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MOGRAPHY
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AND

TOGETHER WITH A FULL AND ACCURATE ACCOUNT

OF THE MANNERS, CUSTOMS, AND RELIGION



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CHAPTER XV.

EUROPE.

Survey the globe, each ruder realm explore ;
From reason's faintest ray to Newton soar ;
What different spheres to human bliss assigned,
What slow gradations in the scale of mind ! **ROGERS.**

EUROPE, the smallest, but in modern times the most important quarter of the habitable globe, is bounded on the north by the Frozen or Northern Ocean, on the east by Asia, on the south by the Mediterranean Sea, and on the west by the Atlantic Ocean. From Cape St. Vincent in Portugal to the mouth of the river Oby in Russia, it is nearly 3,600 miles long, and from Cape Matapan in the Morea to the North Cape in Lapland, about 2,400 miles broad. It includes within its bounds every variety of soil and climate, the extreme degrees of civilization and refinement, and their opposites, ignorance and barbarity.

The chief oceans or seas of Europe are the Baltic Sea, the English or German Sea, the British Ocean, the Irish Sea, the Adriatic and the Tuscan Sea.

Its principal islands are those of Great Britain, Ireland, Zealand, Majorca, Minorca, Corsica, Sardinia, Malta, and a great number of smaller islands.

Its principal mountains are the Alps, the Apen-

nines, the Pyrennees, Mount Vesuvius, Mount Etna, of which the three latter are volcanoes, the Riphean mountains, the Krapach mountains, the Dofrine or Dorfield mountains.

The chief straits of Europe are, the Straits of Gibraltar, and those of the Dardanelles, the British channel, the Sound, the Great and Lesser Belt, the Bosphorus, the Fare of Messina, the Straits of Kaffa, and those of Bonifacio.

Europe is likewise diversified by a number of lakes, of which those most worthy of notice are the lake of Neufchatel, the Lake of Geneva, Lake Ladoga, Lough Neagh, Lough Allen, Lough Lomond, Lago Maggiore, Lake of Lucerne, and Lake of Como.

CHAPTER XVI.

RUSSIA.

'Tis the same landscape which the modern Mars saw,
Who marched to Moscow, led by Fame the Syren ;
To lose by one month's frost some twenty years
Of conquest.——

BYRON.

THE vast empire of Russia, which lies partly in Europe and partly in Asia, is bounded on the north by the Arctic Sea; on the south by Turkey, the Black Sea, and China; on the east by the Pacific Ocean; and on the west by Swedish Lapland, the Gulf of Bothnia, Poland and Prussia. The empire of Russia, which exceeds in size the largest monarchy, either in ancient or modern times, was originally divided into two districts. 1st, Great Russia, comprising Moscow, Novogorod, Vladimir, and the adjacent tracts of country. 2nd. White Russia, formerly confined to the government of Smolensko, but which now includes that of Polotzk and Mohilof. To these are now added the countries which have been acquired by conquest. 1st, The kingdom of Cazan. 2nd, The kingdom of Astracan. 3rd, Siberia.

4th, The provinces on the coast of the Baltic, taken by Peter the Great from the Swedes, and more recently by Alexander. 5th, The countries wrested from Poland and Turkey. 6th, The Crimea, Georgia, Cuban, the government of Caucasus, &c. 7th, The islands in the Eastern Ocean, and the settlements and islands in America.

Peter the Great who succeeded to the throne of Russia in 1682, by his great talents, and his earnest devotion of them to the service of his country, succeeded in raising her to an eminence among nations infinitely superior to that which she had heretofore attained. He first formed a Russian navy; and for the purpose of gaining every possible information on the subject of ship-building, he laid aside the pomp of royalty, came to England incognito, and worked for a considerable period as a common shipwright in the royal dock yard, receiving the same wages, and living precisely in the same manner, as the other workmen. On his return to Russia the czar (which was the ancient title of the sovereigns of Russia) introduced a great reform in the habits, manners, customs, and religion of his subjects. He established arts, sciences and literature, by the introduction and encouragement he afforded to foreigners of talent and information, and he greatly enlarged the Russian territories, by the conquest of the countries belonging to Sweden on the shores of the Baltic.

The system he had pursued was diligently followed after his death by his consort Catherine, who, though

raised from the humblest walk of life, was conspicuous for her talents and prudence; and their example has been followed with laudable assiduity by their successors up to the present period.

The reign of Catherine II. was distinguished by the most brilliant successes, and the general improvement of the Russian nation in arts, arms and literature under her auspices; but her glory was stained by political turpitude, by the savage cruelty which she permitted her generals to practise in carrying on her wars, and by the extreme licentiousness of her private conduct. Her reign lasted from 1762 to 1796.

Her successor Paul, during a short reign of five years, exhibited the conduct and character of a despotic madman, and was at length deposed and assassinated in the dead of the night in his own palace, and was succeeded by his son Alexander, who amidst much inconsistent and vacillating conduct steadily adhered to what may be considered the hereditary plan of the Russian monarchs—the improvement and civilization of his subjects, the encouragement of arts and sciences, and the extension of the territory, particularly towards the south and south-east.

“A few centuries ago,” observes Dr. Lyall, “the whole Russian territory did not equal the fourth part of the present European Russia, and about a seventeenth part of the present Russian empire.” In the reign of Ivan III. 1462, the whole of the territory did not exceed 10,000 square miles, while on the accession of Alexander, 1801, the empire had been extended to 345,000 square miles.

The population of the Russian empire was estimated in 1824 at 50,000,000 souls, and comprehends perhaps a greater variety of different races than any other population of an equal number on the face of the earth. They are thus generally divided: 1st. Those of Slavonic origin, which includes the Russians properly so called, the Poles, the Lithuanians, the Courlanders, &c. who form the majority of the population, amounting to about 34,000,000. 2nd. Germans, to which race belong the noblesse and burghers of Courland, Finland, Livonia, and Esthonia. most of the colonists in the interior and south of the empire, the Swedes who inhabit Finland, and the Danes who inhabit the Russian Islands in the Baltic Ocean. 3rd. The Finns. 4th. The Tartar race, of which there are innumerable varieties. 5th, Georgians, Circassians, and Caucasians. 6th. The Mongols. 7th. The Samoiedes. 8th. The Manshures, &c.

Of those tribes subject to the Russians, whose countries lay in Asia, we have already given a description in the former part of this work.

The climate of Russia Proper is exceedingly inclement; the winters of St. Petersburg exceed by many degrees the severest cold ever felt in Great Britain, and in some parts of Siberia it is scarcely endurable. There are few mountains of any importance in European Russia; those of most consequence are the mountains of Olonetz in the north, and those of Iral, which divide Europe from Africa.

The rivers, though few of them have any direct

communication with any of the great oceans, are nevertheless very numerous and large. The principal of them are the Volga, the Don or Tanais, the Dnieper, or Boristhenes, the Dneister, the Dwina, the Duna, and the Neva. There are also a great number of immense lakes and inland seas in the Russian territory.

The established religion of Russia is that of the Greek church; but all other religions are tolerated and openly followed. The clergy are a very numerous body; but in general poor and ignorant, and consequently very little respected. It is reckoned that there are not less than 19,000 cathedrals and parish churches in the Russian dominions, besides monasteries and convents.

Besides the numerous sects of Christians there are an immense number of Jews, especially in that part of Poland which belongs to Russia; and among the tribes subject to this empire may be found Mahometans, Brahmins, and various other sects of idolaters.

St. Petersburg, the seat of government since the reign of Peter the Great, by whom the city was founded, is situated on the Neva at its mouth, and at the eastern extremity of the gulf of Finland, and from its low and level situation is exposed to dreadful inundations from the waters of the gulf and the river. The city is divided into five parts or districts: The Admiralty quarter; The Vassili Ostroff, or island; the Island of St. Petersburg; the district of

Wiburgh; and the Foundry quarter. The islands of St. Petersburg and Vassili, on which the original buildings that constituted the city were placed, are two isolated tracts on the north of the river.

The streets of St. Petersburg exceed in width and regularity those of any other city in Europe. In the Admiralty quarter, which is the most fashionable and elegant division, three streets diverge in a straight direction, which are each two miles in length. The principal streets are in general intersected at regular distances by smaller ones; but from the low and marshy situation of the town, they are seldom dry except during frosts; though in all the principal streets there is a raised foot pavement, which, when the middle is little better than a morass, renders them comfortable to foot-passengers.

Within the circuit of the first Admiralty quarter are no less than twenty-three edifices of the first magnitude, of which the imperial winter palace is the most remarkable, not however so much for the elegance of its architecture as its immense size, it being 450 feet long, 380 broad, and seventy high. The interior is enriched with an immense variety of curious and costly works of all descriptions. Connected with this palace, by means of a covered gallery, is a building called the hermitage, which was built by Catherine II. as a retirement from the cares and ceremonies of state, and is decorated with a very valuable collection of paintings, a library, and a cabinet of natural history. The marble palace, as it is

called, which was built by the same empress for one of her favourites, Count Orloff, who was raised by her favour from the rank of a private soldier, and at his death became again the property of the empress, is surpassed by few buildings in magnificence. It is three stories high; the lowest is built of granite, and the remainder of grey marble, with columns and pilasters of a reddish marble.

The window frames are of polished brass, and the roof is covered with sheet copper, resting on iron bars. In this quarter are also situated the college of foreign affairs, the post office, the senate house, the admiralty, and the loan bank. The church of St. Isaac, which was begun by Catherine, who did not live to finish it, was, like the palace just described, intended to be built entirely of granite, marble, jasper and porphyry, both within and without; but it was one of the unaccountable freaks of her successor Paul, to finish it with bricks. The beautiful long streets in this quarter are called perspectives, because from each may be seen the gilded spires of the admiralty. Of that called the Nevski perspective, Storch observes, "The numerous hotels and shops which are mostly placed together in this street, occasion such a confluence of people and such a constant bustle, that gives it a consequence that is wanting to most parts of St. Petersburg. In this perspective are situated churches of the Protestants, Catholics, Lutherans, Armenians and Greeks, all beside and facing each other.

The celebrated equestrian statue of Peter the

Great, the work of Falconet a French artist, and one of the noblest specimens of art produced in the last century, stands in this quarter of the city. The emperor is represented in the act of blessing his people with his right hand, the left holding the reins: he is mounting a precipice, to the summit of which he has nearly attained; and the whole weight of the statue, which is of colossal size, is ingeniously sustained by the full and flowing tail of the horse (which is rearing on its hind legs) slightly touching a bronze serpent. The pedestal, which is a reddish granite, is formed of a stone upwards of 1,500 tons weight, which was brought from a morass, nine miles distant from St. Petersburg. The simple and concise inscription of "Catherine II. to Peter I." is admirably suited to the character of the man to whom it is dedicated.

The second Admiralty quarter contains the new court stables, the college of medicine, and the opera house. The Greek churches of Notre Dame of Cazan, and of St. Nicholas, are in this quarter. Ten years were employed in the erection of the former, which was begun by the empress Anne and finished by Alexander.

Its exterior is very rich and beautiful. The portico is adorned with bronze statues of the angels Gabriel and Michael, and there is a colonnade of one hundred and fifty columns of the Corinthian order. The principal door is of bronze, and the interior is richly decorated with jasper and marbles in the form of Mosaic and other ornaments. Every material and

article employed in the construction and ornamenting of this splendid church, is the production of the Russian empire, and almost all the artists, &c. employed were natives of Russia. The gold and silver vessels, precious stones, &c. which are employed in its service, are the gifts of the imperial family.

The new bank which stands in the third Admiralty quarter is perhaps the handsomest building in the city, though its architecture is simply grand. The Petersburg quarter consists of several islands, on one of which stands the first wooden cottage of Peter the Great, in which he resided during the first foundation of the city. A brick building is now erected on arches, in order to preserve the original, which is a low small hut, from the effects of the weather. At a short distance was another wooden habitation, in which Prince Mentchikof his chief minister resided, and gave audience to foreign ambassadors, and transacted the other business of his office; near this was an inn much frequented by the courtiers and persons of all ranks, and to which Peter himself would often repair to drink with his suite, and enjoy the fire works, and other diversions which were exhibited by his orders. On another small island at the mouth of the Neva the emperor erected a fortress. The island at this time contained only a few fishermen's huts. "The labourers," says an author who was then in Russia, "were not furnished with the necessary tools, as pickaxes, spades, wheel barrows, planks, &c. notwithstanding which the work went on with such expedition that it

was surprising to see the fortress raised within less than five months, though the earth, which is very scarce thereabouts, was for the greater part carried by the labourers in the skirts of their clothes, and in bags made of rags and old mats, the use of wheelbarrows being unknown to them." The Wiburgh quarter is the most rural quarter of the city, and is chiefly occupied by the cottages of the peasantry: it contains, however, within its precincts two grand mansions, besides the great military hospital founded by Peter the Great, some other public edifices, and a wharf for merchant ships.

The quarter of the Foundry, is so called from a foundry established there. In this division there are situated the Institute of Catherine for the education of young ladies, the convent of the Resurrection for the same purpose, the arsenal, the great magazine for spirituous liquors and salt, and the Taurida palace, formerly belonging to Prince Potemkin, and at his death purchased by Catherine for her autumnal palace. It is remarkable for its vast galleries, its grotto formed of mirrors, and its gardens.

The convent of St. Alexander Newsky is situated in this quarter, which contains five churches, a cemetery, a large dwelling house for the archbishop of St. Petersburg, and sixty apartments for the monks.

The opposite quarters of St. Petersburg, which are situated on opposite banks of the Neva, are connected by pontoons or bridges of boats. That which

connects the first Admiralty quarter, with the Vassili Ostroff is 130 fathoms long, and rests on twenty-one barges, each of which is held firm in its place by two anchors. The mechanism of all these bridges is so simple that they can be taken to pieces in less than two hours. At the beginning of winter, when the floating ice begins to come down, they are removed until it becomes fixed, when they are again replaced. The ice itself, which generally continues firm enough to support any weight for five or six months, forms the principal mode of communication between the different quarters of the city.

The southern portion of St. Petersburg is intersected by canals, the three principal of which are the Moika, the Katarina and the Fontanka. The first runs through the most frequented districts of the city, and as its bed is shallow, in some places nearly choked up with mud, it forms a very unsightly object. The streets on each side of it are narrow and inconvenient. There are several wooden bridges over it. Its sides were formerly lined with timber, but are now formed of granite.

The Katarina canal, which was formed by the orders of the Empress Catherine, is connected with the Neva by the Nicolai canal; its sides are lined with granite, and it is bordered by a handsome foot path. There are several bridges over it.

The Fontanka canal, which is considered one of the sights of Petersburg, traverses the whole city, taking its rise from the Neva at the extremity of the

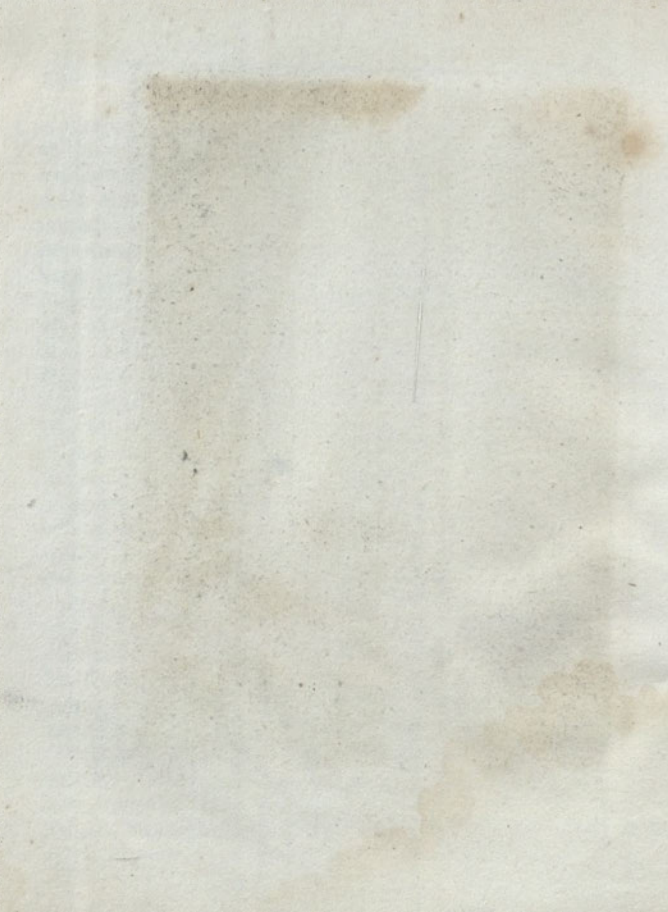
summer garden, and falling into the gulf of Finland at the other side of the city. It is crossed by eight bridges of stone, is lined with granite, and has a fine walk along its bank, ornamented with many princely mansions. The situation of St. Petersburg, though favourable to commerce, exposes it to many disadvantages. It is low and swampy, and its climate more inclement than any other place of the same latitude in Europe. The storms are frequent and most violent, and on an average of ten years it is calculated that there are not more than ninety-seven bright warm days in the year, one hundred and four rainy, seventy-two of snow, and the remainder unsettled, cloudy and changeable. But the worst evil attendant on the situation of the city is the dreadful inundations chiefly occasioned by a westerly or south-westerly wind, which, blowing direct from the gulf of Finland, prevents the exit of the waters of the Neva, and thus occasions it to swell above its banks.

In 1777 one of these destructive events occurred, which destroyed numerous buildings and bridges, particularly in the Vassili Ostroff, and the island of St. Petersburg; but the most disastrous calamity of this sort took place in November, 1824, which is thus described by one who witnessed it:—

“On the night of the 10th of November so strong a westerly wind impeded the current from the Ladoga lake, that the Neva and the canals rose to an unusual height, and lamps were hung out around the admiral's steeple to warn people not to sleep in their



PETERSBURGH.



lower apartments; a signal which custom has familiarized them to. Early on the next morning the waters had so risen that the white flag was hung out and guns were fired at intervals to admonish the city of its danger. It was soon too apparent that these admonitions were necessary. The Neva rose so as to inundate the whole city, and the confusion and destruction became indescribable. Vehicles of all sorts were seen hurrying to the bridges, or to some rising ground, with the water over the wheels; people were wading through it up to their waists; in a short time only a courier here and there appeared on horseback; their horses scarcely able to keep their heads above water. At one o'clock on the 19th, nothing was to be seen on the Grand Place and in the streets, but wooden barks, empty boats, boxes, timber, furniture washed from the houses, bread and various kinds of provisions, all floating in confused masses on the boisterous surface, wooden houses were seen floating up the river, most of the inhabitants of which had perished; even the church yards experienced an additional desolation. In the Smolensko quarter the coffins were washed out of their graves, and the dead bodies were cast up from their quiet habitations. Numbers of people had climbed up pillars, to the tops of the trees, and on the highest eminences, and were gradually saved from the fate of their companions, by a few boats, which literally plied above the roofs of many of the houses." The narrator observes, "On Saturday the 20th I went out at day-

break to view the effects of this catastrophe: I found the quay of the Neva blocked up with timber, broken barges, galliots, and vessels of various descriptions, which had carried with them the pillars and lamp-posts of the houses, and had broken in the windows and otherwise damaged the edifices on the quay. The large blocks of granite, of which the parapet is composed, were thrown over. The St. Isaac's, the Toochoff, and summer-garden bridges were broken away from their anchors and dispersed and destroyed. Many of the streets were so choked up with their timber as to be nearly impassable.

In the Vassili Ostroff quarter, where most of the houses are of wood, the destruction was immense; whole dwellings were hurled from their foundations, some of which were found at a considerable distance from the spot on which they had stood, with the dead bodies of their unfortunate inhabitants; others were broken into pieces on the spot, and some of them have been so totally destroyed that not a fragment of them remains. Wooden barracks with their inmates were totally overwhelmed; an entire regiment of carabineers, who had climbed up to the roof of one of them, all perished. Eight thousand dead bodies had already been found, and multitudes were carried by the retreating waters down the gulf of Finland. Many also were supposed to remain buried in the ruins of their habitations. Of course many instances of individual affliction, during the inundation, must have occurred, the following seems particularly

affecting. A lady and her child in a carriage were in a dangerous situation, when a Cossack passing by observed her distress and stopped. She entreated him at all hazards to save the child; he took it from the carriage window, but in a few minutes his horse slipped and they both perished: soon afterwards the lady with her servants, horses and baggage were overwhelmed in the waters. When we state the loss of human beings as already ascertained to amount to upwards of 8000, it may seem almost unfeeling to think of estimating the destruction of property; but many of those who have escaped the dangers of the flood are doomed in the wreck of their all to combat the more tedious mortality of famine. All the provisions in the city have been more or less damaged, and the frost had set in so severely that any supply by sea was considered almost hopeless." The exchange was immediately fitted up for 4000 persons, and such public buildings as had escaped were also opened to receive the homeless, the number of which was beyond all calculation. Some faint idea of the general desolation may be conceived from the fact that whole villages in the vicinity of the capital had disappeared, of one called Emilianowka not a trace remained.

The imperial establishments at Cronstadt suffered severely, and the fleet sustained irreparable damage; a ship of one hundred guns was left, by the retreat of the flood, in the middle of one of the principal streets.

At Catharinoff 200 workmen perished in the

imperial iron foundry, and fifteen barracks were entirely washed away. Such were the dreadful effects of this calamity, of which this account is but a feeble picture. The emperor Alexander, from the windows of his palace, was a helpless spectator of this afflicting scene, with feelings better imagined than described.

All that was possible to be done to ameliorate the sufferings occasioned by this awful calamity was immediately put in active progress. A million of roubles was issued from the imperial purse, and a committee appointed for its distribution, and the different members of the reigning family, personally visited and succoured the miserable survivors. The loss of commercial property was of course immense in this general destruction; of sugar alone it was estimated that 10,000,000 pounds were damaged, and nearly half the quantity melted and washed away.

The soil in the neighbourhood of St. Petersburg is so poor and unproductive that the city is entirely dependent on distant parts of the empire for its supplies of provisions. The countries bordering on the Volga chiefly furnish wheat and rye, of which, together with barley, it is calculated 4,800,000 pounds are annually consumed in the city. The poorer classes eat black bread made of the rye unbolted, and barley meal is also made into bread. Catherine II. in order to supply them with flour in times of scarcity erected a large flour magazine, from which at such times they are supplied at a moderate price.

The Russians eat great quantities of animal food, and it is calculated that (except during the fasts, which in the Greek church are long and frequent) more meat is consumed in St. Petersburg than in any other city of Europe. All kinds of meat, poultry, &c. are brought in a frozen state, principally from Ukraine and Archangel, and the quantity and price as well as the quality are regulated by the weather, and the state of the sledge roads. Mr. Coxe thus describes the market which is annually held on the Neva, when it is frozen over. "At the conclusion of the long fast which terminates in December, the Russians lay in their store of provisions for the remainder of the winter. For this purpose an annual market, which lasts three days, is held upon the river near the fortress. A long street above a mile in length was lined on each side with an immense store of provisions, sufficient for the supply of this capital for the three following months.

"Many thousand raw carcasses of oxen, sheep, hogs, and pigs, together with geese, fowls and every species of frozen food were exposed to sale. The larger quadrupeds were grouped in various circles upright, their hind feet fixed in the snow with their heads and fore legs turned to each other; these towered above the rest, and occupied the hindermost row. Next to them succeeded a regular series of animals, descending gradually to the smallest, intermixed with poultry and game hanging in festoons, and garnished with heaps of butter, fish and eggs. I soon perceived

from the profusion of partridges, pheasants, moor-fowls and cocks of the wood, that there were no laws in this country which prohibited the selling of game. I observed too the truth of what has been frequently asserted, that many birds as well as several animals in these northern regions become white in winter, many hundred black cocks being changed to that colour, and some which had been taken before they had completed their metamorphosis, exhibited a mixture of black and white plumage.

“The most distant quarters contributed to supply this vast store of provisions, and the finest veal had been sent by land carriage as far as from Archangel, which is situated at the distance of 830 miles from St. Petersburg; yet every species of food is surprisingly cheap. To render this frozen food fit for dressing, it is first thawed in cold water. Frozen meat, however, certainly loses much of its flavour, and accordingly the tables of persons of condition, and those of the English merchants, are supplied with fresh killed meat.” The same writer in speaking of the mode of living observes,

“The tables are served with great profusion and taste. Though the Russians have adopted the delicacies of French cookery, yet they neither affect to despise their native dishes, nor squeamishly reject the solid joints which characterize our repasts. The plainest as well as the choicest viands are collected from the most distant quarters. I have frequently seen at the same time sterlet from the Volga, veal from

Archangel, mutton from Astracan, beef from the Ukraine, and pheasants from Hungary and Bohemia. Their common wines are chiefly claret, burgundy and champagne, and I never tasted English beer and porter in greater perfection and abundance. Before dinner, even in the houses of persons of the first distinction, a small table is spread in a corner of the drawing-room, and covered with plates of caviare, dried and pickled herrings, smoked ham or tongue, bread, butter and cheese, together with bottles of different liqueurs; and few of the company of either sex omitted a prelude of this kind to the main entertainment. This practice has induced many travellers to relate that the Russians swallow bowls of brandy before dinner. What are the usages of the vulgar in this particular I cannot determine, but among the nobility I never observed the least violation of the most extreme sobriety."

Vegetables of all sorts are plentiful in St. Petersburg, particularly cucumbers, which are consumed in immense numbers. Fruit, which is brought from very distant parts, is likewise quite abundant. The chief food of the poor, besides their rye bread, is frozen or dried fish, chiefly a very small sort, not unlike the white bait of the Thames. A fermented liquor made by pouring warm water upon rye or barley meal, and often improved by the juice of the cranberry, is the common drink of the lower order, and is called Kvass. Another liquor made from honey and pepper boiled in water is much drank, and is

regularly sold about the streets. Mead, beer, brandy and whiskey made from malt are also drank by those who can afford the expense.

The only fuel consumed in St. Petersburg is wood, of which about 150,000 fathoms is annually brought in principally by water. This is chiefly birch, but besides this the barges, &c. which come down the river or canals, never return but are broken up, either for firing or to build wooden houses. Magazines similar to those for the supply of flour have been erected by the government, from which when the winters are unusually long and severe the poor are supplied with fuel.

The Russians in general follow the European fashions in their dress; but the old national dress is still to be seen among the lower orders in the capital. "This consists of a long coat reaching to the calves of the legs, fitting close to the body, with a great number of tucks at the bottom of the waist, and lapping over the bosom like the English double-breasted coats. In a sash tied round his middle the Russian puts his gloves, whip, axe, &c. He wears a vest of coloured striped linen instead of a shirt, his neck is bare, he wears wide trousers, no stockings, but his legs are wrapped up in linen cloth, and thin boots. When he wears shoes they are made of the bark of the linden tree or leather. A deep hat with a narrow brim completes his dress. In winter a cap takes the place of the hat, and a sheep-skin pelisse that of the coat. The women of this class are not so well

protected from the cold as the men; but they do not often quit their houses. Even those in humble circumstances wear a great variety of trinkets, gold chains, earrings, pearls and rings." The great number of baths in every city and town of the Russian empire would seem to indicate them to be a naturally cleanly people; but Storch in his *Picture of Petersburg* observes, that "the Russian has no care about cleanliness, but a few old national customs, which from habit he cannot get rid of, keep him in a tolerably decent way. Thus, for example, in the cottages the tables are always scoured white, but the boor gives himself no concern about vermin, or rather spares them from hereditary respect. Though he washes himself twice, or it may be thrice a week, yet his linen, be it ever so foul, is taken off only in the bathing room, where it is washed at the same time with himself."

The Russians in fact use the bath as a luxury and amusement, especially the vapour-bath, the following description of which was given to Mr. Coxe by an Englishman resident at St. Petersburg: "The bathing room was small and low, and contained a heap of large stones piled over a fire, and two broad benches, one near the ground and the other near the ceiling.

"Small buckets of water being thrown upon the heated stones filled the room with a hot and suffocating vapour, which, from its tendency to ascend, made the upper part much hotter than the lower. Having taken off my clothes I laid myself down on

the upper bench, while the bathing-woman was preparing tubs of hot and cold water, and continued to increase the vapour in the manner above-mentioned. Having dipped a bunch of twigs into the hot water, she repeatedly sprinkled and then rubbed with it my whole body. In about half an hour I removed to the lower bench, which I found much cooler; the bathing-woman then lathered me with soap from head to foot, scrubbed me with flannel for the space of ten minutes, and throwing several buckets of warm water over me till the soap was entirely washed off; she then dried me with napkins. As I put on my clothes in a room without a fire, I had an opportunity of remarking that the cold air had little effect on my body, though in so heated a state; for while I was dressing I felt a glow of warmth which continued during the whole night. This circumstance convinced me that when the natives rush from the vapour-bath into the river, or roll themselves in the snow, their sensations are in no respect disagreeable, or the effects in any degree unwholesome."

The most characteristic and favourite amusements of the Russians are singing, dancing, swinging, and descending the ice-hills. The Russians are a nation of singers; the soldier sings on his march, the peasant, the mechanic, all sing while they are at their daily labour, and the postilion keeps up one uninterrupted song from the moment he mounts to the end of the journey. Many of their old national airs, though peculiar, possess exquisite simplicity and pathos.



RUSSIAN FAIR.



These popular ditties are sung in every town and village, and the higher ranks frequently have a band of the most expert singers to entertain them either at table or on their water parties, with these favourite ballads. The Golubetz, an old national dance, is a frequent accompaniment to these songs. The dance is in fact a pantomime, in which the passion of love, its affected coyness, the modest solicitations of the at length successful lover, are represented by rude contortions and gestures.

The swing is the amusement of all ranks and conditions, particularly at Easter, when machines similar to those used at fairs in England are erected in all the public squares. The ice-hills are a still more favourite amusement: for this purpose a scaffold about thirty feet high is erected on the Neva; on one side of it are steps, or a ladder to ascend to the platform on the top, on the opposite side a steep inclined plane, about four yards broad and thirty long, descends to the river; this is supported by strong poles, and its sides are protected by a parapet of planks. Large square blocks of ice, about four inches thick, are laid upon the inclined plane close to each other, and smoothed with the axe; they are then consolidated by water thrown over them. The snow is cleared away at the bottom for the length of two hundred yards, and the breadth of four; and the sides of this course, as well as those of the scaffoldings, are ornamented and protected with firs and pines. Each person provided with a little low sledge, something

like a butcher's tray, mounts the ladder and glides with inconceivable rapidity down the inclined plane, poising his sledge as he goes down. The momentum thus acquired carries him to a second hill, at the foot of which he alights, mounts again, and in the same manner glides down another hill of ice. The boys amuse themselves in skating down these hills, and preserve their equilibrium better on one foot than two. Summer hills, an imitation of which has lately been seen at places of public entertainment in London, under the title of the Russian mountains, form one of the principal amusements during the carnival. Riding on sledges is likewise one of their characteristic diversions.

“Scarcely a day passed,” says Mr. Coxe, “that I did not take my morning walk or drive a sledge on the river. Many carriages and sledges, and numerous foot-passengers crossing it in all directions afford a constant succession of moving objects, and the ice is also covered with numerous groups of people dispersed or gathered together, and variously employed as their fancy leads them. In one part there are several long areas railed off for the purpose of skating; a little farther is an enclosure wherein a nobleman is training his horses, and teaching them the various evolutions of the ménage. In another part the crowd are spectators of what is called a sledge race. The course is an oblong space about the length of a mile, and sufficiently broad to turn the carriage. It can hardly be denominated a race,

for there is only a single sledge drawn by two horses, and the whole art of the driver consists in making the shaft-horse trot as fast as he can, while the other is pushed into a gallop. The Russians of the higher orders are fond of dramatic representations, and among their numerous public institutions is one for the education of girls and boys for the stage."

The most solemn and magnificent ceremonies of the Greek church may be witnessed at St. Petersburg, attended with a pomp, a splendour, and an enthusiastic devotion, which surprises even travellers who have been long resident in and familiarized to the pageants and processions of Roman Catholic countries. After the long fast of Lent, which they extend to seven weeks, a ceremony is performed which is peculiar to this church on Easter Day, and which is thus impressively described by Mr. James, who witnessed it in 1814. "We entered," he says, "the Casan church at a late hour on the Saturday night. The nave, the aisles, in short every part, was crowded to suffocation with a host of devotees; thousands of lighted tapers, for each bore one in his hand, glittered over the whole area, spreading an illumination as bright as noon. As the hour of twelve approached, all eyes were earnestly bent on the sanctuary, and a dead silence reigned throughout. At length the door opened, when there issued forth a long train of banners, crosses, &c. with archimandrites, protopopes and priests of all ranks, dressed in their sumptuous robes of embroidered silk, and covered

with gold and silver and jewels; they moved slowly through the crowd, and went out from the doors of the church, as if to seek for the body of our Lord. In a few minutes the insignia were again seen on their return, floating above the heads of the people along the nave, and when the archbishop had regained the altar, he pronounced in a loud voice, *Christos volseress*, Christ is risen. At that instant the hymn of praise commenced, and a peal of ordnance from the fortress re-echoed the joyful tidings through the city. The mob now saluted and congratulated one another in turn, for the days of fasting were at an end; tables spread with provisions in a short time made their appearance in the church, the before forbidden meats were devoured with eager appetite, and a feast of gluttony that annually proves fatal to some of the followers of this religion, took place the of penance prayer."

Another religious ceremony, which this traveller witnessed at St. Petersburg, is the hailing with benediction the return of Spring. On this subject he observes, "In the fervency of that ostentatious gratitude that characterizes the Russian church, the verdure when it first appears in spring, annually receives a solemn benediction. The places of worship, as well as private houses, are filled with the consecrated boughs borne by the devotees; and on the first Sunday after Ascension-day the priests who poured their blessing on the frozen waters in the winter, hail with similar ceremonies the summer vegetation." A

procession takes place on this day as well as on the first of May, which throughout the north is universally kept as a holyday to Ekatharinoff. The whole of the court and nobility, and in fact all those who can afford to hire a carriage of any description, repair thither to hail the first burst of the genial season. Upwards of 2000 carriages have been seen at one time in this procession.

The ceremony of blessing the waters of the Neva, at the commencement of the frost, was formerly performed with great pomp and solemnity; all the regiments of guards being drawn out on the occasion, and the reigning sovereign himself attending in person upon the ice. Its magnificence now, however, is much diminished. Mr. Coxe who witnessed it, thus describes the ceremony: " Upon the frozen surface of a small canal, between the admiralty and the palace, was erected an octagon pavilion of wood, painted green and ornamented with boughs of fir. It was open at the sides, and crowned with a dome supported by eight pillars. On the top was a figure of St. John with the cross, and four paintings representing some of the miracles of our Saviour; in the inside a carved image of the Holy Spirit, under the emblem of a dove, was suspended, as is usual in the sanctuaries of the Greek churches. The floor of this edifice was carpeted excepting a square vacancy in the middle, in which an opening was cut in the ice and a ladder let down into the water. The pavilion was enclosed by palisadoes adorned with boughs of fir, and the

intermediate space was also covered with carpets. From one of the windows of the palace a scaffolding was erected, ornamented with red cloth which reached to the extremity of the canal.

“At the time appointed the empress (Catherine II.) appeared at the window of the palace, and the archbishop who was to perform the benediction passed at the head of a numerous procession along the scaffolding into the octagon, around which were drawn up soldiers belonging to the different regiments stationed at Petersburg. After having pronounced a few prayers the archbishop descended the ladder, plunged the cross he bore into the water, and then sprinkled the colours of each regiment.

“At the conclusion of this ceremony he retired, and the people rushed in crowds into the octagon, drank with eagerness the water, sprinkled it upon their clothes, and carried some of it away to purify their houses. I was informed,” continues the narrator, “that some of the populace plunged into the water, and others dipped their children in; but as I was not myself witness to these circumstances I will not vouch for their truth.”

The annals of the reign of Catherine, among other magnificent wonders, record an account of a palace of ice, which was erected on the occasion of the marriage of Prince Galitzin. A particular account of this ephemeral erection is given by Krost, an imperial academician: for this purpose a site was chosen between the imperial winter palace and the admiralty,

one of the lords of the bedchamber being appointed to superintend the works. The palace was constructed of blocks of ice from two to three feet thick, cut out of the ice of the Neva; these being properly adjusted, water was poured upon them which acted as a cement, consolidating the whole into one immense mass of ice. The length of the edifice was fifty-six feet, its breadth seventeen feet, and its height twenty-one.

This palace was constructed, according to the strictest rules of art, and was adorned with a portico, columns and statues. It consisted of a single story, the front of which was provided with a door and fourteen windows, the frames of the latter as well as the panes being all formed of ice. The sides of the doors as well as the windows were painted in imitation of green marble. On each side of the door was a dolphin, from the mouths of which, by means of naphtha, volumes of flames were emitted in the evening. Next to them were two mortars equal in size to eighty pounders, from which many bombs were thrown, a quarter of a pound of powder being used in each charge. On either side of the mortars stood three cannons equal to three pounders, mounted upon carriages, and with wheels which were often used.

In the presence of a number of persons attached to the court, a bullet was driven through a board two inches thick, at the distance of sixty paces, by one of these cannons. The interior of the edifice had no ceiling, and consisted of a lobby

and two large apartments, one on each side, which were well painted, and furnished in the most elegant manner, though formed merely of ice. Tables, chairs, statues, looking-glasses, candlesticks, watches and other ornaments, besides tea-dishes, tumblers, wine-glasses, and even plates with provisions, were seen in one apartment also formed of ice, and painted in their natural colours, while in the other were to be seen a state bed with curtains, pillows and bed clothes, two pairs of slippers and two nightcaps of the same cold material. Behind the cannon, the mortars, and the dolphins, stretched a low balustrade. On each side of the building was a small entrance. Here were pots with flowers and orange trees, partly formed of ice and partly natural, on which birds sat. Beyond these were erected two icy pyramids. On the right of one of them stood an elephant, which was hollow, and so contrived as to throw out burning naphtha, while a person within it, by means of a tube, imitated the natural cries of the animal. On the left of the other pyramid was seen the never failing concomitant of all princely dwellings in Russia a *banya* or bath, apparently constructed of barks, which is said to have been sometimes heated, and even to have been appropriated to use.

The appearance of the ice palace was particularly splendid, when lighted up in the evening with numerous candles. Amusing transparencies were usually suspended in the windows to increase the effect, and the emission of flames by the dolphins and elephant,

all tended to excite greater surprise, while the people beheld the chrystalline mass. This fantastic and singular construction remained entire from the beginning of January almost to the middle of March. It then began to melt, and was soon afterwards broken in pieces, and the ruins were conveyed to the imperial ice-cellar.

The Taurida palace, which belonged to Prince Potemkin, is distinguished for its enormous hall, and the beauty of what are called the winter gardens, which are described by travellers as exciting and deserving the most rapturous admiration. Sir Robert Ker Porter thus describes the former: "Before you enter the hall or gallery of the palace, you pass through a saloon of great magnitude, supported by immense white pillars, and ornamented with ancient candelabrams, sarcophaguses, busts, vases, and other decorations of the classic ages. With these are mingled, in monstrous association, modern ill fashioned cupids, negroes, fantastic heads, and hideous pedestals of fifty coloured marbles. On leaving this enormous vestibule the hall opens at once upon the eye, and excites an emotion which must be felt to be imagined. I had not an opportunity of measuring this apparently measureless place, and therefore will not pretend to guess its dimensions. A double range of Ionic columns rise like a forest on either side, and when you look up to their capitals the height is so great as almost to pain the eye. But there the sublimity of this gigantic chamber ceases; a poverty-stricken

flat ceiling with little insignificant figures in a squeezed shape, finish almost abruptly what might otherwise have been perfection. Had it been arched, the effect would have been unequalled in Europe. Some fine imitations of the Barberini, and other celebrated vases, are severally interspersed, and at each end of the hall are excellent copies of the Laocoon and the Cleopatra. Through the long avenue of columns opens to view a most delightful scene, a spot dedicated to perpetual summer.

The garden, though extensive, appears much more so than it really is, the walks being all winding and undulating, leading amid flowery hedges and fruit-trees, chiefly orange-trees in sunk tubs, and concealed by fine mould. Roses and other flowers border these walks, which are all finely gravelled and turfed. The roof is supported by pillars which are disguised under the form of lofty palm trees. The heat is maintained by flues concealed in the wall and pillars; and pipes, filled with boiling water, run under the ground.

The whole of this delightful palace is lighted by windows, and magnificent lustres of cut glass are suspended from the ceiling in different parts.

In the colossal hall we have described, Prince Potemkin, a short time before his death, gave to his royal mistress an entertainment which is said to have equalled, if not exceeded, any recorded in the days of Roman luxury. The hall was splendidly illuminated, and the tables loaded with every delicacy from the most

distant regions, and with the most costly wines. An immense cistern of solid silver filled with sterlet soup, is said to have cost alone 10,000 rubles. The orchestra contained upwards of 600 vocal and instrumental performers, and a series of magnificent theatrical exhibitions succeeded the banquet, which lasted till midnight.

In the middle of this extensive hall Potemkin had erected, on a lofty pedestal, a statue of his mistress Catherine II.; but her successor Paul, in one of his fits of frenzy, and actuated by the implacable enmity he bore to the memory of the prince, turned the statue out of the palace, which he converted into a riding school and barracks for his troops.

The hospitals in St. Petersburg are numerous and well conducted in general. The Foundling Hospital in particular is large, cleanly and airy. In 1813 it had 6,000 children on its list, of whom about 600 were kept in the house.

The state of the prisons has within a few years undergone considerable improvements under the philanthropic attention and suggestions of an Englishman, Walter Venning, Esq. who, like his countryman Howard, fell a victim to his humane pursuits. A typhus fever, caught from a prisoner, terminated the life of this excellent man towards the close of January 1821. A monument has been erected over his remains bearing an inscription in Russ and English. On the principal side a bass-relief represents Mr. Venning entering a prison with a bible in his hand;

under is inscribed, "I was sick and ye visited me, I was in prison and ye came unto me." "I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord," &c. On the reverse side is the following inscription in Russ: "The society of St. Petersburg for the improvement of prisons, have raised this monument to the memory of their beloved fellow labourer, Walter Venning, the countryman of Howard, and founder of the Prison Institutions of this country."

Since Mr. Venning's death the society has continued to follow, with zeal and activity, his beneficent example and instructions. Religious services are now established with the means of instruction, food and clothing are provided, with medical aid for the sick, and cleanliness is especially regarded. A ladies' society has been likewise formed on the model of that established in London, by the benevolent Mrs. Fry; and five prisons, viz. the city prison, the government hall, the house of correction, the police prison and the workhouse, are placed under their care. The punishment of crime, which was formerly barbarous in the extreme, has been ameliorated since the emperor Alexander ascended the throne. The horrid punishment of the knout, to which offenders of all ranks, and even of the female sex, were subjected, is thus described by Mr. Coxe in his travels. "One morning," says he, "as I was casually strolling through the streets of St. Petersburg, near

the market-place, I observed a crowd of people flocking to one particular spot. Upon my inquiring of my Russian servant the cause of this concourse, he informed me that the multitude was assembled to see a felon, who had been convicted of murder, receive the knout. Although I naturally shuddered at the very idea of being a spectator of the agonies of a fellow-creature, yet my curiosity overcame my feelings. With the assistance of my servant I penetrated through the crowd, and ascended the roof of a wooden house of one story, from which I had a distinct view of the dreadful operation which was already begun. The executioner held in his hand the knout. This instrument is a thong about the thickness of a crown piece, and about three fourths of an inch broad, and rendered extremely hard by a peculiar kind of preparation; it is tied to a thick plaited whip which is connected by means of an iron ring with a small piece of leather that acts as a spring, and is fastened to a short wooden handle. The executioner before every stroke receded a few paces, and at the same time drew back the hand which held the knout; then, bounding forward, he applied, with considerable force, the flat end of the thong to the naked back of the criminal in a perpendicular line, reaching six or seven inches from the neck towards the waist. He began by hitting the right shoulder, and continued his strokes parallel to each other, quite to the left shoulder, nor ceased till he had inflicted 333 lashes, the number prescribed by the sentence. At the conclusion of this

terrible operation the nostrils of the criminal were torn with pincers, his face marked with a hot iron, and he was re-conducted to prison in order to be transported to the mines of Nershinsk in Siberia. The latter part of this horrible punishment, the tearing the nose, &c. have been abolished by an imperial decree, dated January 27, 1819.

