fell, and with his dying strength
Ploughed up the crimson earth.”—*Smith.*

“ A BEAR,” commenced our Alcibiades, “ as colossal in size as unequalled in strength, had become the terror of the inhabitants of the whole country between Bucharest and Cempino, near the Carpatho-Romano-Moldavian mountains. The haunts of the monster were chiefly confined to the interminable forest of Poeinar, which is traversed by the road from Bucharest to Kronstadt, in Transylvania. This dreadful animal had been known to the inhabitants for

about eight or ten years, during which time he had destroyed more than four hundred head of oxen, and other domestic animals. It appeared as if the inhabitants were panic-struck, for no one dared to attack him; his last exploit, and which at length awakened the attention of the chief divan of the district, was as follows :

“ A large quantity of wine, destined for Bucharest, was being slowly transported across the hills, and, according to the usual custom, the drivers halted for repose and refreshment during the heat of the day. The animals were released from their teams and left to graze along the side of the road close to the forest, when suddenly a dreadful roaring was heard; the drivers ran to the spot, and beheld in the midst of the buffaloes a black animal of most formidable dimensions, who had already seized one and thrown it on its back, where he held it, in spite of the fearful struggles of the agonized victim, with one of his claws, like the grasp of an iron-vise, and escaped upon his other three legs with his ill-fated prey.

“ This apparently half-fabulous intelligence attracted not only the attention of the government, but that of the lovers of the chase in Bucharest and the adjacent country, namely, the Bojars, Kostaki, Kornesko, Manoulaki-Floresko, the bey Zadey-Soutzo, and myself. A grand hunt was speedily projected, and the whole admirably organized by one of the party, Signor Floresko, of the foreign department.

“ It was planned that the bear, when first traced, was to be driven forward by five or six hundred peasants into a semi-circle composed of about a hundred huntsmen.

“ The appointed day arrived, and these arrangements having been made in the most silent manner possible, the signal was given to commence the chase by a long blast of the hunting-horn, which was quickly followed by the sounds of other most noisy instruments, and the loud shouts of the peasants ; it was not long before a shot resounded to my right, near the spot where Signor Kornesko stood, which was succeeded by a dead silence ; after the lapse of a few

minutes, I heard the rush of some animal through the thickets, the noise of whose steps among the dry leaves was doubled by the stillness of a clear October day. My visitor was a well-fed fox, he presented himself about eighty paces distant; I shot him through the head, and again the former stillness succeeded: but the drivers drawing nearer, the tremendous uproar re-commenced. It was perfectly frightful to hear our Moldavian peasants (scattered over two leagues of ground) utter their piercing cries and still more frightful wailings, while they beat the trees with sticks, clappers, and other discordant noisy instruments. I now heard at about the distance of half a league two shots, which were immediately followed by the most deafening yells, and the word Ours! Ours! (which, in the Romano-Moldavian language, is sounded as in French,) fell distinctly on my ear.

“ The prince, or bey, Zadey-Soutzo, came up to me, saying, ‘ Seigneur Alcibiades, the bear has broken through the cordon formed by the drivers. What have you killed?’ ”

“ ‘A fine fox, as you see here before you;’ the Mameluke who attended him carried the animal away.

“ At this moment Signor Kornesko joined us, and we all went together to the spot where the bear had disappeared; there we found Florensko, who was endeavouring to ascertain the track. On demanding who had shot at the bear? we were told it was Lazar, the hunter, but that he had merely grazed his back; the other shot was from the musket of a peasant, past whom the bear ran with astonishing rapidity, breaking down the young trees which interrupted his progress. The poor fellow, excessively frightened, fell upon his back, which caused his brave rifle to explode without his assistance; his deplorable plight was the subject of much merriment to us, and we re-called his scattered senses by a pretty strong dose of brandy.

“ We now followed the track of the bear, and about a hundred paces further discovered spots

of sweat on the leaves and bark of the trees ; they were about the height of a middle-sized man. I demanded of Lazar, who had shot at him, whether he ran on his hind legs or all fours, ' On all-fours, like a dog,' was the answer.

“ I now began to attach some credit to the marvellous accounts I had heard of the enormous size and strength of the monster, and my curiosity to see him, together with my desire for his destruction, were most strongly excited.

“ For a considerable time I wandered about with the rest of the company, who had sent for a pack of hounds that had been left at the nearest village ; until, weary of this ineffectual search, I took a wild unfrequented path and turned to the left in the thickest part of the forest, where I hoped to be able to find a passage to lead to the provision carriage, which I knew was in this direction, for I had become excessively hungry.

“ After walking a short distance, I entered a valley which might with truth be termed virgin ;

tremendous oaks had here died through age, and wild herbs and young plants had grown up in the cheering light of the sun out of their decayed trunks, while eternal twilight reigned beneath the wide-spreading branches of those which still bloomed in all the vigour and freshness of youth. Invited by their cooling shades, I sought repose for a few minutes; I had not long enjoyed it, when I was suddenly startled by a noise resembling that of a whole squadron of cavalry bearing down in full gallop upon me; when, behold, I saw the terrific coal-black monster flying with the rapidity of lightning at about two hundred paces distant; there was no possibility of getting a shot at him, but his size, strength, and prodigious swiftness far exceeded any I had ever seen among the white Arctic bears, or the black Siberian. I pursued him in a westerly direction, guided by the loud barking of the dogs, who were upon his scent. I soon joined a bojar, the chief officer of Signor Floresko; the unfortunate man seemed much ani-

mated by the chase, for he said, ' I have a strong presentiment that I shall reach the bear, and I have ordered some of the best shots in the band of huntsmen to follow me.'