The police of St. Petersburg adopt a ludicrous but effectual mode of dispersing any mob or riotous assemblage. For this purpose they employ a fire-engine which is always at hand on such occasions, and on the first symptoms of tumult and disturbance, a plentiful shower of water is thrown over all within reach of the engine, which never fails of subduing the most riotously inclined, and scatters the whole mob in an instant. If any absolute violence has been committed, the offenders are generally seized and summarily flogged with a cat o'nine-tails.

The country adjacent to St. Petersburg is studded with the villas of the nobility, and within thirty miles of the city are several palaces belonging to the crown; but the place most worthy the attention of a traveller in these parts is Cronstadt, which is situated about ten leagues from the capital on the island of Retuzari in the gulf of Finland. Cronstadt contains all the naval arsenals and docks of the Russian navy, and has an extensive harbour which has three divisions; that called the merchant's harbour is capable of containing 600 sail.

The passage to the capital up the Neva is com-

manded by the forts of Cronstadt and Cronchlot, which is an opposite island. The war harbour, which is appropriated to ships of war on service, or wanting repair, is of small size, and adjoining to it are the docks. The houses which front the harbour are handsomely built of brick stuccoed white, and the lofty and spacious warehouses give the town an air of grandeur and importance on entering it; but the stranger is much disappointed on finding the remainder consists only of ill paved narrow streets, and low houses nearly all built of wood. The principal buildings are the churches (of which there are five, including the cathedral, a Lutheran and an English church), the imperial hospital for sailors, the civil hospital, and the barracks. The male population is estimated at nearly 40,000, of whom at least 10,000 are sailors.

The inhabitants are mostly Russians; but there are also a great many English, Germans, Dutch, Americans, and Finlanders, settled here.

Nerva, the first town of consequence in the route from the capital to Riga, is a good town, and has the remains of a very extensive fortress, which hangs over the river Narova, in a very picturesque manner. Near this town, in 1700, Peter the Great was defeated by Charles XII. of Sweden, who was then only nineteen years old, and commanded an army of only nine thousand men, while that of Peter amounted to thirty two thousand.

Dorpt, 116 miles from Nerva, suffered dreadfully in the wars between the Swedes and Russians. This

ancient town enjoys considerable trade, and has an annual large fair. A university was established here in 1802, and it likewise contains a botanical garden, a museum and a public library.

Riga is the capital of the province of Livonia, which, together with that of Esthonia, was conquered from the Swedes by Peter the Great. The town stands on the right bank of the river Dwina, and the suburbs on the opposite bank; they are connected by a floating wooden bridge, which rises and falls with the river, and is taken to pieces when the frost sets in.

The streets are in general crooked and narrow, and though most of the houses are neatly built of stone, the town is on the whole far from handsome. The principal buildings are the exchange, the house of assembly for the states of Livonia, the arsenal, the hospital of St. George, and the Katharineof, or palace of Katharine.

The situation of Riga is peculiarly favourable to the purposes of commerce, and the annual exports are computed at upwards of a million sterling, of which at least one half are sent to England and Scotland. Nearly all the merchants of Riga are English and Scotch houses, and the chief articles exported are hemp and mast timber, which are brought to the town from the Russian provinces, bordering on the Dnieper. Riga, though not regularly fortified, is a place of considerable strength, being surrounded with an earthen mound and a moat. It has also a citadel. It has

suffered severely at different times from sieges, by the Russians in 1656, by the Saxons and Poles in 1700 by the Russians again in 1701, and by the French in 1812, when the whole of the suburbs were burned.

Courland, which was united to Russia in 1795, commences about sixteen miles from Riga.

Finland also forms a part of the Russian empire, since the peace of Frederickshall in 1809. It is divided into seven provinces. Wyburgh, the principal town of that part of Finland which formerly belonged to the Swedes, was visited by Mr. Jones in 1814, who thus describes it: "The inhabitants of this province have assimilated themselves to the manners and taste of their conquerors, and, being mixed with numerous colonists are now become a truly Russian people. On my waking at an early hour after a sound sleep in my sledge, I gazed with wonder at the spectacle that presented itself in the streets of Wyburgh. The glare of white houses, their green roofs and oriental cupolas, the noble mansions of the wealthy, and the religious fanes, all so splendid and spacious in comparison of what we had lately seen, and above all the new costume of the bystanders, dressed in long blue castans, their bare necks, their flowing beards, their sash, cap and boots of red, were altogether objects so singular that the spectacle impressed itself on my mind, rather as a dream of the morning than as a scene of real life."

Mr. Coxe, who travelled from St. Petersburg to Wyburgh in the severest season of the year, gives curious description of his travelling equipment. "I

had on," he says, "a suit of Bath drugget lined with flannel, two pairs of worsted stockings, slippers, over which I had boots well secured with flannel and fur; these I generally wore in the carriage, but pulled off when I entered a house. If the weather had proved uncommonly severe, I was provided with a kind of sheep-skin case, with the wool on the inside, for my legs, which reached to my waist. I wrapped round my body a great coat of blue nankeen lined with lamb-skin, and occasionally added a large pelisse or fur robe. I had a bear-skin muff, and my head was enveloped in a black velvet cap quilted with silk, which covered my cheeks, was tied under my chin, and might if necessary be drawn over the whole face. Thus accoutred I could venture to defy even the cold of Lapland.

"Our train consisted of eight sledges, including those appropriated to our baggage—partly open and partly closed. A sledge of this sort is shaped like a cradle; its tilt, which rises from the hinder extremity, and projects to about two feet, was open in front, but provided with curtains which might be drawn and tied together, when the weather was severe. The outside was secured with matting and oil-skin, and the inside with coarse cloth. Within was a mattress feather-bed and coverlid, or quilt, of coarse cloth. In this travelling couch I sometimes lay extended at full length, sometimes sat cross-legged like a Turk, and at other times raised myself on a seat formed by two cushions. Each sledge was drawn by two horses, which, on account of the narrowness of the roads

were harnessed one before the other. The usual rate of travelling is from six to eight miles an hour. The motion of the carriage over the beaten snow is scarcely perceptible, and I never performed any journey in a more commodious manner. Though we continued our route during the night, and there was no moon, yet an aurora borealis and the whiteness of the snow supplied an agreeable species of twilight. The road or rather path, through which our way lay, was scarcely more than a yard in breadth, sunk two or three feet below the surface of the snow, and hardened by the repeated pressure of horses and sledges. When two carriages met in this narrow track, the horses, which turned out of the way, sank into the soft untrodden snow as high as their girths."

Frederickshall is a small but strongly fortified town, near which there is a bridge which anciently formed the limit between Swedish and Russian Finland. This bridge Gustavus Adolphus, of Sweden, caused to be painted with the Swedish colours on the Russian side, and thus afforded, by this pitiful assumption, a pretext for a war, which eventually deprived the family of Vasa of their ancient inheritance. Between this place and Abo, in a very romantic situation stands Helsingfors, and near it Sviaborg, which, from its remarkable situation, and supposed impregnable strength, has been termed the Gibraltar of the north. Three islands, connected by bridges, which lie in the Gulf of Finland, compose the fortress, while three others form its outworks. These, which all lie within the compass of four

miles, are all strongly fortified. The walls are from six to ten feet thick, and in some places forty-eight high. There are in the fortress accommodations for 12,000 men, and it is defended by eight hundred pieces of cannon. This place, which both art and nature have combined to render impregnable, was surrendered to the Russians by treachery.

Abo is situated on the banks of a small river at the union of the gulfs of Bothnia and Finland. It is an episcopal city, and has a university founded by Queen Christina of Sweden, and enlarged by the Emperor Alexander. Most of the houses are built of wood and painted red: part of the city is built on a ridge of steep rocks, and part on the plain. Abo has a good harbour, and enjoys a considerable export trade, of which the chief articles are timber, iron, tin, corn and linen. One of the best glass houses in the Russian empire is situated here. The prevailing religion here is, as in Sweden, the Lutheran. Mr. James mentions a singular amusement which he joined in here, a trip over the frozen sea in a vessel moving with skaits on the ice. "It was," he observes, "a frame laid down as the deck of a ship, two skaits were placed under the bows, and the third, being moveable on a pivot, supplied the place of a rudder. For obvious reasons she was rather awkward in her stays, and unless her crew shifted their seats from one side to the other with great adroitness, would be infallibly overset. Her motion was tremendously rapid, and she held a complement of from twenty to thirty persons; but as the snow was necessarily cleared out

for her track, the length of the voyage was of limited extent. The circuit was very ingeniously carried in the form of pentagon, so as to enable her to take advantage of every wind. The route from St. Petersburg to Stockholm, the capital of Sweden, is in summer by land to Abo, and thence by ship to the island of Aland, from whence, after crossing the island, the traveller again embarks on the open sea; but in the winter, if the ice is strong enough, a track is marked out upon the frozen surface, by boughs of trees placed at certain intervals, and on the shore by high poles with bunches of straw at the tops. Notice is given in the churches when the ice is strong enough to render this route secure, and the duty of placing the way-marks for certain districts, are duly allotted to each individual of the neighbouring parishes." Mr. Coxe, who travelled this journey, describes the ice as in some parts regular and smooth, but in others frozen in large waves and masses, which were difficult to pass over.

The islands which occur in this route are described by Mr. Coxe as being well inhabited. Their cottages are formed, like those of most of the peasantry in Russia, of trunks of trees piled on each other. They were divided into two or three apartments, and were particularly neat and clean; and they had many conveniences superior to the generality of cottagers in Russia, especially good beds.

The isle of Aland, which, by the treaty of 1809, was made the western boundary of this vast empire, is about forty miles in length, and from twelve to

sixteen in breadth. It contains fifteen villages and about 9000 inhabitants.

The city of Archangel is the centre of a province, which is of great extent, stretching eastward to the borders of Asia, and westward to the governments of Olonetz and Swedish and Danish Lapland.

The population of this district is very thinly scattered over its surface, and is composed of Russians, Laplanders and Samioedes, the latter of whom are still in a state of barbarism, subsisting entirely by the chase and fishing, and having no settled habitations.

Of the more civilized inhabitants, many of them are employed in raising cattle for the St. Petersburg markets, and those on the sea coast in whale and herring fishing. Furs and eider-down also form an important part of their commerce. The city of Archangel was, until the founding of St. Petersburg, the only maritime place in Russia, and still ranks in size and consequence among the chief cities of the empire, though its trade has fallen greatly to decay, and its population reduced from 30,000 to less than 7000 souls.

The city stands very advantageously for commerce on the banks of the Dwina, where the latter falls into the gulf of Archangel, or port of the White Sea. It was formerly the emporium of Russia, and at the time of its annual fair, which was held in the month August, upwards of 300 ships, English, Dutch, Spanish, Swedish and French were often seen at once in the harbour. The chief articles of export then as now were, hemp, flax, timber, potash, tallow, hides



SAMOYEDES.



EMPEROR of RUSSIA TRAVEL THROUGH the SNOW.

caviare, tar, &c. and the inhabitants of Archangel, from their long intercourse with the English, possess a much greater degree of mercantile and general intelligence than in any other part of the empire.

The road from St. Petersburg to Moscow, the ancient capital of the Russian empire, which is 487 miles, is constructed in the following manner. Trunks of trees are laid transversely in rows parallel to each other, and are bound down in the centre, and at each end, by long poles, or beams fastened down to the ground by wooden pegs; these trunks are covered with layers of boughs, and the whole is strewed over with sand or earth. When the road is new it is remarkably good; but as the trunks decay or sink into the ground, and as the sand or earth is worn away or washed off by the rain (as is frequently the case for several miles together), it is broken into innumerable holes, and the jolting of a carriage over the bare timber can be better conceived than described.

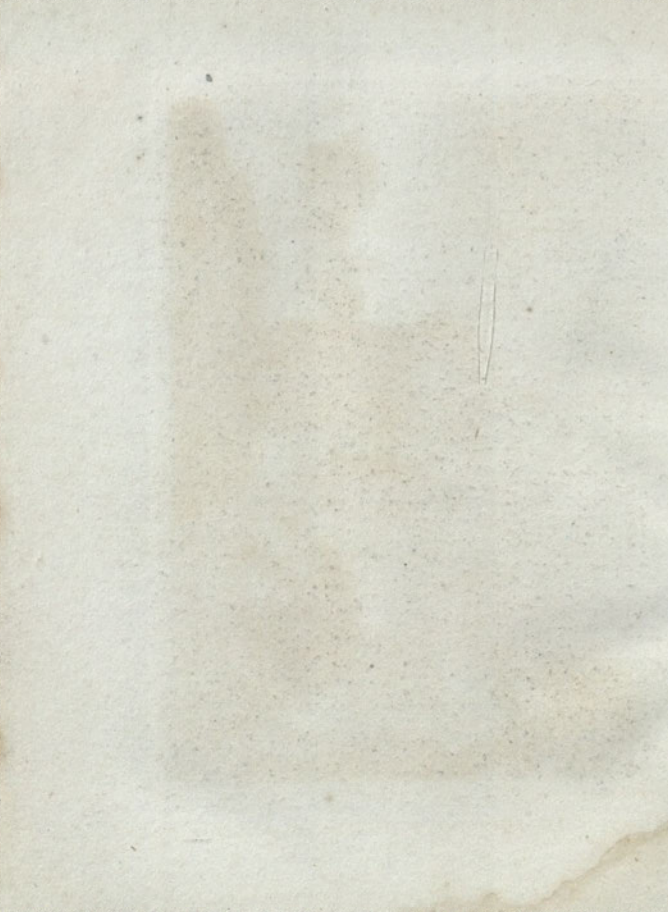
A road of this description was commenced by Peter the Great, which was carried in a straight line over marsh and bog, and through thick forests of birch and fir. According to a calculation made by Mr. Hanway, who travelled this route in 1743, when only one hundred miles were completed, it would require, according to the original plan, no less than 2,100,000 trees to finish it. Many villages, which are built uniformly, are one single street of wooden cottages, and here and there a brick house, line this road.

The cottages are sometimes, but not often, of two

stories, the lower one serving as a store room and the upper as the dwelling place. A sort of ladder on the outside serves as a staircase, and their furniture seldom comprises more than a wooden table, benches fixed to the sides of the room, a few wooden platters, bowls and spoons, and sometimes a large earthen pan to cook their victuals in. Their diet is plentiful and procured at a cheap rate. It generally consists of fish, eggs, bacon, mushrooms and black rye bread: a kind of hotch-potch of salt or fresh meats groats and rye flour seasoned with onions or garlic, is their favourite food. The peasantry in general breed large numbers of cattle, yet they have no dairies, and the use of butter and cheese is unknown among them. The women are very industrious, and not only the whole of the household work is thrown upon them, including the making of coarse woollens and linens, and knitting of stockings, but they are likewise obliged to take a considerable share in the labours of the field. The Russian females are mostly handsome while young, but they soon attain maturity, and then very speedily fall off, and look old at a very early period of life. To this the use of the hot bath, and prevalent practice of painting the face among the higher classes; and among the peasantry hard work, their peculiar food, and inattention to their persons, greatly contribute. The Russian peasants are in general a large, coarse, hardy race, of great bodily strength, rarely below the middle stature, strong-limbed, commonly lean, but well built. Their



R U S S I A N S .



mouth and eyes are small, their lips thin, teeth even and beautiful, their hair brown, reddish or flaxen, their beard strong and bushy. Their organs of taste, smell, sight and hearing, are very acute, especially the two latter. The clothing of this class of people is very expensive, but being made loose and large it lasts a long time. They wear generally blue or nankeen shirts trimmed with red, linen drawers, and linen or hempen rags wrapped round their legs, over which the richer sort draw their boots, and others wear sandals made of linden bark. A nankeen caftan in summer, and in winter a sheepskin schaub or pelisse, with a red cap, completes their dress.

The most important place between St. Petersburg and Moscow is the city of Novogorod, which is situated on a fine plain at the northern extremity of the Lake Ilmen. The river Volkhov divides the town into two parts; that on the right, which is the market town, is called Torgovaia, and on the left is the quarter of St. Sophia. In the days of its commercial and political glory, Novogorod contained at least 400,000 inhabitants; but the number now does not exceed 7,000, and the once magnificent city presents only the melancholy spectacle of churches and convents in decay, mouldering walls, and deserted streets, with a few dwellings scattered here and there amidst the desolation.

The cathedral of St. Sophia is one of the most ancient churches in Russia, and was built in the eleventh century, soon after the introduction of christianity

into Russia by the Greeks. The entrance to the cathedral is through a pair of brazen gates, which, according to tradition were brought from Cherson at the time of Vladimir's expedition against the Greek empire. The tombs of that sovereign, and of Theodore, are in the cathedral, which presents some curious specimens of the architecture and painting of the eleventh and twelfth centuries. The walls of the kremlin are still standing, and comprehend within their circuit the cathedral, the ancient archiepiscopal palace with its staircase on the outside, the new palace, and a few other brick buildings; the rest is overrun with weeds and nettles and covered with ruins.

Upon the bridge leading to the kremlin from the other part of the town, Dr. Clarke observes, "There is a small sanctuary where every peasant who passes deposits either his candle or his penny. Before this place, which is filled with old pictures, and which a stranger might easily mistake for a picture-stall, devotees may be seen during the whole day bowing and crossing themselves.

"A Russian hardly commits any action without this previous ceremony. If he be employed to drive your carriage it occupies two minutes before he is mounted: when he descends the same ceremony is repeated. If a church is in view you see him at work with his head and hand, as if he was seized with St. Vitus' dance. If he make any earnest protestation, or enter a room, or go out, you are entertained with the same

manual and capital exercise. When beggars return thanks for alms, the operation lasts a longer time, and then by way of interlude they generally make prostration and touch their foreheads to the earth."

Mr. Coxe, who travelled through this district in the latter end of September, passed on his route numerous herds of cattle, on their way from the Ukraine to the capital. "During this long progress of nearly 800 miles, the drovers," he observes, "seldom enter a house; the cattle are fed on the strips of pasture that border the sides of the road, and the foliage of the trees forms their only covering in bad weather. In the evening," he continues, "the silence of the country was interrupted by the lowing of the oxen and the carols of the drivers, while the solitary gloom of the forest was enlivened by the glare of numerous fires, surrounded by different groups of herdsmen in various attitudes: some were sitting round the flame, some employed in dressing their provisions, and others sleeping on the bare ground. They resembled in their dress and manners a rambling horde of Tartars."

The town of Valdai, which is the next place of importance on this road, is very agreeably situated, and the houses better built and more decorated than in most Russian towns.

Through the middle of this town runs the famous canal of Vyshnei Voloshok, which is justly considered as unequalled, for the extent of its navigation, accomplished by artificial means, and with so little labour.

Three versts was the whole distance, which was cut through to unite the Volga with the rivers which communicate with the Baltic, and by this means a navigable channel of 5000 versts was gained. Above 4000 vessels are supposed annually to pass through this canal. Near the Msta, where the fall of the ground is very considerable, the passage is very dangerous.

The barges being all assembled by beat of drum, the sluices are opened, and they are rapidly hurried down the falls. In order to prevent accidents large buoys are moored in the middle of the river, constructed and fixed in such a manner as to wheel round the head of the boat, when it strikes against them, if their sweeps have failed to direct their course. Cossacks are also stationed, who give notice above, if any accident has happened, when the sluices are immediately shut, and the current is thus stopped.

The dress of the female peasants in this district strikingly resembles that which is worn in some parts of Switzerland. A shift with full sleeves, a short petticoat and coloured stockings, with the hair braided and hanging down to a great length, is their summer dress. In winter they wear over this a pelisse of lamb's wool lined with cloth, decorated with gold buttons and lace. The married women wear their hair turned up, and a coloured silk handkerchief forms their head dress.

An accident which happened to Dr. Clarke's sledge, when travelling through this district, afforded him, he observes, the opportunity of obtaining "a very

interesting peep into the manners of the peasantry. The woman of the house was preparing a dinner for the members of her family, who were gone to church. It consisted only of a mess of pottage. Presently her husband, a boor, came in attended by his daughters, with some small loaves of white bread, not larger than a pigeon's egg; these had been consecrated by the priest, and were placed with great care before the *bogh**. Then the bowing and crossing commenced, and they began their dinner, all eating out of the same bowl. Dinner ended, they went regularly to bed, as if to pass the night there, crossing and bowing as before. Having slept about an hour, one of the young women, according to a custom constantly observed, called her father and presented him with a pot of vinegar or quass, the Russian beverage. The man then arose, and a complete fit of crossing and bowing seized him, with interludes so inexpressibly characteristic and ludicrous, that it was very difficult to preserve gravity. The pauses of scratching and grunting, the apostrophes to his wife, himself, and his god, were such as Drunken Barnaby might have expressed in Latin, but which cannot be told in English."

Torshok or Torjok, a large straggling place on the banks of the Tvertza, has no less than twenty churches, and is famous for its holy spring, to which pilgrims from all parts of the empire resort. There is here a large manufacture of Russia leather, which is tanned with oak bark, and coloured with cochineal,

* An image or picture of the Saviour or the Virgin Mary.

a perfume being added by means of a certain oil, the nature of which is kept a profound secret.

At this place Mr. James observed an approach to Oriental costume in the dress of the women, which consists of a small double-horned coif, and a large white shawl, covering the figure from head to foot. Under this is worn a kind of gown, fitted close to the body. It is coloured blue or red bordered with variegated lace, and ornamented with a profusion of foil and beads. The men were generally dressed in red shirts, worn over blue or white trowsers, their legs bound with thick rings of woollen or linen rags, with shoes made of linden bark, and a hatchet stuck in their girdle.

Tver, the capital of the government of that name, is finely situated on the lofty banks of the Volga, and ranks next to St. Petersburg and Moscow in point of wealthiness of appearance and regularity in its streets and buildings. It contains a cathedral, thirty-two churches, two monasteries, and a nunnery. There is also a beautiful building, called "the Prince's Palace," an archiepiscopal palace, three hospitals, a theatre, a handsome bazaar with noble stone piazzas, good barracks, &c. &c. There are several charitable institutions, and endowed seminaries of learning, and great numbers of good shops and manufactories. Great quantities of grain are exported from hence for the capital, and Captain Cochrane mentions, that when he visited the city in 1820, no less than 200 barges were laying off it, loaded with that article and several millions of eggs.

A curious impost is mentioned by Captain Cochran as being demanded at the gates of Tver. Every traveller on horseback is required to deliver at the gates three large stones which are applied to the purpose of paving the city.

The country around Tver is abundantly productive of all sorts of grain, hemp, flax and vegetables, and the immense forests yield oak, birch, elder, poplar, and numerous other timber trees.

The principal animals are elks, wolves, bears and foxes, wild goats and hares; there are also numbers of badgers, weasels, ermines, ferrets, marmots, squirrels and martens; the list of birds contains eagles, falcons, cranes, swans, wild geese and ducks, partridges, and nearly all the kinds that are in England denominated game; and among the songsters are nightingales, linnets, larks, &c. The Volga yields abundance of fish, among which are salmon, sterlet, tench, pike, perch, &c. and sometimes sturgeon and bjeluga. The sterlet, which is supposed to be peculiar to the northern regions of the globe, and is the most esteemed delicacy of the Russian epicures, is a species of sturgeon, though of smaller size than the common sort. It is seldom more than two feet long in the Volga, and is caught at Tver all the year round. The finest and most esteemed caviare is made from the roe of this fish.

Half way from Tver to Moscow on the banks of a little river called the Sestra stands the small town of Klinn, which is only remarkable as being the

ancient patrimony of the reigning house of Romanoff. It is pleasantly situated in the midst of a fine and well peopled country, and contains four churches and about 1000 inhabitants. No other place of any consequence occurs between this and Moscow, the rising towers and spires of which are seen at a distance of six versts, and according to Dr. Clarke, who visited it before the destructive invasion of the French, equalled in magnificence and grandeur, when seen from a distance, even Rome itself.

Mr. Coxe thus describes Moscow as it appeared in 1784: "If," he observes, "I was struck with the singularity of Smolensko, I was all astonishment at the immensity and variety of Moscow. A city so irregular, so uncommon, so extraordinary, and so contrasted, had never before claimed my astonishment. The streets are in general exceedingly long and broad, some of them are paved, others, particularly those in the suburbs, are formed with trunks of trees, or boarded with planks like the floor of a room. Wretched hovels are blended with large palaces, cottages of one story stand next to the most superb and stately mansions; many brick structures are covered with wooden tops, some of the wooden houses are painted, others have iron roofs and doors. Numerous churches present themselves in every quarter, built in a peculiar style of architecture; some with domes of copper, others of tin gilt or painted green, and many roofed with wood. In a word some parts of this vast city have the appearance of a sequestered desert, other

quarters that of a populous town; some of a contemptible village, others of a great capital. Moscow may be considered as a town built upon the Asiatic model; but gradually becoming more and more European, exhibiting in its present state a motley mixture of discordant architecture."

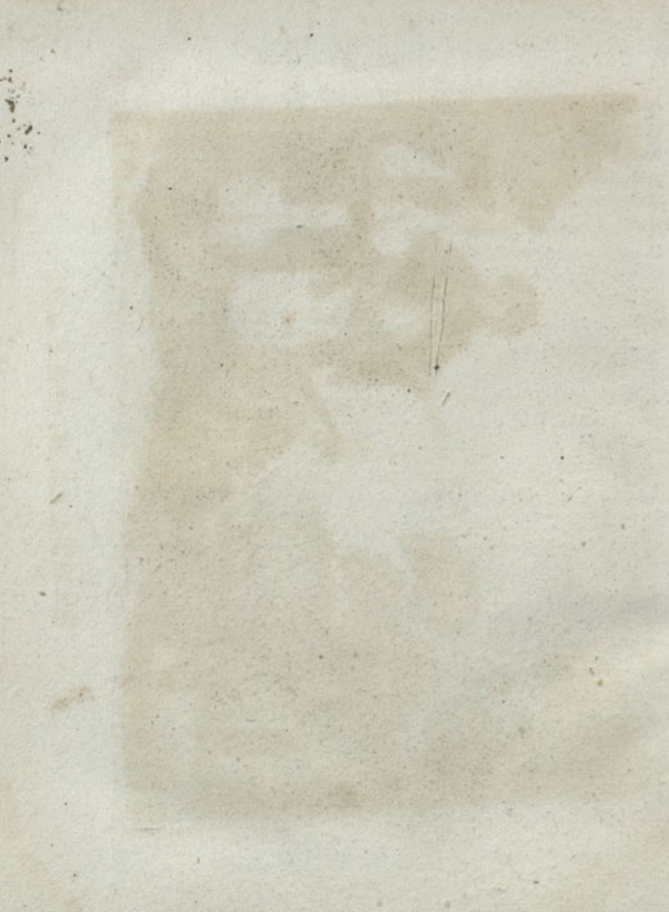
The Prince de Ligne has in very few words happily expressed the same idea: "Moscow looks exactly as if three or four hundred great old *chateaus* (castles) had come to live together, each bringing along with it its own little attendant village of thatched cottages." To this we may add Dr. Clarke's description of it in 1800. "Numerous spires glittering with gold, amidst burnished domes and painted palaces, appear in the midst of an open plain for several versts before you reach the gates of Moscow. Having passed, you look around and wonder what has become of the city, or where you are, and you are ready to ask, How far is it to Moscow. They will tell you this is Moscow. And you behold nothing but a wide and scattered suburb. Huts, gardens, pig-sties, brick walls, churches, dunghills, palaces, timber yards, warehouses, and a refuse as it were of materials, sufficient to stock an empire with miserable towns and miserable villages. One might imagine all the states of Europe and Asia, had sent a building by way of representative to Moscow, and under this impression the eye is presented with deputies from all countries holding congress. Timber huts from regions beyond the Arctic, plastered palaces from Sweden and Den-

mark, not white-washed since their arrival ; painted walls from the Tyrol, mosques from Constantinople, Tartar temples from Bucharia ; pagodas, pavilions and virandas from China ; cabarets from Spain, prisons, dungeons and public offices from France, architectural ruins from Rome, terraces and trellices from Naples, and warehouses from Wapping.

“ Having heard accounts of the immense population of Moscow, you wander through deserted streets. Passing suddenly toward the quarter where the shops are situated, you find you might walk upon the heads of thousands. The daily throng there is so immense, that, unable to force a passage through it, or assign any motive that might convene such a vast multitude, you ask the cause, and are told that it is always the same. Nor is the costume less various than the aspect of the buildings ; Greeks, Tartars, Turks, Cossacks, Chinese, Muscovites, English, French, Italians Poles, Germans, all parade in the habits of their respective countries. The architecture exhibited in different parts of the kremlin, in its palaces and churches, is unlike any thing in Europe ; it is difficult to say from what country it is derived. The architects were generally Italians ; but the style is Tartarian, Indian, Chinese and Gothic. Here a pagoda, there an arcade. In some parts richness and even elegance, in others barbarism and decay. Taken altogether, it is a jumble of magnificence and ruin ; old buildings repaired, and modern structures not completed, half-open vaults and mouldering walls,



TARTARS of CASAN.



and empty caves, amidst whitewashed brick buildings and towers, and churches with glittering, gilded and painted domes. In the midst of it some devotees are daily seen entering a little mean structure, more like a stable than a church. This, they will tell you, is the first place of christian worship in Moscow. It was originally constructed of the trunks of trees felled upon the spot at the foundation of the city; but it is now of brick, built in imitation of the original wooden church.

Its claims, however, to antiquity cannot be great, as, according to accounts published in our own country, the whole city of Moscow was burned by the Tartars of the Crimea, on the 24th of May, 1571. The old wooden church was then most probably destroyed. There is nothing within the structure worthy of notice.

The view of Moscow from the terrace in the kremlin, near the spot where the artillery is preserved, would afford a fine subject for a panorama. The number of magnificent buildings, the domes, the towers and spires, filling all the prospect, make it perhaps the most novel and interesting sight in Europe. All the wretched hovels and miserable buildings, which appear in passing through the streets, are lost in the vast assemblage of magnificent edifices, among which the Foundling hospital is the most conspicuous. Below the walls of the kremlin the Moskva, already become a river of importance, is seen flowing towards the Volga. The new promenade,

forming on its banks, immediately below the fortress, is a superb work, and promises to rival the famous quay of St. Petersburg. It is paved with large flagstones, and is continued from one stone bridge to another, peculiarly called the Moskva bridge, fenced with a light but strong iron palisade and stone pillars, executed in very good taste; a flight of stairs leads from this walk to the river, where the ceremony of the benediction of the water takes place. Another flight of wooden steps leads through the walls of the kremlin to an area within the fortress.

In 1812 this grand city became the scene of an event the most awful and unparalleled in history. In the month of June, Buonaparte, at the head of an army of 490,000 men, invaded the Russian dominions. The Emperor Alexander had collected a force of 300,000 to oppose him; but it was not the policy of the Russian emperor to hazard being defeated in battle. They continued to retreat before the French army, leaving the country devastated, and burning the towns as they quitted them, and thus preventing the invaders from receiving the necessary supplies to the maintenance of such an immense force. In this manner Buonaparte pushed on to Wilna, where Alexander then was, hoping that the possession of this city would be contested, and that he should thus draw on a decisive battle.

The emperor, however, quitted Wilna and left it undefended. The French had already begun to suffer dreadfully; the convoys which Buonaparte had

brought into the Russian empire had not come up. The duke of Treviso informed him, "that he had seen from the Niemen to the Vilia nothing but devastated houses, and baggage and provision-waggons abandoned; they were found dispersed in the highways, and in the fields, overturned, broken open, and their contents scattered here and there, and pillaged as if they had been taken by the enemy; he should have imagined he was following a defeated army. Ten thousand horses had been killed by the cold rains of the late storm, and by the green corn which had become their usual food. Their carcasses were encumbering the road, and sent forth a mephitic smell which it was impossible to breathe. It was a new scourge which some compared to famine, but much more terrible; several soldiers of the young guard had already perished of hunger." After remaining twenty days at Wilna, Buonaparte departed to join his army, the whole of which was centered at one point, and a battle was considered inevitable. Again, however, he was doomed to disappointment. He reached Vitesph, the capital of a province of that name, which the Russians seemed determined to defend. A partial engagement took place between the French troops under Murat, and the Russians commanded by Barclay de Solly; and so confident was Buonaparte that a general engagement would take place, and would be decisive in his favour, that his words to Murat were, "To-morrow at five o'clock the sun of Austerlitz." The morrow came, but the enemy had disappeared.

Vitesph was his, but it was deserted of all its inhabitants; a few Jews and Jesuits alone remained, and they were, or pretended to be, ignorant of the route the Russian army had taken.

It was now supposed that Buonaparte would winter in this place, and defer his future operations until the spring; and establishments were formed, and amusements entered into, which seemed to favour this idea.

The French emperor, however, soon abandoned this intention, or probably he had never seriously entertained it. He was obstinately bent on advancing to Moscow, "the great Moscow, the holy city," words which he repeated with satisfaction, and which seemed to add fuel to his ambitious flame.

His generals in vain expressed their disapprobation; the order of march was formed, and on the 13th of August he left Vitesph for Smolensko. Again allured on by the phantom of victory, he reached this city, which Marshal Ney had thought to have carried by a coup de main; but had been obliged to fall back to a woody height on the borders of the river Borysthenes.

"From thence he was surveying the city and its environs, when he imagined that he could discover troops in motion on the side of the river. He ran to fetch the emperor, and conducted him through coppices and dingles to avoid the fire of the place. Napoleon, on reaching the height beheld a cloud of dust enveloping long black columns, glistening with

a multitude of arms. These masses approached so rapidly that they seemed to run. It was Barclay and Bagration, with nearly 120,000 men, in short the whole Russian army. Transported with joy at this sight, Napoleon clapped his hands, exclaiming, 'At last I have him.' There could be no doubt of it; this surprising army was hastening up to Smolensko, to pass through it, to deploy under its walls, and at length to offer that battle which was so ardently desired." On the 17th of August Buonaparte arose, eager for the contest which was to decide the fate of Russia: but the enemy had vanished, and he soon learnt to his utter discomfiture that they were in full retreat on the opposite bank of the river. Barclay had evacuated the town, which, however, still held out: a general assault was ordered, but it failed. Shells were thrown to dislodge the enemy, a dark thick cloud of smoke was seen rising over the city, and in a short time Smolensko was a burning heap of ruins. The French army entered the walls, and "traversed the reeking blood-stained ruins with its accustomed order, pomp, and martial music, triumphing over the deserted wreck, and having no other witness of its glory than itself—a show without spectators, an almost fruitless victory—a melancholy glory, of which the smoke that surrounded them seemed too faithful an emblem."

The inhabitants of Smolensko were, it appears, totally unprepared for the calamitous event which drove them from their peaceful homes. The emperor Alexander and Barclay de Tolly had passed through

the town a few days previous to the appearance of the French army, and had assured them of safety. When therefore the enemy appeared at their gates, and they were ordered to quit their houses, Smolensko being devoted by the orders of the emperor to be consumed, the greatest confusion ensued. The greater part indeed complied without hesitation; but many lingered till they were torn from their houses by force, and some few who remained were afterwards severely called to account for their disobedience.

The French army now crossing the Borysthenes, the Russians were discovered on the road to Moscow. Marshal Ney pressed on their rear, and Barclay was compelled to come to an engagement on a larger scale than he had yet attempted. At the foot of a hill which the Russian army occupied to cover their retreat, an arduous struggle took place, in which 30,000 men on each side were engaged; but night came on, and the Russians, taking advantage of the darkness, escaped, carrying with them their wounded men, their baggage, artillery, &c. The French pursued them eight leagues from Smolensko without overtaking them, yet Buonaparte represented this as an important victory, distributed rewards, and endeavoured to encourage his troops with promises of boundless victory and glory.

“The sad reality, however,” observes a French writer, “must at this time have pressed heavily on his senses and feelings. Smolensko was but one vast hospital, and the loud groans which issued from it

drowned the shout of glory, which had just been raised on the field of battle. Night and day the surgeons were employed, but on the second night all the materials for dressing the wounded were exhausted. One hospital containing one hundred wounded men was forgotten for three days, and then accidentally discovered. The reports of the surgeons were most dreadful; besides the wounded, they were called to attend upon many soldiers, who, exhausted with hunger and fatigue, had drank copiously of the brandy of the country mixed with narcotic plants. Others, less sober or more debilitated, were seized with giddiness, stupefaction or torpor; they squatted into the ditches and in the road. Their half-open, watery and lacklustre eyes seemed to watch with insensibility, death gradually seizing their whole frame, they expired without a groan. Dysentery and typhus fever likewise appeared, owing to the infection arising from the unburied carcasses of men and horses, and the unwholesomeness of the food which they were compelled to eat. Wine and spirits had wholly failed, even water was scarce and hard to be procured; and the sufferings of the troops, many of whom were raw recruits, unused to fatigue and hardship, were already dreadful."

Buonaparte however, was still determined on proceeding, and it was in vain that his officers represented to him the dreadful state of the army, which was becoming completely disorganized. His determination was still unshaken, though he was yet

undecided whether to take the route to St. Petersburg or to Moscow, the two great roads to which both branched off from Smolensko. The intelligence he received that Murat had come up with the whole Russian army drawn out in order of battle on the road to Moscow, determined him. He hastened forward with his guard, and before he could reach Murat, the enemy had again vanished. The French army, however, continued to advance; they crossed the vast plains of Diasma, reached the town of Dorogobouje, and found it, like Smolensko, in ashes: from thence they proceeded through a country ruined and devastated by its inhabitants, to the town of Viasma, standing on a rivulet of the same name. It had shared a like fate, the Russians had destroyed the bridges and set the town on fire in their retreat.

The Russians by this time unable to see to its full extent the wise policy of their general Barclay, and indignant at the advances of the invading army, became violent in their clamours against the general, who had suffered the French to advance to the frontiers of the government of Moscow without attempting to strike a decisive blow. The emperor Alexander was obliged to yield to these clamours. Barclay was suspended from his command, and General Kutusoff was appointed in his stead. At Moscow the joy at this appointment was so great that it was carried to a degree of intoxication, people embraced one another in the streets, and all considered themselves as saved. A battle was now resolved upon,

and the Russians took up a strong position on the plains of Borodino. On the 5th of September the battle commenced, and was continued with unabated vigour on both sides during that and the two following days. On the first day the Russians were driven from their redoubts, on the heights, which protected their left wing. On the morning of the second the French carried the village of Borodino, and on the third they succeeded in driving the left wing of the Russian army from the ground they had occupied; thus terminated this tremendous and sanguinary battle. During the night the Russians retreated without molestation, and not less than 62,000 dead were left on the field; the loss on both sides being nearly equal.

On Sunday the 13th of September the Russian army in full retreat entered the city of Moscow, to the utter consternation of the inhabitants, to whom their recent defeat, and all that had happened, was totally unknown. The dread, confusion and despair which seized the inhabitants was indescribable. Crowds were seen flying out at the gates across the country in all directions. On the following morning the officers of government and of the police took their departure; the prisons were thrown open, and not an inhabitant was left, except those who remained for the sake of plunder, a few who were unable to fly, and those who staid to execute the orders of General Rostopchin, the governor of Moscow. On Monday evening, Murat with the advanced guard of the

French army entered the city and took possession of the Kremlin. Before night Buonaparte himself arrived at the gates; he waited for some time in expectation of a deputation of the municipality waiting upon him, as was usual when he entered a captured town. No one came; "not a Muscovite was to be seen, not the least smoke arose from a single chimney, not the slightest noise was heard in this immense city; its 300,000 inhabitants seemed struck dumb by enchantment. It was the silence of the desert. Buonaparte sent one of his generals to inquire the cause of this surprising appearance, and was told that Moscow was deserted!

"In the course of the same night General Mortier pointed out to the emperor smoke, issuing from several houses which were closely shut up, and soon afterwards flames were discovered issuing from others in different quarters. By Tuesday evening they had increased on every side, and the troops who were employed to stop the conflagration were distracted by the wide spreading of the flames which arose on every side, and exposed them to the most imminent danger of being surrounded by inevitable destruction."

At first the conflagration was supposed to be accidental, and arising from the confusion in which the inhabitants had deserted their houses without extinguishing their household fires. It soon however became evident that it was the result of a regular plan, and that the city had been devoted to destruction by

its governors. The fire continued to rage until Saturday, when the wind fell, and the smoke clearing off began to show the extent of the devastation.

In the quarter of Semlianogorod the destruction was so complete, that in a circuit of fifteen versts not fifty houses remained that were habitable; the Kitaigorod was burning six days without intermission. The most magnificent quarter, the Belvigorod, escaped better. In the Kremlin only the new imperial palace was sacrificed. None of the hospitals were destroyed, but all except one of the public institutions for education fell a prey to the flames. "From all accounts," observes Dr. Lyall, "we shall be very near the truth in concluding that 7000 numeros or courts were destroyed, and that these numeros contained 7000 principal edifices, and at least 14,000 structures, making a grand total of 21,000 buildings."

At first this event was attributed to the French, and execrations were heaped upon them for this unexampled act of wanton destruction; but it soon became evident that it was the deliberate act of the Russian governor Rostopchin, who was actuated by the patriotic purpose of thus rendering the city unfit for the winter quarters of the French army, and by that means annihilating their resources.

Buonaparte too soon became sensible of the desperate situation in which he was placed. A Russian winter was approaching, and neither shelter, fuel nor provisions, to enable them to meet its rigour. It was

in vain that he hoped the peasants would bring in the necessary provisions; they all shunned the city as if it were a pest-house. He endeavoured to negotiate with the Russians, and procure an armistice; but it was the policy of the Russians to lure him on with hopes until the winter set in, and to leave to the elements the task of conquering their enemy.

Too late he saw the error of his proceedings; the winter set in with all its rigour at an unusually early period, and on the 16th of October Napoleon quitted the ruins of Moscow, leaving orders to blow up the Kremlin as the last means of satiating his vengeance on this devoted city. This order however was but partially obeyed.

Every circumstance that could inflict misery on the wretched invading army now awaited them; intense frost, roads nearly impassable through a strange and deserted country; hunger, thirst, nakedness, the unceasing attacks of an enemy, who became more and more annoying as they were less able to resist them, all contributed to overwhelm them. The French bore up wonderfully against these horrors, and were even successful in their repulse of the enemy in different attacks. The hopes of finding at Smolensko all their wants supplied, supported their spirits, and the weather, though intensely cold had still been clear and fine. On the 6th of November, however, it changed, and all the horrors of a Russian winter, tremendous storms of snow, thick fogs and violent gusts of piercing wind assailed them. During the

day their situation was dreadful; but a night of sixteen hours without food or shelter, exposed to all the fury of the elements, brought with it sufferings which language can but faintly describe.

On the 9th of the same month Buonaparte and the wretched remnant of his army, now reduced to 60,000 men, entered Smolensko. But here they were doomed to bitter disappointment. They had reckoned on finding in this place fifteen days provision and forage. The whole of the rice, flour, and spirits did not amount to half the quantity, and they dared not remain longer than three days to recruit their exhausted strength, for Kutusof was advancing with his army fast upon them. The depots at Minsk and Wilna had been taken possession of by the Russians, and two hostile armies were advancing to cut off their retreat. In the most dreadful confusion and disorder Buonaparte and his wretched followers reached the passage of the Berezina on the 24th of November, and found its banks lined with a Russian army. He succeeded, however, in gaining the opposite banks of the river, though with a dreadful loss of lives, and amidst the most unparalleled scenes of misery. On the 5th of December Buonaparte secretly quitted his army, and from henceforward the principle of *saue qui peut*, alone seemed to operate on the miserable wretches who were left behind.

“It was no longer,” says Count Segur in his narrative, “any thing but a multitude of isolated and individual struggles. Henceforward there was no

longer any fraternity in arms; there was an end to all society, to all ties; the excess of suffering had brutalized them. Hunger, devouring hunger, had reduced these unfortunate men to the brutal instinct of self preservation." They had scarcely reached Wilna, when the cannon of the Russian army was heard. Murat and the rest of the generals endeavoured in vain to collect the troops together; they were intent on plundering the magazines, and gaining a short respite from the intensity of the cold. The cry of "Here are the Cossacks," no longer roused them to fight but to fly. Marshal Ney in vain attempted to rally them, and at length he was obliged to join in their precipitous retreat. Of the 500,000 men who either entered with, or followed Buonaparte into Russia, only 60,000 reached the frontiers of Prussian Poland.

The appearance of Moscow in 1814, when the traces of the dreadful conflagration which had devoted its magnificent palaces, its lofty domes, and gilded spires, to indiscriminate destruction still remained, is thus described by an English traveller, Mr. James:—"At our first entrance," he observes, "only a few occasional symptoms of the conflagration occurred, and little that was of a nature to correspond to the gloomy appearance which we had been led to expect. But as we advanced, the quarters of the Slabode, or Fauxbourg, where wood had been chiefly used in building, exhibited destruction in its fullest extent—for the most part a *campagne rase*. Now and then the shell of a house standing in the blank space, or here and

there a few bricks and stones yet remaining, pointed out the spot where a dwelling once had been. Moving onwards we crossed the avenues of the boulevards. The trees were in full leaf and beauty, seeming to vary the view only to heighten its melancholy aspect. Leaving this we passed to the more central parts of the town, which was constructed of more durable materials, exhibiting occasionally a richness and elegance of exterior that must have equalled, if not surpassed the architectural magnificence of the most beautiful towns of Europe. But all was now in the same forlorn condition, street after street greeted the eye with perpetual ruin, disjoined columns, mutilated porticoes, broken cupolas, walls of ragged stucco, black, discoloured with the stains of fire, and open to the sky on every side, formed a hideous contrast to the glowing pictures which travellers had drawn of the grand and sumptuous palaces of Moscow. The cross lanes looked even at this interval as if unused to the sound of human tread. The grass had sprung up amid the mouldering fragments, scattered over the pavements, while a low smoke issuing perhaps from some obscure cellar corner, gave the only indications of human habitation, and seemed to make desolation visible.

“There are few towns whose quarters present a more simple plan of distribution. The ancient Kremlin and Kitaigorod are situated on a central eminence above the river Moskva, and around these as a nucleus, the circles of the Beloigorod, the Semli-

anogorod and the Slabode or Fauxbourg are severally discernible, marking by their lines the growth of the place in successive eras. The Kitaigorod or Tartar town, besides some religious buildings, contains within its walls the public exchange and the chief houses of trade. All these had been completely gutted by the fire, but the spirit of the place still remained. Shops and stalls, and tents of every denomination were erected among the ruins, and the chief street was even now the theatre of much bustle and activity. The Kremlin is a large walled circle containing several old churches, as well as the public offices and apartments of state, and hither we made a daily visit as to a point that afforded the only remaining specimen of the ancient magnificence of the capital of the grand dukes and the czars. It stood uninjured amidst the flames of the late conflagration: but the barbarous fury of Buonaparte attacked whatever Russian piety had spared, and with unutterable malignity he marked out for devastation, some of the fairest portions of this proud citadel. The most peremptory command was given to the detachment occupying the Kremlin, after his departure, to discharge their orders with despatch. The mines were prepared, and at two o'clock on the last night of their stay, this horrid purpose was carried into execution. By the first two explosions part of the walls, and one of the towers towards the river were destroyed. By the third the church of St. Nicholas, and the four great bells of Moscow were blown up with tremen-

dous violence; at the same moment the lofty tower of Ivan Veliki, the first of the czars, was rent from the top to its base, and the cross of the cupola crowning its summit buried in ruin below. The fourth shock was by far the most dreadful; the walls of the arsenal, which were upwards of three yards in thickness, with a part of the gate of St. Nicholas, and several adjoining pinnacles, were at once blown into the air, a concussion succeeding that shook the whole city to its foundations.

“A short time previous to the breaking out of the war a proclamation was issued by the emperor, ordering three and thirty churches to be pulled down in Moscow, by no means an unreasonable step, since the total number in the city and suburbs amounted to two thousand, and many of them were in a very dilapidated state. The common people, however, very generally entertained the idea that their late calamities were owing to this act of impiety.

“The emperor has now vowed to erect a church at Moscow in commemoration of the deliverance of Russia, for which a design has been given by Mr. Wilbers, formerly a pupil of the academy of St. Petersburg. A column formed out of the cannon taken from the French forms part of the design. The imperial palace which stands on a point commanding the whole town was the residence of Buonaparte. But even these walls that had formed his abode were given to destruction by his orders, and now shewed themselves in the most forlorn condition,

stripped of every article, and completely gutted from top to bottom. The same scene of waste was exhibited in an interesting antique edifice, containing the chamber of the throne. As the public hall of audience, at the coronation of the czars and emperors, it had been often made the scene of festivities in this most splendid and pompous court. But now not a vestige of ancient ornament could be traced; the activity of devastation had been great, and scarcely a beam or a stone rested one on the other. The other parts of the Kremlin remained untouched, and it was impossible to conceive a more imposing spectacle than was here afforded. A high terrace overhung the walls towards the river, at the extremity of which to the left appeared the fantastical structure of the Trinity Church, and the awe-commanding portals of the Holy Gate, through which every passenger walks bareheaded. At the other end was a cluster of domes rising from the church of St. Nicholas; that of the assumption and the chapel and palace of the czars, with the lofty temple of Ivan Veliki towering above them all, and reflecting the beams of the sun from a globe of gold. The palace of the czars does not boast an antiquity of more than two hundred years; but it is an edifice raised with princely costliness in the carved work with which that style abounds.

“This was one of the most shewy examples of the gorgeous achitecture of the Kremlin, though the whole circle offered an assemblage of bright gay colours, and a display of gaud and richness that vied

with 'the wealth of Ormus and of Ind.' The cupolas and roofs were gilt, or stained green or red. The walls and towers covered with glazed tiles, blue, white and yellow; in other parts adorned with storied paintings from the holy writ, while a *melange* was seen on every side of pear-shaped domes, Tartar battlements, Gothic tracery, Grecian columns, the crescent and the cross. Looking below we beheld the stream of the Moskva, winding its course amidst the streets and houses of the town; now indeed all in ruin, but still interspersed with many a glittering steeple, with cottage, garden and palace intermixed, and offering to view the endless variety of a Russian city. This scene was backed by an extensive landscape on the west, dotted with country houses and monasteries, and surmounted by the long gloomy line of the Sparrow Hills, over which the French army first shewed themselves before the work of abomination was begun."

Dr. Lyall, who resided in Russia so late as 1823, observes that the renovation, improvement and embellishment of Moscow has been proceeding with rapid strides since the departure of the court in 1818. "The most remarkable recent improvements are the formation of Alexander's garden, a magnificent promenade; the replacement of a desert triangular space near the Smith's Bridge, formerly a receptacle of filth and abomination, by regular streets and numerous piles of buildings; the levelling of the earthen ramparts and fortifications round the eastern walls of

the Kitairogod, and the substitution of streets and markets in their room; the embellishment of the north front of the tribunals, and the shops along the course of the now invisible Neglinnaya; the almost total renewal of that mighty mass the Petrovskoi theatre; the repairs of the sumptuous mansions of the nobility, and the arrangement of new places, new streets and new markets. By the burning of innumerable small sombre wooden houses and hovels, and by the superior and tasteful manner in which most of the city is rebuilt, Moscow has greatly changed its appearance. That wonderful mixture of magnificent palaces and paltry huts, so often mentioned by foreigners, though still to be remarked in a few places, does not so powerfully strike the eye of the stranger. In one word, Moscow is daily losing her Asiatic features, and assimilating to the other capitals of Europe.

“The Kremlé or Kremlin, of which so much has been said, is nearly two miles in circumference, and is surrounded entirely by a high wall, substantially built with brick, faced at the foundation with stone. It has five gates, over four of which are steeples; and there are also numerous watch towers at regular distances. To the south of the gate called Spaskia Vorotui, or the Gate of Our Saviour, and on passing through which even the sovereign uncovers his head, is a turret, in which anciently the alarm bell was suspended, and from which the former sovereigns of Russia used to witness the infliction of punishment on offenders and the celebration of religious festivals.

In the interior of this enclosure there are three open spaces, called *plotschods* or squares of an irregular form; these in summer are crowded both with carriages and foot-passengers. The houses are mostly of brick, stuccoed, and painted with the most gaudy colours. The whole of these houses belong to the crown, and are occupied by the officers belonging to the royal establishment. Of the churches in the Kremlin, the cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, and that of St. Michael, rank the highest, the former being considered the richest and most sacred edifice in the Russian empire. The ornaments of this cathedral are curious and extravagant to the greatest degree. On the walls are painted 249 full length images, and 2066 half length and heads. The quantity of gilt ornaments is prodigious, and the lustres particularly costly and magnificent, especially that in the middle of the church, which is a crown of massy silver, to which is suspended forty-eight chandeliers, weighing in the whole nearly 3000 pounds. There are also numerous candlesticks, some of silver and others copper gilt, "almost as high as a man, and holding candles as thick as a man's leg." In this cathedral the sovereigns of Muscovy, or Russia as it is now called, are crowned.

The cathedral of St. Michael is venerated by the Russians as being the burial place of their ancient sovereigns, whose bodies are contained in raised sepulchres formed in the shape of coffins.

The palace of the czars is the next object worthy

of attention in the Kremlin. It consists of three parts, the ancient palace, the new palace, and the audience chambers. In the first were two small arched chambers, which were formerly the peculiar apartments of the czar. They communicated by a narrow staircase with an observatory, a kind of "royal police box," where at a certain fixed hour the czar daily took his station, while crowds of supplicants assembled in the courts below, and deposited their petitions upon a large stone adjoining the small church called Spas na Baru. These petitions were brought to the sovereign, who himself examined them and dictated the answers, when they were again laid on the same stone till the applicants came to receive them.

The new palace is furnished in the most superb and expensive manner. "Inlaid floors of various colours and figures of oak and other woods, beautiful Wilton and Russian carpets, tapestry covered walls, immensely large looking-glasses, some of which, however, have many flaws, and others are joined; tables of mahogany, Siberian beech, of nat-wood, stained and unstained, gilt and plain; of marble, in imitation of lapis-lazuli, and malachite chairs of the same, plain or covered with silk and gilded; large crystal and bronze lustres, and a crowd of other ornaments, are all found here.

The Granovitaya Palata, from which the edifice called the audience-chamber takes its name, is a hall about sixty-five feet square, supported by an enor-

mous square and highly gilt pillar, which rises in the centre, and is surrounded with shelves, on which on state occasions is ranged the gold and silver utensils, and vessels belonging to the court. The throne is placed on the south side of the room; the walls are covered with crimson velvet, gilded ornaments and bronze chandeliers, and the floor is overlaid with red cloth. Balls are frequently given in this hall, when the court is at Moscow, and on one of those occasions, in 1818, it was illuminated by 3500 wax candles, and had a most magnificent appearance.

The riches of the church of St. Philip, which is one of the religious edifices in the Kremlin, consists principally of manuscript books, religious dresses, or haments and sacred vessels, "among which the most curious," says Dr. Lyall, "are a large gilt *rukomoinik* (hand-basin) and an enormously large shallow basin for the ceremony of washing the apostle's feet. There are also two large silver kettles or boilers gilt inside, together with silver stirrers and ladles for the preparation of the holy oil, which is made once a year with great ceremony. Among the wonders of the Kremlin is the tower of Ivan Velikii or Great John, which contains thirty-three bells, the largest of which weighs 124,289 pounds English, and the smallest of the ten principal, all of which have peculiar names and suitable inscriptions, weighs 7000 pounds. These are tolled from morning till night on festivals, and are called Ivan Velikii's music.

The great bell of Moscow, which was one of the

wonders of the world, and of which has been doubted the possibility of its being suspended, lies in a vast cavity on the east side of this belfry. An inscription on it states its weight at 10,000 poods, equal to 360,000 English pounds. Dr. Clarke declares it to be impossible that this immense weight of metal could have ever been suspended, and that it would be as easy to hang up a first rate line of battle ship with all her guns and stores; but Mr. Hanway asserts that it was hung, and that the sound of it amazed and deafened the inhabitants of Moscow. The peasants regard the visiting this bell as an act of devotion, and piously ascend the steps which lead to the top of it, crossing themselves and bowing at every step.

The Kitaigorod, or Chinese town, contains within its limits, besides the markets and about 6000 shops, the Krasnaya Plotschod, or Beautiful Place, one of the largest and handsomest squares in Europe, and which in summer is the chief promenade of the city. It is 1260 feet long and 434 feet in breadth. In this division of the city is held the annual market for frozen fish, meat and other provisions. A curious proof of the superstition of the Russians is here observed, in the manner in which the tradesmen secure their shops from depredations during the night, most of them sleeping in the suburbs. Around the padlock which secures the door, a piece of cord or thread is twisted, and the ends of it fastened to the door by wax, bearing some impression. This is considered

sacred, even by those who would not hesitate to break a lock. One of the most striking edifices in the Semlianogorod or Earthen town, is the Vinnoi Dvore, the depot for votki the national liquor of the Russians, and which is a sort of proof spirit resembling Scotch whiskey. In these immense buildings, and the court yards belonging to them, are deposited thousands of barrels; all that is manufactured by private individuals, as well as what is made by the crown, being brought here, and from hence distributed to the drinking houses, &c. The Slobodi, or suburbs, are thirty-five in number, and may be considered as distinct villages surrounding the town; the handsomest of these is the Nemetskoya Sloboda, which is chiefly inhabited by German artists and mechanics.

The splendour, pomp and magnificence of the religious festivals at Moscow, exceed even these of Rome. Dr. Clarke thus describes that which he witnessed at the ceremony of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. "At midnight the great bell of the cathedral tolled, its vibrations seemed like the rolling of distant thunder, and they were instantly accompanied by the noise of all the bells in Moscow. Every inhabitant was stirring, and the rattling of carriages in the streets was greater than at noon-day. The whole city was in a blaze, lights were seen in all the windows, and innumerable torches in the streets. The tower of the cathedral was illuminated from its foundation to its cross. The same ceremony takes place in all the churches, and what is truly surprising, considering

their number, they are all equally crowded. We hastened to the cathedral; it was filled with a prodigious assembly of all ranks and of both sexes, bearing lighted wax tapers to be afterwards heaped in rows upon the different shrines. The walls, the ceiling, and every part of the building are covered with pictures of saints and martyrs. At the moment of our arrival the doors were shut, and on the outside appeared Plato, the archbishop, preceded by banners and torches, followed by all his train of priests with crucifixes and censers, who were making three times in procession the tour of the cathedral, chaunting with loud voices, and glittering in sumptuous vestments, bespangled with gold, silver and precious stones. The snow had not melted so equally within the Kremlin as in the streets of the city; this magnificent procession was therefore constrained to move upon planks over the deep mud which surrounded the cathedral. After completing the third circuit, they all halted opposite the great doors, which were still closed; the archbishop with a censer then scattered incense against the doors and over the priests. Suddenly these doors were opened, and the effect was magnificent beyond description. The immense throng of spectators within, bearing innumerable tapers, formed two lines, through which the archbishop entered, advancing with his train to a throne near the centre. The profusion of lights in all parts of the cathedral, and among others of the numerous chandeliers in the centre, the richness of the dresses, and the vastness of the assembly, filled us with astonishment.

“ Having joined the suite of the archbishop, we accompanied the procession and passed even to the throne; here the police-officers permitted us to stand among the priests near an embroidered satin stool prepared for the archbishop.

“ The loud chorus which burst forth at the entrance to the church continued as the procession moved towards the throne, and after the archbishop had taken his seat, when my attention was for a moment called off by seeing one of the Russians earnestly crossing himself with his right hand, while his left was employed in picking my companion's pocket of his handkerchief. Soon after the archbishop descended and went all round the cathedral, first offering incense to the priests and then to the people as he passed along. When he had returned to his seat the priests, two by two, performed the same ceremony, beginning with the archbishop, who rose and made obeisance, with a lighted taper in his hand. From the moment the church doors were opened the spectators had continued bowing their heads, and crossing themselves, insomuch that some of the people appeared really exhausted by the constant motion of their heads and hands.

“ We had now leisure to examine the dresses and figures of the priests, which were certainly the most striking we had ever seen. Their long dark hair, without powder, fell down in ringlets, or straight and thick, over their rich robes and shoulders; their dark thick beards also entirely covered their breasts. Upon the heads of the archbishop and bishops were

high caps covered with gems, and adorned with miniature paintings, set in jewels, of the crucifixion, the virgin and the saints. Their robes, of various coloured satin, were of the most costly embroidery, and even upon these were miniature pictures, set with precious stones; such, according to the consecrated record of ancient days, was the appearance of the priests of old: 'holy men, standing by the tabernacle of the congregation in fine raiment, the work of Bezaleel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah.' After two hours had been employed in various ceremonies, the archbishop advanced, holding forth a cross which all the people crowded to embrace, squeezing each other nearly to suffocation. As soon, however, as their eagerness had been somewhat satisfied, he returned to the sacristy, under a pretence of seeking the body of Christ, where putting on a plain purple robe, he again advanced, exclaiming three times in a loud voice, '*Christ is risen.*'

It is said that there is a convent in Moscow, in which the women are entirely employed in working dresses for the priests.

"The most remarkable part of the ceremony now followed. The archbishop, descending into the body of the church, concluded the whole by crawling on his hands and knees round the pavement, kissing the consecrated pictures, whether on the walls, the altars or the tombs, the priests and all the people imitating his example. Sepulchres were opened, and the mummied bodies of incorruptible saints exhibited, all of which underwent the same general kissing."

One of the most remarkable curiosities in the suburbs of Moscow, is the market for the sale of ready-made houses. These are collections of trunks of trees tenanted and mortised into each other, and all regularly numbered, so that they are put together without any difficulty. The purchaser states the size of the house, the number of rooms, &c.; the seller points out that which will suit him, and having examined the timber concludes the bargain, and it is taken away and erected immediately, sometimes by the seller and sometimes by the purchaser.

Moscow, as may be inferred from the slight sketch we have given of it, covers an immense space of ground. Its circumference indeed by the most correct estimate is twenty-six miles and a half; but this of course includes many vacant spaces. There are sixty principal and above five-hundred cross streets, most of them very broad, and some enormously so; but they are in general badly paved, and worse lighted, except the principal ones. From the great number of wooden houses in the city, it often suffers severely from accidental fires; but the regulations by which they endeavour to prevent the fatal effects of these conflagrations are very admirable. In different parts of the town are depots for waggons, engines, &c. over which are erected lofty towers, on which, night and day watchmen are stationed; and as soon as the alarm is given, the signal is made to other quarters for assistance, in the day-time by a flag, and at night by lanterns. The firemen are a regular regiment,

who in summer are employed with their engines in watering the roads, and are exercised in jumping from high platforms on feather-beds, &c. The police regulations are also very admirably adapted to preserve order; though some of them are very troublesome to strangers, no person being able to quit the city without publishing their intentions, name, rank, &c. three times in the newspapers, in addition to which they have great trouble in procuring passports without which they cannot travel a mile.

The ladies of Moscow are represented as possessing considerable superiority in personal charms and of their moral conduct Sir Robert Ker Porter speaks in the following terms: "Before I came into this country I was led to believe that I should find the morals on a par with those of France. To me it seems totally the reverse. I never saw married people more happy, or apparently more affectionate towards each other. I never in any country met with young women more amiable and virtuous. Every country has its *mauvais sujets*; but from what I have been able to judge, Moscow, for a city whose sole pursuit is pleasure, possesses less of what is called fashionable vice than may be found in countries where more seeming austerity is practised."

Kiev, the seat of a government of the same name, and formerly the capital of the grand dukes of Russia, is situated on the river Dnieper, and is rendered interesting by its antiquity, though it has been

pronounced by travellers as a "detestable" place to reside in. It is divided into three distinct quarters, and has a handsome fortress erected by Peter the Great. The arsenal within it, founded by Catherine II. is justly considered the finest edifice in the city, and is capable of containing 10,000 stand of arms; the lower story is particularly worth the traveller's inspection; it is an immense room with a lofty ceiling, and is filled with every sort of implements of war arranged in the most regular order. Adjoining the fortress is the Petsherskoi monastery, and the cathedral, which has seven golden domes, and is considered by the Russians a master-piece of architecture. Behind the monastery are two catacombs, which were originally the residence of monks, and after the building of the monastery were appropriated to the reception of the relics of saints and martyrs. To this place resort crowds of pilgrims from all parts of Russia, and devotees spend weeks and months here. Mr. James thus describes his visit to this place: "We descended a long staircase to the mouth of the sacred cavern, being formed into a regular procession, bare headed, and each carrying a lighted taper in his hand. It is a labyrinth mined in the solid rock, and consisting of walks, chambers, branches, &c. ascending and descending for the space of several hundred yards, the passage about six feet wide and covered at the top, its sides neatly plastered and stained with a black wash, the floor laid with iron plates about a foot square. The remains of seventy-three saints or

primitive christians of Russia, the objects of veneration, are deposited in semicircular niches that occur at intervals in the passage. The bodies are wrapped round and swathed with bandages of silk, after the fashion of mummies; though no part, not even the face is left visible. What was within I know not, but they were scattered over with pieces of money, the offerings of devotees. The coffins which are always left open, are of an oblong square figure, decreasing in breadth from the head downwards, adorned in the interior with flowers of gold painted on a red ground." Dr. Lyall states that the number of the saints is about one hundred and fifty, and that their names are placed over the cells or tombs. Among them," he observes, "besides bishops, monks and princes, are bakers of bread for consecration, wafer makers, image-painters, grave diggers, and the twelve masons who built the cathedral. There are likewise shewn a great number of odoriferous heads, and one of the children slain by the order of Herod.

"On our return to the realms of day," continues Mr. James, "we heard the chaunt of mass resounding from the church of the monastery, and thither we instantly repaired. The people whom we found assembled, completely filled every part of the area. It was a herd of pilgrims, habited in all the various costumes of the southern provinces of the empire, some of them being said to have made a journey on foot of 1,500 versts, in order to discharge their vows at Kiev; and indeed their lank and worn looks, and

tattered garments, seemed in many instances to bespeak the toilsomeness of their undertaking. While their devotions detain them here, they are for the most part obliged to lie out in the open air, being destitute of money to pay for lodging, and perhaps only receive refreshment once a day from the gratuitous repast which is provided at the cost of the emperor, in the refectory of the monastery. But the enthusiasm, devotion and superstition of a Russian are easily able to surmount all these difficulties, and there is scarcely a person in the south, either of those who have sins to expiate, or of those whose quiet and holy life requires some notable act to grace its monotonous career, but imposes upon himself at one time or other the task of performing this burdensome act of over-zealous piety.

Odessa, situated in the government of Cherson, between the mouths of the Dniester and the Dnieper, is a place of considerable importance from the commerce which is carried on with foreign ports, principally the British. About eight hundred vessels annually arrive in its harbour, of which more than half are from Great Britain. Corn is the principal article of exportation; but they likewise send out butter, hides, fur, tallow, caviare, &c. The articles imported are chiefly wine, liqueurs, cotton-stuffs, shawls, perfumes, oils, tobacco, cloth, porcelain and paper. The town stands on a declivity, and contains seven churches, a theatre, an hospital and several public buildings and schools. The streets are long, generally unpaved, and planted with trees. The chief part

of the inhabitants are Greeks, and the principal merchants and citizens, French, English and German. The Russians are chiefly of the poorer class, and a great number of them servants. The Jews also are numerous here, but are mostly very poor.

The villages in the neighbourhood produce butter and cheese, rarities in the south of Russia; potatoes also are plentiful, and the water-melons are equal to those of Syria, which are famous for their fine flavour. Odessa is likewise noted for the fine mutton it produces. Fuel is very scarce, bundles of weeds, gathered on the steppes or deserts, and dried cowdung is used commonly as substitutes. The town of Nicolaef, which stands about seventy-seven miles from Odessa, has been rendered of importance by the Russian government having transferred to it the admiralty of Cherson, and erected extensive arsenals and storehouses. At the time Dr. Lyall visited it a number of vessels lay in the harbour; and in the docks a frigate of sixty-four guns, and another of forty-four, were on the stocks. The situation of this town, its fine healthy climate, the magnificence of its river, and the regularity with which the streets are laid out, the cheapness of provisions, and the attractions of good society, according to the accounts of all travellers, combine to place Nicolaef very high in the catalogue of Russian towns.

Forty miles from this place stands Cherson, to which, from its being the meeting place of Catherine II. and the Emperor Joseph, together with the

death of Howard within its walls, and the sepulchre of Prince Potemkin, an interest is attached which few towns of the Russian empire can boast.

The monument of Howard stands about four or five versts from the barrier of Cherson near the great road. It is a brick pyramid, surrounded with posts and chains, and has no inscription but the words 'John Howard' scratched on the plaster, to denote the spot which he himself selected for his grave. Another monument has however been erected to the memory of this distinguished philanthropist near the church of the Assumption without the barriers. It is a simple pyramid bearing an inscription, recording his name, date of his death and age. This is planted round with poplars, and enclosed within a high circular wall. Dr. Lyall relates some very interesting particulars of this great and good man's death.

He had visited and prescribed for a sick lady about twenty-four miles from Cherson, and desired her friends if she appeared better to send to him again, observing if she was worse it would be to no purpose.

The lady's disorder appeared to take a favourable turn, and a letter was despatched to him to that purpose; but by some accident it did not reach him till eight days after. On receiving it he resolved on visiting her without further loss of time, and instantly set off on horseback very thinly clothed, and in cold tempestuous weather, the rain falling in torrents. On his way he had a fall from his horse, and on his arrival found the lady dying. He was greatly affected,

and this, added to fatigue, and the effects of the cold he had suffered, in all probability brought on his fatal illness. He attributed it himself however to contagion, from having put his hand under the bed clothes to feel his patient's pulse, when she was in a state of perspiration.

On his return to Cherson he found himself very ill, and when his friend, Admiral Priestman, visited him on the following day, he told him that he felt his end fast approaching. His friend tried to rally his spirits, but he replied, "Priestman, you style this a very dull conversation, and endeavour to divert my mind from dwelling upon death; but I entertain very different views on the subject. Death has no terror for me, it is an event I always look to with cheerfulness, if not with pleasure; and be sure that the subject is more grateful to me than any other. I am well aware that I have but a short time to live, my mode of life has rendered it impossible that I should recover from this fever. If I had lived as you do, eating heartily of animal food and drinking wine, I might perhaps, by altering my diet be able to subdue it; but how can such an invalid as I am alter his diet. I have been accustomed for years to exist upon vegetables and water, a little bread and a little tea; I have no method of lowering my nourishment, and consequently I must die. It is such jolly fellows as you, Priestman, who get over these fevers." He then spoke of his funeral, pointed out where he wished to be buried, and added, "Let me beg of you, as you

value your old friend, not to suffer any pomp at my funeral, nor any monument or monumental inscription whatsoever to mark where I am laid; but lay me quietly in the earth, place a sun-dial over my grave, and let me be forgotten." He was very anxious that his friend should immediately secure the spot where he wished his grave to be; and when the latter returned with the information that he had succeeded, his countenance brightened.

He then made his will. Soon afterwards symptoms of delirium appeared; in the intervals, however, he was able to understand a letter from England, informing him that his son was likely to recover from the disorder with which he was afflicted. When his servant had read this letter, Mr. Howard turned his head towards him and said, "Is not this comfort for a dying father?" He was very averse to having a physician; but at length he nodded assent. The physician came and administered a musk draught, a medicine used in Russia in the last extremity. Mr. Howard swallowed a little, but endeavoured to avoid the rest. He was then entirely given over, and shortly breathed his last. The Russians, it is said, hold his memory in great respect, and it is the highest compliment they can pay an Englishman to say, "He is the countryman of Howard."

The city of Tula, which has been called 'the Sheffield of Russia,' is situated about 185 versts from Moscow, and is described by Dr. Clarke as one of the most interesting cities in the Russian empire. It

is chiefly distinguished for its manufacture of arms, knives, and all sorts of cutlery and works in polished steel. There are very considerable iron mines in the neighbourhood which supply the raw material to the celebrated forges of Demidof, about thirteen miles from Tula, as well as to Tula itself. The manufactories were first established under the auspices of Peter the Great, and have continued ever since to be an especial object with the sovereigns of Russia. Above 7000 workmen are employed in them, who are divided into five separate branches, the barrel makers, stock makers, lock makers, furniture makers, and makers of small arms. These all enjoy peculiar privileges and have their own judges among themselves. Their work is by some authors represented as fully equal to the English; but Dr. Clarke speaks of it as very inferior.

The town itself he describes, when seen from the elevated plain above it, as a noble object with its numerous white buildings, domes, towers, and lofty spires. "Trees appeared skirting the suburban downs and spreading into the valley, while cattle were grazing in the surrounding pastures: at the same time our ears were saluted with the cheerful sounds of industry, issuing from the different manufactories, the ringing of bells, the lowing of herds, and a loud chorus of peasants singing their national airs, who accompanied their voices with the clapping of hands or the wild notes of rustic pipes, constructed of the same materials as the sandals on their feet (the birch

or linden bark). Numerous caravans were moreover passing from the Ukraine and the Don, and the whole of this lively scene exhibited so striking a contrast to what we had been accustomed to in the frigid regions of the north, that we fancied ourselves suddenly transported to a different zone."

In this neighbourhood Dr. Clarke likewise witnessed the performance of a curious funeral ceremony. "The lid of the coffin scooped out of one entire piece of wood like a canoe was not put on till the deceased was laid in his grave. They buried him in all his wearing apparel even to the sandals on his feet. Mead was carried to the grave to be drank there in a bowl, with a number of small wax bougies stuck round the rim. The women kept up a kind of musical ululation, howling their loud lamentations in a truly dolorous tone. The rest of the attendants, instead of joining in the dirge or the other ceremonial rites, were crossing themselves, and in prostations towards the east, bowing their heads until they touched with their foreheads the other graves, near the place of interment. The lid of the coffin was borne first, covered with a linen cloth; after this followed the other part of the coffin containing the body, so that it seemed as if they were carrying two coffins to one grave."

In the plains over which Dr. Clarke travelled in this part of the country, he beheld a spectacle similar to what is often seen in the deserts of Africa. Vertical columns of sand reaching apparently from

the earth to the sky, and whirling round with inconceivable rapidity. His servant related to him an instance of a child being taken up by one of these whirlwinds, which raised it up to such a height that every limb was broken by the fall.

The city of Voronetz is situated in a river of the same name, near its junction with the Don. It is memorable as the place where Peter the Great built his first ship of war. At that period it contained only about one hundred wooden huts; but it is now a handsome town with more than 15,000 inhabitants, and carries on a very extensive and profitable commerce; its merchants travelling even into Siberia for furs which are the principal articles of trade, and which they dispose of at the great German fairs. The climate of the surrounding country is delightful; but the town itself is at certain seasons very unhealthy from the extensive swamps which surround it.

At a few miles distance from this place commences the country, the inhabitants of which are called Malo-Russians, caravans of whom Dr. Clarke frequently met with at a short distance from Voronetz, and whom he describes as a much superior race to the Russians, "cleaner, more industrious, more generous, more polite, and more courageous;" the only alloy to which is, that they are much given to drinking. Their cottages, which are all whitewashed, are so clean and neat that he observes a traveller might fancy himself transported from Russia to Holland. Their furniture, though simple, is kept with the greatest care. They

have well-stocked gardens, and plenty of poultry and cattle. The dress of the male sex bears a great resemblance to that of the Scotch Highlander, and that of the women displays considerable taste and fancy. From the great similarity they bear to the Poles, Dr. Clarke is inclined to think they, as well as the cossacks, derive their origin from one common stock. There is a very manifest distinction between them and the Russians, though they are separated from each other only a few miles, and their language is very little different.

Of the cossacks of the Don, whose territory extends 2276 geographical miles, and forms a distinct government, Dr. Clarke observes, "that they materially differ in every essential point. His dignified and majestic look," he observes, "his elevated brow and dark mustachios, his tall helmet of black wool, terminated by a crimson sack, with its plume, laced festoon and white cockade; his upright posture, the ease and elegance of his gait, give to the Don Cossack an air of great importance. There is no nation in the world more neat in regard to dress; and, whether young or old, it seems to become them. A quiet life appears quite unsuited to their disposition; they loiter about having no employment to interest them; and being devoted to war seem distressed by the indolence of peace. In no respects do they resemble the Russians, except in speaking the same language, and professing the same religion. They are all free and open in their manners, hospitable, brave and cleanly.

Their chief riches consist in their cattle and their horses; those who live near the Don are also great fishers.

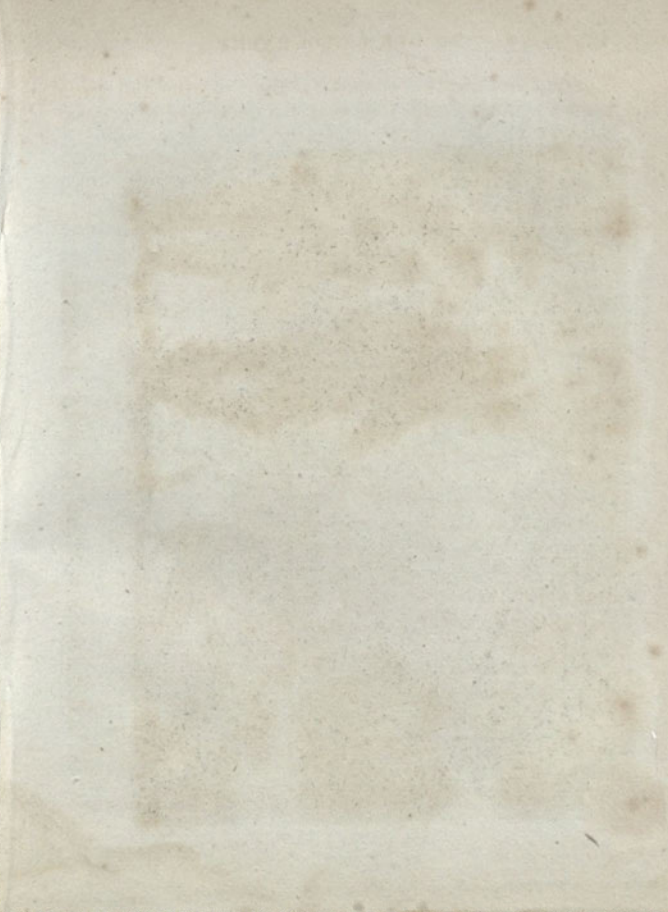
They pay no taxes to the state but furnish a large quota of troops, all of whom are maintained at their own expense, except when they pass the frontiers of Russia.

At every stanitza or station they have an officer called an ataman or chief, to whom, when acting officially they shew great deference, though at other times he is not possessed of any distinction, and passes unheeded among them. These are all subject to an ataman-general who is appointed by the crown.

The celebrated Marshal Platoff was one of their most distinguished atamans. There are various tribes of Cossacks, besides those of the Don; the most numerous and well known, of which are the Cossacks of the Ukraine, those of the Black Sea, of Volga, of Grebenskoi, of the Ural mountains, of Orenburgh, and of Siberia.

Tcherkask, the metropolis of the Don Cossacks, is situated on the right bank of the river, from which they take their distinguishing appellation. It is surrounded by a small river which runs into the Don, and is very unhealthy from its low and marshy situation; the lower stories of the houses being at certain seasons completely inundated, and a great loss of lives frequently occurring from the suddenness of the floods.

In one respect it resembles Venice the intercourse





TSCHOUKSCHES & SEA HORSES.

from house to house being carried on almost entirely by boats, which are here mere canoes scooped from a single tree, and navigated with a single paddle. Sometimes two of these are fastened together by planks laid across, thus forming a double canoe.

The unhealthiness of Tcherkask, and the disasters annually arising from its inundation, induced the Russian government in 1807 to found a new town, and remove the inhabitants of the former thither. Old Tcherkask is therefore comparatively deserted, the number of its inhabitants being reduced from 15,000 to 2,000, and the appearance of activity and industry which formerly distinguished it having nearly altogether disappeared.

The new town to which the name of New Tcherkask is given stands on a hill on the banks of the Don, fifteen or sixteen versts from the old town; and though free from the inconveniences to which the latter was exposed, it is badly placed for the purposes of trade, the river not being navigable. Its inhabitants in 1822 were estimated at from 5,000 to 6,000.

The traveller we have before quoted (Dr. Clarke) gives a very lively description of an Armenian settlement on the Don, called Nakhtshivan, which had been established about twenty years before his arrival, and was already in so flourishing a state that the bazaar contained above four hundred shops.

“As we approached the Armenian settlement,” he observes, “we beheld Tartars, Turks; Greeks, Russians, Cossacks, Italians, Calmucks and Armenians.

These, together with our English party formed a representation of the costume of nine different nations within the compass of a quarter of an English mile. The Tartars were fishing in the river or driving cattle towards the town, the Turks were smoking in their coffee houses. The Greeks, a bustling race, were walking about telling lies, and bartering merchandise; the Cossacks were scampering about in all directions on horseback; the Russians, as police-officers, were scratching their heads; the Italians appeared as Venetian and Neapolitan sailors; the Calmucks jabbering with each other; the Armenians both men and women airing in droskies, and the English staring at them all.

“Nakhtshivan affords an example of that enterprising commercial spirit which is characteristic of Armenian merchants. They are not naturally a lively race of men. The Armenians are almost as grave as the Turks, and they have all the boorishness of Dutchmen, insomuch that it is a common saying, with European merchants in Constantinople that “A sportive Armenian is as awkward as a dancing bear;” yet, instigated by commercial speculations, these men traverse all countries and overcome surprising obstacles, frequently making journeys to India, and to the most distant regions of the earth. Their commodities, as far as we had an opportunity of judging of them, appeared to be Turkish, and likely to find a ready sale in Tcherkask and the neighbouring towns. They supply all the fairs of the surrounding provinces, and



KUNDARAU TARTARS.

CHAPTER XVII.

TURKEY IN EUROPE.

The isles of Greece, the isles of Greece,

Where grew the arts of war and peace,

Where Delos rose and Phœbus sung

Eternal summer gilds them yet,

But all except their sun is set.

BYRON.

TURKEY is bounded on the north by Russia, Transylvania, and Sclavonia, on the east by Circassia, the Euxine Sea, and the Archipelago, on the south by the Mediterranean Sea, and on the west by the same sea and the Austrian territories.

It is a sovereignty of recent foundation, and includes many ancient kingdoms and republics. The Turks, who were a tribe of the ancient Scythians, having gradually extended their conquests over the neighbouring nations of Greece, about the year 1229, they became embodied as a nation of themselves under Othman, who having conquered Prusa in Bithynia made it his capital, and became the founder of the Ottoman empire. It was not, however, till more than a century after this event that the Turks got a footing in Europe. In the year 1357 they passed the Hellespont, and in 1360 their sultan Amurath, having taken the city of Adrianople, made it the seat of the Turkish

empire. From thence their conquest gradually extended over the whole dominions of the Greek emperors, and in 1453 the grand city of Constantinople, after a long siege, was taken by these barbarians; and their sultan, Mahomet II. made it his capital. The Greeks still continued to struggle for their liberties, but one by one their fine provinces were laid waste, and their beautiful cities, Corinth, Athens, &c. &c. fell before the fury of the Turks; and by the year 1459 nearly the whole country of the Morea was subdued, and the name of the Greeks erased from among the nations of the earth.

In the Russians the Turks have ever found the most formidable opponents. Our limits will not allow us to give even a slight sketch of the wars which have from time to time arisen between these powers; we will therefore only remark that at the present period, 1829, the Russians are actively engaged in hostilities against the Ottoman empire, which is likewise menaced by the exertions of the Greeks, who, weary and ashamed of the bondage in which they have so long been held, have risen against their tyrants, and are again endeavouring to establish their name among the nations, and once more raise the cross above the crescent.

The climate of Turkey is greatly diversified. In the mountainous regions of the southern districts, the temperature is of course colder than in the plains; but in general the seasons are regular and moderate; and the soil, though very imperfectly cultivated,

fertile and productive, except on the shores of the Euxine Sea, where it is extremely sterile.

In several parts of Turkey are mines of iron, lead, and copper; but the indolence and apathy of the Turks prevent their deriving any advantage from them. Gold mines were also formerly found. Macedonia and the ancient Phrygia, and the Troad are said still to contain abundance of silver. Quarries of the most beautiful marble are to be found in Greece. That produced in the island of Paros has been from the remotest ages celebrated for its exquisite beauty.

The forests produce the common and the kermes oak, the maple, the plane, the sycamore, the cedar, the chesnut, walnut and beech trees. The principal fruit trees are the olive, of which on the shores of Crete and in Macedonia, there are whole forests intermingled with the broad-leaved myrtle. There are also abundance of orange-trees, fig-trees, vines, mulberry-trees, pistachio and pomegranates.

The animals of Turkey are nearly the same as in other countries of Europe. The black cattle are particularly fine, especially in Greece; and the Turkish horses are famous for their speed and beauty. The Turks pay the greatest attention to preserve the superiority of the breed, and value themselves highly on their skill in horsemanship. Among their beasts of burden is that useful animal the camel. Goats and sheep are very numerous, and the breed of the latter, distinguished by the name of the Wallachian sheep, are remarkable for the beauty and elegance of their

spiral horns. Their wool is coarse and but of little value.

The Turks are particularly humane in their treatment of domestic animals. Their horses, asses, oxen, and even cats and dogs, all look better fed and attended to than in any other country. The vast numbers of the latter animals that swarm in the streets of their principal cities are a subject of surprise to strangers. "Each of these dogs belongs to one particular person; but they are fed by all, and they seem to know that the Turks are their friends, for they bark at every one else." Birds also are held in great estimation by the Turks, and some species, especially the stork, are objects of their particular veneration. Partridges and the various kinds of domestic fowls are very plentiful; and in the neighbourhood of Badadagi are found a species of large eagle, the feathers of which are highly valued to furnish the Turkish arrows.

Of the ancient cities of Greece, the pride and wonder of the world, Corinth, Athens, &c. there now remain only the ruins, still however, magnificent enough to show what they once were. Constantinople, the present capital of the Ottoman empire, stands on a point of the main land, which juts out towards the Thracian Bosphorus, and forms the finest port of the known world. It is nearly six miles in compass and about a mile over. To the right of Constantinople is the White Sea, or Propontis, by which there is an easy communication with Asia and Africa.

On the left is the Euxine Sea and Palus Mœotis, by which it is supplied with all the commodities of the south. The city is built in a triangular form upon seven hills, and when viewed from the harbour bears a striking resemblance to London, as it appears from the Thames.

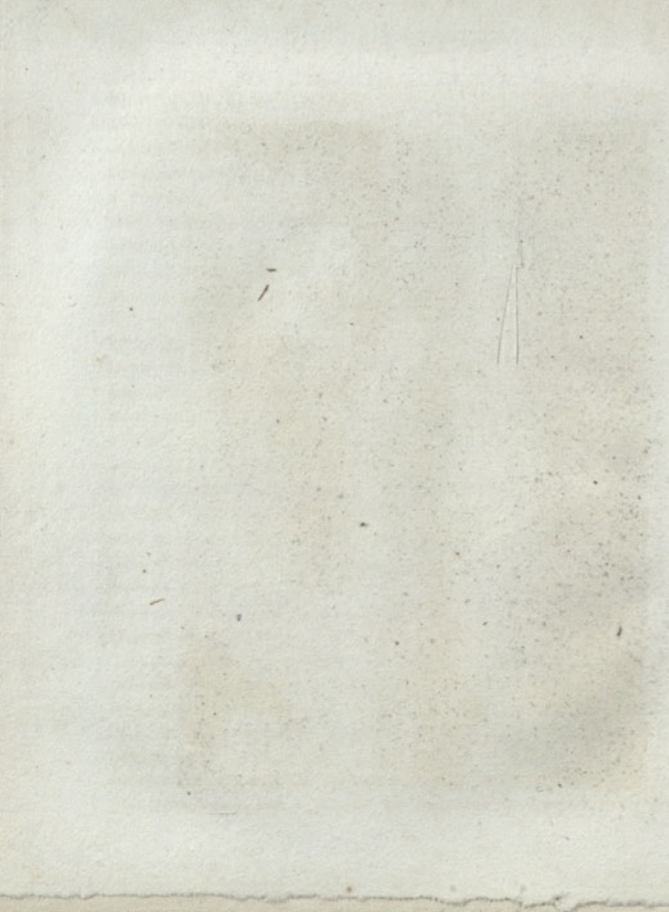
It has been said by some travellers to be twenty miles in circumference; but both its size and splendour have been greatly exaggerated, and it is probably more accurate to place its circumference at twelve miles.