" We now entered a deep part of the forest, thickly overspread with wild fruit trees ; here, among old trunks of trees, and rocky caverns, was, I presumed the bear's favourite retreat : indeed, we soon discovered traces of him, and the earth was covered in several places with his excrements. In this strange and savage spot I determined to take up my position and await the chance of meeting the enemy. Signor Kostaki continued the pursuit. Tired, and suffering from excessive heat, I lay down, together with my faithful dog, beneath the extensive foliage of an immense wild apple-tree, lighted up my tchoubouk, and commanded Amico, a most powerful wolf-dog, thoroughly trained against man or beast, to keep a strict watch. I might have dreamed for about half an hour, enveloped in the elysium of clouds of smoke, when I was suddenly aroused

by the violent rushing of approaching animals. I cautiously arose and stepped behind the trunk of a large tree, when I observed about a dozen wild swine preceded by an immense boar, who acted as leader ; these were quickly followed by others, until I distinctly reckoned twenty-three. Holding my dog back, I crept like a serpent under the protection of a fallen oak, till I came within eighty paces of them ; my object was to bring down the great boar, as I knew from long and dangerous experience in the Mongolei, that on such occasions, unless the chief falls, the continuance of the life of the hunter is doubtful ; but, as if influenced by a presentiment of what was likely to happen, he continued moving onward, and as I feared that the whole band would soon be out of the reach of a bullet, I determined, cost what it would, to secure one of them ; and as a full-grown one, armed with huge tusks, happened to present himself in the right position, I took a deadly aim and fired, when, after running a few paces, he fell ; the others disappeared in an

instant, and the former stillness again reigned in the forest.

“ It appeared the hunters were scattered in different directions, each expecting that the dogs would drive the bear in his own immediate vicinity ; for myself, feeling secure that I had ascertained his retreat, I waited in anxious expectation of surprising him.

“ My shot in the meantime must have been heard, and I sounded several times on my horn, in order to collect a few of the peasants to carry off the boar I had killed. I was speedily joined by about thirty. Though mortally wounded, he gnashed frightfully with his teeth, until one of the huntsmen dispatched him with a short hunting sword ; it was a noble animal, both in size and fatness, and I received the congratulations of the whole party. During this time I observed a peasant from the neighbourhood of Poeinar attentively observing my booty. ‘ What dost thou seem to wonder at in the boar, friend ? ’ said I.

“ ‘It is very singular, signor,’ answered the peasant, ‘but I could have sworn that this fellow is no stranger to me. About five or six years ago, one of my finest pigs formed a connexion with a flock of wild swine, and shortly after entirely disappeared in the woods; but, however, we can see if he has my mark—a slit in the left ear.’ ‘Donner und Wetter,’ cried the peasant, in raptures, ‘he is mine!’ and without a doubt the mark was visible to us all. It may easily be supposed that my trophy, a noble boar of the free-forests, transformed into a household pig, the property of a Moldavian peasant, became the subject of the united laughter of my companions.

“I know not when the jokes of the hunters would have ceased, if they had not been interrupted by the distant tumultuous noise of the dogs, who seemed approaching, and we concluded, by the sound, they might be still about a league from us. The whole party left me, except Lazar, the same hunter who had first shot

the bear. As the cry of the hounds died away, I seated myself on my inglorious game, and again commenced smoking my tchoubouk; but I was almost immediately aroused by the near approach of the dogs in full cry, succeeded by a frightful roar, which seemed to overwhelm every other sound. With my gun on the cock, I flew forward; a momentary silence ensued, which was almost instantly succeeded by a violent crash like a thunder-storm, for I observed the underwood before me bowing and crackling, and on the very same foot-path which I had taken the long sought for hideous monster stood before me, completely filling the space between the trees with his enormous mass. I was no sooner observed by the ferocious brute than he flew at me with a powerful spring, sending forth a howl so loud and piercing that it nearly stunned me, and literally shook the air. Conscious, however, that there was now no other alternative but death or victory, I allowed my opponent to approach within six paces, took a deadly aim, and fired with the same lucky barrel that

had already laid prostrate the fox and the boar. The ball struck the terrific animal exactly between the eyes ; he seemed paralyzed for a moment, in which happy pause my faithful Amico gallantly sprung forward. Bewildered perhaps by the unexpected appearance of the large white dog, and its furious bellowing, he afforded me sufficient time to lodge a second bullet precisely in the same spot, whilst Lazar, who had taken up a safe position behind a large oak, sent him a third, which however did him but little injury, as the bullet was afterwards found buried in his fat.

“ I distinctly saw, by the two streams of blood which issued from his forehead, his hopeless situation ; this was also evinced by his breathing. I drew my hunting-knife and sought, aided by my dog, to stun him with the loudest shouting ; upon which, perceiving us advance, he roared tremendously, and seemed disposed to escape into the thicket ; his tottering walk proved that his strength was fast declining, and, when about thirty paces distant, he fell.

“As I could now follow him with perfect safety, I re-loaded my gun, and tried to irritate him, in order that he might turn round and give me an opportunity of sending him another bullet in the most vital part. He lay perfectly still, occasionally wiping the streaming blood from his face with his fore-paws, like a human being; assisted by my dog, we attacked him with great fury, and perceiving no chance of safety he commenced breaking the branches of the trees which surrounded him, and hurled them at us with immense force; then raised himself up, and apparently, with all his pristine strength, attacked me with the force of desperation; but his last moment was approaching. I allowed him to advance, and when almost touching the barrel of my gun, he received the entire charge—my last deadly shot. The death-struggle was momentary, for he sunk forward, sprinkling my face with his blood, and almost burying me under his enormous mass. The last groan he uttered exceeded in horror all that I had ever heard—a

tone so full and deep, so despairing and piercing, that the whole forest resounded, and the echoes of the rocks seemed to repeat it with a shudder!

“I was now surrounded by Signor Floresko and hundreds of men, each looking at the huge beast almost with affright. I was overwhelmed with congratulations by all present, at having slain the monster, which had been so long the terror of the whole country.

“I must confess that I had never before encountered a danger so imminent, so formidable in its aspect; neither did I ever obtain a victory that gave me greater pleasure.

“We were obliged to have the young wood cleared away before we could drag the fallen monster out of the thicket into the nearest road, where he lay for some time.