The number of mosques, of which the principal, that of St. Sophia, is seated on an eminence, together with the gilded domes, spires and turrets of the grand seraglio, give to the city an imposing air of grandeur at a distance, which the interior by no means corresponds with, the streets being narrow, dark and dirty, and, with the exception of the public edifices, the buildings are all flimsily constructed of mere lath and plaster.

The seraglio, which includes not only the womens' apartments, but those of the monarch, and all his officers, guards, and in fact his whole court, is an immense enclosure, containing nine large quadrangular courts, surrounded with buildings, and occupies the whole site of the ancient city of Byzantium. There are nine gates to the seraglio, some of which are very magnificent. That which is the entrance from the square of St. Sophia is superb, and from this porte or gate the Ottoman court takes the title of the



CONSTANTINOPLE.



Sublime Porte. Over this gate is an Arabic inscription in blue and gold, recording that the palace of the seraglio was built during the reign of Mahomet II. One side of the court into which it opens is occupied by an infirmary, and on the opposite side stands a repository for arms, trophies, &c. which was formerly a Greek church. The mint, and a building appropriated to the inferior servants of the palace occupy the other sides of the square. Another gate opens from this to a second court, which is surrounded with a low piazza, under which the Grand Seignior's guards arrange themselves on state days. The treasury, the stable for the monarch's saddle-horses, and several handsome kitchens surround this court, and at the farther end is the hall of the divan, where councils of state are held, and causes both civil and criminal are adjudged by the Grand Vizir. No strangers are allowed to pass beyond this hall except ambassadors, who are conducted to the Hall of Audience, in which is a superb throne ornamented with pearls and precious stones. The room itself is sumptuously adorned with gilding on a blue ground, and the furniture is of the most costly description, and it is also decorated with many beautiful paintings.

The haram or women's apartments, into which no male except the sultan and his eunuchs are allowed to enter, is situated in a very remote part of the seraglio, and looks out upon the sea of Marmora. The punishment of instant death awaits any one who is presumptuous enough to intrude even beyond the

outer gate of the haram. The women are never allowed to see any one but the eunuchs who guard them, and their imperious master. They are taught music, dancing, embroidery, and every personal accomplishment, and are denied no gratification but their liberty. They are sometimes allowed to walk in the gardens of the seraglio, but on those occasions the black eunuchs are planted in every walk with drawn sabres, to prevent any one's approach.

Of the extent of this immense pile of buildings, some idea may be formed from the number of its inhabitants, who it is asserted upon good authority amount to nearly ten thousand.

Among the most favoured and useful attendants of the grand seignior are the mutes and dwarfs, of whom not less than one hundred and fifty are kept in the palace, and are employed in various offices, besides that of contributing to the amusement of their master.

The mosque of Saint Sophia was formerly a christian church, and still retains the name of the saint to whom it was dedicated. Ten thousand men are said to have been employed in the erection of this splendid edifice, and nearly six years were consumed before its completion.

The architectural symmetry of the exterior has been totally destroyed by the clumsy buttresses which have been erected to protect the building from the effects of the dreadful earthquakes which have repeatedly threatened it with total destruction. The interior, however, is very grand. The most remark-

able of its ornaments are eight columns of red porphyry, which were originally placed in the temple of the sun, and eight of green porphyry presented by the magistrates of Ephesus.

There are several hospitals in Constantinople; but except one for lunatics, all were founded, and until lately supported, by christians. The lunatic hospital is a plain simple building on the outside; but the court in the interior, around which the cells are constructed, is paved with marble with arcades around it.

The barracks both for soldiers and sailors are large handsome buildings. There are a great number of bazaars or markets, in which every article for sale is exposed in recesses on each side of a walk, generally of great length, and about twenty feet wide. A vast quantity of merchandize is thus presented to the eye. "People accustomed to the detached shops of London, large and opulent as they are," observes a traveller, "cannot pass for the first time through the bazaars of Constantinople without an emotion of surprise; but when in subsequent visits the shops are considered individually, and the probable value of their contents is estimated with the number of persons apparently interested in them, the stock will be found comparatively very small." The Jews, Armenians, and Greeks are the chief traders of Constantinople, and its foreign commerce is in the hands of foreigners of all nations who are confounded under the appellation of Franks. The chief exports are silk, cotton, wool, flax, drugs, coffee, sugar, wax, honey, fruits,

hides, tobacco, printed muslins, satins, silk, stuffs, velvets, serges, camelots, crapes and gauzes, sword blades and carpets. No restrictions or duties are laid upon any article, except the necessaries of life, which are sometimes rigorously prohibited from the apprehension of scarcity.

Great ravages are frequently made in the city by fires. In 1782 between seven and eight hundred houses were consumed by one of these dreadful conflagrations: in 1788 another took place, which threatened the destruction of the whole city, and in 1807 a similar event reduced several hundred houses to ashes. The plague, that most dreadful of all visitations, is from the constitutional apathy of the Turks, and their firm belief in predestination, beheld with little alarm, and no means are adopted to check its ravages. No precautions are taken to avoid contagion, and all the usual attentions to the sick, and ceremonies towards the dead are fulfilled without reluctance or apprehension, from the belief that unless they are predestined to death there is no danger to fear.

The Turks are in general personable, well made men, with good features and fine dark eyes. The women while young are very handsome; but their beauty soon fades, and they look old at thirty. The men are remarkable for their apathy, indifference, and taciturnity. They are in general extremely illiterate and confined in their ideas, yet have at the same time a high opinion of their own superiority, and a proportionate contempt of all other nations.

The following ludicrous anecdotes are related in proof of Turkish hauteur and insolence.

One of their grand vizirs advised the divan to confine all the ambassadors from different nations to a small island, as unclean leprous persons unfit to associate with mussulmen. On another occasion when the French ambassador announced an alliance of marriage between his sovereign and the Austrian court, the reply of the Reis Effendi, one of the ministers of the grand seignior was that "the sublime Port, did not trouble itself with the union of one hog with another." The same person being informed of the victory of the French over the Spaniards, replied, "What care I whether dog eat hog or hog eat dog so that the interests of my sovereign prosper."

The bigotry of the Turk to the religion of Mahomet and their natural apathy and reserve, prevents that freedom of intercourse with strangers, which could not fail to open their eyes to their own glaring ignorance and deficiencies. They have no curiosity to be informed, are perfect strangers to the pleasures of unreserved conversation, and except when roused by the more violent passions, pass their days in the most listless indifference and idleness, dividing their time by performing their stated devotions, smoking tobacco, and chewing opium, which is their substitute for spirits or strong liquors, the use of the latter being prohibited by their religion.

They are, however, very fond of music, and persons of rank have musicians in attendance, even when

they retire to rest, who lull them to sleep with the softest strains. Others employ young men of letters to read to them passages from the Koran (the book of their prophet) or stories from the Arabian Nights' Entertainment, or other works of imagination.

Notwithstanding this effeminacy of manners and want of cultivation, they possess many strong and striking traits of character. Their fortitude and resignation under affliction is very conspicuous; they are punctual in the duties prescribed by their religion, and faithful in their connections with each other, though towards infidels, whether Jews, Christians or any other sect, they do not consider themselves bound by any moral ties, or even the common feelings of nature.

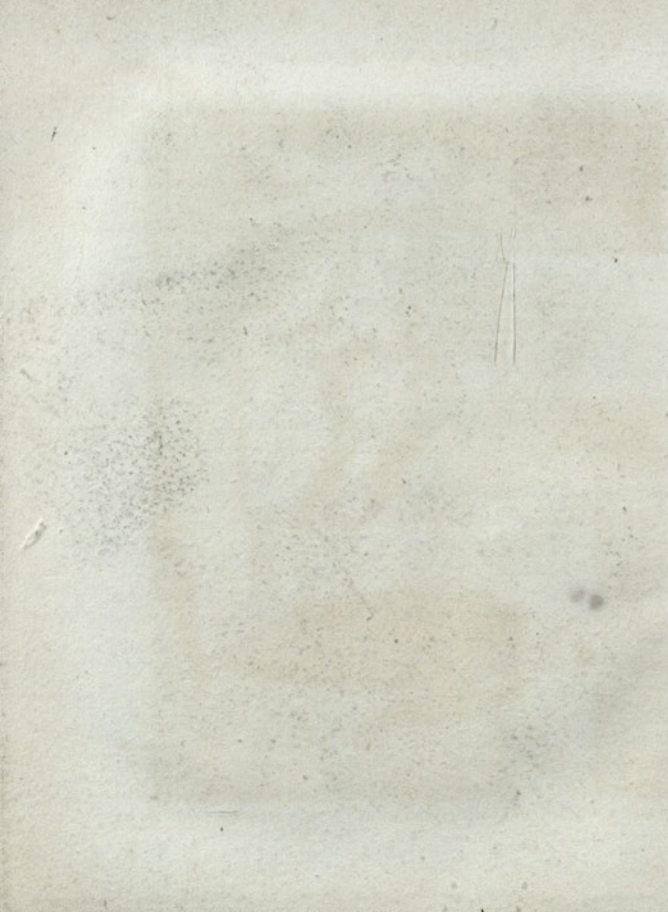
Cold and apathetic as they appear in common life, when agitated by passion, they are furious, suspicious and ungovernable, and towards their enemies cruel, ferocious and sanguinary to the greatest degree.

The Turks are very vain of their personal appearance; the men dye their beards to conceal the ravages of time, and bestow the greatest attention on the decoration of their persons: and the women take the greatest care to preserve as long as possible the beauty, which is their only recommendation in the eyes of the other sex. They colour their hair, eyebrows and eye-lids, and the artifices of their toilette far exceed those of more polished nations.

The dress of the men is a white turban, which they never pull off except when they retire to rest. Shirts



TURKS.



with wide sleeves, over which is a vest fastened with a broad sash, a loose gown and very full trousers, the colours and decorations of which are according to the taste and fancy of the wearer. The immediate descendants of the family of their prophet only are allowed to wear green turbans, and infidels are not permitted the use of that colour in any part of their garments.

They wear no shoes, but slippers of the gayest colours, without heels; and these they put off on entering a place of devotion. The ladies wear very thin flowing drawers reaching to the ankle, generally of rose-colour silk brocaded with silver, and white kid slippers embroidered with gold. Their under dress is a loose shift of transparent gauze, edged with embroidery, fastened at the neck with a diamond button, and having very wide sleeves which hang down nearly to the wrists. A waistcoat is worn over this of white and gold damask, with long sleeves falling back and ornamented with gold fringe and pearl, and diamond buttons. The caftan is a robe exactly fitted to the shape, of the same colour and materials with the drawers, open before and reaching quite to the feet. Round the waist is worn a broad sash or girdle, which with females of rank is studded entirely over with pearls or precious stones. In cold weather a loose robe called a curdee is thrown over this, lined with ermine or sables.

The head dress is a cap in winter of velvet studded with pearls or diamonds, and in summer of light

silver-stuff embroidered. It is worn on one side hanging down with a gold or silver tassel, and is fastened on, either with a bandeau of diamonds, or an embroidered handkerchief, and decorated on one side with a plume of heron's feathers, or a bunch of artificial flowers.

The Turks are temperate in their diet. They breakfast on honey, fried eggs, bread, &c. dine at eleven o'clock, and take their principal meal, their supper, at six. They use neither knives, forks or table cloth, but pull their meat to pieces with their fingers, which they wipe on long silk napkins, which are thrown across their knees. The dishes are brought in one at a time and placed on the middle of a round table, around the edge of which is disposed basins, spoons, bread, salad, pickles, &c. The first dish is broth, and the last pillaw, which is composed of meat stewed with rice, spiced and coloured with saffron. The intermediate dishes are mutton, fowls or pigeons, stewed or roasted to rags, stuffed with herbs and spices: and their grand dish is a whole lamb roasted and stuffed with rice, almonds, pistachios, raisins and spices. Beef they seldom eat. They finish their meal with a dessert, at which they have biscuits and rusks stewed with fennel, and a thin syrup with currants, raisins, dried apricots and slices of pears, apples, pistachios, &c. swimming in it.

There are no theatres in Turkey, nor any public places of amusement, except the coffee-houses, where music and troops of dancing girls are in attendance to

amuse the guests. The Turks never dance themselves, and seldom engage in any active amusements, except those of a warlike nature, such as shooting at a mark, either with fire arms or bow and arrows, or tilting with darts, at which they are very expert. Their chief recreation within doors is chess or games of chance; but they never play for money, gambling being strictly prohibited by the Koran.

Marriages in Turkey are always contracted by the friends of the parties, neither being allowed to see each other until the ceremony is concluded, when the bride is delivered to her husband, with an inventory of all her property, dresses, jewels, &c. the whole of which are to be returned or made good to her in case of a divorce, which not unfrequently takes place if the lady does not answer his expectations.

Their lamentations for the death of their friends or kindred are of the most noisy and obtrusive nature. The women burst out into loud and piercing shrieks the moment that they find life is extinct, and continue it at intervals until the funeral, which is attended with much pomp and display, a number of men with banners preceding the friends of the deceased who march solemnly along reciting passages from the Koran. The corpse comes next, borne upon men's shoulders, and the women close the procession, shrieking in the most dreadful manner.

At the obsequies of people of rank, bands of hired mourners are paid to express the grief of the friends for their loss, and their shrieks are not less

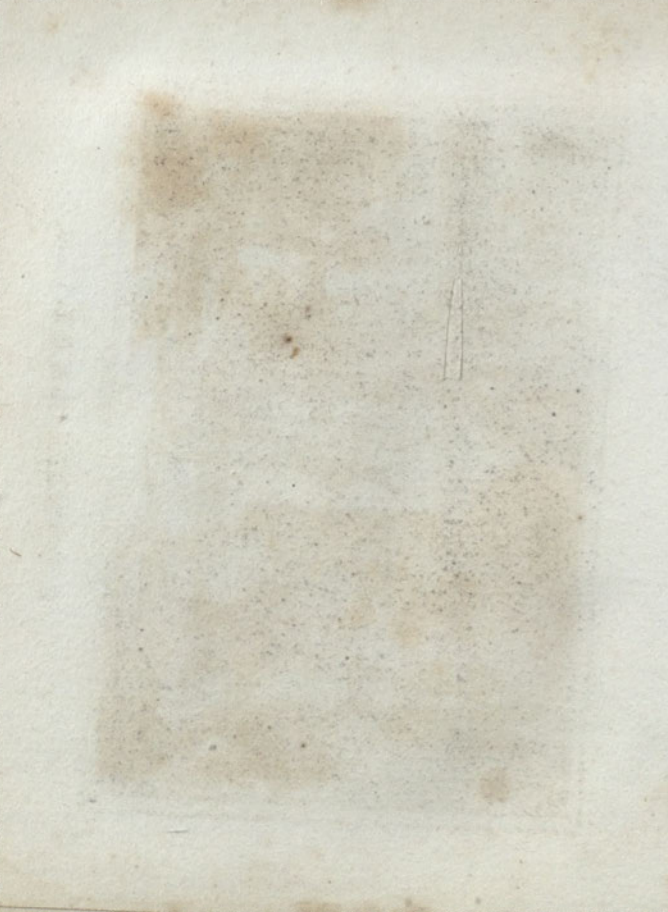
tuneful or vehement, observes a traveller, from constant practice.

The near relations pray at the grave for the soul of the deceased on the third, seventh, and fortieth days after the interment, and also on the following anniversary of his death, on which days they also distribute large quantities of provisions to the poor. The men do not put on mourning clothes, but the women dress in plain clothes, and lay aside all their jewels, flowers, embroidery, &c. if for a husband for twelve months, six if it be for a father. Their cemeteries are very extensive, that in the neighbourhood of Constantinople exceeding in size the whole of the city.

A stone pillar with a carved turban on the top is generally erected to the memory of a man; but some of their monuments are of marble, and very costly. The females have a plain unornamented pillar, except those who die unmarried, who have a rose on the top of their monument. In the sepulchres of the sultans and some of their principal men lamps are kept constantly burning. The Greeks in their general appearance resemble the Turks, but they are not allowed by them to wear white turbans, and therefore confine themselves to blue ones. None but those in the service of foreign ambassadors are allowed to wear yellow boots or slippers. The ladies take great pains in adorning their persons. They wear their hair braided in a fanciful manner round their heads or hanging down a great length behind, and ornament their heads with the most beautiful natural flowers,



A TURKISH CEMETERY





A GREEK LADY.



CIRCASSIANS BROUGHT TO MARKET.

intermingled with jewels of every description. The Greek ladies are not so closely confined as the Turkish fair ones, but they are invariably veiled in the streets. The veil is always of white muslin, those of the higher classes bordered with gold. The unmarried ladies are never allowed to appear out of their own houses, not even at church. They keep a number of female slaves, generally Circassians or Georgians, whom however their mistresses treat with great kindness, and after a certain period of servitude give them their freedom, and even if they are displeased with them, or weary of their services, seldom sell them to another ; but either present them to a friend or make them free. The modern Greeks retain a great number of their ancient ceremonies. The lover serenades his mistress at her window, and in the most pathetic strains recounts the duration, warmth, and sincerity of his passion. At their nuptials the bride is magnificently adorned, covered with a red veil, supported by a numerous train of female attendants. The torch of Hymen is borne before her, and should any accident extinguish it before the whole of it is consumed, it would be considered a most disastrous omen. The bride and bridegroom are both crowned with chaplets of flowers, which the priest exchanges at the altar. On the return of the bride she is conducted to her husband's house by her female friends, who take especial care that she shall not touch the threshold of the door, which would be considered ominous of dreadful evils.

A Grecian funeral is attended by all the friends

and relatives of the deceased, the women shrieking, crying, and refusing all nourishment until their strength is completely exhausted. If a young unmarried woman dies she is laid on a bier, dressed in her richest attire, and crowned with flowers, while the women scatter roses and sweet-scented waters, as she passes to the place of burial.

The Greeks deny the supremacy of the Pope, and do not permit the worship of images, though they have in all their churches pictures of their saints, whom they pray to as mediators between them and the Almighty.

They are very punctual in their devotional exercises; but their church is degraded by the introduction of many idolatrous, superstitious, and fantastic ceremonies.

They are not allowed either to sit or kneel in their churches; but when fatigued with the length of their ceremonies, they lean on crutches provided for that purpose. They give implicit belief to dreams, tokens, auguries and omens, and are kept in great awe by their priests, who have unbounded influence over them.

If a person falls sick, he immediately sends for the priests, of whom three is the smallest number allowed to perform the requisite ceremonies, which consist in praying, and anointing him with sacred oil, and making with it the sign of the cross on the door and door posts of the house.

The customs and manners of the Greeks have undergone little change from their intercourse with and

subjection to the Turks, and remain nearly the same in all the islands of the Archipelago.

The remains of ancient Grecian splendour are so numerous in modern Turkey, that it is impossible within so narrow bounds to attempt to particularize them; we will just mention that among the principal objects of attention to the traveller in Constantinople, is the *hippodrome* or theatre, of which only three of the ornaments that decorate the middle of the area remain. The most considerable of these is the obelisk, of granite, resting on four blocks of bronze placed on a pedestal of white marble, and covered with bass-reliefs and hieroglyphics, the meaning of which are lost in the obscurity of time. Near the obelisk stands the column of the brazen serpents, which formerly supported the golden tripod consecrated to the oracle of Delphos.

The Burnt Column stands on the spot where was erected the tent of Constantine, the founder of the present city, during the time he was besieging Byzantium. It was formerly surmounted with a statue in bronze of the Emperor Justinian, and derives its present appellation from the Turks having surrounded the shaft with fire, in order to melt down the bronze, which they converted into cannon. Of the great cisterns which were anciently constructed to supply the city with water, and are said to be supported by a thousand and one pillars, one is entirely dry and inhabited by a number of people employed in silk twisting; the other still serves to receive the water from the stupendous aqueduct, which passes through

the city resembling a great artery, from which the pipes to the public fountains branch off in ramifications like veins. It was originally built by the Emperor Adrian.

Adrianople is the second city of the Turkish empire; and, including the extensive gardens which surround it, is about eight miles in circumference. It is beautifully situated at the spot where the river Naritza, anciently the Nebrus, receives the Narda, and the Tuusa, but the air is very unwholesome; the river, over which there are two noble bridges, though in winter a large and spacious expanse of water, being entirely dried up in the summer, contributes much to the unhealthiness of the city.

There is a seraglio here which was the first seat of the Ottoman empire, and has been the favourite residence of many of the sultans. The exchange or bazaar is half a mile in length, and is furnished with three hundred and sixty-five shops, in which are exposed all sorts of rich and showy merchandize. It is the favourite promenade of the Turks, who amuse themselves with lounging about, and drinking coffee and sherbet, and smoking tobacco.

The Sherski is a street of a mile in length covered at the top, and with shops on each side; and the Bezistan, near it, is another bazaar built upon pillars, in which all kinds of horse furniture is sold, which, glittering with gold and embroidery, makes a very splendid appearance. The mosque of Sultan Selim II. is a very magnificent edifice, situated on the highest eminence of the city, and its domes and minarets (from which the Imaun or priest calls the people to



GRECIAN ISLANDERS.

prayers, the use of bells being prohibited in Turkey) being all gilded, give it a very striking appearance from every part of the city.

The interior is splendid beyond description. It has five gates with columns of green marble; the courts are paved with white marble, and in the centre of each is a fine fountain of the same material. The walls of the mosque are encrusted with Japan China, in the most beautiful and lively patterns of flowers. The pavement is covered with Persian carpets, and two galleries, supported by pillars of red and white marble, and marble balustrades, run round the building. In the middle hangs an immense lamp of silver gilt, and about two thousand of a smaller size, which when lighted produce a magnificent effect. The pulpit of carved wood and gilt stands under the great lamp, and close to it is a fountain, at which the mussulmen perform the necessary ablutions, which form a part of their religious ceremonies.

The next town of importance is Philippolis, founded by Philip of Macedon, the father of Alexander the Great. The country between this place and Adrianople is the finest in the whole world.

The climate is so mild that vines grow spontaneously on the hills, and the whole country seems to enjoy a perpetual spring.

The principal islands which formed a part of ancient Greece are Candia, the ancient Crete, the capital of which sustained a siege longer than the celebrated one of Troy, and much more sanguinary. It was garrisoned by Venetians, who bravely

defended it against fifty-six assaults of the Turkish army from the year 1645 till 1669, when they made an honourable capitulation. The Turks lost in this siege one hundred and eighty thousand men, and the Venetians eighty thousand.

The Cyclades are a circle of islands, surrounding the Isle of Delos, famous in poetic history as the supposed birth-place of Apollo and Diana, of whose temples some magnificent ruins yet remain. Negropont is the ancient Eubœa.

Lemnos or Stalimene yields a considerable revenue from the mineral earth it produces, which is used as a medicine, and is called terra sigillata, from its being sealed up by the Turks, to whom it affords a considerable revenue.

Santorin was formerly called Calista. Near this island, during the time of a dreadful earthquake, attended with thunder and lightning, in the year 1707, another island arose from the bottom of the sea, which was at first a volcano; but afterwards subsided, and the island is now called by the same name as the former.

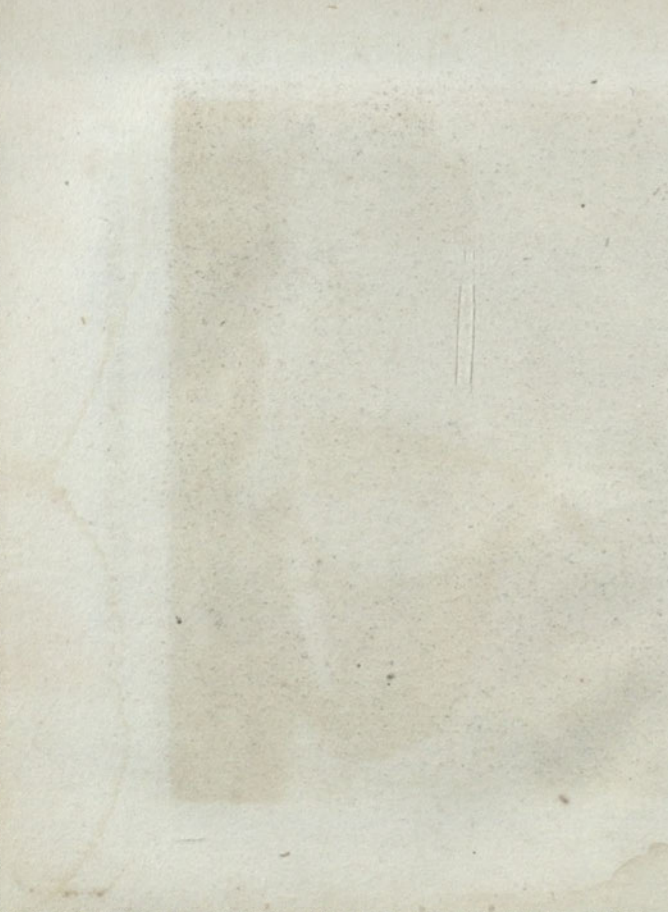
The island of Paros, famous for its marble, exhibits a dreadful scene of desolation, being overspread with fragments of magnificent structures.

Antiparos is celebrated for a grotto, one of the most wonderful works of nature in the world, and surpassing in beauty and splendour the most elaborate works of art.

The islands in the Ionian sea, which were taken by the Russians and Turks from the French in 1800,



JOPPA AND A TURKISH BOAT.



and formed by them into an aristocratical republic, under the title of the Republic of the Seven Islands are—

Corfu, the ancient Corcyra, possesses an excellent harbour, and is a place of considerable strength.

Santa Maria, anciently Leucadia, was formerly joined to the continent, but the isthmus was cut through by the Carthaginians, or the Corinthians. The channel between is now not above fifty paces broad. Its principal production is salt.

Cefalonia, anciently Cephalonia, is a beautiful island, nearly forty miles in length, and from nineteen to twenty broad, possessing a delightful climate.

Theaki, or Little Cefalonia, was the Ithaca of Homer, the birth place and kingdom of Ulysses.

Zante is a pleasant fertile island, producing a great quantity of currants, which form the principal article of trade. It is subject to a frequent recurrence of earthquakes, but fortunately they are never very severe. In one part of the island is a spring, which throws out constantly a kind of bitumen, which supplies the place of pitch in paying the bottoms of vessels, &c. Around this spring for a considerable distance the ground shakes under the foot like a quagmire.

Cerigo, anciently called Cytherea, was celebrated for being the birth place of Helen, according to the poets of Venus. It is far from being now possessed of any of the delights attributed to it formerly, being dry and mountainous. The capital is seated on a craggy rock.

CHAPTER XVIII.

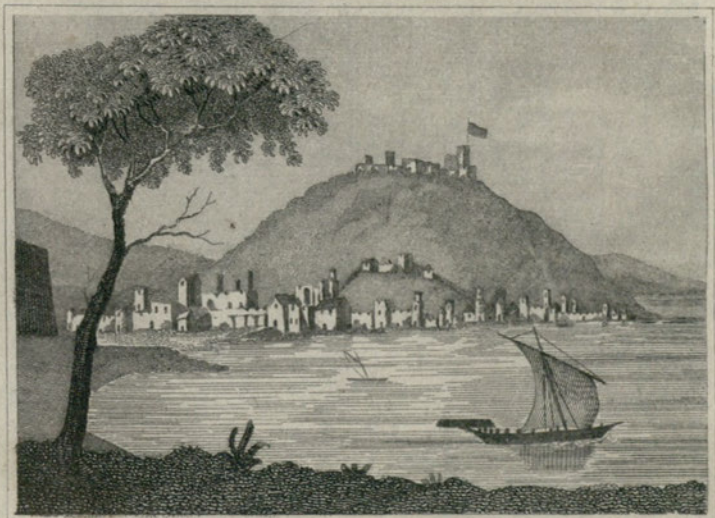
SPAIN.

There the large olive rains its amber store ;
In marble fountains there grain, and flower, and fruit,
Gush from the earth until the land runs o'er.

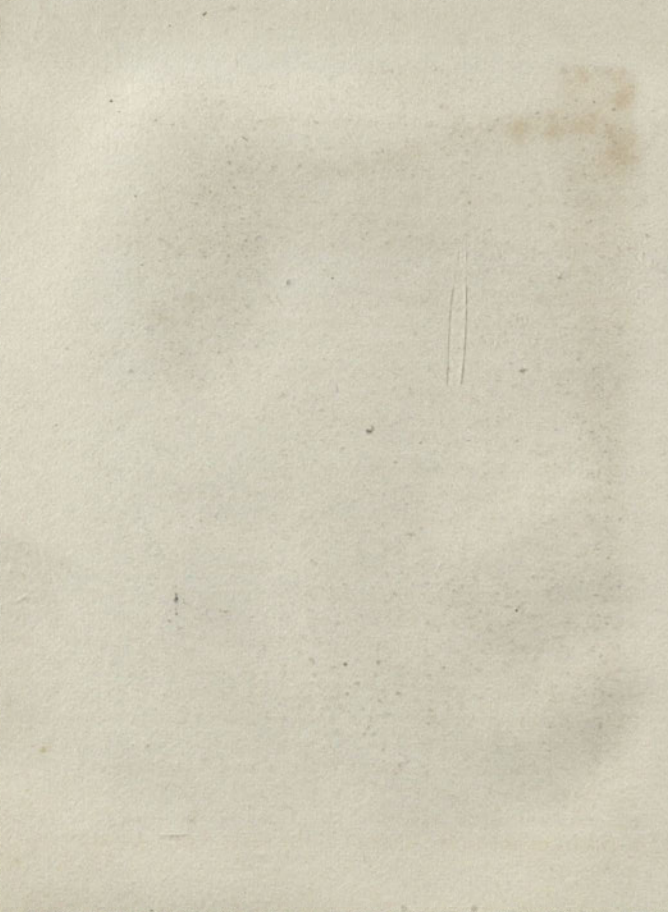
ANON.

THE kingdom of Spain is bounded on the north by the Bay of Biscay and the mountains of the Pyrenees, on the east by the Mediterranean, on the south by the Strait of Gibraltar, and on the west by Portugal and the Atlantic Ocean.

The climate of Spain is in general salubrious, and in the interior the air is very pure, and the heat moderate; but in the southern parts of the sea coast at Cadiz, Malaga, and Seville, the winds from Barbary frequently bring with them an almost stifling heat, and not unfrequently a pestilential fever, from which those cities have suffered severely. The high ranges of mountains which cross Spain in different directions, have indeed given to it a variety of climate, and when the almost vertical sun parches the plains and dries up the streams, the shepherds drive their flocks to the mountains, and find there cool air and fresh verdure, nor return again to the plains of the south till the wintry snows begin to fall.



CITY of MALAGA.



March, April and May are the most delightful months of the year in Spain. In June the heat is tolerable, but in July and August the rays of the sun are scarcely endurable; but even then the western gales in the interior, and the land and sea breezes on the coast, render the mornings and evenings pleasant.

The winter season begins in November; but, except in the Bay of Biscay, from the exposure of the coast to the northern gales, and the east wind, sweeping over the frozen Pyrenees, the weather is seldom so cold as to require fires in the houses.

Storms are seldom violent, earthquakes have rarely occurred, and very few traces of volcanoes have been discovered.

The immense chain of mountains which separate Spain from France are known by the name of the Pyrenees, and extend from Cape Finisterre to Cape Creus, covering the extent of six hundred and seventeen miles. A second chain is formed by the mountains of Guadarama, which are united with the former, and take a direction west south west above Madrid, and extend into Portugal. The third range is the mountains of Toledo, the highest of which is the Sierra da Guadaloupe. The fourth is the Sierra Morena, which reaches the sea between the mouths of the rivers Guadiana and Guadalquivir. The fifth are the mountains of Alpuxarras, which originate at Huescar, and inclosing the kingdom of Grenada, extend to the sea at Gibraltar. The sixth chain extends from above the source of the river Ebro, passes

northward of Burgos to the west of Cuença, and from thence towards Almeria. The highest of these numerous chains of mountains is the Sierra Nevada of the Alpuxarras, one peak of which rises to the height of eleven thousand six hundred and eighty-eight feet.

The most elevated of the Pyrenean mountains is Mont Perdu, on the Spanish side, which is eleven thousand two hundred and sixty-two feet in height. This elevation is continued for the space of forty-eight miles eastward, when the mountains begin to decline in height, forming as it were so many precipitous steps till they reach the sea; the last, called Mont Aizquibel, being one thousand seven hundred and seventy-three feet above the level of the sea.

The mountains of the Pyrenees present striking and sublime scenes. The breadth of the glaciers or mountains of perpetual snows does not exceed two thousand feet; but they extend in length nearly fifty miles. The base of the highest mountains is granite on the Spanish side, which at the highest summits is entirely bare, without the slightest approach to vegetation. The secondary ranges of mountains in Catalonia are immense masses of rock-salt.

The principal rivers in Spain are the Douro, the Tagus, the Mincho, the Guadiana, the Guadalquivir, the Xucar, the Segura, the Guadalaviar and the Ebro.

The interior of Spain is very thinly wooded, and in Old Castile scarcely a tree is to be found. Estremadura, New Castile, and Arragon, have but few forests; but of late years the planting of trees has



BISCAYAN PEASANTS.

been ordered by royal mandates, and encouraged by several agricultural societies. In some parts the result has been very favourable; but in the Castiles the progress has been slow, the inhabitants conceiving that trees encourage birds, which destroy the produce of their fields.

In the maritime provinces there are many extensive forests, and Valencia is covered with trees of every kind; but the thick forests which once clothed the province of Biscay have all fallen to supply the immense iron works of the Pyrenees.

Spain was anciently famed for its mines of precious metals; but either the sources of the riches which the ancients drew from this country are exhausted, or the natives are too indolent to pursue the veins with sufficient perseverance.

Copper and lead are found in great abundance, and there is scarcely a province of Spain that does not abound in iron, which is open to all who choose to work it, every one being allowed to take what he pleases free of any duty. Mercury, antimony, sulphur, &c. &c. are likewise to be found in different parts of the Spanish kingdom, and coal is also abundant in some of the provinces; but from the want of industry and enterprise in the natives, it has been but little worked. A number of precious stones, such as amethysts, emeralds, sapphires, agates, cornelians, &c. are found in Spain, and marbles of every description are abundant. The prodigious mountain of Gador near Almeria is one entire mass of marble,

which is burnt for lime. There are also many celebrated mineral waters, both hot and cold.

The vegetable productions of Spain are most abundant, and the soil produces almost spontaneously the most delicious fruits of Italy and France, as oranges, lemons, citrons, almonds, prunes, figs and raisins. The wines of Spain are famed in all countries for their richness and flavour. Some of the mountains are clothed to the very top with fruit trees and herbage, and the aromatic herbs are scattered so thickly over the ground as to render the taste of their kids and sheep exquisitely delicious.

Honey and saffron are in great abundance, and the province of Murcia is thickly covered with mulberry trees, devoted to the nourishment of silkworms, which are so numerous that the value of silk produced there is said to amount to two hundred thousand pounds a year.

Spain has always been famous for its breed of horses, of which those bred in the province of Andalusia are the most esteemed for their speed and beauty, and those of the Asturias for their strength. The mule, however, is more commonly used by the Spaniards, either for burden or the saddle, being more capable of enduring fatigue, more sure-footed, and require less food and care than the horse. The Spanish ass is a beautiful animal, and frequently reaches to the height of fourteen hands. The Spanish sheep which are known by the name of Merinos are noted for the fine quality of their wool, of which the most beautiful

woollen cloths that are worn are manufactured. Swine also are particularly fine, and their flesh, from their feeding almost wholly on sweet acorns, is peculiarly firm and well flavoured. The Spanish bull is famous for its fierceness; but they are of comparative small size, and their beef is never fat.

Of the wild animals of Spain, the most numerous are the wild boar, roe-buck, stag and fox. The bear, the lynx, and the wolf are likewise found in the skirts of the Pyrenees, in the mountains of Old Castile, and sometimes appear in Catalonia. Game of every kind is very plentiful; but owing to the scarcity of trees in the interior there are very few small birds.

The northern and western coasts of Spain abound in fish, and a great portion of the inhabitants of Galicia get their living by taking them; on the southern coast among others common to the Mediterranean are found three species of purple fish; the common marx, which, like the oyster is always embedded at the bottom; the beautiful nautilus, which has a concave shell and a thin membrane which is expanded like a sail, and wafts it along the surface of the water; and the purple fish, without a shell, which is very valuable for the purple dye which it affords.

In the rivers of the north, fish are found in abundance; but in all other parts they are very scarce.

Serpents and lizards are common in all the provinces; the former sometimes are found measuring five feet in length, and the latter are uncommonly large.

Madrid, the capital of Spain and the chief residence of its kings, is situated in the very heart of the kingdom, on the banks of the low and shallow river Manzanares, over which there are two noble bridges. The streets are spacious and handsome, and the principal ones adorned with fine fountains. The houses are lofty and generally built of brick; but look dull and heavy, from having nothing but latticed windows, at almost every one of which are seen and heard, parrots and monkeys. The houses are seven or eight stories high, and this with the immense number of spires and steeples, give to the city an air of great dignity, particularly on the first entrance of a stranger through the beautiful gate called Alcala. There are several fine squares, of which the principal one, the plaza-mayor or grand square, is surrounded with a regular piazza; the houses all round being of an uniform height, and having a continued line of balconies for the convenience of viewing the public exhibitions which take place in this square. The houses of the nobility are very little distinguished in appearance from those of the tradespeople; but in the latter, as in Paris and Edinburgh, a separate family inhabits every floor, having one common staircase.

There are in Madrid three royal academies devoted to different branches of study, one being for the improvement of the Spanish language, another for the study of history, and the third for that of medicine. There are also several beautiful palaces, and many churches, convents and hospitals.





MADRID.

The royal palace called Buen Retiro, stands upon an eminence at the extremity of the city; but exhibits nothing of either elegance or magnificence in any point of view. It is an irregular pile of building, but contains a long suite of good rooms, which might at a comparatively small expense be made into very elegant state apartments.

This palace had formerly a very fine collection of paintings; but these have been mostly removed, and it now contains little worthy of the attention of the stranger except a few statues, particularly that of Charles V. trampling upon a monster, intended to represent Heresy, and an equestrian statue of Philip IV. very ably executed. The theatre of Buen Retiro is situated at the bottom of the royal gardens, which are now much neglected. The house is small but well contrived, and the stage which is on a level with the gardens opens to them so as to permit bodies of troops, or occasionally parties of cavalry to be seen in the perspective; thus considerably adding to the stage effect in martial pieces. The taste of the reigning monarch, however, or rather his want of taste, has occasioned this once favourite scene of amusement to be entirely deserted.

The Prado is an elegant ride and walk, planted with trees and ornamented with vases, statues and fountains. It is about half a league in length, and is the favourite evening resort of all classes, either in carriages or on foot. As many as five hundred carriages are sometimes seen driving up its long alleys at one

time. The bad taste however in which they are built, and the uniformity of dress in the pedestrians, the men being all enveloped in long cloaks, and the women covered from head to foot with thick black or white veils, which conceal not only their form but part of their features, renders it on the whole but a very sombre scene compared to the public promenades of other countries. Many of the principal streets of Madrid terminate in the Prado, and the Alcala, the widest street in Europe, crosses it. The botanical garden forms one of the principal embellishments of the Prado, from which it is only separated by a low inclosure.

The Escorial, at once a convent and a royal palace, is situated midway of the ascent of the steep and savage mountains of Old Castile. It was founded by Philip V. in pursuance of a vow made on the field of battle of St. Quintin, and was dedicated to St. Lawrence, and, in commemoration of the martyrdom of that saint, is built in form of a gridiron. This instrument of his martyrdom is likewise seen on all the doors, walls, and even the habits of the monks. The building is in a quadrangular form, from the corners of which rise four little spires, intended to represent the four feet of the gridiron. The narrow part, which is meant for the handle, faces Madrid, and the principal front is to the west opposite to a mountain, and has a fine portal with columns of the Doric order, and two large doors. This portal, which leads to a large square court, is never opened, but upon two

occasions—when the reigning monarch or the princes of the blood come for the first time to the Escorial, and when their remains are brought to be deposited there. When the court is not at the Escorial, it is considered only as a vast convent which is inhabited by two hundred monks, under the government of a prior; but on the arrival of the king and royal family, the convent is transformed into a palace, the monks retire to the apartments on the south and west sides of the building; and their former cells are occupied by the royal family and nobility, the king's residence being in the narrow and projecting part of the building, which represents the handle of the gridiron, from which there is a staircase and gallery communicating with the church. This is a plain but magnificent building, in form of a Grecian cross, over which is a dome. The great altar is ascended by twenty steps, and at the side of it are seen the beautiful and solemn tombs of Charles V. and Philip II. The statues of the two monarchs are seen in kneeling postures in the forepart of a kind of chamber, lined with black marble; and from their beautiful execution their situation, and attitude, as if bowing before the majesty of the king of kings, produce a most impressive effect. "The spectator," observes a traveller, "while contemplating them, cannot but profoundly reflect on the vain insignificance of human grandeur, and the abyss in which it is sooner or later swallowed up. The tranquillity which reigns around them seems to be that of death, against which the lords of the earth arm

themselves with sepulchral pride. These reflections become more serious when applied to two monarchs, who, during their lives disturbed the world with their ambition, and are now condemned to eternal silence by the only law which they could not escape." The church contains some good paintings; but the masterpieces of the art are to be found in the vestries.

The Pantheon, the sepulchre of the kings of Spain, is divided into several chambers, and lined entirely through with marble. One of these chambers or divisions is called the *podridero*, or rotting place, and here is deposited the bodies of the sovereigns, during the first stages of decomposition, after which they are removed to their final resting place. The princes and princesses who have not reigned are deposited in another chamber.

A third royal palace is that of St. Ildefonso, which was built by Philip V. at the enormous expense of forty-five millions of piastres. It is situated at the distance of two leagues from Segovia, in a beautiful country, combining all the advantages of nature and art.

The palace or castle of St. Ildefonso has nothing very magnificent in its exterior. The garden side, which is the royal apartments, is of the Corinthian order, and looks out upon a large extent of ground, ornamented with vases, statues, &c. and a noble cascade.

The purity and clearness of the water so necessary to enjoyment in this warm climate, was one of the

chief inducements to Philip to fix upon this spot for his royal residence. "From the mountains which overshadow the palace, descend several rivulets, which supply the reservoirs. These waters answer the purpose of supplying numerous fountains, and diffusing verdure and coolness through the magnificent gardens, the sight of which alone is worth a journey into Spain. The principal alleys all answer to the different summits of neighbouring mountains, and one in particular produces the most agreeable effect. It is terminated at one end by the grand front of the palace. From this point are seen at one view fine fountains ornamented with elegant groups, rising into an amphitheatre, above which appear the lofty summits of different mountains. The traveller, however, who wishes to charm all his senses at once, must take his station on the high flat ground in front of the king's apartments. In the thick part of the foliage are contrived two arbours, from the top of which are seen twenty crystal columns, rising into the air to the height of the surrounding trees, mixing their resplendent whiteness with the verdure of the foliage, uniting their confused noise to the rustling of the branches, and refreshing and embalming the air. If the traveller here experience no pleasing sensations, let him return home, for he is utterly incapable of feeling the charms of beauty or of nature." This glowing description is but a small part of the beauties which M. Bourgoing, a French traveller has given of the gardens of St. Ildefonso. To return to the palace. One

of the chief objects of interest it contains is the mausoleum of the monarch, for whose interests, observes the same writer, Europe was agitated by three wars in less than half a century, and whom the conquest of the greatest monarchy in the world could not render happy. The gloomy melancholy of the last years of his life proved that the most brilliant successes of ambition are followed by satiety and languor.

The remains of Philip are deposited in a chapel of the castle, in a tomb awful in its simplicity.

The castle of Ildefonso was in the time of the last reign always the residence of the monarch during the hunting season. The account of this royal diversion we copy from the same author we have before quoted. "The rendezvous was upon the banks of this little river (Enesma) about a league from the castle of St. Ildefonso. Some days previous to the arrival of the court a number of peasants were sent to the neighbouring hills, to drive before them the deer with which the country abounded. The prescribed limits were gradually narrowed until the time fixed for rousing the game. The sport then became excellent, the deer ran in small herds on all sides, seemingly perceiving the danger into which they were driven; after which they faced about and endeavoured to brave the running fire of musketry that threatened them in the rear; but failing in the attempt, and obeying the impulse of fear, they passed in closer herds through the fatal defile, where the king, his sons and the other princes, placed in ambuscade, awaited

their arrival. Their agility now became their last resource, and saved the greater number. Out of three or four thousand, and sometimes more which passed thus in review, generally about a hundred fell." In the first year of his reign, Charles IV. destroyed more than two thousand of these animals at once, by having them driven before batteries charged with grape shot. The pretence for these cruel slaughters was the devastations they committed in the cultivated grounds about the royal residence.

Aranjuez is a beautiful city standing in a large plain surrounded with hills, the intervening space being delightfully laid out in rows of trees and enclosures of pasturage. The river Tagus, famed for its golden sands, winds along to the east, and the roads along its banks are planted with thick groves, which render the scene delightful. The avenue called the Calle de la Regna is three miles in length, and crosses the Tagus twice before it terminates in the thickets. In the island of Tagus are most delightful gardens, which in hot weather are thronged with company. They are ornamented with statues, vases and fountains, and are beautifully laid out in terraces, shady walks and thickets of roses.

Toledo is situated on a rocky peninsula that stretches out into the same river. It is a very ancient city, and is situated on an ascent so steep that no carriages can be used in the streets. The Alcazar, or ancient Moorish palace, is distinguished for its chaste and simple architecture. It is placed on the

very highest point of the rock, overlooking the whole city. From its situation the city is ill furnished with water, the ancient aqueducts which supplied it having been destroyed; all that is used is carried into the city on the backs of asses, and the water-carriers of Toledo form a large part of the populace. The sword blades of Toledo have been famous for centuries, and a manufactory of them is still carried on, which employs a great number of hands.

Valencia is situated on the banks of the Guadalaviar, across which it has several bridges; but except in rainy seasons the bed of the river is nearly dry. This city, like most of the Spanish towns, has a long public walk and ride planted with trees for the convenience of the inhabitants. It is called the Alameda, and at its entrance is an uncouth looking gothic pile, called the palace, in which the captain-general of the province resides. The streets of this city are unpaved, crooked and narrow, in winter impassable from mud, and in summer filled with clouds of dust. The exchange is an ancient and noble gothic building, and the cathedral is a very large pile of the same order of architecture.

A curious custom is observed in this city on Easter Sunday. Artificial figures of men made of wood, straw, &c. and dressed in old clothes, are suspended by ropes fixed across the streets from the opposite houses. These are intended to represent the traitor Judas, and during the day the boys amuse themselves with pelting them with stones and reviling them. In

the evening bonfires are lighted, and they are consigned to the flames amidst the hootings and shoutings of the mob.

The port of Valencia is situated about a mile below the city.

Seville is a very ancient city, supposed to have been founded by the Phœnicians. The Romans, by whom it was called Julia, embellished it with many magnificent buildings.

The steeple of the cathedral of Seville is conceived the most elegant structure of the kind in Spain; but the chief object of interest in this religious edifice is the tomb of Christopher Columbus, the discoverer of the new world, which is erected in front of the choir.

“Few places,” observes M. Bourgoing, “contain so many public edifices devoted to the purposes of religion of charity, and of government, as Seville. Here are twenty-five parish churches, five chapels of ease, thirty-one convents for men, twenty-nine nunneries for women, &c. two seminaries, eight hospitals and two houses of correction.

The exchange or lonja, is a handsome building, each façade of which is two hundred feet long: it is the repository of all the records and papers relative to the discovery of and early history of South America. The Alcazar, the ancient residence of the moorish kings, is a very magnificent structure. It has been at different times a favourite residence of the Spanish court.

Cadiz the most important city of Spain, as being

the centre of its commerce, stands on an island which is separated from the main land by a narrow arm of the Atlantic Ocean. It is connected by a bridge with the continent, and the island on which it stands is about seventeen miles in length and about six broad. The entrance into the bay is about five hundred fathoms wide, and is guarded by two forts called the Purlals. Two inconsiderable round towers which stand here are miscalled the pillars of Hercules. The cathedral, an immense pile, stands on the shore, and from the sea has a very striking appearance. The city is divided into twenty-four quarters, each of which is under the peculiar inspection of an officer of police. There is a pleasant public walk, and a drive for carriages, called the Campo Santo, opposite to which, on a neck of land, running out into the sea, stands the fortress of St. Sebastian.

The square of St. Antonio is large and tolerably well built; but the city in general is dirty and mean. There is a Spanish theatre which is but a poor place, a French one somewhat more elegant, and a tolerable opera house.

Cordova, once an opulent Roman settlement, is situated on the river Guadalquivir, and is famed for its cathedral, which was originally a mosque. It is supported by more than a thousand columns.

“The eye,” observes M. Bourgoing, “surveys with astonishment a forest of columns, perhaps unequalled in the whole world. They are of various coloured marbles or of jasper, but little tarnished by time.

The whole edifice, which on the outside appears a shapeless massy building, occupies an area of six hundred and twenty feet in length, and four hundred and forty in breadth. In part of its length extends a large court yard, at the bottom of which is a capacious arched cistern. The court is dismal, being planted with trees, and particularly orange trees, whose aged branches and tufted foliage afford an asylum to a multitude of birds, and cover with their shade several fountains which maintain a perpetual coolness near this spot.

Salamanca, famous for its universities, which are now however fallen greatly into decay, is situated on the river Tormes, over which it has an old Roman bridge of stone. The city is regularly built of hewn stone, and three rows of balconies run uniformly along the front of the houses.

The great square is remarkable for its cleanliness and the beauty and regularity of its architecture.

The cathedral, which was built by several different hands, is remarkable for the boldness of its nave and the finishing of the gothic ornaments. There are a number of other religious edifices in Salamanca.

Placencia, a beautiful little city, is built on the banks of the river Enerte. It is situated in the midst of a delightful country, and is fortified with strong walls and a castle. In the celebrated monastery of St. Justus in this place, Charles V. after voluntarily resigning his crown, ended his days, having been a

recluse for two years, and practising all the severity of the order.

Burgos is situated on the banks of the river Arlançon, over which it has three bridges. It has no remarkable edifice, but its cathedral, like most churches in Spain, possesses a miraculous figure to which the superstitious attribute many wonders; it is called San Christo de Burgos, and is approached with the greatest awe and mystery. The vulgar believe that "its beard grows."

The square of Burgos is ornamented with a badly executed bronze statue of Charles III. which deserves notice, merely as being the only monument of the kind to be met with in Spain.

Carthagena was once the most flourishing city in Spain, and its docks and magazines are now the most considerable in the Spanish dominions. It is defended towards the sea by forty pieces of cannon; but on the land side is totally without defence. The arsenal is a square building south west of the town. In the dock, ships are heaved down for repair, being kept clear of water by the use of engines and a great pump, which are plied without intermission by Spanish criminals and Barbary slaves.

An English traveller, Mr. Swinburne, relates that he saw eight hundred of the former and six hundred of the latter employed in this labour, which they were kept close to for sixteen hours out of the four and twenty.

“In the summer season,” he observes “scarcely a day passes that some do not drop down dead at their work. Their despair is sometimes so outrageous that if they can get within reach of a weapon they will plunge it in their own breast, or that of an associate merely to be put to death themselves.”

There are a few remarkable buildings in Carthagena and very few good streets. There is a large hospital built three stories high, round two square courts, of which the plan and the architecture are both good.

Grenada was formerly the largest city in Spain, and had twenty gates, the greatest part of which are now in ruins.

The city is built on the river Xenil, along the banks of which is the alameda, or public walk, beyond which the hills rise boldly, covered to their summits with orange groves, rows of cypresses, and clusters of houses.

It is said the Moors regret none of their misfortunes in Spain so much as the loss of Grenada, which they beseech Heaven every Friday in their evening prayers to restore to them.

Valladolid is a large well-peopled city, and contains many elegant religious edifices. The Campo Grande is an enormous square, with three tiers of balconies round the houses, in which it is calculated twenty-four thousand persons can sit at their ease to view the bull-fights, which are exhibited there. The streets of Valladolid, especially at the time of the fair, appear very lively, but they are so insufferably

dirty as to be equally repulsive to the sight and smell.

Segovia was formerly a very famous city, but its inhabitants are now very few, and its streets disgustingly dirty.

The cathedral is very spacious and of majestic simplicity. The Alcazar, the former palace of the Moorish kings, is still in a good state of preservation, and is used as a military school for the artillery.

Gibraltar, now in the possession of Great Britain, was formerly a town and fortress of Andalusia. It is situated on a barren rock, accessible on the land side only by a narrow passage between the rock and the sea, and that is walled and fortified, both by nature and art, beyond the power of surprise; and from the sea its situation renders it almost impregnable.

The town is neither large or beautiful; but is always well garrisoned, and provided for defence, being considered as the key of Spain. The ground produces scarcely any thing; all the provisions, therefore, for the garrison are brought either from England, or Ceuta, on the opposite coast of Barbary

The Spaniards are in person muscular and of middling stature. The Catalons and Arragonese, however, are mostly tall. The women are generally graceful and elegant in their appearance, and their sparkling black eyes and animated features compensate for the absence of those roses and lilies, which form the chief attractions of the beauties of colder climates.





SPANIARDS.



SPANIARDS.

At Madrid, and in other capital cities, the English and French modes of dress are very generally adopted; but the common dress of the country is for men a long dark cloak made of cloth, in winter, and of silk, taffety or stuff in summer, worn over a waistcoat with sleeves. Round hats have quite superseded the broad flapped hat formerly worn. The women's dress is generally made of silk; and a veil which covers the head and shoulders, and is gracefully folded by the arms, is indispensable.

"The Spaniard," observes M. Bourgoing, who lived several years among them, and was thus well qualified to judge of their national character, "has a very exalted opinion of his nation and himself, and expresses it without the least disguise of art. His variety is not nourished by those pleasant exaggerations which provoke laughter rather than anger, and which characterise some of the provinces of France. When he boasts it is done gravely, and with all the pomp of his language. But the haughtiness of the Spaniard, which would be noble were it more moderated, and his gravity, which always awes, and sometimes repels, are compensated by many estimable qualities, or rather are the sources of those qualities. Individual pride, like that of a nation, elevates the mind and guards it against meanness, and such is the effect of Spanish haughtiness. In Spain there are vices and crimes, but they all partake of this national characteristic. It is observable in the most obscure classes, in dungeons, and even under rags and misery."

The Spaniards resemble the Turks in being very sparing of speech upon ordinary occasions. The following anecdote is given as an example of their taciturnity. "A French traveller as he entered Castile met a shepherd guiding his flock. Curious to be informed of all the circumstances which give to the Spanish wool its inestimable qualities, he asked the shepherd a hundred questions. If his flock belonged to the province? What sort of food was given it? Whether he was on a journey? From whence he came? When would he return? &c. &c. The shepherd listened coldly to all his questions and replied, 'Here they breed, here they feed, and here they die,' and then pursued his journey."

Under this apparent coldness and apathy, the Spaniard conceals often much unaffected frankness and good nature. Faithful observers of their word and strictly honourable, a hair plucked from the whiskers, and given on making a contract, is in many parts of Spain a bond, which, without writing or witness is nevertheless strictly fulfilled.

The character of the natives, however, varies considerably in the different provinces. The Spaniards with all their apparent gravity are very fond of public amusements, and a great part of their time is passed in attending showy processions and church festivals, fire-works, bull-fights, theatrical exhibitions, and dances.

"Dancing," says Bourgoing, "is the most general amusement, and were it possible to take in the whole

of Spain at one view, at the close of day in every part would be seen young and old, the child with the matron, nay, even the grandmother dancing the fandango, which is the national dance. They are also very fond of walking, and every town has its alameda or public promenade.

“The custom of the siesta or afternoon’s sleep is so prevalent in Spain, that at that time, for two hours, all business is suspended, and the streets are much more deserted than in the middle of the night.

“The time for visiting is in the evening, when the men assemble in the public places, and the ladies at their friends’ houses, where they loll on cushions of silk or velvet, and divert themselves with music or conversation.”

Mr. Southey has given some curious descriptions of the accommodations for travellers in Spain. From one place he writes, “In this room are placed two tressels, four planks are laid across these, which support a straw-stuffed mattress of immense thickness. Over this is another as disproportionately thin, and this is my bed. The seat of my chair is as high as the table I write on. A lamp hangs upon the door. Above us are bare timbers, and the floor is tiled; I am used to vermin; to be fleaed is become the order of the night, and I submit to it with due resignation. Of the people, extreme filth and deplorable ignorance are the most prominent characteristics; yet there is a civility in the peasantry which Englishmen do not possess. I feel a pleasure when the passenger accosts

me with the usual benediction, "God be with you" In another place the same writer observes, "We could only procure a most deplorable room, with a hole above the roof to admit light as if down a chimney. It was long before we could procure chairs or tables. They spread beds for us on mats upon the floor. The roof was of cane, and the rats, running over it in the night, shook down the dust on our heads. I lay awake the whole night killing the mosquettos as they settled on my face, while the other inhabitants of the beds entertained themselves merrily at my expense."

Matters, however, are much worse should the king be on the road; his retinue, if he takes a journey of any length, sometimes amounts to five or six thousand persons, who have the power to seize on any carriage, horses, &c. that may be wanted for their conveyance; and a royal cook or a scullion, may take the carriage &c. of any traveller, and turn them and their baggage out upon the road to shift as well as they can, at a distance probably from any place where food or even house room can be procured, at any expense. Nothing is paid for by this courtly train; and the traveller, who follows its route, finds the country stripped of every necessary, and horses, mules and asses, lying dead along the road from excessive fatigue; their owners receiving no compensation beyond the honour of contributing to the service of his most Catholic Majesty.

CHAPTER XIX.

PORTUGAL. —

On thy voiceless shore
The heroic lay is tuneless now—
The heroic bosom beats no more.

BYRON.

PORTUGAL, the most westerly kingdom of Europe, is bounded by Spain on the north and east, and on the south and west by the Atlantic Ocean, and is about three hundred and fifty miles in length, and one hundred and twenty in breadth.

The climate of Portugal is in general milder than that of Spain, from its exposure to the western breezes of the sea; but the heat of the summer in the south of the kingdom is very oppressive, and in the mountainous parts of the north the winter is sometimes very severe. March and October are the pleasantest months of the year, January is the coldest; and in the other months storms of wind, rain and thunder are frequent. The soil is very fertile and produces wine, oil, oranges, lemons, pomegranates, figs, raisins, almonds, and many other fine fruits; but the mode of cultivation for either grain or vegetables is very

defective, and there is scarcely any meadow land except in the north-west provinces between the Douro and Minho. The whole of the corn lands do not produce more than three fifths of the demand of the country; but it must be acknowledged that this does not altogether arise from the bad system of agriculture, a great part of the soil not being of a nature favourable to the cultivation of grain. Olive, the vine, the mulberry tree, and most of the productions of Spain, flourish in abundance in Portugal.

There are several chains of high mountains in Portugal, some of which contain quarries of beautiful marble, and others are huge masses of the same.

The principal rivers of Portugal are the Douro, the Guadiana, the Minho and the Tagus from Spain; the Lima, the Vouga, and the Mondego, which take their rise in Portugal. The lake of Segura on Mont Estrelha, which is high on the mountain, and surrounded by rocks of great depth, is said to foretell storms at sea by a rumbling noise, and agitation of its surface, and to have had masts and yards frequently found floating on it.

The mountains contain various kinds of metals, as silver, copper, tin and iron, as also many gems, and beautiful marble of all colours. In the northern provinces are many ancient mines, supposed to have been worked by the Romans, by whom this country was possessed under the name of Lusitania.

The mouth or entrance of the largest of these mines which is cut through the solid rock, measures one mile





L I S B O N .

and a half in circumference, and upwards of five hundred feet deep. The extent of the mine at bottom is two thousand four hundred feet, by one thousand four hundred, and the subterranean passages pierce through the mountain in all directions like a labyrinth. None of these mines, however, are now worked, it being found to be more profitable to import metals from South America.

There are also lead and iron mines, but the latter are neglected from the deficiency of fuel.

The horses of Portugal are lively spirited animals, but of a slight make. From the scarcity of pasture there are few herds of cattle or sheep, and what they have is small and lean; but their flesh is well tasted. Hogs and kids are their best meat.

Lisbon, the capital of the kingdom, is allowed to be, next to London and Amsterdam, the finest port in Europe. The city is built in the form of a crescent at the mouth of the Tagus, and its appearance from the sea is at once delightful and superb. It is computed to be four miles long and one and a half broad; much of this space is taken up by the gardens, which are attached to most of the houses.

That part of the town which has been erected since the fatal earthquake in 1755, is laid out in good streets, wide, straight and regular, but badly paved, and still worse cleansed and lighted; there being no lamps but those which burn at the corners of the streets, before the images of the Virgin, or of a favourite saint.

The old streets were wretched and inconvenient beyond description, being so narrow, crooked, and steep, that no wheel carriages could be used in them, and the upper parts of the houses projecting, so that the inhabitants could literally shake hands from opposite windows, and below neither the light of the sun or a current of fresh air could reach. With these disadvantages, added to the total absence of cleanliness, it can be no matter of surprise that this city was frequently visited by the plague.

After the dreadful catastrophe we have before spoken of, by which not less than twenty-four thousand persons perished, the first minister, the Marquis de Pombal, and his architect M. Mardel, laid out the general plan of the new city, and the buildings were carried on with great spirit until the accession of the queen, Maria Frances Isabella, who put a stop to the building of several of the useful public structures which were begun, and the workmen were taken off to erect a large expensive convent, dedicated to the "heart of Jesus," which she chose to place exactly across the great avenue, which the marquis had designed to lead from the city to the new palace.

The best streets of Lisbon are those inhabited by tradesmen. There are several public walks, two theatres and a circus for bull fights, which are a favourite diversion here as well as in Spain.

In one of the skirts of the city is the English burial-ground, planted with walks of cypress trees, under the shade of which are the graves—among others of

Henry Fielding, the author of some of the best novels in the English language, and of the daughter of Edward Young, whose death he has so pathetically recorded in his *Night Thoughts* under the name of Narcissa.

The aqueduct in the environs of Lisbon is a noble and most useful work. It passes over the vale of Alcantara, uniting two opposite hills. Before its erection the city was sadly distressed for want of water. Providentially it received no injury from the earthquake, at which time it had been erected about seven years.

The neighbourhood of the city is rendered dull in appearance by the high stone walls which enclose the orchards and vineyards; but farther on the country is agreeably diversified, and the roads bordered with groves of orange and lemon trees and aloes, which blossom every summer, though in colder climates they are rarely seen to bloom.

Oporto is the next city in point of trade and opulence to Lisbon. The chief article of commerce is wine, of which thirty thousand pipes are annually exported. The wine cellars belonging to the merchants are of great extent, some of them being capable of containing six or seven thousand pipes.

There are no public buildings of importance in Oporto, nor any exchange or place of trade for the merchants, who meet in the principal street to transact business, being protected from the heat of the sun by sail cloth suspended across from house to house.

Evora, in the province of Alentejis, contains a cathedral, several churches and convents, a university and several courts of justice and hospitals. It is an archbishop's see, and is defended by a fort.

Portalegre is a fortified city, ten miles from the frontiers of Spain.

Elvas is also a city well defended by a castle and other fortifications.

The city of Beja is a dukedom, and contains several churches, convents and hospitals.

The Portuguese are in general rather under the middle stature, and are neither so well made or well featured as the Spaniards, whose habits and manners they greatly affect. The ladies are mostly thin and diminutive, with olive complexions, regular features and sparkling black eyes. They are extremely sprightly in their appearance and lively in their manners.

The higher classes adopt the French and English fashions in their dress; but those who can afford it wear very large and heavy pendants in their ears, and their sleeves are so wide as to save them the use of pockets, the handkerchief, &c. being tucked into the sleeve, and the purse tied to the girdle.

The dress of the common people, is for the men a large slouched hat and long cloak, under which, though prohibited, they generally conceal a dagger.

The higher classes in Portugal are very expensive in the furniture of their houses, and in the number of their domestics. The latter indeed would appear

incredible compared to English families of equal rank. This however does not always arise from pride, but a much more amiable feeling, it being an invariable custom never to discharge any of the servants of their ancestors, however unserviceable, but to add them to their own household. The poorer people have scarcely any furniture in their houses, always sitting cross-legged on the ground, and eating, with the dish, plate, &c. on their knees. They are very abstemious in their habits. Bread made of maize or Indian corn, with a head of garlic, is their standing meal, and if to this they can add a bit of dried Newfoundland cod-fish, it is considered a luxury. On grand festivals only they indulge themselves with flesh meat.

Mr. Murphy, in his travels in Portugal, thus describes the manners of the different classes of the Portuguese.

“The fine arts, which to the superior classes of every other nation of Europe are sources of the most refined pleasure, are almost entirely neglected by the nobility of this country: neither do they appear to take much pleasure in the cultivation of the sciences; though they possess an excellent capacity for both. Their lives are an even tenor of domestic felicities, not remarkable for brilliant actions, and but rarely stained with vice. The fame of their illustrious ancestors justly entitles them to every honour and respect; but, whilst they glory in their achievements, they seem to forget their maxims. It must be allowed, however, that they possess many amiable qualities.

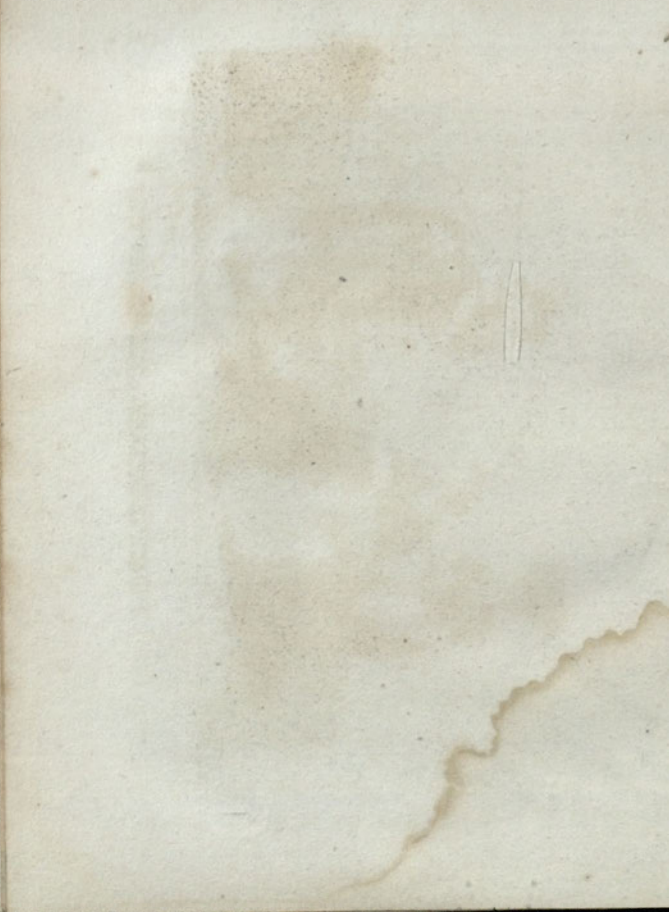
They are religious, temperate and generous, faithful to their friends, charitable to the distressed, and warmly attached to their sovereign.

“The merchants are remarkably attentive to business, and, as far as I could learn, just and punctual in their dealings. A Lisbon merchant passes his hours in the following manner. He goes to prayers at eight o'clock, to change at eleven, dines at one, sleeps till three, eats fruit at four, and sups at nine; the intermediate hours are employed in the counting-house, in paying visits or playing at cards.

“The common people of Lisbon and its environs are a laborious hardy race, many of them, by frugal living, lay up a decent competence for old age: it is painful to behold the trouble they are obliged to take for want of proper implements to perform their work. Their cars have the rude appearance of the earliest ages. These vehicles are slowly drawn by two stout oxen. The corn is shelled by the treading of the same animals, as in the days of the Israelites; hence probably the scripture proverb, “Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth the corn,” &c. They have many other customs which appear to us very singular, for instance, women sit with their left side towards the horse when they ride. Footmen play at cards while waiting for their masters. A tailor sits at his work like a shoe-maker. A hair-dresser appears on Sundays with a sword, a cockade, and two watches, or at least two watch-chains. A tavern is known by a vine-bush. A house to be let by a piece of blank



PORTUGUESE PEASANTS.



paper. An accoucheur by a white cross at his door. The lower classes of both sexes are very fond of gaudy apparel, we observe even the fish women with trinkets and bracelets of gold about the neck and wrist. The fruit-women are distinguished by a particular dress. The custom of wearing boots and black conical caps, is peculiar to these women.

“All the drudgery is performed by Gallicians, who may be called the hewers of wood and drawers of water of this metropolis. They are patient, industrious, and faithful to a proverb. One of the principal employments in which they are daily engaged is supplying the citizens with water, which they carry in small wooden barrels on their shoulders from the different fountains. Every Gallician in this servitude is obliged by the police of the city to carry one of these vessels filled with water every night to his lodgings, and in case of fire to hasten with it to assist in extinguishing the flames at the first sound of the fire-bell; any neglect in this respect is severely punished; on the contrary they are sure to be rewarded according to their vigilance.”

In the houses of foreign merchants, the Gallicians are the only servants employed, and many of the Portuguese prefer them in that capacity to the natives. They cook the victuals, clean the rooms, and make the beds. If there be any female servants under the age of five and thirty, they are invisible except to the mistress and her daughters. After this age they are left to their own discretion.

The ladies seldom breathe the pure air, except in their short excursions to chapel, which they visit at least once a day.

The Portuguese ladies possess many amiable qualities, they are chaste, modest, and extremely affectionate to their kindred.

In their christenings, marriages, and funerals the Portuguese are very extravagant; but in other respects very frugal and temperate, especially the females, who never drink any thing but water. The effect of this abstemiousness appears in their countenances, which are pale, modest and severe. Those who take much exercise, which few of them do, have a beautiful carnation in their cheeks. Their eyes are black and sparkling, their teeth regular, and their manners easy, unaffected and polite.

The Portuguese have a very high opinion of their own country. "He who has not seen Lisbon has seen nothing," says one of their proverbs. They entertain a very poor idea of countries which do not produce corn, wine or oil, and pity the misery of the inhabitants of northern climates, amidst their frost and snow. The chief happiness of their lives is the enjoyment of their fine climate, and the fine productions of their soil, which are produced with little labour.

"Under every misfortune," observes Mr. Murphy, "they are sure to find consolation in religion, and next to these divine favours, music is the greatest solace of their lives: it dissipates the sorrows of the

poor man, and refines the sentiments of the rich, life glides on agreeably amidst such endearing scenes. It would be in vain to attempt to persuade a Portuguese that he could enjoy such happiness in any other part of the globe; he is nurtured in this opinion, and if chance or misfortune should drive him into a foreign land he pines as if in a state of captivity."

The religion of the Portuguese is the Roman catholic in its most bigotted and intolerant form. They have a curious ceremony at Easter of electing an "emperor of the Holy Ghost" in the person of a little boy, whose reign lasts only till Whitsuntide; his privileges however continue for life, as he is exempt from punishment for any crime he may commit, excepting high treason. His standard is a dove, which is erected on every eminence, and his retinue parade the streets with little flags, bearing the same symbol which they offer to every good catholic to kiss, receiving in return offerings of money

The mode of executing criminals in Portugal is most horrible; a pillar is erected to which the unfortunate wretch is fastened. A surgeon draws a line with chalk across the throat, and the executioner follows the direction with a sharp knife.

CHAPTER XX.

SWITZERLAND.

Among these hilly regions where embraced,
In peaceful vales the happy Grisons dwell,
Oft rushing from the loaded cliffs,
Mountains of snow their gath'ring torrents roll ;
From steep to steep loud thund'ring down they come,
A wintry waste in dire commotion all. THOMSON.

SWITZERLAND is bounded on the north by Germany, on the west by France, and on the south and east by Italy. Its length from east to west extends about two hundred and thirty British miles, and from north to south about one hundred and twenty. It is a very mountainous country lying in the region of the Alps, which are for the most part covered with snow even in the midst of summer. The vallies are warm and fruitful, and nothing can be more delightful than the summer months, either on the hills or in the vallies; the frosts of winter are however very severe in the higher parts of the country, and rains and tempests are frequent. The face of the country is extremely beautiful and picturesque, and the transitions from the extreme of mildness to the highest state of cultivation is often as surprising as delightful. The

effects of persevering industry is every where evident in Switzerland, and the traveller beholds with delight the mountains cultivated to the very tops, hamlets and cottages soaring above the clouds, and flocks feeding on pastures which appear suspended in the air, while on the opposite side, the eye can view only rugged rocks, immense fields of ice and roaring cataracts.

The Glaciers, the chief objects of interest to travellers in Switzerland, are divided into the Upper and Lower Glaciers, the first of which occupy the sides and summits of the Alps, and the latter, which are by far the most extensive, the bosom of the same mountains. They are immense fields of ice and snow, which, though congealed sufficiently to become stationary is not hardened into ice. In the Lower Glaciers, the ice which extends for several leagues, bordering at one extremity by rugged rocks, and at the other extending into the cultivated vallies, is in some places a hundred feet thick.

Mr. Coxe in describing the difficulty of travelling over these frozen regions says,

“ We had each of us a long pole spiked with iron, and to secure us from slipping, the guides fastened to our shoes crampons or small bars of iron, provided with four small spikes of the same metal. At other times instead of crampons, we had large nails which answered more effectually our purpose. The difficulty of crossing these valleys of ice arises from the immense chasms. We rolled down large stones into some of them, and the great length of time before they

reached the bottom gave us some conception of their depth; our guides assured us that in some places they are not less than five hundred feet deep. I can no otherwise convey to you an image of this body of ice broken into irregular ridges and deep chasms, than by comparing it to a lake instantaneously frozen in the midst of a violent storm."

M. Bourrit, a French traveller thus particularly describes the Glacier des Bois. "To come at the collected mass of ice called Des Bois, we crossed the Arve, and travelling in a tolerable road passed some villages or hamlets, whose inhabitants behaved with much politeness; they invited us to go in and rest ourselves, apologized for our reception, and offered us a taste of their honey. After amusing ourselves some time among them we resumed our road, and entered a beautiful wood of lofty firs inhabited by squirrels. The bottom is a fine sand, left there by the inundations of the Arveron; it is a very agreeable walk and exhibits some extraordinary appearances. In proportion as we advanced into this wood, we observed the objects gradually to vanish from our sight, surprised at this circumstance, we were anxious to discover the cause, and our eyes sought in vain for satisfaction, till having passed through it the charm ceased. Judge of our astonishment, when we saw before us an enormous mass of ice, twenty times as large as the front of the cathedral of St. Peter, and so constructed that we had only to change our situation to make it resemble whatever we please. It is

a magnificent palace, cased over with the purest crystal, a majestic temple ornamented with a portico and columns of several shapes and colours: it has the appearance of a fortress flanked with towers and bastions, to the right and left and at the bottom is a grotto terminating in a dome of bold construction. This fairy dwelling, this enchanted residence, or cave of fancy, is the source of the Arveron, and of the gold, which is found in the Arve. And if we add to all this rich variety the tinkling sound of water dropping from its sides, with the glittering refraction of the solar rays, whilst tints of the most lively green or blue, or yellow or violet, have the effect of different compartments in the several divisions of the grotto, the whole is so theatrically splendid, so completely picturesque, so beyond imagination great and beautiful, that I can hardly believe the art of man has ever yet produced, or ever will produce a building so grand in its construction, or so varied in its ornaments."

The Avalanches, so frequently mentioned by travellers in Switzerland, are prodigious accumulations of snow, which, being detached from the mountains, either by the wind or some accidental circumstance, and gathering in their descent increased size and force, fall in the valleys, frequently burying the peaceful hamlet and its hapless inhabitants.

On Mont Blanc especially, the impetuous winds fold and condense the snow into a species of balloon, which with a dreadful hissing noise descends, and by

the explosion of the forcibly compressed air, sweeps away whole forests, houses, and even entire villages before it.

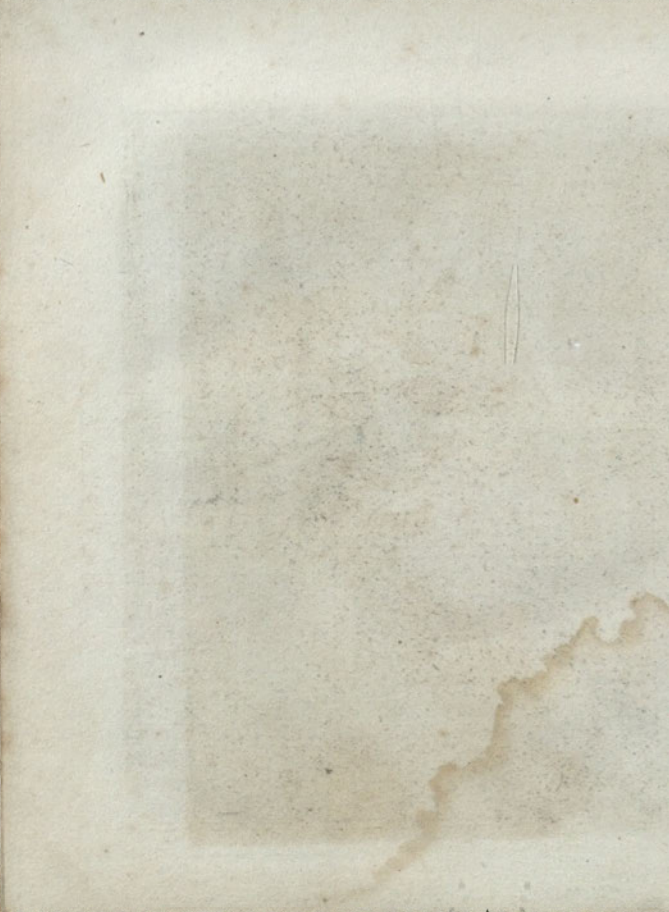
The principal rivers of Switzerland are the Rhine, the Rhone, the Aar, the Reuss and the Limmat, and there are several beautiful and extensive lakes, of which the most celebrated are the lakes of Constance and Geneva. The former is forty-five miles in length and fifteen in breadth, and the latter forms a kind of crescent forty miles in length and nine broad. The lake of Constance is famed for fine red trout, and that of Geneva abounds in excellent fish. The lakes of Neufchatel and Zurich are each about twenty-five miles long and four broad, and there are besides these many of smaller size.

The mountains of Switzerland yield in height to none but those of South America. They are denominated in general the Alps, but are divided by geographers into different portions, which have distinct appellations, the principal of which are the Great St. Bernard, Mont Blanc, Mont Genevre, the little St. Bernard, Mont Janet, &c.

“It was reserved,” observes a modern traveller, “for the present age to disclose the wonders of the superior Alps, the enormous ridges clothed with perpetual snows, often crowned with sharp obelisks of granite, styled by the natives horns or needles, the dreadful chasms of some thousand feet in perpendicular height, over which the dauntless traveller stands on a shelf of frozen snow, the glaciers or seas of

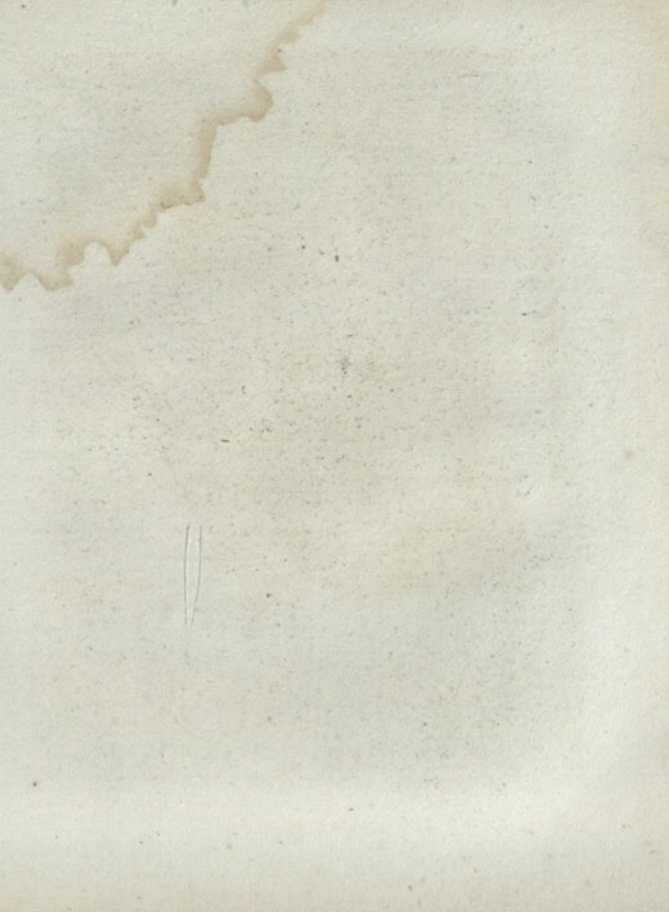


VALLEY OF LAUTERBRUNNEN SWITZERLAND.





SAVOYARDS.



ice sometimes extending thirty or forty miles in length, the sacred silence of the scenes before unvisited, except by the chamois and goat of the rocks, the clouds and sometimes the thunder-storm passing at a distance below the extensive prospects, which reduce kingdoms to a map, the pure elasticity of the air exciting a kind of incorporeal sensation, are all novelties in the history of human adventure."

The productions of Switzerland are wheat, barley, oats, rye, flax and honey, with abundance of apples, pears, plums, cherries, nuts, and chesnuts. Those parts of the country which adjoin Italy produce likewise peaches, figs, citrons, almonds and pomegranates, and it mostly abounds in timber.

The cattle of Switzerland are very large, and their horses much esteemed for strength and spirit. Among the animals peculiar to the country is the chamois, a species of the antelope, and the ibex or goat of the rocks, both of which browse on the highest summit of the rocks, and the chase of which forms the occupation of many of the mountaineers.

The marmot is likewise an inhabitant of the Alpine mountains, and is frequently pursued to its subterranean retreat, for the sake of its fur. The principal birds of this mountainous region are the eagle, golden vulture, and a species of red legged crow.

The chief mineral productions of Switzerland are iron, copper and lead. Some of the streams wash down particles of gold. There are some valuable quarries of rock salt in the canton of Bern, and mines

of sulphur and coal have likewise been found there. Rock crystal, beautiful marbles, and slates are found in many parts, and almost the whole country may be said to consist of granite and porphyry.

The principal city of Switzerland is Bern, which is nearly surrounded by the river Aar, and stands in a rich and fertile country, with the snowy Alps rising like clouds at a distance. The streets are singularly neat and beautiful, the houses built regularly of grey stone with arcades. There are several libraries and collections of natural curiosities. The great church is esteemed a beautiful piece of architecture.

Basil or Basle is a flourishing manufacturing town, built on both sides of the Rhine, over which it has a long wooden bridge; the city contains a palace, a gothic cathedral, and many good streets.

Zurich is situated at the northern extremity of a lake of the same name, and is a considerable and well built town, though the streets are somewhat narrow, and the houses more commodious than elegant. The country around Zurich is very picturesque, and the walks in the vicinity of the city delightful.

Lausanne is celebrated for the beauty of its situation, being built on the declivities of three eminences, two miles from the lake of Geneva.

The Swiss are in general tall and well formed, and are extremely active and industrious. They are simple, frank and unaffected in manners; and though not generally considered a very enlightened nation, the common people are much more intelligent than in



BERN.



SWISS PEASANTS.

most countries. The houses of the peasants are built of wood in a very singular style, with heavy pent-house roofs, that project considerably beyond the area of the foundation. This peculiar mode of construction is intended as a defence against the heavy snows which are thus prevented from lodging. The stair-cases are all on the outside of the houses.

The dress of the Swiss as well as their manners is extremely simple and plain. All articles of luxury, such as silk, gauze, lace, gold and silver ornaments, &c. being prohibited by sumptuary laws, in most of the cantons. The principal citizens appear on public occasions in black cloaks and bands, and the peasants are clothed in dresses of coarse cloth, the manufacture of their own country, the fashion of which descends unchanged from generation to generation.

The dress of the females in some of the cantons is very striking and equally becoming.

CHAPTER XXI.

HOLLAND.

A country that draws fifty feet of water
In which men live as in the hold of nature.

* * * * *

A land that rides at anchor and is moored
In which they do not live but go aboard. BUTLER.

THE United Provinces generally called Holland are eight in number, viz. Holland, Overyssel, Zealand, Friesland, Utrecht, Groningen, Guilderland and Zutphen; but the two latter being united as one sovereignty, they are usually called the seven United Provinces. They are bounded on the north and west by the German Ocean, and the Zuyder Zee on the east by Germany, and on the south by Belgium or the Netherlands, and extend about one hundred and fifty miles in length, and one hundred and twenty in breadth.

The climate of Holland is very foggy, except during the frosts of winter, which generally last for a period of four months, during which the rivers and harbours are all frozen up. The face of the country is the most uninteresting that can be imagined, being

entirely flat, and bearing the appearance when viewed from the top of a steeple or other high building, of an immense bog, drained at certain distances by innumerable ditches. The chief communications from place to place are by canals, which in summer are alike offensive to sight and smell.

The principal rivers of the United Provinces are the Rhine, the Maese, the Scheldt and the Veilt, and their best harbours those of Rotterdam, Helvoetsluys, Flushing and Amsterdam; the latter one of the largest in Europe has a bar at the entrance which prevents the entrance of vessels of great burden.

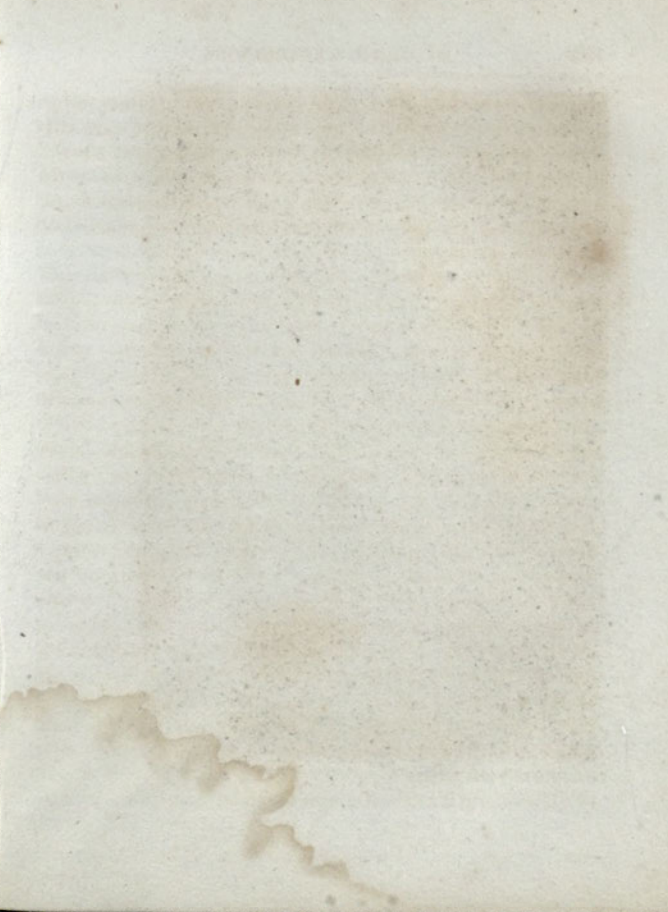
Mineral productions are unknown in Holland, nor are there any natural curiosities to arrest the eye of the traveller, though the whole country may be deemed a curiosity from the vast number of canals which intersect it, and the immense dykes by which it is defended against the incursions of the sea.