“In the meantime, Floresko informed me that he feared his chief officer, Kotaski, would be the victim of this day, for he had been found in a horrible situation. Shortly after, the unfortunate young man was conveyed to us on a bier

in a most deplorable condition ; his clothes and limbs rent and mangled, his entrails torn out, his spine broken ; in short, it was impossible to save him. After lingering a few hours in dreadful agony he died.

“ Thus the death of the ferocious animal was avenged, and our victory dearly purchased !

“ The bear was placed on a waggon, drawn by four horses, to be conveyed to Bucharest, but this plan we were obliged to abandon, as the body emitted such a noisome stench that the whole atmosphere was poisoned ; it was therefore flayed on the spot. The fat was found to weigh 800 pounds, and the flesh and bones 963 pounds. From between the ears to the extremity of the back, he measured nineteen feet ; and, according to a calculation based on Gall's system, must have been between 170 and 180 years of age. He was entirely black, and his teeth much worn, and was no doubt a Siberian bear, which at different times had been hunted to this wood, where he had found a se-

cure asylum ; in his left leg and back were two broken points of arrows. I presented the skin to my friend, Namick Pasha, a general in the service of the Ottoman empire. His skull I have retained for myself, and also part of his fat, which I have preserved in my ice-house at Bucharest.

“The female, with two young ones, which have already arrived at the size of large oxen, have been seen about Poeinar and the neighbouring forests ; she is said to be very little inferior to her consort, either in magnitude or ferocity. You may therefore, gentlemen,” concluded Seigneur Alcibiades, laughing, “obtain laurels similar to those with which I am crowned ; and, by performing such an exploit, you would eclipse old Hercules and his boar, because that animal can scarcely see two feet beyond his head, is very awkward at turning, and never climbs a tree ; whereas no mortal foot can escape the pursuit of an enraged bear.”



TUTTI FRUTTI.

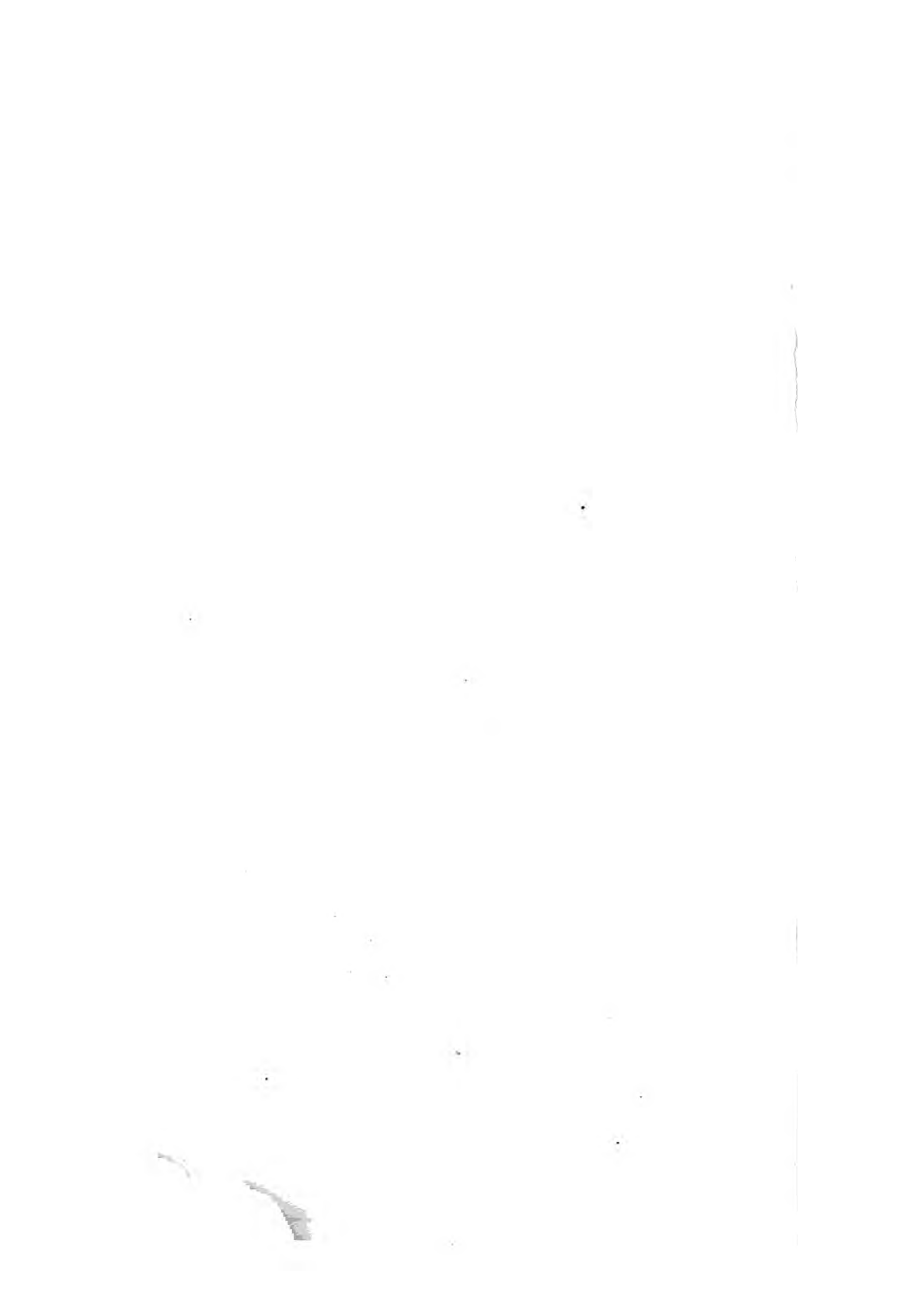
A DIALOGUE

BETWEEN

**DOCTOR ALCIBIADES AND THE ARABIAN
EMYR ABDOULACH**

UPON

RELIGION AND TRUE PHILOSOPHY.



A DIALOGUE
BETWEEN
DOCTOR ALCIBIADES
AND THE
EMYR ABDOULACH.

Periculosum est credere et non credere :
Ergo exploranda est veritas multum prius
Quam stulta pravè judicet sententia.

Phædrus.

I SHALL now conduct my readers to the centre of Arabia, not in search of further adventures, but to hear a Frenchman and an Arabian prince philosophise with each other.

The unsophisticated piety and purity of feeling evinced by the man of nature, forms (at least in my opinion) an interesting contrast with the scepticism of the Western Frank, who, like many of his countrymen, are disposed to con-

found the errors of superstition with Christianity; like the Italian, who startled the Protestant Prussian by saying, "Lei non è Cristiano?"

As Monsieur de Tavernier gave me the manuscript which contained this conversation, I have merely translated it, without even altering or rectifying those opinions in which I do not coincide.

"The Emyr Abdoulach," says Doctor Alcibiades, "with whom I had resided for a considerable period, still retained, though far advanced in years, the full possession of his faculties; he was a man of superior understanding, judgment and eloquence; possessed of a most ardent temperament, noble and just, neither fanatical nor arrogant; and practised the duties enjoined by his religion, like the Protestants, with simplicity and humanity, being more the conscientious observer of its external forms, than the blind votary of its institutions; while, on the contrary, he turned with a warmth, yea, even of

passion, to that philosophy of nature to which I had been the first to introduce him, because it spoke to his soul the language of truth.

“ The Arabian Emyr was especially solicitous to be informed of the ancient history of man, from the first dawn of civilization, and also in what manner had originated the present enlightened intelligence of society, and the knowledge of man’s proper duties.

“ ‘ I wish,’ said he, ‘ to know if it was that philosophy of which you have already drawn so beautiful a picture, that has exalted Europe to her present high station, and so eminently distinguishes her sons above our children, who are benighted in the shades of darkness and error.’

“ I had, on former occasions, described to him the state of our literature, mathematics, and astronomy; the important discoveries made in the empire of natural history, physics, chemistry, medicine, &c.; our astonishing progress in the arts and mechanical industry. I had freely discoursed to him on the excellencies of our

laws, and of the immortal men by whose exertions knowledge has been so universally diffused, aided by our numerous public and private institutions.

“ During its recital, Abdoulach fixed his eyes steadfastly upon me, and remained attentively listening ; nor allowed me to pass over the least important subject till I had fully explained the most minute particulars. When I had concluded, he elevated his hands and eyes to heaven, then turning his countenance towards the sun, which was blazing in all its glorious splendour, he raised his voice and broke out in the following exclamation—

“ ‘ Oh, Allah ! thou art great ! I thank thee for the bounty thou hast sent me, through the mouth of the wise Ekim Emyr Alcibiades, which streams through my soul, and causes me to wonder at thy endless greatness.’

“ Then pausing for a considerable time, evidently absorbed in the deepest thought, he con-

tinued in the following remarkable strain—remarkable, indeed, for a Mahomedan!

“ ‘ Yes, Allah! I feel that the worshippers of the laws of thy great Prophet are not alone thy elect! Alcibiades, relate to me more of that heavenly knowledge—the mother of all knowledge—in a word, that which Allah himself has spoken; in revealing which he has neither made use of the yatagan nor the flying-lance, nor the war-horse, nor yet, even still more, the dreadful mineral-thunder—relate to me the words of wisdom! to which self-interest, and man’s passions, are alike strangers! Let my attentive ears be informed, through thy voice, from whence the lightning of eternal truth has flamed,—truth, which, like the sweet-smelling rose, fills the air and scatters its perfumes alike to the righteous and the wicked.—I pray thee relate to me those holy words, whose meaning, like magic, has taken possession of my powers, and hovers over me day and night, from whose bands I cannot emancipate myself. Oh, Ekym Emyr Alcibiades, I hunger and thirst after knowledge, like

the ravenous lion of the forest! Oh! tell me, I beseech thee, who were Mahomet and Jesus?

“ ‘ I shall listen to it attentively ;’ added he—and the enthusiasm of his countenance suddenly changed to an expression of the deepest repose.

“ I was thus placed in a situation of no small difficulty ; the philosophy of the Arabian chief was not to be depended upon, and as his power was absolute, if I took a step beyond his comprehension it might cost me my head.

“ No person in my situation would have deemed it prudent to commence by saying that Mahomet was neither more nor less than a man of genius, possessed of the most ardent powers of imagination—a phenomenon which has appeared in the world before him, and will after him, but only at epochs which very rarely occur ;—a phenomenon that undoubtedly, in some cases, confers upon the human race much happiness and blessing ; though it is too often, like my fleau tri-cephal, accompanied by the destroying angel, whose every step is tracked by

streams of blood and tears. Climate modifies this as it does every thing else—not excepting even faith itself, which I have had abundant opportunities of witnessing during my residence in Asia. Must we not also admit, with shame and regret, that our own Christianity has been deluged in its progress by human gore?

“ Il couta plus de sang, que le grand Mahomet,
Et le fier Tamerlan et l'adroit Bajazet.”

“ I commenced by explaining to him the most ancient of all religious sects, and from which no doubt all others have proceeded. I made him minutely acquainted with the existence of Vehédam and Sohastabet, who wrote in the Sanscrit language ten thousand years ago (?); of the Brahmins, the theocratical chiefs of the Indian nations, and who at a later period were imitated in their religious rites by the Egyptians, their disciples.

“ In this manner I endeavoured to make the knowledge-seeking Emyr clearly acquainted with the origin of all the different mythologies, con-

tinued with Moses, the Jewish lawgiver, swept over that of Mahomet with the most circumspect prudence, explained each with their separate chain of events down to the reformation achieved by Luther, and proved to him in what manner each successive system has been supported by its predecessor.

“ But the religion of wisdom, inestimable from its noble simplicity and truth, sublimely tramples upon every prejudice, abhors the cupidity and egotism of the various religious sects, and whose acts of benevolence, dictated by wisdom, originate solely in the pleasure of doing good.

“ ‘ Yes, Emyr Abdoulah, that incomprehensible being called man is the most noble and elevated, and at the same time the most vile of all the creatures upon earth.’