Holland does not produce sufficient grain for the consumption of the country; but by their indefatigable industry in draining bogs and marshes, the Dutch have formed excellent meadows, and the Danish and German cattle fatten there to a prodigious size; they make also surprising quantities of butter and cheese. Their sheep are a very fine breed, and their wool is highly valued. Their horses are larger than those of any other European nation. The river-fish are nearly the same as in England, but their sea-fish larger.

The Dutch take particular care of their domestic

animals, whether horse, dog, cow, &c. Those who are used for draught are rubbed down and curried till their sides are as glossy as the most pampered steeds in England. In summer they are frequently seen with a light dress to protect them from the flies while they are grazing in the meadows, and in the winter a warmer one defends them from the cold.

Mr. Pratt remarks in his Gleanings that "the very dogs of Holland are constrained to promote the trade of the republic, insomuch, that except the great dogs of fashion and state, which run before or after their lords' and ladies' equipages, and in imitation of their betters, are above being of any use, there is scarcely an idle dog of any size in the seven provinces. You see them in harness at all parts of the Hague, and some other towns, tugging at barrows and little carts, with their tongues almost sweeping the ground, and their poor hearts almost ready to beat through their sides. Frequently three, four, five, and sometimes six abreast, carrying men and merchandize with the speed of little horses; and in your walk from the Hague-gate to Scheveling you encounter at all hours of the day an incredible number loaded with fish and men, under the burden of which they run off at a long trot; sometimes they are driven by young men or boys at a full gallop the whole mile and a half, which is the distance between gate and gate, nor on their return are they suffered to come empty, being filled not only with the aforesaid men and boys, but





AMSTERDAM.

with such commodities as cannot be had at the village.

“It is fortunate,” observes the same writer, “that Holland is a country somewhat prone to be strict in the ceremonies of religion, by observance of which the dogs like their masters find the seventh a day of unbroken rest, for ‘Sunday shines a sabbath day to them.’ The first impression being much in favour of these industrious creatures, I had an eye upon them as well in their hours of repose as of toil, and felt my heart warm to see several whom I had observed very heavily laden on the Saturday, taking a sound nap outstretched and happy at their master’s doors on the Sunday. All the morning and afternoon they remained basking in the sun or the shade in profound tranquillity, while a number of unthinking whelps and lazy puppies, who had been passing their time in idleness all the week, were playing their gambols in the streets, not without a vain attempt to wake their seniors, and make them join in their amusements. Towards evening I have been in my sunseting rounds much pleased to notice the honest creatures sitting at their respective thresholds looking quite refreshed, giving occasionally into a momentary frolic, and the next morning returning to the labours of the week absolutely renewed.”

Amsterdam, the capital of Holland is next to London in commercial importance. It is built on eighty two islands, the communication between which is kept up by three hundred bridges.

The ground on which the city is built is of so marshy a nature, that the houses are all obliged to be erected on piles of timber driven in to a considerable depth. Some of the principal streets are from one hundred and twenty to one hundred and forty feet broad, with canals in the middle of them, along the sides of which are planted rows of trees. The houses are all built in the old gothic style, and are in general but mean edifices.

The Stadthouse, a public building containing the courts of justice, prison, bank, guard rooms, &c. is a very noble erection, and is built on fourteen thousand wooden piles like masts of ships rammed down as thick as possible together. The interior is very beautifully finished, the floors, walls, &c. of marble, and many of the apartments most beautifully ornamented with paintings and sculptures by the most eminent artists. The exchange and East-India house are very extensive buildings, and the arsenal is well worthy a traveller's attention. It is two thousand feet square, and contains docks for building ships, and warehouses and stores for completely rigging them, all in excellent order. The two ropewalks are eighteen thousand feet long.

The church of St. Catharine is a fine building, finished in the interior in the richest style. It contains a magnificent monument of the brave Admiral de Ruyter.

All religions are tolerated in Holland; and in Amsterdam there are upwards of eighty Roman



A DUTCH MARKET.

catholic chapels, besides numerous ones belonging to different sects of protestants.

The Rapshuys, or Rasphouse is a prison for criminals whose offences are not of a capital nature, in which they are employed in sawing log-wood, &c.

The Workhouse is another spacious building, partly appropriated to the reception of the helpless poor, and partly to the correction of minor offenders; the whole is conducted with the greatest order and neatness. In this building is a part appropriated to the reception of young girls belonging to respectable families, who are sent there by their parents and friends either for disobedience or some other domestic offence, and are closely confined to work under the superintendance of a governess, and subjected to personal chastisement or other punishments according to their offence.

Sir John Carr relates, that, at the period of his visit here were ten young ladies, some of them of high rank, confined there; but no stranger is allowed to see them at all, nor even their parents or nearest friends without an order from one of the governors.

Husbands may, upon due proof of drunkenness, extravagance, &c. confine their wives, and wives their husbands for three or four years in this prison. Near this place, and within the city, is what is called the Plantation, a large portion of ground laid out in avenues, and a great number of small gardens with

pretty cottages and summer-houses, and surrounded by canals, to which such of the citizens as cannot afford country-houses retire with their wives and families to drink tea, smoke their pipes, &c.

There is a large handsome theatre in Amsterdam, and a French theatre, which is small, neat, and generally well conducted.

Rotterdam is situated at the conflux of the rivers Rotter and Maese, the latter of which is here a very noble river, and canals are cut from it through every part of the city, which admit large vessels to load and unload directly into the different quays, &c. The streets are clean and spacious, and the houses handsomely built of hewn stone.

The Stadthouse is old, but the rooms are good and handsomely adorned. There are several excellent markets, and the exchange is a noble building.

Haarlem is a city of great antiquity surrounded with a wall, and having eight gates. It has a very magnificent Stadthouse, and the great church of Haarlem is considered the finest structure in the United Provinces.

Delft, famous for its manufactory of earthenware is a pleasant place, situated in the midst of beautiful meadows, and having canals, planted with lofty trees along their banks, running through all the principal streets.

Leyden, celebrated for its university, which has produced many learned and eminent men, is one of the largest and finest cities in Holland. The streets



FLEMINGS.

are spacious and very clean, and the public buildings magnificent. The city stands in the midst of a country of gardens, and is surrounded with ditches and canals, which run through most of the principal streets. It is famous for the long and severe siege it sustained, in 1573, against the Spaniards. When the citizens, reduced to the utmost extremity by famine, entreated their chief magistrate, Adrian de Verf, to capitulate, he replied, "My friends, here is my body, divide it among you to satisfy your hunger; but never think of surrendering to the cruel and perfidious Spaniards." This heroic speech had the effect of reviving the disheartened citizens, and Adrian de Verf had the satisfaction of preserving the town from falling into the hands of the enemy.

The Hague is a beautiful city, surrounded with a moat, over which there are several drawbridges. It is delightfully situated in the midst of verdant meadows. The streets are broad and regular, and planted, like most of the Dutch towns, with rows of trees. Leyden is the great mart of literature for all Holland. It is also the residence of the States-general, and all the foreign ministers. The Voohout, or Dutch Mall is a spacious public walk planted with trees, and having three distinct drives for carriages. It is a very favourite resort of the inhabitants, but is unpleasant to strangers as a walk, from being paved entirely with cockle-shells instead of gravel.

Scheveling is a very pleasant village about two miles from the Hague, from which there is a walk

all the way planted with lime trees, with benches at regular distances under their shade.

Ryswick is another village near the Hague, celebrated as the spot in which the treaty of peace between England, Germany, Holland, France, and Spain, was concluded in the year 1697. The palace of Ryswick is the only building constructed of free-stone in the United Provinces, but contains nothing remarkable in the interior except a few good pictures.

Houslairdyck, about a mile from the sea, has also a palace which is considered by some superior to many of the famous Italian palaces. Attached to it are some beautiful plantations of evergreens, an aviary for foreign birds, and a menagerie for wild beasts.

Saardam is the principal place for ship building in Holland. "Saardam," observes Mr. Pratt, "like other towns of North Holland is almost entirely built of wood, painted on the outside with as much care as to colour and figures as our choicest apartments on the inside. Before and behind every house, even in this populous and commercial town, which contains many thousand inhabitants, are little gardens, the eighth, tenth, and even twentieth of an acre, where flowers, vegetables, shrubs, grass-plots, and cockle-shell walks are arranged in so singular a manner that they seem rather the property, and indeed the work of fairy fingers and fairy people, than of a hardy heavy-looking set of men and women, whose lightest tread or touch might seem to throw them into

irretrievable disorder. You cannot look at a tree of a year's growth, but its bark is painted of all hues, figures and fancies; nor can you sit down on a bench without pressing under you blue tigers, red wolves, green foxes, yellow rabbits, and white ravens. Taste is absolutely forbidden to enter North Holland, but in lieu of it whim is privileged to play whatever pranks he thinks proper, so as he makes no dirt. They almost quarrel with Nature, whom they welcome during the spring and summer, for dropping her leaves upon their shell-walks in autumn."

There are large magazines at Saardam for timber, masts, yards, cordage, anchors, cannon, and every other requisite to build and fit out all sorts of vessels. It was here that Peter the Great acquired his elementary knowledge of ship-building.

Alkmaar is a pleasant city surrounded with orchards, gardens, &c.

Noorn is a large town encompassed with dykes and canals, and is a place of considerable commerce.

Middleburg, the capital of Zealand, is a very handsome city, the streets spacious, well-paved and cleaned, and some of the public edifices very magnificent. The canal which runs a mile and a half from the sea allows merchant vessels to come up quite into the town, which enjoys a considerable commerce, particularly in Spanish and French wines.

Flushing has an excellent harbour, but the climate is most pestilential to foreigners.

Groningen is a very handsome, regular built city, and

though an inland place, has a fine harbour surrounded with quays.

Leuwarden is a clean, well-built city, the capital of Friesland, and has some slight fortifications.

Nimeguen is an ancient and strongly fortified city, built in the form of a crescent, on five small hills on the banks of the river Waal. It is very populous, and has several flourishing manufactures.

Zutphen is a large city, well fortified, and having a bridge of boats over the river Yssel. The great Sir Philip Sidney died here of the wounds he received at the siege of this city.

Arnheim is delightfully situated on the banks of the Rhine, and has several beautiful and regular streets. It is strongly fortified, and surrounded with a wall planted with lime trees, affording a fine walk of considerable extent.

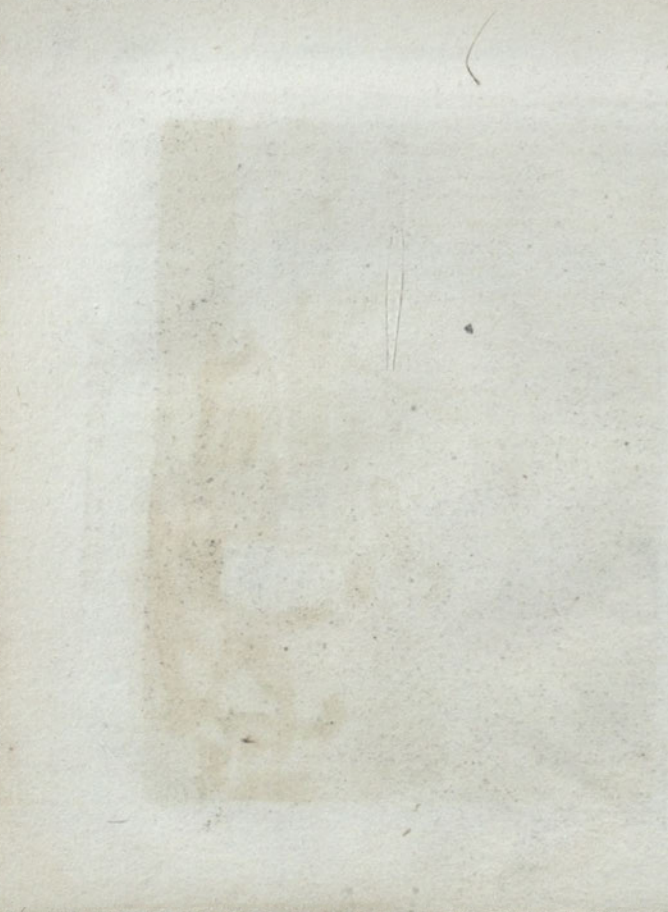
Utrecht is one of the first cities in Holland, handsomely built, in a fine country and a healthful climate. Next to the Hague it is the principal residence for people of fashion and distinction.

The Dutch are an extremely industrious, quiet, plodding people; but though cold in their manners, are very irascible in temper, especially under the effects of liquor.

In whatever relates to business, they are in general very expert, and to the knowledge of the art of acquiring wealth, they add the still more difficult one of being able to preserve it. They are universal traders, and previous to the French revolution there



HOLLANDERS.



was scarcely a manufacture they did not carry on, or a state to which they did not trade. Their tradesmen are in general reckoned honest in their dealings, and very sparing of words. They are very unsociable to strangers, and the continual smoking of tobacco supplies the want of all conversation.

The usual method of travelling in Holland is by canal, in covered boats, which are drawn along by a horse on the bank, at the rate of three miles an hour, the fare being somewhat less than a penny a mile. Strangers however, who do not relish the clouds of tobacco smoke in which the Dutchmen are constantly enveloped, generally engage the best cabin to themselves, and are thus enabled to enjoy in comfort the sight of the rich meadows, well fed cattle, and clean villages built on the banks, as they glide almost imperceptibly along.

CHAPTER XXII.

GERMANY.

From avarice, from luxury, and war,
 Sprang heavenly science—and from science freedom—
 O'er wakened realms philosophers and bards
 Spread in concentric circles——.

COLERIDGE.

GERMANY is bounded on the north by the German Ocean, Denmark, and the Baltic sea; by Prussia, Galicia, and Hungary, on the east; by the Adriatic sea, Italy, and Switzerland, on the south; and by France, Holland, and the North sea, on the west; extending six hundred and twenty miles in length, and five hundred and thirty in breadth. The climate of Germany greatly resembles that of Great Britain.

The most celebrated mountains of Germany are those of the Hartz, in the north; of Hessia, in the south-west; and of Erzeberg, which bound the fertile country of Saxony, on the south; the mountains of Wirttemberg, and the high mountains of Bavaria and Salzburg, which are continuations of the Tyrolese Alps.

The principal rivers are the Elbe, the Rhine, the Weser, and the Danube; the latter rises in Suabia, and after running a course of five hundred miles, enters the Turkish territories, then, extending itself four hundred and eighty miles farther, enters the Euxine sea. The Rhine forms the ancient barrier between France and Germany, and its course may be computed at six hundred miles. The Maine is also a considerable river, and abounds with trout, carp, and other fish.

Germany abounds with mines of silver, quicksilver, copper, tin, iron, lead, sulphur, nitre, and vitriol. Saltpetre and salt are likewise found in Austria, Bavaria, Silesia, and the Lower Saxony, as also are numerous precious stones, particularly rubies of the finest sort. Marble, chalk, red lead, alum, and a variety of other fossils are found in Bavaria, Tyrol, and Liege. There are likewise coal pits in various parts of the German dominions, and what is called the *terra sigillata* of Mentz, which is considered to be an antidote to poison.

Germany produces abundance of grain of all sorts; tobacco, rice, and saffron are also cultivated with success, and fruits of every kind attain to great perfection, especially in the southern provinces.

Their wines are equal to the finest of Italy, particularly those called Rhenish and Moselle, of which great quantities are exported to other countries.

The oxen and sheep of Germany are much inferior

to those of England, but they possess an excellent breed of heavy horses.

In the forests are found a very large species of wild boar, the hams of which are considered by many superior to those of Westmoreland. The glutton, another wild animal frequently met with, is said to be the most voracious of all animals. It feeds so ravenously, that it becomes completely torpid, and in that state is easily killed.

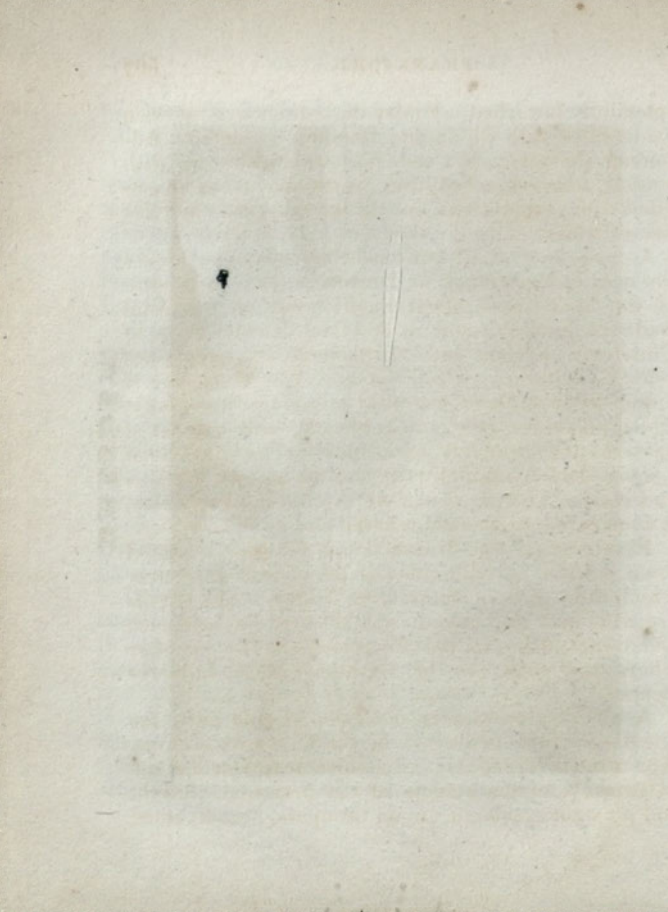
The feathered inhabitants of the woods and forests are the same as in most other European countries, but their singing birds are particularly esteemed for the fineness of their notes, and great numbers, particularly of larks, are exported to all parts of Europe.

Besides the natural produce of the country, Germany enjoys an extensive commerce in numerous manufactured articles, as silk and cotton stuffs, turnery ware, toys, beautiful porcelain, earthenware, glasses, mirrors, iron plates and stoves, steel work, brass wire, &c.

Dresden, the capital of Saxony, is a very handsome city, situated on the river Elbe, over which it has a magnificent stone bridge, five hundred and forty feet long, and thirty-six broad. There are two palaces; the Electoral palace, which is a very large building, and the Chinese palace, so called from the style of the architecture, which is after the Chinese and Japan manner: it is far from being an elegant building, but contains many apartments



DRESDEN.



splendidly furnished. Under this edifice are fourteen vaults filled with China and Dresden porcelain. Adjoining the palace is a very fine garden, adorned with statues, terraces, a beautiful grotto, and green houses filled with orange-trees, and all the most rare and delicious fruits.

Leipsic is a small but handsome city, considered the next in importance to Dresden. It is the centre of the book trade of Germany, and of the wool trade of Saxony, and at its three annual fairs of Christmas, Easter, and Michaelmas, its streets are crowded with foreign merchants. The Exchange is a fine building, and there is a famous university, which possesses an excellent library, and cabinet of natural and artificial curiosities. The houses of Leipsic are lofty and elegant, and the streets spacious and clean. The church of St. Nicholas, in this city, is considered the finest Lutheran church in Germany.

Frankfort on the Maine is a well built fortified town, situated on both sides of the river Maine, over which there is an elegant stone bridge. The streets are wide and well paved, and the houses handsome and substantial. In the town house is the chamber where the emperors of Germany were formerly elected.

A singular custom is observed in this city, the origin of which is buried in the obscurity of time. About noon every day two women appear on the battlements of the steeple of the principal church, and play some solemn air on trumpets, accompanied

by the voices of four or five men, who regularly attend these female trumpeters.

Hanover the capital of the kingdom of that name, is a well fortified town, standing on the river Leine, which is here navigable for small boats. The palace is a large stone structure, having several fine apartments richly adorned with tapestry and paintings, and splendidly furnished. There is an orphan house, and a hospital for the sick within the city, and another outside the walls. The palace of Herenhausen, built by the first prince who was elector of Hanover, is about two miles and a half from the city. It is a very pleasant place on the banks of the river, and has some beautiful gardens attached to it, in which is one of the largest and finest orangeries in Europe, together with several noble fountains and cascades.

Hamburgh is situated on the river Elbe, which is here about four miles broad, forming two good harbours, from which canals are cut to convey merchandize to all parts of the city. The tide in these canals, as well as in the river itself, ebbs and flows twice a day, and subjects the inhabitants to great inconvenience from inundation; when the wind blows strong at north-west, the lower buildings are always filled with water. The streets are for the most part wide, and there are a great number of bridges over the canals. The walls of the city form a circle of nearly five miles and a half, and the ramparts, which are lofty, covered with grass, and planted with trees, are sufficiently wide to allow several carriages to go



HANOVER.



A PRIEST & BURGOMASTER OF HAMBURG.

abreast. The houses are in general built of a bad coloured brick, and the whole appearance is far from elegant. There are some handsome churches, with very lofty steeples, and the interiors for the most part splendidly ornamented with paintings, altars, handsome monuments, organs, &c.

Aix-la-Chapelle lies in a valley surrounded with woods and hills covered to the summits with vines. It is encompassed by two walls, an outer and an inner wall, the former of which has eleven gates, and the latter ten. The senate-house is the finest stone structure in Germany. It is adorned with statues of all the emperors since Charlemagne, and a great number of valuable historical paintings. In the upper story is a large hall, in which the emperors received their iron crown, and entertained those who assisted at the coronation. There are upwards of eighty fountains in the streets of this city, the principal one of which is in the market-place, and throws out four streams, which fall into a copper cistern weighing twelve thousand pounds; it is ornamented at the top with a large brass statue of Charlemagne in armour, richly gilt.

The cathedral is a large gothic pile, beautifully ornamented in the interior with pillars, of marble, and brass statues gilt, mosaic work, &c. The body of Charlemagne is interred in a coffin of silver, covered with a beautiful marble monument, under the altar in the choir.

Munich, the capital of Bavaria, is beautifully

situated on the banks of the river Iser. The streets and squares of this city are spacious, and are kept delightfully clean and neat, the water flowing through them all in narrow stone channels, and the buildings vie in beauty and regularity with any city in Europe. The palace is an extensive building, but its exterior by no means corresponds with its internal magnificence and beauty. It has four principal courts, of which that called the emperor's court is decorated with statues, and was formerly used as a place of combats of wild beasts. From this court is an ascent of red marble steps to a magnificent hall, one hundred and eighteen feet long, and fifty-two broad, in which stands a statue of Virtue formed out of a single piece of porphyry. The palace also contains a bath in the form of a grotto, with three rooms, a noble library, a museum, and a cabinet of curiosities. The town house is a very elegant building, the front of which is decorated with numerous hieroglyphic paintings.

Augsburg is a large, populous, and well built city, the capital of the dutchy of Wirtemberg; the town house is a beautiful building, the portico of polished red marble, with white marble pillars. Its principal ornament is a saloon, containing numerous fine paintings. There are numerous fountains in different parts of the town, to which water is conveyed by means of aqueducts, which supply also several corn, sawing, flatting, and melting mills.

The Germans are, in their personal appearance,

in general tall, fair, and muscular, and the ladies are remarkable for the delicacy of their complexions. Some of them are strikingly beautiful and fascinating, both in form and features. The higher classes, both male and female, follow the French and English modes of dress, but are particularly attached to rich and valuable furs, and the ladies appear at court loaded with jewels. In many of the German towns, the burghers' wives, and females of an inferior class, dress in a very fantastic and unbecoming style.

No people are fonder than the Germans of public feasting, and they are generally accused of indulging at all times too much in the pleasures of the table and the bottle.

They are naturally a frank, honest people, and are remarkable for the industry, activity, and perseverance with which they apply to their different vocations. These are the qualities which have obtained for them such great pre-eminence in the mechanical arts, which is visible in their watch and clock making, jewellery, sculpture, painting, turnery, &c. They are in general taciturn and heavy in their manners, and the common people rude and uncultivated, though no country has produced a greater number of distinguished authors, nor can boast a more general taste for literature.

The amusements of the Germans are nearly the same as those of other European cities, and to these may be added the chase of the wild boar, an

amusement productive of great enterprize and danger, and which they prefer to all others.

In winter, when the Danube is frozen, a favourite entertainment is driving in sledges formed in various fantastic shapes, as swans, tigers, scallop shells, &c. To these is harnessed a horse, and sometimes a stag, ornamented with feathers, ribbands, bells, &c. a lady is seated in the sledge dressed in a rich habit of velvet, ornamented with furs, lace, and sometimes diamonds. The reins are guided by a gentleman or servant sitting behind, and when this diversion takes place, as is most frequent by night, others precede the sledge with lighted torches, which together with the dazzling appearance of the hardened snow over which they glide produce a most brilliant and picturesque effect.

The immoderate use of tobacco by the Germans is in general very offensive to strangers: the pipe is seldom out of the mouths of the common people, and when they cannot smoke, as at work, &c. they supply the deficiency by chewing.

The poorer classes support with fortitude hunger and cold, but they cannot submit with the same patience to the privation of what custom has rendered to them the necessaries of life, beer, brandy, and tobacco.

The Bavarians differ very materially both in persons, manners, and habits, from the natives of the other German provinces. They are an indolent,



PEOPLE of NUREMBURG.

dirty, bigoted race of people, remarkable for the licentiousness of their manners, and a wandering unsettled turn of mind, which leads them to prefer any country to their own, and adopt a life of beggary and dependence rather than submit to the regular habits of labour.

In their persons they are stout and muscular, with very round heads, pale complexion, and a very little peaked chin. Some of the women, however, are extremely handsome, well shaped, and graceful, with skins which may truly be said to vie with the rose and lily in purity and brightness.

The country people live in the most deplorable state of ignorance and dirt. Their hovels are such wretched places, that it appears scarcely credible they are the habitations of human beings; and in their habits they display the grossest mixture of devotion and debauchery, and a ferocity which frequently gives rise to the most revolting crimes.

CHAPTER XXIII.

AUSTRIA.

Fair cities, gallant mansions, castles old,
And forests, where beside his leafy hold
The sullen bear oft hears the distant horn,
And whets his tusk against the gnarled thorn.

COLERIDGE.

THE Austrian empire extends about seven hundred and sixty miles in length, from the frontiers of Switzerland to the utmost limits of Transylvania, and about five hundred and twenty in breadth from the river Bug, the boundary of Prussian Poland, to the river Save, which divides the Austrian from the Turkish territories. Austria includes several states, which were formerly independent sovereignties, as Bohemia, Hungary, Galicia, and Lodomeria, the duchies of Stiria, Carinthia and Carniola; the marquisate of Moravia, and the provinces of Transylvania, Slavonia, Croatia, and part of Dalmatia. The Austrian monarch likewise possesses some Italian territories, which will be noticed under the head of Italy.

The climate and soil of an empire so extensive as Austria must necessarily be considerably diversified. Austria Proper equals, if it does not exceed, any of the German provinces, in the fertility of its soil and

the salubrity of its air. Hungary in some parts surpasses all other countries in the richness of its productions, while in others it presents nothing but dreary deserts and extensive morasses, and a most unhealthy climate. Bohemia is rich in crops of corn, and has abundance of fruit and excellent hops. In Transylvania and the other provinces, the soil is generally good, though very imperfectly cultivated.

The principal river of Austria is the Danube, which we have before mentioned, as taking its rise in Suabia. The next in importance is the Kiss, the Save, the Drave, the Inn, the Moldau, the Elbe and the Morau.

Various elevated chains of mountains diversify the face of the Austrian dominions. Of these, the principal are the Rhætian or Tyrolese Alps, the Carpathian mountains, which form the boundary on the north and east of Hungary; the Dalmatian chain, and the chain of metallic mountains, called the Erzberg, which separates Bohemia from Saxony. Very extensive forests exist in various parts of the Austrian territories, particularly along the ridge of the Carpathian mountains. Mines of silver, quicksilver, copper, lead, tin, iron, saltpetre and sulphur are found in Bohemia; and in Hungary are gold, silver, copper, antimony, coal, salt, and alum mines. The latter country also produces many kinds of precious stones, especially the opal, a most beautiful gem, which has never been discovered in any other country of the globe. There are also numerous mines of different metals in Galicia; and near Cracow are the salt-

mines of Wielickza, the most extensive and richest in the whole world.

The quicksilver mines of Idria, in which criminals only are condemned to labour, are described as the most dreadful abodes of misery to which a human being could be consigned. The noxious quality of the mineral penetrating the pores of the skin, soon reduces the wretched miners to the appearance of living spectres; a total contraction of the joints disables them from work, and very few survive more than two years their condemnation to these horrible subterraneous abodes.

The forests of the Austrian territories abound in wild animals. In Bohemia are found bears, lynxes, wolves, foxes, martens, badgers, and beavers. In Moravia a species of leopard is met with, called by the natives *rysowe*. It is of the size of a large dog, but much thicker in the body.

The wild cattle called the *urus*, or bison, inhabits the Carpathian forests, as well as those of Lithuania; the wild boar, chamois and marmot, are also found in the mountains.

There are a great number of mineral springs and baths in the different provinces of Austria, which are noted for their medicinal qualities, and in the duchy of Carniola is the famous lake of Cirknitz, more than eight miles in length, and four in breadth, which, in the month of June, entirely disappears through several apertures in the ground, and in September reascends with considerable force, thus yielding in summer the





VIENNA.

richest pasturage, and in winter abounding with fish.

Vienna, the capital of Austria, and the residence of the court, is watered by the Danube, which is here very wide. It is well fortified with broad bastions and a deep ditch. The houses are built of stone, and very lofty, but have a most gloomy appearance, from the custom, which is universal, of enclosing the windows from the top of the house to the bottom with iron bars. The streets are in general crooked, narrow and ill kept, and the city altogether far from a pleasant abode, though it is the residence of a great number of distinguished foreigners, there being seldom less than twenty ambassadors from different countries attendant on the court, besides the Austrian ministers and nobility.

There are two handsome and spacious colleges in Vienna, and a great number of religious edifices, the principal of which is St. Stephen's church, a Gothic building with glazed tiles, and containing many very sumptuous monuments. There is also a Scotch church, dedicated to St. Coleman, who was a native of Scotland, and the patron saint of Austria.

Prague, the capital of Bohemia, stands on both sides of the river Moldau, over which it has a stone bridge, seven hundred and forty-two paces long, and so wide that three carriages can pass abreast. It stands on sixteen piers, and is ornamented with statues of saints, of whom the chief is St. Nepomac, the patron saint of bridges, who suffered martyrdom

by being precipitated from a bridge on this spot. Prague is a large city, but far from populous. On a hill commanding a very extensive prospect stands the royal castle, which is a large but irregular building. Many of the palaces of the nobility are built after the Italian mode; that of the Duke of Friedland is a very magnificent structure. In general the houses are well built, of stone; and from the situation in which the city is placed, the houses rising regularly above each other to the top of a hill, which is crowned with the imperial palace, the whole has a very grand and beautiful appearance.

The church of the Cross is a very elegant piece of architecture, ornamented with fine marble pillars, and very beautiful paintings. That of St. Wenceslaus is distinguished by being in a great measure covered with jasper, amethysts, and cornelian, some as large as a man's hand, but irregularly set.

Gratz is a strongly fortified city, situated on the river Meuhr, over which it has a bridge, connecting it with a large suburb on the opposite bank. Near the river is a strong citadel built upon a rock.

Buda, the capital of Hungary, stands on the Danube, over which it has a bridge of boats, which unites it with the city of Pest, in which all the principal public buildings are situated. There is a fortress, a palace which is a stately pile of buildings, and a royal hospital for invalids, now converted into barracks.

Presburg is the capital of Lower Hungary, a dis-
the residence of the government. It is well built, and



AUSTRIANS.

stands in a most picturesque situation on the banks of the Danube.

In a kingdom composed of so many different states as Austria, of course, considerable variations are found in the persons, habits, and manners of its inhabitants. The Austrians properly so called are generally a personable people, cold but civil in their manners, very magnificent in their dress, and not distinguished for any very extraordinary mental powers.

The women are handsome and elegant, but in general uneducated and haughty. The Hungarians are a fine martial looking race of men, and the women mostly very fair and beautiful.

The dress of the men is very picturesque, consisting of a fur cap, a close coat girt with a sash round the waist, and a short cloak buckled under one arm so as to leave the right hand always at liberty. They generally wear the brightest colours, particularly red, blue and green. Young men of fashion usually have feathers in their caps.

The upper classes in many respects follow the French modes of dress; but the use of the toga or short cloak universally prevails with both sexes. The common dress of the women is a long furred gown and boots, and they are almost always veiled when they go abroad. The usual weapons of the Hungarians are, in addition to fire-arms, an iron mace with a round furrowed head, and a kind of hatchet, called a balta.

The Faraons, or gipsies of Hungary, are a very

numerous class of people, who have seldom any fixed habitation or trade. They generally contrive to have a horse, which carries the tent, the wife and children; and when they arrive near a village which suits their purpose, they unpack, pitch their tent, and remain perhaps for some weeks, until they are generally driven away by the country people, in consequence of their depredations on their poultry, &c.

The men sometimes employ themselves in the manufacture of small articles, such as rings, knives, seals, needles, &c. &c., and all sorts of tinker's work, but the women do nothing, except dressing their victuals, smoking tobacco, and chattering from morning till night. Their winter habitations, from which they exclude all air and daylight, are totally unfurnished, and resemble more the dens of wild beasts than the abodes of human beings. They eat, sit and sleep on the bare ground, or at most have only an old sheepskin or blanket, on which they lie half naked round the fire, which is in the middle of the hut. An earthen pot, a spoon, an iron kettle, a jug, and a knife constitute the whole of their domestic utensils, and to these, when they would be quite complete, they sometimes add a dish, which serves the whole family.

Some of them occupy themselves in horse-dealing, and others are carpenters, turners, &c. going from village to village to seek employment, while the women deal in old clothes, make brooms, and practise the pretended mysteries of fortune-telling, witchcraft, &c. in which the Hungarian peasants are great



A BOHEMIAN GIPSY.



BOHEMIANS.

believers. Washing for gold is another employment in which a great many of the gipsy tribe engage themselves.

The Bohemians, though formerly distinguished as the most intrepid asserters of civil and religious liberty in Europe, are now remarkable for their indolent and unambitious dispositions. They are naturally brave, frank, and hospitable; but the boors, who are in a state of slavery to the nobles, are stupid, intemperate, and much given to pilfering. They are also extremely superstitious and credulous.

The Transylvanians are a good looking race of people. The dress of the peasants has a very curious appearance, it consists of a short loose coat lined with fur, breeches and stockings all of one piece, and tight to the shape, clogs shod with iron, and on the head a fur cap like that of an English dragoon.

Poland, originally a kingdom of great importance in Europe, was by a coalition between Russia, Austria and Prussia, degraded from its independent state, and its territories shared among those three powers. Since the dethronement of Buonaparte it has been re-erected into a kingdom, of which the emperor of Russia is the sovereign.

Cracow, the ancient metropolis of Poland, is a well built town, standing on a plain near the river Vistula. It is surrounded with high brick walls, fortified with strong round towers. The streets are broad, and the houses built of stone, but are fallen greatly to decay, and the whole town exhibits evident marks of ruined

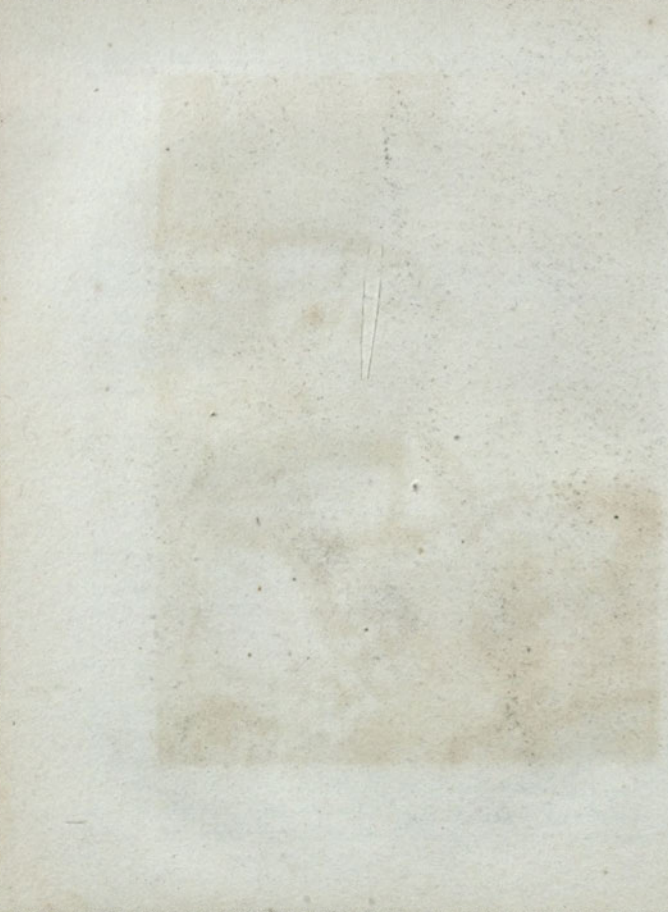
grandeur. On an eminence towards the south-eastern part of the town stands the ancient palace of the kings of Poland, the greatest part of which was demolished by Charles XII. of Sweden, when he entered the city after the battle of Clissow. Some of the apartments remain in the same state in which they have been for centuries; but the whole of them are in a state of dilapidation and decay.

The cathedral, in which the kings of Poland were anciently crowned, is a noble pile of building. This city was famous for its splendid churches, and a noble university founded by Casimir the Great; but it now presents only the fallen remnants of ancient grandeur.

The Poles are generally fine tall men of noble appearance, of stately deportment and great personal strength. Their dress is singular but very elegant; they wear a kind of long gown lined with fur, with tight sleeves, and girded round the waist with a broad sash, tight pantaloons, with Turkey leather boots with pointed soles, and a broad fur cap. Their arms, which are never put off but when they go to rest, consist of a sabre and pole-axe, and knife with a sheath; the latter, with the handkerchief and a stone set in silver to sharpen the knife, are worn in the girdle, and the sabre hangs by a leathern strap. The women of the higher ranks follow the English or French fashions, but their common dress greatly resembles that of the men. The country people wear sheepskins with the wool inwards in winter, and in summer



P O L E S .



coats of coarse cloth. Their boots are formed of the bark of trees twisted round their legs.

The Polish nobles are extremely hospitable and generous to strangers, and the national character is frank, animated and sincere. They affect great state in their manner of living. At table, a Polish nobleman is waited on by a great number of gentlemen, and trumpets and other instruments are constantly played while they are eating. They are very fond of society, and frequently give entertainments, at which, though a great quantity of plate is exhibited, every guest brings his own spoon, knife and fork. They are very fond of amusements in the open air, and pride themselves greatly on their feats of activity, either in the chase, or in leaping, jumping, &c. Dancing and music are also frequent recreations, in which they take great delight.

CHAPTER XXIV.

PRUSSIA.

————— the wide distinction caused
By climate, worship, arts, opinions, laws—
These changeful themes are learn'd by him alone
Who gains from man his knowledge of mankind.

ANONYMOUS.

PRUSSIA is bounded by the Baltic sea on the north, by Russia and Austria on the east and south, and on the west by the German territories. Its length extends about six hundred miles, and its breadth exceeds three hundred. The climate is in general cold and moist, and the great number of forests and marshes render some parts of it very unhealthy. Prussia Proper, and those provinces of Poland which have been added to the Prussian dominions, possess a very fertile soil. Silesia also produces abundance of grain, fruit and vegetables; but the province of Brandenburg is sandy and barren, and produces little besides rye.

The principal rivers of Prussia are the Elbe, the Vistula, the Memel, the Oder, the Pregel, and the Spree. There are numerous lakes, of which the most important, called the Spelding See, with its

creeks, extends above twenty miles in every direction.

The rivers Memel, Vistula, and Oder, present at their estuaries very singular sheets of water, which are called, in the language of the country, Haffs. The Frisch Haff, that of the Vistula, is seventy miles long, and ten broad, separated from the Baltic only by a slip of land, said to have been thrown up from the sea by a convulsion of nature about the year 1190. The Curisch Haff, that of the Memel, is about sixty miles in length and thirty broad, and is full of dangerous shelving rocks, and subject to sudden and violent storms.

The only mountains of Prussia are in Silesia, which are a continuation of the Carpathian chain, and are called the Sudetic mountains. These yield a great number of mineral productions, as tin, iron, copper, lead, cobalt and calamine. There are also numerous quarries of marble, alabaster, free-stone and potter's clay: and some agates, jaspers and clear crystals of quartz are likewise met with.

Lynxes and wolves are the most common wild animals in the forests, but there are also a few bears, foxes, otters, beavers and weasels in different parts. The urus or wild ox has been sometimes found in Prussia, but the breed is supposed to be nearly extinct.

Of domestic animals, the sheep of Silesia are the most valuable, on account of their wool. The Prussian horses are large and heavy.

Fish of all sorts, but especially sturgeon and salmon of a very large size, abound in all the rivers.

There are few natural curiosities in Prussia, with the exception of the mines of amber in the Sudetic mountains.

Berlin, the metropolis of Prussia, is divided into two parts by the river Oder, the north part of which is properly Berlin, the southern being called Coln. In the latter stands the electoral palace, which is a very magnificent building of free-stone. The streets of Berlin are remarkable for their length and regularity, and the squares are spacious and handsome; almost all are planted regularly with trees. The houses are built very neatly of white stone, and never exceed two stories in height.

The king's palace, the arsenal, the opera-house and the churches of Notre Dame, St. Nicholas, St. Martin, and the Romish chapel, are the edifices that attract most the attention of strangers. The royal palace was formerly very magnificent, and the quantity of massive silver furniture so great, that the intrinsic value of the metal was estimated at more than four hundred millions of dollars. The chief part of this was melted down by Frederick II. to supply the expenses of the war. There is very little now worthy of notice in the palace, except the throne in the audience chamber, which is of velvet, magnificently embroidered with gold, and a clock which has two hundred ciphers with electoral crowns, all set in pearls.

The king's library is a mean apartment, which on



B E R L I N .



FRIED. III. KING of PRUSSIA & VOLTAIRE.

certain days is open to the public, and the greatest curiosities of which are, the first bible printed in America, the first in the German language, and the identical bible used by Charles I. of England, when he was beheaded, and which was presented to the elector of Brandenburg by Dr. Juxon.

The garrison of Berlin is very extensive, and the soldiers, for very trifling hire, clean shoes, run of errands, wash, mend, and do all that is generally in other places done by women.

The fashionable promenade of Berlin is the middle of one of the principal streets, which is a regular gravel walk planted with lime trees, and where a regimental band plays every evening.

Konigsberg is a fine large city standing on the river Pregel, and part of it, that which contains the most modern buildings, on an island which is connected with the main land by several bridges.

The city is enclosed by a rampart, which has eight gates, and is seven miles and a half in circuit. In this space are included several meadows and gardens, and a large castle and moat. It is a city of considerable commerce, and has a very commodious harbour. Here is a handsome palace, containing apartments for the royal family and all the officers of state, and has a tower which has two hundred and eighty-four steps to the top, and commands a view of the whole city and circumjacent country. Konigsburg has also a university, an academy of sciences, arts, and paintings, with public libraries, several fine hospitals, and

many handsome public edifices, with good gardens. There are also fourteen Lutheran, eleven Calvinistic, and one Roman catholic church. A curious mode of lighting the city is adopted by hanging lanterns with ropes across the streets.

Potsdam is situated on an island formed by the river Havel, from which a fine canal is cut through the centre of the town, which is planted with trees, and has rows of regular well-built houses on each side.

The palace is a castle, and has in the front of it a large square adorned with Roman columns, in which the garrison are regularly exercised. The gardens belonging to the palace are beautifully laid out, and ornamented with statues, fountains, &c. The apartments are not very large or numerous, but elegantly finished. The king's study is partitioned off with balustrades of silver, and the frames of the mirrors and tables are of the same metal. In one of the apartments is a curious group, formed by two figures of copper, a Chinese man sitting and a woman holding an umbrella over him: they are richly gilt and stand in an oval niche inlaid with marble. The throne in the audience chamber is splendidly embroidered in gold with the arms of the house of Brandenburg.

Magdeburg, the capital of the province of that name, is an ancient city, very beautifully situated in the midst of luxuriant corn-fields on the banks of the river Elbe. The fortifications are very strong, yet few cities have suffered more severely from the calamities of war. In the year 1631 it was taken by storm

by Count Tilly, who burnt and destroyed the whole town, the cathedral and a few cottages only escaping. Of forty thousand burghers, not more than four hundred were saved, the rest being mercilessly butchered by the soldiers, who spared neither rank, sex, or age. Magdeburg enjoys a considerable trade, the Elbe bringing up merchant ships from Holland, Hamburg, &c. to the quay in front of the city. The principal magazines, founderies, &c. of Prussia are established here. The town is joined to an island by two bridges. On this island are large warehouses for ship building and a few houses. In the city is an academy for cadets learning the rudiments of war.

Halle is a flourishing place, famous for its university founded by Frederick I. of Prussia. The salt-springs are a source of great wealth to the citizens of Halle and of considerable revenue to the crown. The university is a very extensive building, and contains a library of more than ten thousand volumes, a gymnasium, &c. The orphan house, house of correction, and workhouse, are all excellent institutions.

Halberstadt is a strong-built populous city, on the river Hotzemme. The cathedral is an extensive building, in which both catholics and protestants are allowed to perform divine service at different times.

The buildings are generally lofty and substantial, but the most remarkable is an inn called the commis, or factory, which is the largest in Europe, and considered to have the best accommodations for strangers.

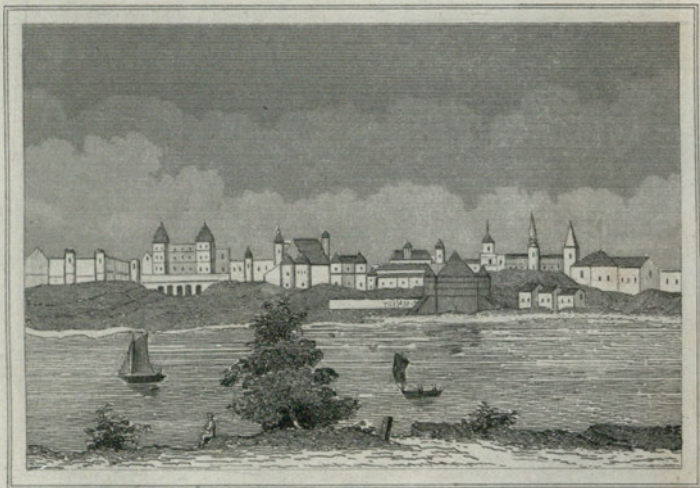
Glatz is a well fortified city, near the river Neysz.

It contains two convents, several churches, and a college, and enjoys a considerable trade.

Minden stands on the banks of the Weser, and is a walled town with a bridge over the river, at the foot of which stand the remains of a castle. The inhabitants are mostly protestants; but the cathedral, which is a noble structure, is in the possession of the Roman catholics.

Dantzic, situated on a branch of the river Vistula, and only five miles from the Baltic sea, is the metropolis of Polish Prussia. The streets of this city are wide and regular, and in general planted with rows of chesnut trees. It is a very commercial city, and exports great quantities of grain, the warehouses for which are built to the height of nine stories, and surrounded with water, so that ships lie quite close to be laden. There is a fine exchange, an arsenal, and a college, which are all noble structures. The square of St. Dominic is beautifully built, and the houses are regularly five stories high.

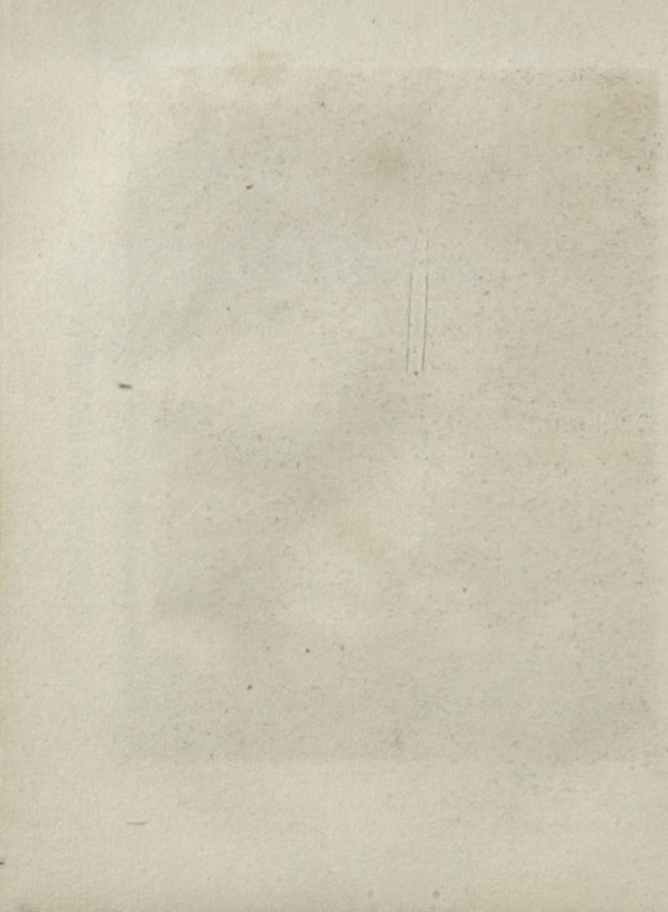
Warsaw, the former residence of the kings of Poland, is a large handsome city. It is divided into four parts, the old and new towns, the suburbs of Cracow, and the Brag. The royal palace is a noble square building, erected by Sigismund III. The castle, the arsenal, and the market place, are all substantial buildings. The town is defended by a wall and a ditch, and over the river is a wooden bridge of excellent workmanship, beyond which is another



WARSAW.



KOSINSKI & THE KING OF POLAND.



royal palace called Viasdow, which stands in the midst of gardens and fine groves.

Breslau is a rich populous city, the capital of Silesia, and situated at the conflux of the rivers Oder and Oslaw. The streets and squares are wide, and uniformly built, containing many stately public buildings and handsome houses. There are several good public libraries, a college of physicians, a mint, &c. A great many foreign merchants resort to the annual fairs and markets, and the city enjoys all the advantages of an extensive trade.

The Prussians differ little in appearance from the Austrians, but are much more frugal and industrious in their habits. In the cities they appear more gloomy and dull than in most of the German states; but though they have much fewer public diversions, it may be doubted if this is any drawback on their happiness. The Prussians enjoy, in superior knowledge and cultivated understandings, much more refined pleasures than are to be met with in the public theatres, the dancing rooms, or drinking booths, which are to be found in most Austrian towns. In the exercise of public and private charities they far exceed their gayer neighbours.

The Prussians take great delight in their public walks; and to see Berlin in all its glory a stranger must visit the park, the varied scenes of which, the groves, woods, alleys, and wildernesses, far exceed the boasted Thuilleries of Paris. It is frequented by all classes, rows of ladies magnificently dressed are

seen seated under its shades, and it is a favourite resort of the literati of Berlin. Refreshments of all kinds are provided, and a stranger is highly gratified by the freedom, regularity, and order which prevail.

The following interesting description of the manners and habits of the Silesians is from the pen of Mr. John Adams, ambassador from the United States to the court of Berlin:—

“ Their houses are situated at such an elevation upon the mountains that the ground will produce nothing but grass, and they can raise nothing but cows, goats, and a few fowls. For six months in the year they are in a manner buried under the snow, and are cut off from all intercourse with other human beings. Their log-huts consist of a single story and a hay loft: the floor below is divided into four apartments, one of which is a stable for their cattle, another their dairy, the third is the common dwelling place of the family, and the fourth a very small room for the reception of strangers. The family room serves at once as kitchen, eating room and bed room, and is heated with fires all the year round. There is a wide bench that goes round the room, on which they all sleep, for they have no beds, or at most only one for the master and mistress of the house; and if strangers who pass the night there require soft beds, they must content themselves as well as they can with sweet hay, for straw is a luxury unknown to these virtuous patriarchs. As they have not this article for their cows to lie down upon, they keep their stables uncom-

monly clean, and generally make one of the streams which are so abundant upon the mountains run through them and through the dairy; but their cow yard, in which all the manure is kept, is close to the house, so that you smell it at a great distance upon your approach to the house; and by this community of the roof between the family and all the other cattle, so much filthiness arises, that it is scarcely conceivable how they can keep even their dairies clean.

“Of their persons they appear to take no concern at all, and are of course as dirty as any other peasants in the most wretched hovels of Europe. The houses are generally full of children, clad in no other garb than a coarse shirt, sometimes stark naked and loaded with vermin, like the land of Egypt, at the last of its plagues.

“Their manners are varied according to their individual characters; all of them are coarse, most of them disgusting, and some rude and insolent, as to their treatment of strangers: the only two by whom we have been entertained imposed egregiously upon us in their charges. Such is the condition of these venerable and blissful beings whom we have heard extolled as the genuine children of nature, the true samples of mankind in the golden age!”

CHAPTER XXV.

ITALY.

————— Star-bright Italy—

Rich, ornate, populous—all treasures thine,

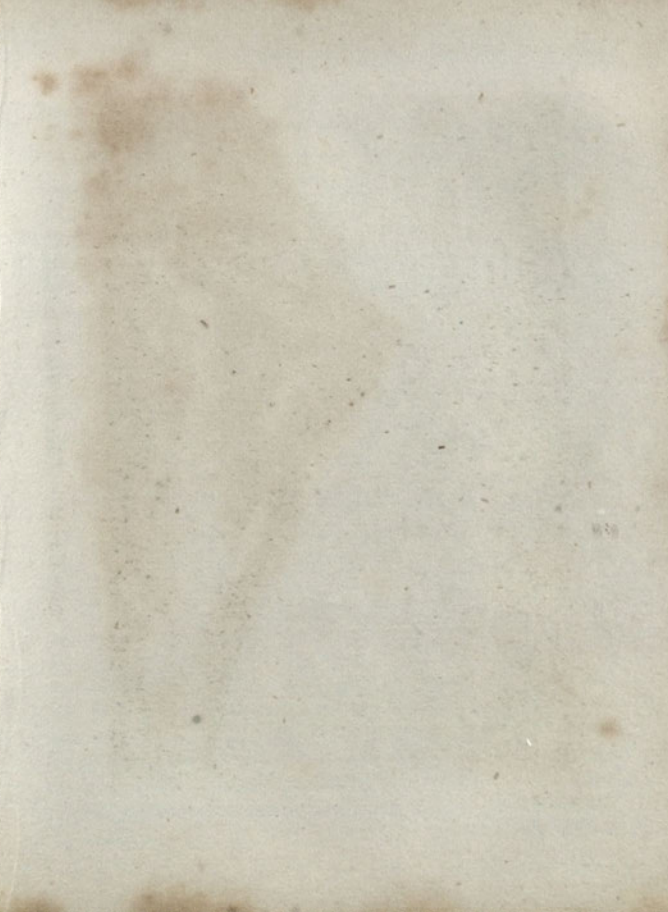
The golden corn, the olive, and the vine,

Fair cities gallant mansions castles old!—

COLERIDGE.

ITALY is bounded on the north by the Alps, on the east by the Adriatic sea, by the Mediterranean on the south, and by France and Switzerland on the east. It extends about six hundred and fifty miles in length, nearly two hundred in breadth, and is divided into three states—the ecclesiastical or papal territories—the kingdom of Naples, belonging to the king of the two Sicilies, and the kingdom of Italy, now under the dominion of the emperor of Austria.

The excellence of the climate of Italy is universally allowed; but this excellence is not so general as most travellers represent, the northern provinces in the vicinity of the Alps being subject to severe cold in winter. Snow frequently lies on the ground in that season, and the lakes of Venice are sometimes sheeted with ice. In Tuscany also, and at Rome, the ice is often sufficiently hard, even as early in the season as November, to





MOUNT VESUVIUS.

bear persons upon it; and in that month, in the year 1789, at Florence, the ice in the river was four inches thick. In the kingdom of Naples, however, the severity of winter is seldom or never felt; and sometimes, even to the middle of December, the weather continues as mild as in a fine spring in England. The summer, however, throughout all Italy, is excessively hot, and in some places, as Piedmont, Naples, Genoa, and Venice, almost insufferable to any but the natives. The soil is every where productive; but in the north hail stones are so violent and of such frequent occurrence, that they occasion on an average the loss of more than one-fifth of their annual crops.

Of the Alps and Apennines, which are the principal mountains of Italy, we have already spoken in the account of other countries into which they extend. The others most interesting to the traveller and the historian are the volcanic mountains, Vesuvius and Etna.

Vesuvius is situated about five Italian miles from the city of Naples. On the side towards the sea it is richly clothed with vines and fruit trees; but beyond there is nothing but burnt matter, calcined stones, and cinders, which cover a naked plain, from which rises another hill of a conical form, on the summit of which is the crater of the volcano, a vast mouth or cavity four hundred yards in diameter, from whence proceeds a continual smoke, and sometimes those dreadful ashes and the burning matter called lava, which

carry terror and destruction to the neighbouring towns and villages.

Many records of the dreadful devastations occasioned by the eruptions of Vesuvius in former ages have been transmitted to us by ancient historians and verified by the modern discoveries of whole cities buried beneath its torrents of liquid flame; but our limits will not allow us to transcribe these, and we shall therefore confine ourselves to the description given by Sir William Hamilton, who was an eye-witness of an eruption of this dreadful mountain in the summer of 1794. "This event was preceded by an earthquake, which extended over the whole of the Campagna Felice, and was plainly felt," observes Sir William, "at the distance of forty miles.

"On Sunday, the 15th of June," continues our author, "another shock was felt at Naples, but did not appear quite so violent as that of the 12th, nor did it continue so long; at the same moment a fountain of bright fire, attended with black smoke and a loud report, issued from the middle of the cone of Vesuvius. Soon after a similar one broke out at some distance lower down, and then it appeared as if the lava had taken its course directly up the steep cone of the volcano. Fresh fountains quickly succeeded, and all in a direct line, flowing towards the towns of Resina and Torre del Greco. It is impossible that any description can give an adequate idea of this fiery scene or of the horrid noises that attended this great operation of nature. It was a mixture of



NAPLES.

the loudest thunder, with incessant reports like those from heavy artillery, accompanied by a continued heavy murmur like the roaring of the ocean during a violent storm; and added to these was another blowing noise like that of a large flight of sky rockets. The frequent falling of the large stones and scorix which were thrown up to an incredible height, and one of which measured thirty-five feet in circumference, contributed to the concussion of the earth and air, which kept all the houses in Naples in a constant tremor for several hours, every door and window shaking and the bells ringing incessantly. This was an awful moment! The sky, from a bright full moon and star-light, began to be obscured; the moon gradually seemed to suffer an eclipse, and was soon lost in obscurity; and the prayers and lamentations of a numerous populace parading the streets added likewise to the general horror. About four o'clock on the morning of the 16th the crater of Vesuvius began to show signs of being open by some black smoke issuing from it; and at day-break another smoke, tinged with red, issued from an aperture near the crater, while a considerable stream of lava issued from the other side of the mountain, and ran with great velocity through a wood, which it destroyed. The conical part of Vesuvius was totally involved in dark clouds; but above these we could often discern fresh columns of smoke rising furiously out of the crater, until the whole mass remained in the usual form of a pine-tree, and amidst that gigantic mass

of clouds the volcanic lightning was frequently visible.

“ About five o'clock we perceived that the lava, which had broken out from several new mouths on the south side of the mountain, had reached the sea and was running into it, having overwhelmed and burned the greatest part of Torre del Greco. Soon after the beginning of this eruption ashes fell thick at the foot of the mountain from Portici to Torre del Greco; and although there were not at that time any clouds in the air, except those of smoke from the mountain, the ashes were accompanied with large drops of water, and the wood was as wet as if there had been a heavy shower of rain.

“ By the time the lava had reached the sea, Vesuvius was so completely involved in darkness that we could no longer discern the violent operation of nature that was going on there; but the dreadful noises we heard at times, and the red tinge on the highest clouds, were evident signs of the activity of the fire underneath.

“ The lava ran but slowly at Torre del Greco, after it had reached the sea, and on the morning of the 17th, when I went in my boat to visit that unfortunate town, its course was stopped, excepting that at times a small rivulet of liquid fire issued from under the smoking scoriæ into the sea. Discovering it to be red hot under the surface, I observed that the sea water was boiling as in a cauldron, where it washed the foot of a new-formed promontory; and

although I was one hundred yards distant from it, the pitch from the bottom of the boat was observed to melt away, and we therefore retired hastily from the spot.

“On Wednesday, the 18th, the wind having for a short time cleared away the thick clouds from the summit of Vesuvius, we discovered that a great part of the crater had fallen in, and that the ashes, which were before as fine as Spanish snuff, were now of such density as to appear to have the greatest difficulty in forcing their passage. One cloud heaped on another, and succeeding each other incessantly, formed in a few hours such a gigantic column over the mountain as seemed to threaten Naples with immediate destruction, bending over the city, and appearing much too ponderous to remain long suspended in the air.

“Vesuvius was at this time completely covered with a thick coat of light grey ashes, which gave it a horrid appearance; and in comparison with the above mentioned mass of clouds it appeared like a mole hill, although the perpendicular height of the mountain is upwards of three thousand six hundred feet.

“The storms of thunder and lightning, occasionally attended with heavy showers of rain and ashes, causing the most destructive torrents of water and glutinous mud, mixed with huge stones and trees torn up by the roots, continued to afflict the inhabitants on both sides of the volcano, until the last torrent, on the 7th of July, which destroyed many acres of

cultivated land between the towns of Torre del Greco and Torre del Annunziata."

It has been often observed, that there are few things in nature so absolutely noxious as not to be capable of producing some good; and this is exemplified in this raging volcano, which, though it spreads terror and desolation during its eruptions, yet by its internal heat and its sulphureous and nitrous manure, produces the extraordinary fertility of the surrounding country. "To this advantage may be added," observes a French writer, "that the liquid lava on cooling, affords a material harder than marble, with which not only the streets of Naples and Rome, and many of the highways are paved, but tables, chimney pieces, and even snuff-boxes, are formed of it.

Mount Etna, which rivals or even surpasses Vesuvius in its horrid grandeur, is in the island of Sicily. It is considerably higher and larger than the latter mountain, and is divided by the natives of Italy into three distinct regions, the first called the *regione culta*, or, cultivated region, which extends from the sea on one side, and the rivers Semetus and Alcantana on the other, all round the mountain. The second is the *regione sylva*, or woody region, which forms a circle of beautiful green, and is varied by a number of small conical mountains thrown up by the violence of the eruptions; and the third is the *regione deserta*, or desert region, which is covered with perpetual snow and ice, extending on all sides to the distance of eight miles, and in the middle of which

stands the great mouth of the volcano, from which issues continually volumes of smoke and the most terrible and prodigious noises.

In an eruption of this mountain, which broke out on the 11th of March, 1669, fourteen towns and villages, containing between three and four thousand inhabitants, were entirely overwhelmed. It was remarked, that during this eruption, which lasted fifty-four days, neither sun, moon, or stars, were ever visible.

The city of Catania, which was ten miles from the mouth of this volcano, escaped at that time destruction, though the lava made its way over the walls and destroyed a convent of the Benedictines; but in 1692 this city was entirely overthrown by an earthquake, which happened during an eruption of the mountain, and was felt not only all over Sicily, but in Naples and Malta. The shock was so severe, that people could not stand, but were thrown upon the ground and tossed from side to side, as if upon a rolling billow of the sea. Fifty-four cities and towns, and an immense number of villages, were either destroyed or greatly damaged, and nearly sixty thousand persons were computed to have perished, of whom eighteen thousand were inhabitants of Catania.

The principal rivers of Italy are the Po, the Tiber, the Adige, the Arno, and the Trebia. The celebrated Rubicon forms the southern boundary between Italy and the ancient Cisalpine Gaul. There are a number of beautiful lakes in Italy, of which the most famous

are the Maggiore, Como, Lugano, Iseo in the north, and the Perugia, or Thrasimene, Bracciano, Terni, and Celano in the middle.

Italy produces some mines of iron and copper, and in Sardinia there are said to be gold, silver, lead, iron, alum, and sulphur; but they are all neglected. Emeralds, jaspers, agate, porphyry, and lapis lazuli are found in various parts. Curious crystals and corals are procured from the coast of Corsica, and marble of the most beautiful kinds is one of the chief productions of Italy.

The vegetable productions of this delightful country are numerous and abundant. The trees common to England are all found here, and, in addition, nearly all belonging to warmer climates, which can gratify either the eye or the palate, or delight with their perfume. In the kingdom of Naples the quantity of wheat grown is not sufficient for home consumption; but the quality of that raised is excellent, and the exquisite fruits and wine which the country produces may be said to compensate for all other deficiencies.

In Calabria the fertility of the soil is surprisingly exuberant. Olive trees, cotton trees, and even the sugar cane, flourish amid the luxurious crops of grain. Vines load with their clusters the lofty mulberry trees beneath which they are planted; and such is the profusion of olives, that heaps fall and rot on the ground for want of hands to gather them. Flowers and shrubs of every hue and fragrance complete the catalogue of delights which the fertile soil of Italy produces.

Of the cattle of Italy the horses, except the Neapolitan breed, are of little repute, and the cows are ill made, ugly looking creatures, though they yield an abundance of milk. Throughout the country oxen are used much more generally in agriculture than horses. The sheep differ materially in the different provinces. In the Venetian states they are great ugly animals, with long hanging ears, throats swelled so as to resemble wens, and very coarse hairy fleeces. In Piedmont they are large, with tolerable fleeces. In Tuscany they have a small breed with very fine wool. In Parnesa the sheep are polled, with wool as coarse as the hair of a dog. In Calabria they are large, with the fleeces glossy, and about Vicenza there are several breeds, of which the smallest furnish the best wool and the largest sort the finest mutton. The buffalo is common in the south of Italy, and the marmot and ibex are found in the Apennines. In Calabria the crested porcupine, peculiar to this part of Europe, is frequently met with. Lizards of an extraordinarily large size are numerous, and the tarantula, a species of large spider, to whose bite very marvellous effects are attributed, is common in many of the provinces.

Rome, the capital of the Roman empire, stands upon the ruins of the ancient city so called, on the banks of the Tiber, which is now an inconsiderable river navigable only for small boats and barges. The ancient city was erected upon seven hills; but from the manner in which the moderns have built, filling up

spaces and elevating structures over the ruins of others, it is difficult now to distinguish the original situations.

Modern Rome presents the most singular contrast of magnificence and meanness, the most splendid edifices intermixed with the most beggarly huts. The streets are narrow, being built so as to intercept as much as possible the rays of the sun. Il Corso, the principal street of Rome, is not so wide as many inferior streets in London. The shops are raised on each side three or four feet above the street, and a foot-path for passengers runs on a level with them. There are several palaces in this street, which range on a line with the other houses, not having any courts or gates before them, as usual in London and Paris.

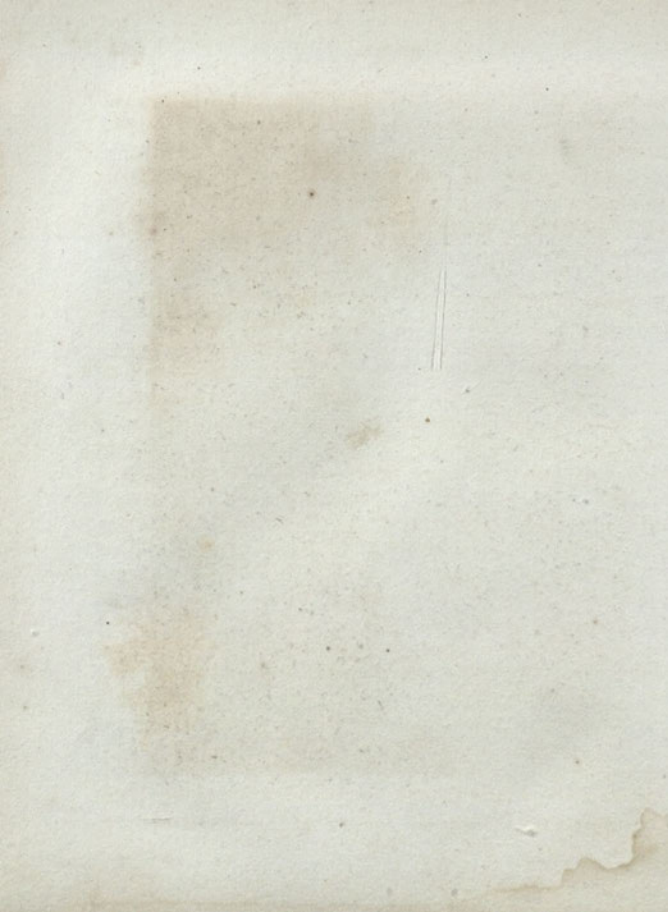
The Strada Felice is a straight street, a mile and a half long; but its uniformity is destroyed by the manner in which the fine church of St. Mary Maggiore is built. This street is crossed by another called the Strada di Porta Pia, at one end of which is a magnificent gate, and at the other four colossal statues, in marble, of two men, each leading a horse, by some antiquaries considered as Castor and Pollux, and by others said to be Alexander taming Bucephalus.

The streets of Rome are not lighted at night, except by the few candles which the devotion of individuals places before the statues of the Virgin Mary, which are placed in niches at the corners of nearly all the streets.

The church of St. Peter is considered a master-



R O M E .



piece of architectural magnificence; but it is impossible to attempt a description of either its exterior or interior splendour.

The Vatican is a very large building, the palace of the pope. It is very irregularly built, having had additions made to it at various times, according to the taste and fancy of those who have filled the papal throne. It is adorned with the works of all the most celebrated painters, and contains a valuable library and a very choice cabinet of curiosities.

On the Quirinal hill is the pope's summer palace, to which there is a beautiful garden, nearly a mile round, with statues, a grotto, and a casino, or coffee-house.

No dramatic representations or public spectacles are allowed in Rome, except during the carnival, which lasts from the 7th of January to Ash-Wednesday. During that time there are seven or eight theatres open. There are also balls, masquerades, and horse-races; and the people, by the ardour with which they enter into all these diversions, seem determined to make up for the restraint which religion at other times imposes on them. The streets of Rome are crowded like a fair with people, and all sorts of ridiculous exhibitions are permitted during this period, to which immediately succeed fasting, penance, and all the gloomy austerity of the catholic religion.

The commerce and manufactures of Rome are very inconsiderable, and the whole city presents a mournful spectacle of ruined grandeur and former opulence. The antiquities of Rome will fully justify the appellation

which was formerly bestowed on it—"the city of the queen of cities." Of these magnificent remains the most perfect are the Coliseum, an amphitheatre for public exhibitions, capable of accommodating eighty thousand spectators, the Pantheon, the Temples of Fortune, of the son of Bacchus, and of Faunus, which are now all converted into christian churches. There are also several beautiful triumphal arches: that of Constantine the Great, in memory of his victory over the tyrant Maxentius, of Septimus Severus, in commemoration of his Parthian conquests; and of Titus, in memory of his taking and destroying the city of Jerusalem, are the most entire.

There are four very beautiful columns in Rome, one of which, called Trajan's pillar, is of white marble, and one hundred and thirty feet high, exclusive of the pedestal. It was formerly surmounted by a golden urn, in which were deposited the ashes of the emperor Trajan; but this has been superseded by a statue of St. Peter. There are also a great number of obelisks, which were in ancient Rome: the principal is that which now stands in front of the area of St. Peter's church, having been removed thither from the circus of Nero, where it had laid buried in ruins for ages.

Naples, the capital of the kingdom of that name, occupies the site of the ancient cities of Palæopolis and Neapolis, from the latter of which it derives its name. "In size and number of inhabitants," observes an English traveller, "Naples ranks as the third city of

Europe, and from her situation and superb show may justly be considered as the queen of the Mediterranean. The internal appearance of the city is in general pleasing. The edifices are lofty and solid, and the streets as wide as in any continental city. The Strada Toledo is a mile in length, and, with the quay, which is very extensive and well built, forms the grand and distinguishing features of the city."

After observing that the architecture of the palaces and public buildings of Naples is all in very bad taste, and their interior decorations of marbles, statues, paintings, jewels, &c. thrown together with heedless profusion rather than arranged with judgment, the same author observes, "Few cities, however, stand in less need of architectural magnificence or internal attractions than Naples. Had it even fewer artificial recommendations it would still be a most desirable residence, so beautiful is its neighbourhood, so delicious its climate. Before it spreads the sea, with its bays, promontories, and islands; behind it rise mountains and rocks in every fantastic form, clothed to the top with verdure. On each side swell hills and hillocks, covered with groves and gardens, and orchards blooming with fruits and flowers. Every morning a gale springing from the sea brings vigour and coolness with it, and tempers the greatest heats of summer by its freshness. Every evening a breeze, blowing from the hills and sweeping all the perfumes of the country before it, fills the nightly atmosphere with fragrance."

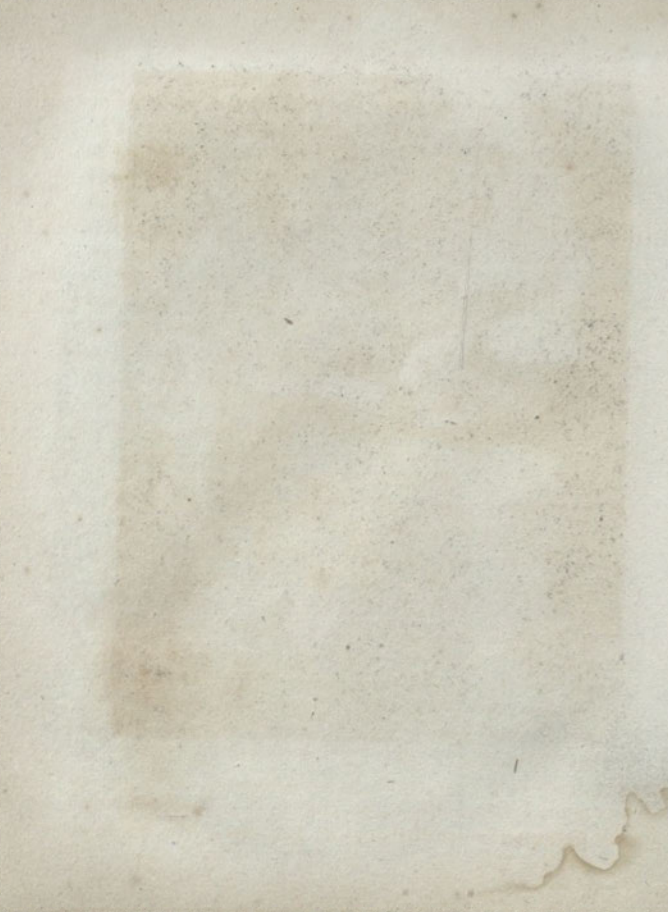
The charitable institutions of Naples amount to more than sixty; yet notwithstanding these provisions for the sick and poor, the streets are crowded with beggars. It is impossible to conceive the loathsome objects which are exposed to view, or the importunities which are practised to excite the compassion of strangers, who cannot step out of a house or enter a carriage without being besieged by a crowd of these miserable wretches.

All sorts of trades and occupations are carried on in the open streets of Naples. "Sleeping excepted," observes Kotzebu, "every thing passes here in the streets that in other countries is done within doors. All artisans and mechanics have not merely open stalls, but they carry out their tables, and whatever else they want for their trades, and work in the public streets; so that we see and hear knocking, hammering, sewing, weaving, filing, planing, frizzing, shaving, and a thousand other processes, the whole day. The eating-house keeper plucks and roasts chickens, and boils and fries fish in the street, while his hungry customers stop and quickly gratify their appetites. Eating and drinking are the first and most important concerns of the populace. In Naples this is so carefully provided for, that we cannot go ten paces without meeting with some of these arrangements."

The funeral processions of the Neapolitans have a very singular appearance in the eyes of strangers. The coffin moves forward under a heavy and splendid pall, which reaches to the ground, and so completely



NEAPOLITANS.



conceals the bearers, that the coffin appears to glide on towards its last home by invisible means. The processions which surround and follow are clothed in white from head to feet; or sometimes in red, with holes cut for their eyes, and looking, as they move slowly along with torches in their hands (for it is generally night when the ceremony takes place) more like spectres than living beings. The coffin, which is most splendidly adorned, is not consigned to the grave, but is a mere vehicle to carry the body thither, hired for the occasion, and to this procession, when the deceased is of high rank, are added a number of men carrying flags with armorial bearings of the family. The contrast of the ragged appearance of the bearers, who are hired from among the lazaroni, or lowest order of the populace, with the pompous and gaudy appearance of their standards, is not more striking than ludicrous.

Another notable spectacle in the streets is the procession of the host, or holy sacrament, to the houses of dying persons. It is attended with colours flying, and the tinkling of numerous little bells announces its approach. Crowds of priests in their rich dresses, and sometimes a military guard, accompany the procession. All business is suspended—as it passes every head is uncovered and every knee bent to the ground; and all the pious who meet the holy train consider it their duty to turn out of their way and accompany it; so that before it reaches the sick person's house the crowd, gathering like a snow-

ball on the way, sometimes amounts to more than a thousand people.

Loretto, originally a small inconsiderable place, has risen into importance from the notion propagated by the Roman catholic clergy, that it contains the real house of the Virgin Mary, which was conveyed from Nazareth thither through the air by angels.

This supposed miraculous possession is preserved with the utmost veneration, and loaded with the richest gifts, in jewels, gold, silver, &c. The image of the Virgin and her Son are of cedar, and are covered from head to feet with gold chains, diamonds, rubies, emeralds, &c. the gifts of pious pilgrims, many thousands of whom annually visit this holy shrine. The French, however, when in possession of the city, paid little respect to the devotion which had thus endowed it, and the riches of Loretto were by them appropriated to more active purposes.

Florence, the capital of Etruria, is situated on both sides of the river Arno, over which it has four handsome bridges, one of which, called the Pont della Trinita, is elegantly built of white marble, and ornamented with statues. The situation of the city is most beautiful, being surrounded on all sides with mountains, covered to their summits with corn-fields, vineyards, olive trees, and orchards, interspersed with villas. That part of Florence which is bounded by the river is, by the elegance of the buildings, the quays, and the bridges, unquestionably the most superb and interesting to a traveller.

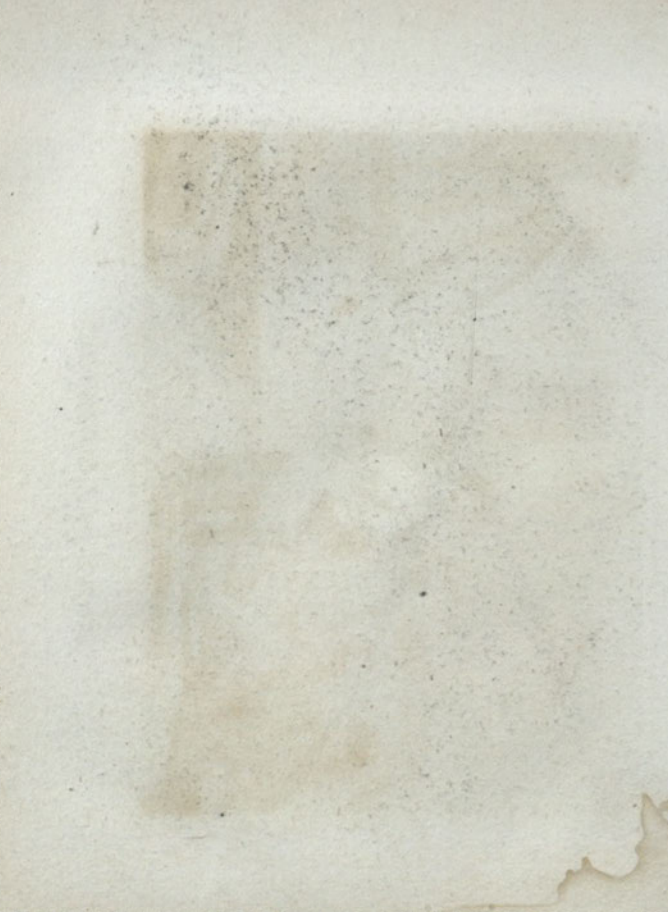


FLORENCE.





PORT OF LEGHORN.



The cathedral of Florence is esteemed one of the most elegant and superb structures in Europe; the walls, pavement, and steeple, are all of marble, of various colours and richly adorned with sculpture.

Pisa is a handsome town, on the river Arno, over which it has three bridges, one of them of marble. It is a well fortified city, having a moat, walls, castle, fort, and citadel. The exchange is a very handsome building, and there is a very flourishing university.

Near the cathedral, a large Gothic pile, is the burying ground, called Il Campo Santo, in which stands the famous leaning tower, the inclination of which is so great that a plumb line let down from the top touches the ground at the distance of nearly fifteen feet from the bottom.

Leghorn is a fine port, enjoying considerable trade, which is chiefly in the hands of Jews, of whom there are at least fifteen thousand resident in the city, and who engross entirely the coral manufacture, which is very extensive. The city is nearly two miles in circumference, the streets and squares very spacious, and on the land side it is fortified with good bastions and ditches filled with water.

Sienna is situated on a considerable eminence, and is remarkable for its numerous towers, which in the time of the commonwealth were erected to the honour of such members as deserved well of their country. The cathedral of Sienna is one of the noblest monuments of art in the world, and the labour that has been bestowed in finishing the ornaments with which it is literally loaded almost incredible.

Milan, the capital of the kingdom of Italy, is a fortified town, with a very numerous population. The houses are tolerably well built, but the streets are generally narrow and dark. The cathedral is a large elegant building, and there are besides nearly two hundred and sixty churches within the walls of the city. The other buildings worthy of notice are the Ambrosian library; the Helvetic college; the hospital, which is capable of receiving one thousand seven hundred patients; the prison, which is a superb structure; an ancient circus and theatre, now that of St. Victor, and an ancient palace of Trajan, now the theatre of St. George.

Mantua is a well-built city, standing in the midst of a lake six miles and a half in circumference, and surrounded with other lakes, which render its position very strong. It has a very handsome cathedral and a large old irregular ducal palace; and on an island in the lake is a very elegant building, called the palace of the T, from its resembling that letter in form.

Modena is a large and populous city, formerly the capital of the province of that name. It has a noble ducal palace, and is noted for its extensive manufacture of masks, of which great numbers are exported to other countries.

Venice, the capital of the Venetian territories, is one of the most beautiful cities in the world, and in respect to its situation the most singular, rising up, as it were, in the midst of the sea. It is built entirely on piles, amidst the shallows called Les Lagunes, and the whole of the communication from house to house,



VENICE.



A VENETIAN WEDDING.

or from one part of the city to another, is by canals, of which it is reckoned there are more than four hundred, and a still greater number of bridges. The principal of these is the famous bridge of the Rialto, over the great canal, and which is of one arch eighty-nine feet wide, and has a double row of shops built upon it.

The ducal palace of St. Mark is a very splendid and extensive edifice, and the piazza is the only spot in Venice where any considerable number of people can assemble in the open air. It is in consequence a favourite resort of all classes, who pass their evenings there, many remaining the whole night enjoying the pleasures that are there to be found, and the balmy fragrance of the air.

There are many beautiful palaces in Venice; and almost all the schools, churches, &c. are in the most correct style of architecture. The carnival is here, as well as in Naples, the scene of all sorts of diversion and buffoonery. During its continuance all who frequent the theatres, of which there are seven in the city, are masked. The most striking peculiarities of Venice are its gondolas or boats, which supply the place of carriages, either for pleasure or use. They are all exactly similar in appearance, long and narrow and covered with black cloth, which gives them a very gloomy appearance on the water. They are rowed by one or two gondoliers standing, and it is surprising to see the adroitness with which they shoot through the thickest crowds of boats, barges, &c. which at all times, but more especially

on holidays or festivals, are assembled on the different canals.

Turin is a small but populous city, the capital of Piedmont, and situated at the conflux of the two rivers Po and Doria. The streets and squares are very beautiful and spacious; and besides the royal palace, which is very magnificent, there are several others, an elegant opera house, a university, which is considered the finest building in the city, a fine citadel, a library, and many charitable institutions.

Padua, situated on the Brenta, is celebrated for its university, its public schools, and museum, and for the number of eminent men to whom it has given birth.

Verona, a large and strong city, is pleasantly situated on the Adige, over which it has four bridges; the streets are narrow and dirty, and the houses mean. There is an elegant theatre here, several academies for music, &c. and a Roman amphitheatre in good preservation.

Vicenza, though a small city, contains no less than sixty churches, convents, and hospitals; in the vicinity are some famous mineral waters.

Genoa is a large sea-port, and enjoys a considerable trade. It is well fortified, and being built on a declivity, appears to great advantage from the sea. The streets are in general narrow and crooked, with the exception of the principal ones, which contain many magnificent palaces. There are several handsome bridges and a light-house, which stands on a rock on the west side of the harbour.



GENOA.



Bologna is a large walled city, containing a famous university and a most magnificent academy of arts and sciences, over the gate of which is an inscription intimating that the academy is designed "for the use of the whole world." The cathedral of St. Petrona is a very fine structure.

Ravenna, now an inconsiderable town, was once the seat of the Roman empire. Between the city and Rimini lies the river Pisatello, the famous Rubicon, which no Roman could pass in arms without being deemed an enemy to his country. Cæsar passed it, and thus commenced the civil wars which terminated in the destruction of the liberty of Rome.

The Italians are well proportioned and noble in their general appearance, with probably the most expressive and intelligent countenances in the world. The ladies are very handsome and graceful in their persons, and are remarkable for their sensibility and delicacy of feeling.

In their dispositions and manners the Italians may be considered as a medium between the Spaniards and the French, possessing the dignity and frankness of the former without their haughtiness or abruptness, and the vivacity of the latter without their volatility or vanity. They are universally remarkable for sobriety and temperance, and the nobility lavish their money on magnificent houses, gardens, paintings, &c. rather than on the luxuries of the table, or the other expensive indulgencies of most countries.

The Neapolitans are especially fond of pleasure

and show, and perhaps there is no city in Europe where there are so few of the community employed in profitable labour as in Naples. The lazaroni, as they are called, amount to at least thirty thousand; these are the lowest order of the people, of whom few have any regular habitation or occupation, numbers of them constantly sleeping in the open air, and gladly accepting any trifling employment, such as running of errands, carrying burdens, &c. during the day. They are treated with the greatest contumely by the higher classes, and even the livery servants; instead of warning them to stand out of the way on the approach of carriages, a stroke across the shoulders from the cane of the running footmen who precede them, is the only notice they receive. In times of scarcity, however, this oppressed people have often been found very formidable, and many dangerous insurrections have originated among them.

The Venetians are a very lively ingenious people, particularly obliging and gentle in their manners. The variety of amusements and the perfect freedom from restraint which exists in Venice, independent of the beauty of the city and the noble treasures of art which it contains, have long rendered it a favourite residence with foreigners. The Venetian ladies are remarkably handsome and graceful in their manners. Their dress is uniformly the same, nothing but black silk with veils being allowed to be worn—not even jewels are permitted, except during the first year of marriage.

CHAPTER XXVI.

SICILY.

———— Dark Heaven drives his clouds together,
Yea, shoots his lightnings down from sunny heights—
Flames burst from out the subterraneous chasms!

COLERIDGE.