“ The Arabian prince sighed inwardly.

“ ‘ Yes,’ continued I, ‘ of what benefit has religion been to man? he only fears and loves his Gods, so far as they allure and flatter his passions; for he soon forgets them when incited to crime

by the violence of his inclinations : but he will borrow religion for a cloak to enjoy them with greater security, and as the most powerful means of hastening their gratification ; he arrogantly contemns all human laws, and blushes not to execute the most revolting deeds when actuated by what he terms his religious feelings.

“ ‘ Would not a more philosophical education, apart from all considerations of heaven, have the effect of leading us to virtue, of teaching us to conquer our own passions, and to live here happy and contented. Oh ! venerable Abdoulach, if God had willed in his wisdom that the inhabitants of earth should hold converse with the heavens and the stars, could he not have given them the requisite physical powers, in the same manner as he has already imparted to them the capability of ranging from the equator to the pole on the mighty waters of the deep ? in the air, indeed, man is allowed just to soar above the earth, but no further.’

“ This observation terminated our philosophi-

cal conversation at present, for Abdoulach immediately exclaimed, 'Flying in the air!' and demanded a more lengthened explanation; after satisfying his curiosity, I commanded my servant and factotum, Antonio, who possessed an universal genius in arts and mechanics, to construct a balloon that would gratify the curiosity of the Arabian philosopher.

"In a few days it was completed, then splendidly illuminated, and on a lovely night majestically ascended, in the presence of the Emyr, his whole harem, and an immense multitude of his subjects; astonished as they were at first beholding it, their enthusiasm exceeded all bounds when it burst like a meteor, as it were, among the stars, and glowed in flames of a hundred colours; he could no longer restrain his raptures, but, turning to me with open arms, embraced me affectionately. 'Oh! Ekim Emyr,' he cried, with the most passionate excitation, 'the glance of thy intellectual, inspired soul, is more piercing than that of the

Omar, and even sharper than the strong eye of the eagle, who alone can gaze at the sun.'

"A few days subsequently we recommenced our accustomed conversation ; my language now assumed a more confidential tone, as I perceived I had nothing to apprehend from his fanaticism. I expatiated more largely on various philosophical subjects ; I described to him in what manner theocratical self-interest had taken advantage of every religious culte in order to establish hundreds of different sects, which only tended, in many instances, to deteriorate morality. Behold, for instance, the institution of celibacy in the church of Rome, and among the worshippers of Lama. What a scourge of society, under the mask of religion, how many atrocities has it been the means of committing ! I made him acquainted with auricular confession, the most powerful engine for the maintenance of dominion which has been employed by the craft of priests since the world began. I told him of their disgusting debaucheries, their perversion

of virtue, of that dreadful society the Jesuits! who have been even more sanguinary than his own fanatical fathers under the first race of the Caliphs, &c.

“ ‘ Yes,’ cried Abdoulach, ‘ I know it; a Christian slave related to me, many years ago, that the soldiers of Catholicism had sacrificed millions of human beings in the new world, for the purpose of converting them to their own belief; and, alas! we have been little better.’

“ ‘ Hear me further,’ exclaimed I, continuing my discourse

[Here I have purposely omitted several pages of the manuscript, which merely related to the various abuses of the ancient Catholics and Mahomedans, as to us they are no longer interesting.]

“ ‘ After our long discussion, canst thou not, my venerable friend, answer thine own important question? Surely, without my aid, thou canst separate the chaff from the good corn; thou canst now distinguish the grain that brings

forth good fruit, and pluck the tares from among the wheat?’

“ Abdoulach relapsed into the deepest contemplation ; at length he interrupted the solemn silence, and sighing deeply in his inmost soul, he said ‘ Yes, Ekim Emyr, thou art right ; thou hast spoken the words of truth ; man is perverse and depraved, Allah alone is great ! ’

“ ‘ Thou hast said it,’ exclaimed I, crossing my hands on my breast, ‘ Allah is the beginning and the end, the first and the last ; he is above all and in all, his almighty power is equally displayed in our bodies as in our minds. The veins through which our life-blood flows are not less the works of his hands than the thousand windings of our thoughts whence all our actions originate ; space and time are alone in him,—the circle from which springs life and death, ever advancing, ever varying. He is and was, and ever will be, that incomprehensible whole which we comprehend under the name of All!—the past and the future are to him as the

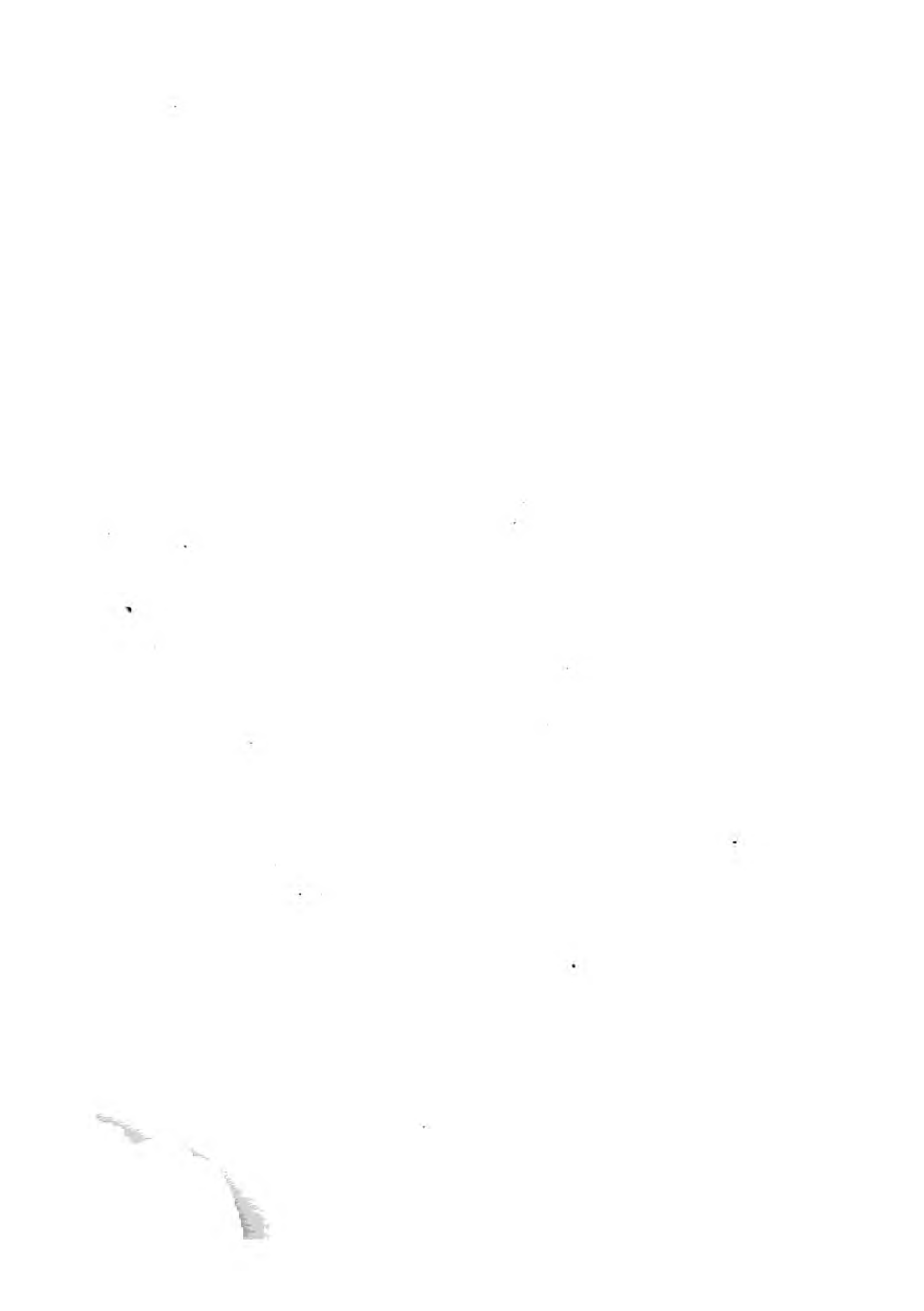
present—‘The great I am that I am!’ All that lives and moves emanate from him, and no mortal can penetrate his mysterious influence.’

“On pronouncing these words, the interesting old man rose slowly from the carpet of the tent, and turning his countenance towards the sun, which was then descending in all its resplendent glory, with his uplifted hands to heaven, he cried with intense earnestness, ‘Oh! Ekim Emyr, thou prayest, like me, alone to Allah; thy adoration is paid to none other but him. Oh! do we not daily perceive his almighty greatness in those noble pictures of man, who in their heavenly wisdom expound to us his mighty powers? Hast thou not, oh! man of wisdom, enlightened my feeble understanding and instructed me in the mysteries of true philosophy?’

“Thus saying he threw himself in the dust, and prayed long and silently.”

This dialogue might be appropriate enough in the deserts of Arabia, and the genuine French view of religion it contains appears to me to be a perfect national addenda (although only *in nuce*) to Mr. Thomas Moore's "Travels of an Irish Gentleman in Search of a Religion." A work which, though ludicrous in itself, yet opens a deep view into the state of religious information in England.

In what a condition must the majority be when one of the most talented and enlightened men of the nation introduces two such long miserable volumes to the public!



TUTTI FRUTTI.

A LETTER FROM BERLIN.



TO THE COUNTESS R * * *,
COPENHAGEN.

Berlin, Jan. 1st, 1832.

Patriæ fumus igne alieno luculentior.

MADAME DE STAEL, in treating of Berlin, asserts, "C'est une ville qui ne laisse pas de souvenir;" this only proves that a very clever woman may say a very silly thing, for even if it had no other souvenir than that of being a metropolis, created in a manner by Frederic the Great, would not this alone be sufficient to awaken feelings of veneration? Truly, there are at pre-

sent many things at which the old warrior might shake his head somewhat in anger, if he were again to return to us ; but there are others he would contemplate with pride and astonishment.

His illustrious descendant, not less firm in misfortune than his great ancestor, has he not preserved the glory of Prussia unimpaired, as the old hero, during his life-time, justly predicted ?

The influence of her sovereign in foreign countries has rapidly increased ; the arts and industry, trade and commerce, are protected and encouraged ; and, in spite of the misfortunes of the age, the Prussian metropolis has risen to a degree of splendour and magnificence far exceeding any it possessed during the life-time of the great king ; it was then, to a certain degree, stationary ; whereas now, native talent, literature, knowledge, and the arts, have exalted Berlin, and made it one of the central points

of European intelligence, whose rays enlighten the countries that surround it.

Prussia unquestionably creates great interest, whether she is loved or feared—despised she cannot be, for she ascends.

When the sun sinks beneath the horizon we become drowsy, but the senses awake to the cheering beams of the morning star; and has not the star of Prussia twice shone on the world, with a lustre far more resplendent than that of its contemporaries? Once, during the reign of the immortal Frederic! and again at the destruction of Napoleon's sceptre! when Europe was delivered from the chains of slavery. Who can deny that Prussia was the very soul of the Allies during that momentous struggle? to her indefatigable perseverance and revengeful desperation we are chiefly indebted for the fall of the usurper; who, like a terrific spirit armed with Jupiter's lightning, stood menacing the nations with destruction!—For Prussia to crouch beneath the rod of a foreign power was equiva-

lent to annihilation! Of all the combined powers her efforts were the greatest, and the least requited; still, we can never regret her exertions and sacrifices—they were made for the benefit of humanity: but more especially they will be remembered by other powers who enjoy the benefits.

In the present form of government of Prussia, there is undoubtedly much to be desired; the organized “bureaucracy” of her interior deserves much censure; her veiled political movements, the burden of her extensive military establishment, which has become too oppressive for the strength and vigour of the nation to support, are evils which demand redress: but this state of things cannot remain long—by the action of some unexpected incident they will assume another and more improved form, for in a nation where intelligence is so universally diffused, these, and similar defects, are of minor importance; when this intelligence exists, the happiness of man advances, even under a defective government,

but without this holy fire the most perfect theory will be found ineffectual in its operations. Thus we may venture to hope that every reasonable ground of complaint will gradually and peaceably disappear, and so realize the wishes of all true lovers of rational liberty, who have nothing in common with the mad levellers of modern times. The signs of the times never deceive. May we not anticipate happier days for Germany? and is it not for us a proud idea that it may be reserved for Prussia to effect her regeneration?

But I forget, my dear cousin, that I am addressing an elegant and accomplished woman, who, instead of grave reflections and political discussions, expected to receive merely a hasty sketch of our manners and customs; but how is this possible, from a man who is already half a hermit, a miserable courtier, and, worse than all, absolutely a "deceased," at least I have been so baptized by that fabricator of histories, the editor of the *Morgenblatt*.

However, I must fulfil my promise—so we

will commence with the court: this is numerous, but its society consists chiefly of members of its own circle; in general, very few visitors and foreigners are invited to join the select coterie, with the exception of some Russians of high rank; foreigners of other nations are but little noticed, and seldom remain long in Berlin. There is still less attention shown to the nobility of the country, who occasionally visit the metropolis, thereby verifying the old adage, "No prophet is honoured in his own country."

This is sincerely to be regretted, as by far more urbanity of manners, graceful freedom, and variety of tone, reign in the court than in the most distinguished circles of the town, the ladies are assuredly among the most delightful and amiable of Berlin; and, I merely suggest whether it would not, for their sakes, be expedient to introduce the etiquette of the old Spanish court, which, in obedience to its statutes, permitted those cavaliers, who were captives to the charms of the court ladies, not

only to remain uncovered in the presence of the monarch, but even to sit—it being most charitably supposed, that in the presence of so much loveliness, and engrossed by the intensity of their passion, they were incapable of giving their attention to the ceremonies of a court ?

Whether the cavaliers of our court are as deeply susceptible to such a fascinating influence, I cannot venture to decide ; but this I can with truth assert, that many of them are distinguished by the elegance of their manners, and their intellectual attainments. Where the highly-talented Alexander von Humboldt is a lord of the bed-chamber, a court almost appears an academy ; and in the Duke Charles of Mecklenburg, and the upper Court-Marshal, von Schilden, we have all that imagination can paint of genius and high birth united in their noblest forms.

If I may, without incurring the imputation of a flatterer from the modern heroes of equality, I will unhesitatingly assert, that those who oc-

occupy the first rank by birth, occupy it also by grace, beauty, and virtue.

Although it is too much the prevailing spirit to yield implicit credence to every tale of ill which is circulated respecting the great ones of the earth ; yet I have not imbibed it, neither do I belong to that class of cowardly slanderers who promulgate in foreign publications the most unfounded and malicious calumnies, such, for instance, as that the accession to the throne of our revered crown prince is an event to be dreaded by his future subjects ; whereas, whoever is intimately acquainted with him, must be familiar also with his noble patriotic feelings, with his anxiety for the prosperity of his country ; and few modern princes are more opposed in principle to tyranny and oppression. He has even been accused of bigotry, which charge has originated solely in the circumstance that he has munificently bestowed favours upon persons who are notoriously of the devout class ; and, we may be assured,

that this accusation is as unfounded as it is malicious.

That he is pious, humane, and a pattern of morality, is indisputable; these qualities have, it is well known, been construed by the enemies of peace and good order into bigotry; but I would desire no greater blessing for the nation than to see the sons of our nobles and citizens emulate the example of the sons of their king. I would wish them to imitate the high attainments in every branch of knowledge, and the copious general information of the crown prince; to possess the cool temperate judgment, clear discernment, and truly honest German heart of Prince William, and the brilliant virtues of Prince Charles, who is, to use the words of Shakspeare, "every inch a knight."

Respect and reverence arrest my pen from attempting to expatiate on the excellent qualities of the princesses, and my enthusiastic admiration would be likewise a serious hindrance to the impartial discharge of my duty; but this I may

safely assert, that our lovely and amiable princesses are equally to be envied for their domestic happiness, and admired for their beautiful example of virtue to the nation, upon whom the brightest rays of moral excellence beam from the royal family and the throne.

We will now descend a step, and take a hasty glance at the higher ranks of society, in which the first thing that arrests the eye of the observer, is the absence of any cordial intercourse between them and the corps diplomatique, which has an unfavourable effect upon both; this is principally owing to the circumstance, that unless, on a few public occasions, the members of the corps diplomatique are entirely excluded from the court of the sovereign.

Berlin is, generally speaking, destitute of any decided tone; fashion exercises but a feeble sway, and there is no individual subject of paramount importance to impart a determined character to society. There is neither political, nor indeed any other description of party feeling,

which, it is well known, always animates conversation.

The total absence of luxury contributes also not a little to render society monotonous; in this respect both the natives and the corps diplomatique accord admirably with each other.* In fact, luxury is only found in the palaces of the royal family, but, as I have said before, their society is confined principally to their own circle.

The only recreation met with in society is cards; for as soon as the company have assembled and performed a few preliminary evolutions, they seat themselves in different conglomerations around card-tables, reminding the spectator of a large bowl of "churned milk." Conversazionés, with the exception of a very

* This was written in the beginning of the year 1832; since that time most of the corps diplomatique have been superseded by new members, whose superior taste has given society a more elegant tone. We will hope that their good example may be followed by the upper classes of society. —
The Author.

few houses, are unknown; perhaps our phlegmatic national temperament is not so well adapted to them as that of our mercurial neighbours, the French; but where the two elements of solidity and brilliance have found an entrance the result is delightful, as the salon of the minister of foreign affairs will abundantly testify.

The most national and the most animated entertainments are the balls. During the carnival they are numerous, while the dancers themselves are both graceful and untiringly persevering.

Déjeûners à la fourchette, with balls, have lately become fashionable; they commence at eleven and end at sun-set. These, in summer, are very agreeable, particularly when given in a charming garden; but entertainments of this description appear more congenial to England, where the guests assemble both in *négligée* and *demi-toilette*. Alas! such a summer-day's dream is not often practicable in this country, especially as enthusiastic admiration of the beauties of na-

ture forms no part of education, that never-failing source of pure delight being but little prized. A young officer, to whom I was one day making an observation to this effect, answered, laughing, "You are perfectly correct, and I will give you an instance of it.

"Last year, as I was riding with my general to a review, through one of the most bewitching vallies in the neighbourhood of the Rhine, when the bright beams of the rising sun were beautifully gilding both the woods and hills, I burst into admiration at the glorious spectacle, and endeavoured to make the general participate in my feelings."

"What are you saying?"

"His voice and manner being any thing but encouraging, I hesitatingly repeated my observation, when he harshly exclaimed—

"Zum Teufel! Young gentleman, think of your military duties, and do not tease me with your poetical ideas!"

Many of our young military officers are most

wonderfully well-informed ; perfect oracles in their way ! whose decisions are sans appell. I recently witnessed a very comic " Qui-pro-quo." —The amiable Frau Von B—— was reading a verse of Dante, from an admirable translation ; one of the most fashionable warriors in the salon demanded the name of the author ? the lady answered " My beloved Dante."

" Is it possible," cried the son of Mars, with astonishment, " I never could have believed that your *Tante* (aunt) was equal to such a composition."

The errors of the old warriors are sometimes even more ridiculous, and their blunders are an endless source of merriment. When the present President of Columbia was in Berlin, about two years since, I accidentally overheard a conversation between him and a Prussian officer ; instead of German, it was carried on in horribly bad French.

A picture of a battle led them to speak of the celebrated one of Waterloo.

“ Most certainly,” exclaimed Santander, “ at that great battle, without the assistance of your immortal hero, Platoff, Napoleon would not have been conquered !”

The Prussian general smiled, politely rectified his mistake, and continued, saying, “ But your campaigns are not less remarkable, for instance, what a march was that of Bolivar to Mexico and back, across the Tschimborasso—the short time in which it was effected is scarcely credible !”

“ I beg pardon,” said Santander, in his turn, half smiling, “ you have made an error in some thousands of miles, for Bolivar was never engaged in war in Mexico, therefore he could not have come in collision with the Tschimborasso. Notwithstanding, our marches are really astonishing ; in fact, our method of conducting war is entirely different from the European mode ; our soldiers are able to support themselves for months without bread, meat, or spirits, living entirely on dried ox-skins and water.”

“Comment! Monsieur!” cried our general, in his inimitable jargon, and with a voice and manner expressive of the greatest astonishment—
“Comment! pas de *bain*? pas de *poissons spirituels*? pas même de *l'eau forte*?”

It required all my powers of self-command to preserve my character for politeness, when Monsieur Santander, not appearing to observe the errors of his friend, replied, with an air of the most important gravity,

“Non: rien de *spirituel*, Monsieur, pas même de *l'eau forte*!”

One of the amusements peculiar to Berlin, and in which are to be found assembled nearly all classes of society, is that termed the “Brühl’schen Ball,” from the name of its founder, which thus bids fair for immortality. The gentlemen are attired in black, while the ladies select the gayest colours to decorate their pretty persons, which they sometimes adorn a little too lavishly; the entrée is absolutely forbidden to pantaloons, black cravats, and boots, (in the redoute to dirty

boots)—what an admirable precaution! It is rumoured that the manager of the Court Theatre intends to distribute among the quadrilles a band of fancy dancers, in full costume, for the purpose of amusing the high and select assemblage!

The tournée of the supper table is excessively amusing, but somewhat dangerous, on account of the myriad of corks which fly from the champagne bottles in every direction! At the last of these balls I had the pleasure of visiting, I observed our good-humoured prince, Albrecht, with his aide-de-camp, wandering from room to room unable to find seats. I could not forbear laughing at my friend C——, who exclaimed with enthusiasm, “This is what is termed an absolute monarchy, and yet the son of our king cannot obtain a seat at the supper table, because his good citizens have taken possession of them. A constitutional Orleans would have fared better.”

“Yes,” replied I, “it is the wonder of fo-

reigners that we all appear to form one family, the king and his people, the father and his children. On that account, thank God, we require no revolutions; let us be thankful for a sound body that does not require periodical blood-letting."

As to places of public resort, we have very few in Berlin, except the theatres and concerts. Yes, most truly, we have in addition the wooden-booth in Tivoli! to which you are conducted by an allée dug in the earth, and where the half-decayed pine-trees exhibit the only appearance of vegetation. Also the Elysium! erected in the sandy Zoological Gardens, where the secret has been discovered of adorning the superb salon in such a manner that the unexampled mixture of colours acts upon the beholders like ipecacuanha! these, with the colosseum of colossal vulgarity, are the favourite places of amusement. I have been informed that even the noble *Casino* has died of a decline.

Music is much admired and cultivated in

Berlin; the Möser Quartett concerts are particularly distinguished, where the chef-d'œuvres of the best masters are performed with a full orchestra, in the most masterly style.

Last winter I once more visited Berlin, when I became acquainted with the representative of the St. Simonians. One morning he wrote to Fräulein S——r, requesting to know if it was really true that Beethoven was to sing that evening? the lady replied very *gravely*, that she did not consider it probable, as a cold damp *grave* was a most likely place to produce such a hoarseness as would preclude the possibility of singing!

I also had the pleasure of again meeting my honourable friend, the old general of Waterloo; he bitterly complained of the intense cold, and of the deep snow that had fallen, and assured me (in his matchless French), “qu'en entrant plusieurs *grands flacons* de niege étaient venus lui tomber sur le nez.”

I shall dedicate a portion of my next letter to

the theatre; for the present I must conclude, or I shall exhaust all that I have in reserve on our interesting Berlin.—Adieu.

THE END.

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