SICILY is an island divided by a very narrow strait from Reggio, in the kingdom of Naples. In figure it approaches to an irregular triangle, of which the southern side is one hundred and ninety miles in length, the south-western one hundred and sixty, and the eastern one hundred and ten. The climate is in general extremely fine, except in the marshes of Syracuse, where the pestilential vapours engender the most dreadful putrid diseases.

On the summit of the mountains snow generally falls in winter; but except on the northern parts of the island, which is flat and exposed, the winter is so warm and temperate as seldom or ever to require the aid of fires. We have already mentioned Etna as the principal mountain of Sicily. This is situated on the east of the island, while on the north and south-western sides high and rugged mountains run parallel

with the sea, so as completely to enclose the island. Between Girgenti and Aragona, is a mountain, flat at the top, called Maccaluba, which constantly throws up a muddy fluid in dry weather, in the manner of the crater of a volcanic mountain. After rains, the whole surface on the top of the mountain appears covered with globules full of air. Earthquakes are frequently felt in the neighbourhood, and a column of mud and stones is thrown up to the height of two hundred feet, which on falling are dispersed in all directions round the mountain. The chief rivers of Sicily are the Giaretta, or muddy stream, which rises in the middle of the island and empties itself into the sea at Catania; the Termini, and the Salsa. The soil produces not only every vegetable that is necessary for support, but all that can contribute to luxury, except spices; and it is difficult to conceive the abundance of the crops of grain, fruit, cotton, &c. The mountains are crowned with the loftiest trees, while the plains and valleys present an unvaried scene of the most luxuriant fertility.

The horses of the island are handsome and stately, the cattle good, and the sheep an excellent breed; their wool is of a fine quality. The flesh of the hogs, from their feeding on masts and chestnuts, is particularly fine. Bees, silk worms, and the beautiful insect called cantharides, or Spanish flies, contribute to the riches of the island. The coasts abound with fish, particularly the tunny, shark, and sword fish.

Palermo, the capital of Sicily, is beautifully and

regularly built. In the middle of the town is a noble square called the Ottangolo, from which diverge the four principal streets, all straight, wide, uniformly built, and each terminating with a handsome gate. The Marino is a delightful public walk, in the centre of which stands an elegant temple, which in summer is used as an orchestra. The concert does not commence till midnight, when the walks are crowded with company, who do not retire till two or three o'clock in the morning.

The churches of Palermo are generally very magnificent. In that of St. Rosolia, the patroness of the city, are several antique monuments of their Norman kings, some of which are nearly seven hundred years old. There is also a tabernacle of lapis lazuli, beautifully ornamented.

Messina, the greatest trading city in the Mediterranean, is a large well-built city, with a spacious harbour. It contains many noble edifices, the cathedral, the archbishop's palace, a general hospital called La Loggie, a lazaretto, and several forts. The port is well fortified with a citadel and other works, and so deep that ships can come close up to the quay to be loaded.

A dreadful earthquake took place in this city in 1783. The first shock was felt on the fifth of February, and during that and the following day the trembling of the earth was attended with concussions until eight o'clock at night, when a tremendous shock overthrew half of the houses in the city, materially

injuring the remainder. Fortunately the intervals between the shocks had been long enough to enable the inhabitants to escape in great numbers to the fields, and not more than eight hundred perished. The damage done by this awful visitation was computed at more than one million two hundred thousand pounds sterling. The royal palace, the archbishop's, and numerous other palaces, were destroyed, and the mole, which extended more than a mile into the harbour, and which, from the beauty of the prospect, was a favourite resort of the inhabitants, was totally swallowed up by the sea. Two fine lakes also, between Messina and Faro, were entirely dried up and filled with rubbish. The cathedral, a beautiful Gothic edifice, fortunately escaped without any material injury.

Scylla is a lofty rock on the coast of Calabria, twelve miles from Messina. On approaching it a noise like a confused bark of dogs is heard, which proceeds from the echo caused by the waves dashing into the caverns of the rock. Charybdis is a sea, in which currents meeting occasion a violent eddy, and are dangerous to shipping in stormy weather. Vessels are sometimes overtaken by foul winds before they clear the straits, which dash them on the rocks of Scylla; and hence the proverb, "He avoids Charybdis to fall on Scylla."

Catania is a new and elegant city, erected on the site of the former city, which was totally overwhelmed by an eruption of Mount Etna, in the year 1639,

the liquid matter, after having overflowed the whole city, entering the sea to a considerable distance, and destroying the former port.

The streets are broad, well paved, and regular; and in the middle of the town is a spacious square, which is formed by the cathedral, town-house, and seminary. In the centre of this square is an obelisk of red granite, raised on the back of an elephant, made of magnetic stone.

Augusta is a city four leagues south of Catania, and shared with it in the dreadful calamity of 1693, a great part of the buildings being thrown down by the earthquake which preceded the eruption, and more than one-third of the inhabitants buried in the ruins. It has since been entirely rebuilt, and is now a flourishing place, with a good port, defended by three forts. The town is protected by a citadel.

Syracuse is situated on an island two miles in circumference, and was a much larger city than at present previous to the fatal catastrophe before mentioned, which involved more or less all the towns of this coast, and in which more than six thousand of the inhabitants of this place perished.

The streets of Syracuse, except the two principal ones, are narrow and dirty, and there is nothing that deserves the name of a square. There are, however, as in all the towns of Italy, a great number of churches and convents, some of them very magnificent buildings. The harbour is very capacious, but the

trade is comparatively insignificant to what it formerly enjoyed.

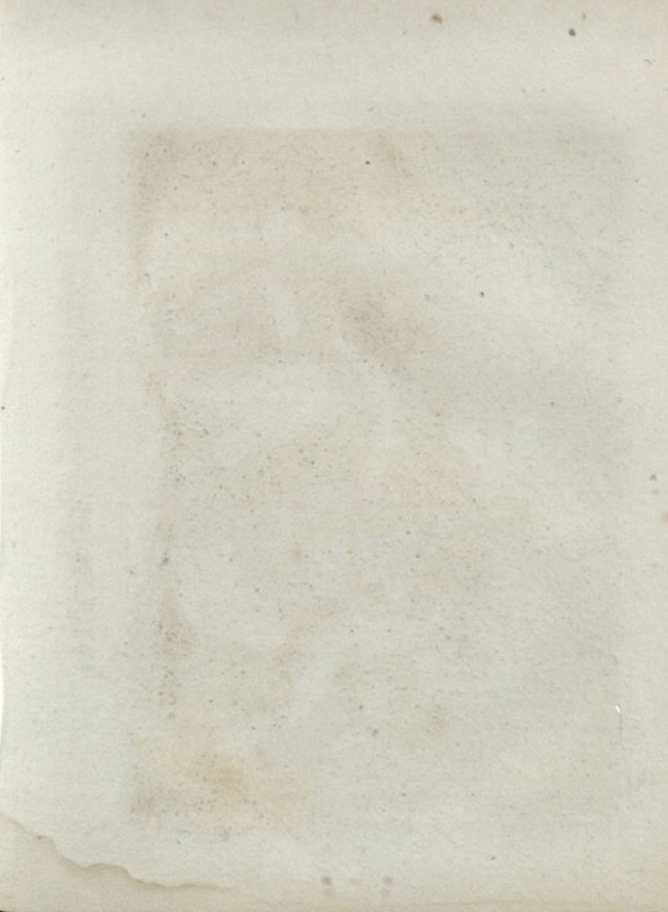
Trepano, or Trepani, is a city with a good port, and defended by a fortress situated on a neighbouring island, called Colanbara Trepano, and is famous for a coral and a tunny fishery.

Massala is a city of considerable extent and well fortified. It has a good port, and was formerly the chief hold of the Carthaginians, by whom it was called Lilybæum.

Sciacca is a sea-port town, situated on a steep rock at the mouth of a small river. It has a good trade, particularly in wine, which is the produce of the neighbouring country, and is considered equal in quality to the best Madeira.

Girgenti is also a sea-port, the ancient Agrigentum, and was for a long time the seat of an independent state; in its neighbourhood are still seen many remains of antiquity in a very perfect state. Most of these are built of a cementation of sand and shells, which form a solid mass of a deep reddish brown colour.

The Lipari islands are situated from thirty to thirty-five miles from the coast of Sicily, and are all volcanic. The most eastern is Stromboli, which is merely one mountain with two summits; half way up one of which, on the northern side, is the crater of a volcano, which for two thousand years has never ceased to burn, and, with the intermission of a few minutes only, continues to throw up lava to a great height and with incessant detonations. The whole





VINEYARD FESTIVAL.

circuit of the island is not more than nine miles ; yet frightful as a residence appears in such a neighbourhood there are more than a thousand inhabitants, who raise a considerable quantity of wine and oil. There is only one spring of water on the whole island.

Lipari is the largest island of the group, to which it gives its name. It is nineteen miles in circumference, and has several mountains, all of volcanic origin. The city of Lipari is situated on the eastern side of the island, stretching along the shore in the form of an amphitheatre, having a chain of mountains at the back, and in front the harbour, defended by a fort. It is small and badly built, but enjoys an extensive trade, particularly in wine.

Volcano is an island, which by an eruption in 1550 was thrown up from the sea together with another called Volcanello. On the latter is a mountain, on the summit of which is a crater that is perpetually smoking. In 1786 an eruption took place for a fortnight, during which an immense quantity of sand, with smoke and flame, was thrown up.

Salina derives its name from a salt pond on its shores ; it also has a mountain and a crater, but it has been long extinguished. The island produces abundance of grapes, and has a population of four thousand. Felienda, Alienda, and Pantalaria, are all similar islands ; the latter has a small port and an ill built town, protected by a castle, which serves as a prison for state criminals.

The kingdom of Sardinia is an island in the Medi-

terranean; its length from north to south about one hundred and seventy miles, and its breadth seventy miles. Its climate is mild and temperate, and the soil in the valleys and plains in general fertile. A long chain of mountains runs from north to south, and in several other parts of the island there are lofty mountains, whose summits are covered with perpetual snow. It has several rivers, of which the principal, which is upwards of eighty miles in length, assumes several different names in its course, being called the Benetutti, Sedilo and Oristano. There are also several extensive lakes, which afford very fine views. Great quantities of wheat are raised for exportation, the flour of which is whiter, but will not keep so well as that of any other country. Vines are likewise grown in abundance, and there are entire forests of wild olive trees. The orange, lemon, citron, and all the fruit trees of Europe, are very plentiful. Tobacco is cultivated with success, and a considerable source of profit arises from the manufacture of kelp.

In the woods are found a great number of wild horses, which are well made and exceedingly swift. The cattle are small but numerous. Sheep and goats are surprisingly abundant. Some of the rams have four and even six horns.

Sardinia is very rich in metals and minerals. It has several mines of silver, and of the same metal mixed with lead, and of lead alone. Iron, magnetic iron, mercury, &c. are also found in different parts, and a great many precious stones, cornelians, agates, turquoises,

porphyry, and small white garnets; a great variety of marble and alabaster, and in several districts fullers earth, alum, and coal.

Cagliari, the capital of the island, stands on the slope of a hill at the bottom of the gulf of Cagliari. It is a very ancient city, founded by the Carthagenians, and is well fortified. The city is divided into four parts—the citadel, which stands on the summit of the hill, and the three suburbs of Marina, Stampana, and Villa Nuova. It contains a university, a college of nobles, a handsome theatre, and several extensive manufactories. Adjoining the suburb of Marino is the port, and on the quay is a superb warehouse, having twelve gates, in which merchandise is gratuitously housed. There is also at the port a lazaretto. Cagliari has suffered severely from pestilence and the different sieges it has sustained in 1707, 1717, and 1794. The other towns in this district are Villa d'Iglesia, a small city with a port; Palmas di Solo, also a port; and Oristagno, situated at the bottom of a fine and capacious bay in a beautiful country, yielding abundant harvests.

Sassara, the capital of the northern division, stands on a gentle slope on the right bank of the river Torre. It is surrounded by Gothic walls and contains many churches and convents. The houses are generally well built, and there are some beautiful public walks, with fountains, &c. Castello Arrogonese, Porto Torre, Alghieri, Terra Nova, and Bosa, are also sea-ports in this province.

The Sardinians are a sturdy, good looking people, the ladies in general handsome and well made. In the towns every one above the rank of a mechanic wears a bag-wig, sword, and his hat under his arm, the ladies assuming the Italian or Spanish style of dress.

The mountaineers are a wild race, who wear no article of clothing except a goat skin, with the hair outwards, one before and one behind, fastened with thongs. Their beard is left unshaven and their whole appearance is terrific. Robberies and assassinations are so common, that no one can travel without being well armed. The country women wear long gowns of scarlet cloth, of English manufacture, and go without either shoes or stockings.

The island of Elba is in the Mediterranean, between the coast of Tuscany, or Etruria, and Corsica. It abounds with lofty mountains covered with plants and shrubs, mostly of the odoriferous kinds. The soil is very fertile, producing all the fruit trees common to Europe except the apple, together with abundance of grapes, olives, melons, figs, maize, beans, and pease. The quantity of grain grown is small, and there are but few cattle, sheep, or horses, on the island. It has several mines of metals, the most extensive of which are of iron, of which great quantities are exported to the opposite coasts. The fisheries also give employment to numbers of the people. The city of Porto Ferrajo stands upon a very lofty mountain at the bottom of a bay. Its



CORSICANS.

streets are mostly terraces cut out of rock, and its houses generally handsome. It has a strong citadel and other fortifications, and near the city is a tower called Prosthina, situated on a steep rock, which is considered impregnable.

Porto Longone, so called from the shape of its port, which is long and narrow, is five miles from the former city. It is divided into two parts, the upper and lower towns; in the former of which is the citadel; the lower is inhabited by fishermen and seamen only. This island has been rendered famous as the residence of Napoleon Buonaparte after his abdication of the throne of France. He landed on this island on the third of May, 1814, and quitted it on the twenty-sixth of February, 1815, again to raise his standard in France. His whole force comprehended but one thousand one hundred and forty; and with this handful of men he invaded a kingdom of twenty-six millions of people, who had previously rejected him as their sovereign.

Corsica, the birthplace of Buonaparte, is a woody and mountainous island, nearly one hundred and fifty miles long and between forty and fifty broad. It produces in the valleys corn and abundance of grapes, figs, chestnuts, almonds, and other fruits, with some good breeds of cattle and horses. The forests abound with deer and other game. There are also some mines of iron, crystals, and alum, and several hot baths and salt works.

Bastia, the capital, is well fortified with a good

castle and harbour. The other towns are San Fiorenzo, Bonifacio, Porto Vecchia, and Corte.

Malta is a rocky island, rendered by art and nature nearly impregnable. The soil, where it is of any depth, is extremely fertile, and where it is deficient, industry has supplied the want with earth brought from the valleys or from Sicily. The climate is hot and dry; but the morning and evening sea-breezes render it pleasant at those seasons. The staple merchandise of the island is cotton; but several other articles of commerce are likewise raised. Fruit and vegetables are abundant and of very fine quality. Their beef, veal, lamb, and pork, are also excellent, and game very plentiful. Malta possesses a very peculiar and beautiful breed of dogs, which are much valued in other countries of Europe.

The people are of middle stature and swarthy, but the females are generally fair, with sparkling dark eyes and very animated features. The dress of the lower class is a red or black woollen cap, a check shirt, usually rolled up to the elbows, a coarse cotton waistcoat and trousers, ornamented with silver buttons, and a girdle round the waist of various colours. They generally go barefoot, or wear a very rude species of sandal.

Persons of superior rank adopt the English fashions; but the men invariably wear cocked hats and silver buckles in their shoes. They are a very industrious, active, sober, and brave people. The greatest part of the trade of Malta is engrossed by English houses

settled there since the island became subject to Great Britain.

Malta, the capital of the island, has two very safe and capacious harbours, which, with three creeks on the south-eastern side, divide it into several distinct towns. Valetta, the principal of these, occupies, with its houses and fortifications, the tongue of land that divides the two harbours. The streets are well paved, and the houses lofty and handsome. The most remarkable edifices are the cathedral of St. John, the palace of the grand master of the knights of Malta, and another extensive structure, which contains the hall of justice, the public library, the former college of the Jesuits, and the barracks.

Citta Victoriosa is an excellent port, and very populous; the arsenal and the palace of the inquisition are the buildings most worthy of notice. This city is connected by a bridge with the castle of St. Angelo, situated on a very high rock.

Citta Vecchia, anciently called Melite, was once very magnificent, but presents now rather the appearance of a large fortress than a town. It has a very beautiful cathedral, a palace of the grand master, and a town-house.

Gozo is a well cultivated island, two miles and a half north-west of Malta. The capital, of the same name, stands in the centre of the island, and is strongly fortified. The other Maltese islands are Falsona and Lampedosa, which latter is generally uncultivated, but visited by vessels for taking in water, of which there are several fine springs.

CHAPTER XXVII.

FRANCE.

“—Who, that had been 'mid the roses and bowers,
Where nature is wreathed with the fairest of flowers,
And where echo, and beauty, and pleasure, and love,
Melt in gladness and light o'er each arbutus grove ;
Oh ! who has been there, and not felt that the land
Was a Paradise sprung from Omnipotence' hand ?”

ANON.

FRANCE is about 600 miles in length, and 560 in breadth, containing a surface of 191,700 square miles ; it is bounded on the north, by the English channel and Holland ; on the east, by Italy, Switzerland, and Germany ; on the west, by the Bay of Biscay ; and is divided from Spain, on the south, by the Mediterranean and the Pyrenees. Its climate is in general clear and serene ; and its soil is excellent, and produces corn, wine, oil, and nearly all the luxuries of life. The principal mountains of this extensive kingdom are the Alps, which divide it from Italy ; the Pyrenees, which separate it from Spain ; the Vosges, which divide the departments of that name from the Upper Saone and Upper Rhine, and are





SUBTERRANEAN DISAPPEARANCE OF THE RHONE.

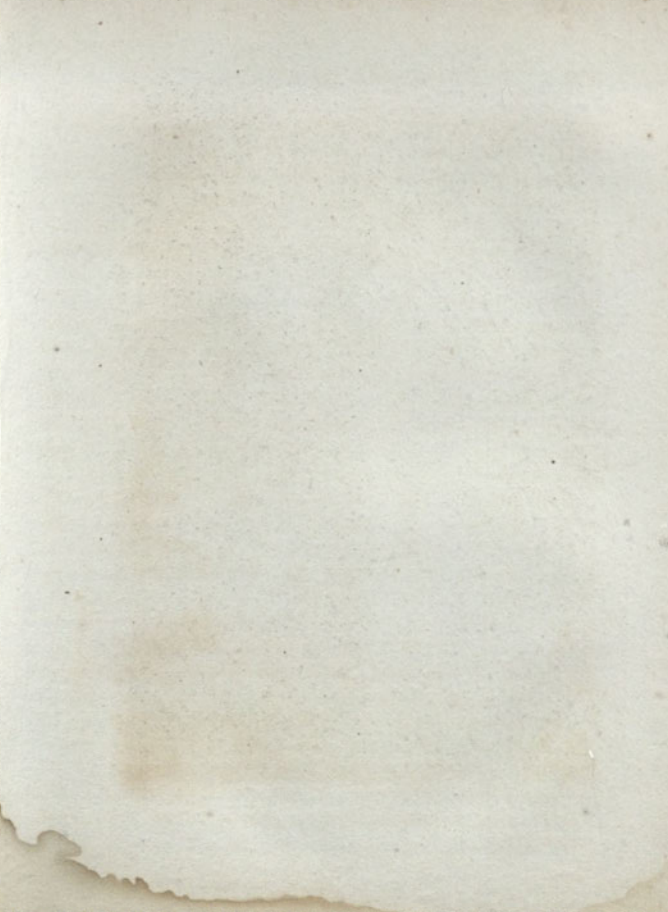
thought to be connected with the mountains of Switzerland; Mont Jura, a vanguard of the Alps, forming a boundary between France and Switzerland; the grand chain of the Cevennes, which rises to the west of the Rhone, and seems to form the principal centre of the primitive mountains of France; and Mont d'Or, in Puy de Dome. The forests of this kingdom particularly worthy of notice are, Orleans, containing 14,000 acres of wood, oak, elm, ash, &c.; Fontainbleau, nearly of a like extent; one, near Morchismoir, of 4000 tall straight timber trees; besides a number of woods, some, indeed, fully entitled to the epithet of forests. Its rivers are the Loire, taking its course north and north-west, and computed to run, from its source to the sea, nearly five hundred miles; the Rhone, which flows on the south-west to Lyons, and then runs due south until it falls into the Mediterranean; the Garonne, which has its rise in the mountains of the Pyrenees, its first course being north-east, and by means of a canal, the work of the reign of Louis XIV. communicating with the Mediterranean; and the Seine, which runs to the north-west. To these may be added, the Saone, the Rhine, the Charente, the Somme, and the Adour. There are but few lakes in this country. France has many mines of iron, silver, copper, tin, lead, and coal, but few of them are wrought. Alabaster, black marble, jasper, and coal, are likewise found in many parts of the kingdom; and there are also many saltpetre and salt works. The only

gem that France produces is the turquoise, of which excellent specimens are found in Languedoc.

The soil is extremely fertile, producing all sorts of grain, esculent roots, and vegetables; with abundance of fruit, especially grapes, figs, prunes, chestnuts, and apples; the southern provinces afford great quantities of melons and capers. Silk, tobacco, hemp, flax, manna, saffron, and other drugs, form also important articles of their commerce. Olive oil is made in large quantities in the provinces near the Mediterranean; and the quantity of wine made in France is said to amount to fifteen millions of pounds annually in value, of which, in times of peace, an eighth part is exported. Brandy and vinegar are likewise made in large quantities.

The animals of France are the same as in most other European countries; the wolf, the bear, and the wild boar, are very common, and in many of the departments the former are very destructive to the sheep-folds. The fox, wild cat, otter, badger, marten, and weazel, are also inhabitants of the forests. Squirrels, rabbits, hares, the stag, the roebuck, the wild goat, and the chamois, also inhabit the woods and mountains.

The domestic birds, as the turkey, goose, &c. are the same as in England, but the singing birds are much less numerous, and their notes are said to be not so sweet as ours. Of those birds which come under the denomination of game there are great abundance.





P A R I S .

Of the reptiles, the lizard is the most remarkable, they are in general of great beauty and size, and are perfectly harmless. The vipers are poisonous. In some of the departments, frogs are a common article of food, while in others, they are held in great abhorrence.

There are a great number of natural curiosities in France, as grottoes, caverns, &c. and numerous interesting remains of antiquity.

Paris, the metropolis of France, is situated on the river Seine. It is about eight leagues in circumference, including the suburbs, and of a circular form, surrounded by boulevards planted with trees, which form a delightful promenade. It contains one thousand one hundred and six streets, seventy-five squares, fifteen bridges, seventeen gates, thirty-four quays, and more than twenty-six thousand houses. Its population is estimated at five hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants. The streets of Paris are in general very narrow, and the houses lofty and roomy; many of them are seven stories high, and most of them contain a different family on every floor. The floors are all of brick, and the staircases of stone, which, though it renders the houses cold and unpleasant in winter, effectually preserves them against the ravages of fire, which seldom does any damage in this city. The shops will not bear a comparison with those of London, being poorly stored with goods, and the tradesmen an indolent, loitering people, who leave all the active part of the business

to the women, while they stand listlessly about, gossiping of fashions, diversions politics, and in short, any thing but business.

The houses in general are ill furnished, and the reverse of neat or clean; here the most splendid outside frequently conceals only poverty and insignificance within. Against the front of a magnificent house, stall-sheds are erected, in which the most trifling wares are exposed for sale. "Here," observes a recent traveller, "a savoyard strings his packthread against the walls, and hangs up vile prints, slips of printed paper with Grub-street wit for the cockneys of Paris, plans of the city, and whatever refuse of the shops he has been able to collect, and is considered a respectable trader. Beside him, sits a woman or man, it may be either, who patches up and sells coarse night-caps, linen drawers, and foots and mends stockings. His next neighbour is a conjuror, a distributor of lucky numbers: he demands only two sous and the first letter of your name, and although he be himself a poor wretch who never made a good meal or put on a new coat in his life, he will tell you immediately how to get rich. Stalls of dirty books, tressels with toys, sellers of cakes and canes, fan menders, bead stringers, beggars, quacks, tumblers, and show-booth fellows displaying tricks of legerdemain, venders of miraculous dyes and powders, who dip bits of white riband in a liquor that turns them pink; orators, parroting over twopenny systems of geology and the

order of the universe; teachers of secrets, that will enable the buyers to cut glass under water, sketch landscapes upon eggshells, engrave portraits by pricking paper with pins and dusting it with lamp black. These, intermingled with the displays of milliners, linen-draper, printsellers, and a variety of trades, continued through an avenue two miles in length, spacious, enlivened with lofty trees, gardens, and hotels, with the gates or rather triumphal arches of St. Denis and St. Martin; the structure, formerly the opera house, and thousands of other objects, which no memory can retain, if the reader can arrange and put them together, will form a something that he may imagine to be the boulevards of Paris.

The Palais Royale is a very extensive building, or rather several sets of buildings separated by large courts and adorned with very fine gardens, which are open to the public.

The Hôtel-Dieu is an ancient hospital, in which eight thousand sick and infirm people are attended to and taken proper care of. Through the whole centre of the observatory there is a circular well, which is continued beneath the ground as far as the building rises above it. A winding staircase of one hundred and seventy steps leads to the bottom of this aperture, from which subterranean passages with stone walls branch out in every direction. The Louvre is a magnificent palace, very finely ornamented both externally and in the interior. The Thuilleries is connected with the Louvre by a long gallery,

which contains one hundred and eighty models of fortresses, executed with great accuracy. The palace itself is one range of building, with a pavilion at each end and a dome in the middle. There are three courts in front, adorned with fine columns, pilasters, &c. The gardens are famed for their beauty, and are adorned with fountains, a terrace, and an octagonal canal. The Hotel of the Invalids is a noble building, appropriated to the reception of wounded and disabled soldiers, who are liberally provided for. Attached to the hotel are beautiful gardens, commanding an extensive prospect of the Seine and its delightful scenery, and furnished with benches for their accommodation; a large hall, lined on all sides with neat bookcases, containing all the most esteemed French literary productions, is appropriated to their use. Over the great wall is a cupola, from which are suspended an innumerable multitude of the colours of all nations, captured by the French armies in different battles. They are so arranged that each forms a letter of an inscription, recording the triumphs of the French nation.

The horse-tails, crescents, &c. taken in Egypt are disposed in picturesque groups on columns. The walls are inlaid with marble from bottom to top, and on them are inscribed the names of all the warriors who have signalised themselves in the field, or died on the bed of honour. The hall is decorated with numerous pictures, representing battles, sieges, &c.; and under the cupola is the tomb of the great Marshal Turenne.

The Botanical Garden of Paris is very extensive and well arranged, and contains a menagerie in which are many beautiful foreign animals. There is also a gallery of natural history, which excels any thing of the kind in the known world.

There are several theatres at Paris, of which the principal are the Comédie Française and the Comédie Italienne, which are built on the same plan, and when filled have a very splendid appearance. The house of the Gobelins is an extensive manufactory for tapestries, established by Louis XIV. who settled here a great number of embroiderers, gold and silver smiths, painters, carvers, and other artificers. There are a number of fine seats and pleasant towns scattered in the environs of Paris, and the whole scenery is very beautiful and striking.

Versailles, four leagues distant from Paris, has a beautiful palace abounding with pictures, statues, antiques, &c. in profusion. The gardens correspond with the palace in beauty and splendour, being adorned with fountains, statues, cascades, a labyrinth, and an orangery or green-house, which is a most superb and elegant building. In the park of Versailles stands the beautiful, though comparatively small palace of Trianon, the outside of which is composed entirely of variegated marble, and of the most exquisite workmanship.

Fontainebleau is a town situated in the midst of a forest of the same name, and is famous for its manufactory of porcelain, and its superb palace,

which was the scene of Buonaparte's first abdication.

St. Cloud, situated on the Seine, has also a fine palace and gardens, which before the revolution was the property of the duke of Orleans, and afterwards the favourite residence of Buonaparte.

Amiens is a very ancient city, situated on the Somme, which is here divided into three channels, over which it has as many bridges. The cathedral is a Gothic pile, much admired for its beautiful nave and steeple. There are several other churches, hospitals and manufactories, and an academy of arts and sciences. Amiens is famous for the treaty of peace which was signed there in 1802.

Rheims, situated in a delightful plain, surrounded by mountains and watered by the river Vesle, is one of the most ancient cities of France, and noted for the fine wine which is produced in the surrounding country. The cathedral, in which the coronation ceremony of the kings of France is performed, is a Gothic building of singular beauty. There are many other handsome public edifices, and a delightful promenade called *le cours*. There are several mills for spinning cotton and yarn, and numerous manufactories for silk, fine cloth, serges, ribands, stuffs, &c.

Marseilles is a large and very populous sea-port town on the Mediterranean. It has a large and commodious harbour, and enjoys a very considerable trade. In time of peace the appearance of

the harbour is very striking, being then crowded with vessels from all quarters of the globe with their different productions. The principal buildings are the cathedral, the town-house, the theatre, the concert hall, the hospital, the monastery of Chartreuse, and the lazaretto, half a league from the city, which is considered the finest building of the sort in Europe. The streets of the new town are broad and well paved. The principal public promenade is called the Allée de Meheilou. It is a beautiful street with elegant and uniform buildings on each side, and down the middle are two rows of lofty trees, with seats placed at intervals. The quays are likewise the resort of numbers. The city has also a museum, a lyceum, a board of trade, and a royal mint, and a great number of manufactories of gold and silver tissue, silks, printed calicoes, morocco, china, glass, &c.

Calais is a small neat town with a good harbour, situated on the narrowest part of the channel opposite to Dover, from which it is distant only seven leagues, and in time of peace maintains a daily communication by packet-boats. The harbour and town are well defended by a citadel and several forts. The principal church, which is much admired for its architecture, was built by the English when Calais was in possession of the crown of England. The town has several manufactories, and a considerable fishery for herrings and mackerel.

Rouen is a large and populous city on the Seine,

over which it has a bridge of boats, which rises and falls with the tide. The city is badly and irregularly built, but the environs are very pleasant; and one of the finest promenades in the country is on the banks of the Seine. It is a place of considerable trade, and possesses a public exchange, a board of trade, a society for the encouragement of arts, &c., a museum, a public library, &c. The most remarkable edifices are the palace, the old castle, and the principal church, in the steeple of which is one of the largest bells in the world, called George d'Amboise. Rouen was the scene of the cruel execution of Joan d'Arc, or the Maid of Orleans.

Port St. Michael is a small town famous for its abbey and castle, which are built on a nearly inaccessible rock, surrounded at high tide with water. The abbey occupies an immense space of ground, and was formerly the residence of an order called the knights of St Michael. In this place was the prison used for the perpetual confinement of state criminals, and one of the dungeons is a cage of strong wooden bars, about twelve or fourteen feet square, and nearly twenty feet in height; in which, in former ages, many miserable victims have undoubtedly perished. Towards the close of the seventeenth century, a news-writer in Holland, who had ventured to print some severe reflections on Louis XIV. and Madame de Maintenon, was decoyed by the emissaries of government into the French territories, was seized and conveyed to this horrible prison, and was

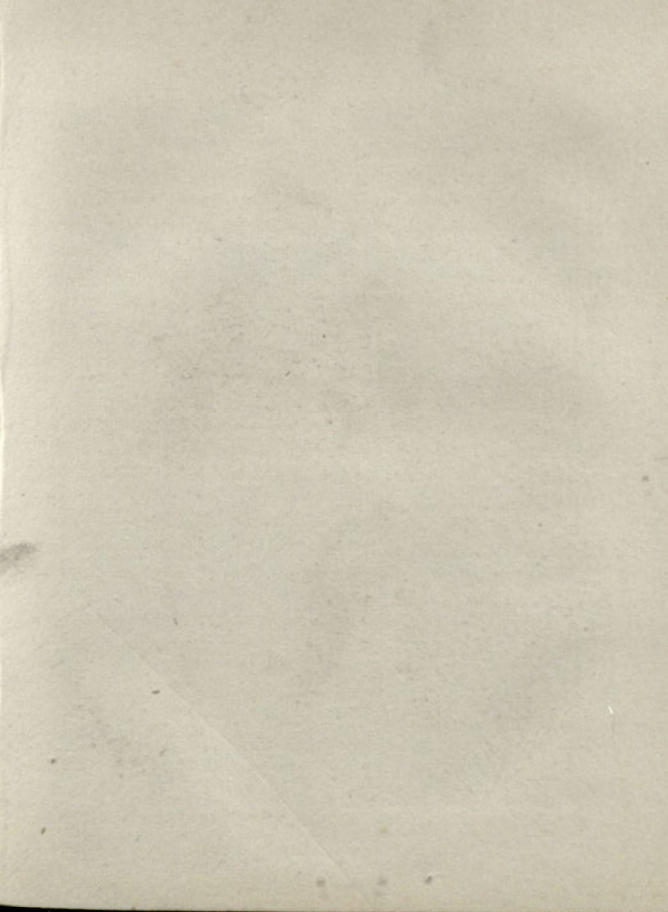
shut up in this cage, in which he remained till his death, a period of twenty-three years; during which time he never beheld a human face except that of his jailor, who regularly brought him his small daily pittance of bread and wine. Neither fire nor candle was allowed him during the winter, nor was he permitted to have a book, or any other alleviation of this tedious confinement. His only employment or recreation was engraving with a nail, which he had contrived to draw out of the wood, representations of armorial bearings, fleurs de lis, &c. on the bars of his cage, which yet remain, and are, considering the roughness of the tool, very curiously executed. At a later period a French nobleman was confined in the same place by the king's order, but he was allowed books and candle; and, after three years' imprisonment, the abbot of the monastery succeeded in gaining his pardon. In the subterranean chambers are several dungeons, called *oubliettes*, into which it was usual, in ancient times, to let down criminals convicted of heinous crimes. They were provided with a loaf of bread and a bottle of wine, which was the last provision given them: the stone which covered the entrance being then let down, they were left to perish. This horrible punishment has however been for more than a century discontinued. In the treasury of the abbey, amongst innumerable relics of real and imaginary value, are an arm of Edward the Confessor, and another, which is said, by the guide who shows the curiosities, to have belonged

to *St. Richard*, one of the kings of England; a saint who has certainly no place in the English calendar.

Orleans, situated on the Loire, over which it has a magnificent bridge, is a very handsome, extensive, and populous city. The principal street, the Rue Fauxbourg de Paris, is regularly built and of prodigious length. The cathedral is superbly decorated, and the towers of St. Croix so lofty that they appear to reach the clouds. Orleans possesses numerous valuable and extensive manufactories, and enjoys a very considerable trade, particularly in wine, brandy, and vinegar. The canal by which the chief trade is carried on is eighteen leagues in length, and has no less than thirty locks or dams. On the bridge before mentioned is a monument of brass, erected to commemorate the service rendered to this city by the heroic Joan d'Arc, of whom there is also a portrait in the Hôtel de Ville.

Boulogne is a handsome and ancient sea-port town, with a good harbour, road, and docks. It is very populous, and has many good manufactories, and an extensive fishery. Near the town are mines of coal, and excellent quarries of marble.

Lyons is a very considerable manufacturing town, situated at the conflux of the Soane and Rhone. The streets are narrow, but the houses lofty and well built. The principal edifices are the Hôtel de Ville or palace, the theatre, the hospital of La Charité which is of amazing extent, the church of St. Paul.





FRENCH.

and that of Ainay. The building called *Le Pierre Eneise*, formerly used as a state prison, has a round tower of extraordinary symmetry, the ascent to which is by one hundred and twenty steps cut in the rock on which it is erected.

Nantes is situated on the Loire, amidst the most picturesque and delightful scenery, and is one of the richest and most commercial cities of France. It has many institutions for the encouragement of learning and commerce. Its manufactories are numerous and extensive, one rope manufactory alone employs one thousand two hundred persons. From the quays, which are very spacious, is a most magnificent view of the Loire, which is crowded with vessels of all descriptions.

Montpellier is famous for its fine climate, which renders it the resort of invalids from many different countries. It has a fine harbour, many useful public institutions and handsome edifices, and considerable trade and manufactories.

The French are in general of a middle stature, lean, and of sallow complexion. The women remarkable rather for the sprightliness of their carriage and vivacity of their manners, than for personal beauty: most of them, however, have sparkling black eyes, and many have regular and pleasing features, though they are generally very deficient in the roses and lilies which form the principal charms of their more northern neighbours.

In their characters they are principally remarkable

for a national vanity; which, while it leads them into many ridiculous excesses, is also frequently the propelling motive to many great and noble actions, and is likewise their chief support under the heaviest calamities. They are reckoned the politest and most refined people in the world; but their title to this distinction is very questionable, being chiefly confined to language, which they overload with a vast number of unmeaning professions accompanied with suitable grimace. It is certain a Frenchman will do a number of things that an Englishman would consider the height of ill breeding, and that with an air of unconsciousness and indifference, that bespeaks him totally occupied with that *amour propre*, the suppression of which is the real essence of politeness.

No people in the world are so habitually devoted to pleasure or gaiety as the French, and yet it is remarkable that none bear adversity with a better grace. A Frenchman is in despair if he is disappointed of a ball, or play, or the most trifling entertainment; yet the French revolution afforded innumerable instances, where the loss of rank, of fortune, and of home, were supported with an equanimity worthy of the ancient Romans.

In their habits the French present a strange mixture of elegance and inattention to the common decencies of life. In their houses they are total strangers to that neatness and propriety which alone constitute domestic comfort; and to this may perhaps

be in a great measure attributed their excessive attachment to public entertainments. They are always on the wing in search of amusement, and, as might be expected in a capital where diversion is the chief business of life to all classes, the amusements of Paris are not always of the most refined or elegant nature. In addition to the numerous theatres, which are constantly open and as constantly crowded, dancing-rooms, gaming-tables, puppet-shows, conjurers, mountebanks, &c. are to be found in every quarter of the city, and other still less defensible exhibitions, as bear-baiting, dog-fights, &c. find also plentiful encouragement from their numerous frequenters.

The nobility and gentry, in general, excel all other nations, in skill and gracefulness in their favourite exercises of riding, fencing, and dancing, and they are now likewise very fond of hunting, after the English manner.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

ENGLAND.

“ Oh England ! of the seas,
The earth is thine, while mistress.”

ENGLAND is an island extending three hundred and sixty miles in length and about three hundred in breadth. It is bounded on the north by Scotland, on the east by the German Ocean, on the south by the English Channel, which divides it from France, and on the west by St. George's Channel. It is divided into fifty-two counties, including those which anciently formed the separate kingdom of Wales.

The climate of England is extremely variable, but, except in the fens and marshes, is generally considered healthy; though the sudden changes from heat to cold during the vernal months are dangerous to persons of weakly habits. Storms are not unfrequent in England, but they are seldom violent or of



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long duration. Very high winds sometimes occur about the period of the vernal equinoxes, and thunder storms are frequent in the summer months, though they are seldom so alarming or so fatal in their effects as in most other countries.

The principal rivers of England are the Severn, the Thames, the Humber, which is a large estuary receiving the waters of several other rivers, the Trent, and the Ouse. There are also a number of others of inferior note, which it would exceed our limits to particularize.

The chief lakes are in Cumberland and Westmoreland, and though possessing scenes of great interest and beauty, are not of any considerable importance or magnitude. There are few elevations in England, that, in comparison with those of other countries, deserve the name of mountains. Of those so called, the principal are the Cheviot, on the borders of Scotland; the Wolds, in Yorkshire; the Chiltern, in Buckinghamshire; Malvern, in Worcestershire; the Wrekin, in Shropshire, &c. The forests of England at the present day are but few in number, and quite insufficient, in quantity of timber, for the supply of the country for domestic purposes; the principal are the forests of Dean, Sherwood, Windsor, and the New Forest in Hampshire, which furnish considerable quantities of oak timber for the use of the navy. In the New Forest great numbers of small horses and fine hogs are reared. England abounds in mines of iron, copper, tin, lead, and coal.

The tin mines of Cornwall especially constitute a most important branch of revenue. Worcestershire is famous for its extensive salt pits. In Cumberland are mines of wad, or black-lead, which are only opened and worked at certain intervals, from the fear of rendering this precious metal too common, and reducing its value. In Lancashire, as well as in different parts of Scotland, is found the peculiar species of coal called cannel or kennel coal, which is of a bright glossy black, and of so hard a texture that it is easily turned upon a lathe and formed into boxes, trinkets, &c. which receive a polish like jet.

The country abounds with mineral springs, which are considered beneficial in various complaints, and are much resorted to by the fashionable world. The principal ones are at Bristol, Bath, Cheltenham, Harrowgate, Scarborough, and Tonbridge.

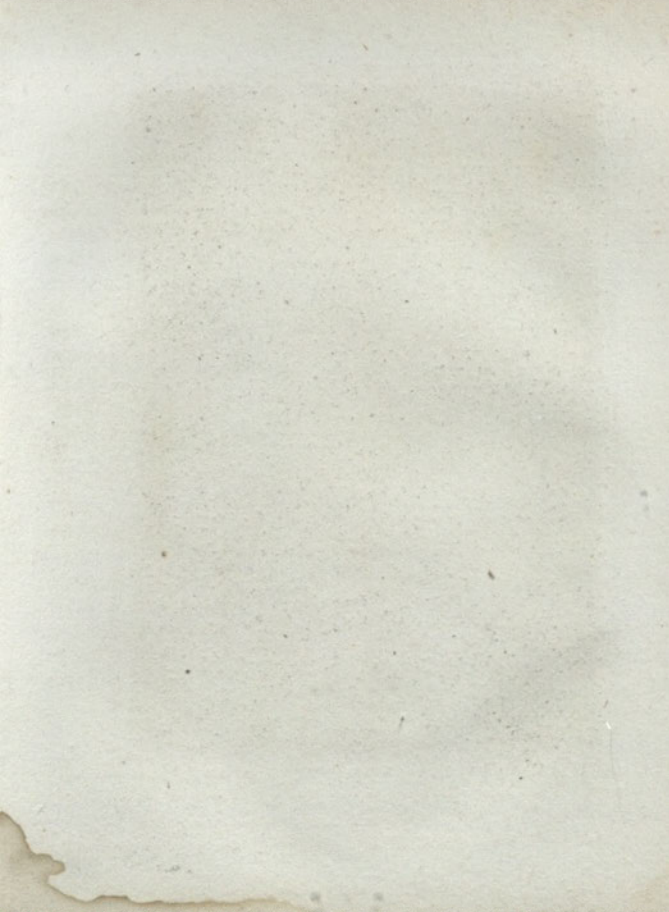
The soil of England is very fertile. It produces abundance of grain of all sorts, and excellent fruits; even those of the tropical climates being raised in great perfection, either by simple culture, or by forcing with hot beds, stoves, &c. The kitchen gardens also produce the greatest supplies of vegetables, which are of the most excellent quality. Woad for dyeing, hemp, flax, &c. are raised in large quantities; and hops, which are principally grown in the counties of Kent, Essex, Hants, and Worcester, form a considerable article of trade.

From the well cultivated state of the country there are few wild animals remaining in England; though

in former times it abounded with wolves, wild-boars, &c. of which the races are now extinct. In the forest of Neidwood, in Staffordshire, and that near Chillingham, in Northumberland, there are some remains of the indigenous horned cattle, which are of a milk white colour, long legged, and as wild as deer; they have black muzzles, ears, and tails, and a stripe of the same colour along the back. The domesticated breeds are numerous and valuable. The English horses are likewise highly esteemed; and in no part of the world can there be so great a variety of valuable animals, which, from the great attention paid to their breeding, are fitted for all purposes, either for the course, the chase, the battle-field, for travelling, or for draught. The sheep have, by like attention, been rendered of very superior quality, and are of various breeds; some distinguished particularly by the excellence of their meat, and others for the quality and quantity of their wool. Goats, which were formerly very numerous, have been nearly superseded by the sheep, and are now comparatively few in number, and little valued. Fallow deer abound in the parks of the nobility, but the red deer, commonly known by the name of stags, are become scarce. Domestic fowls are much the same in England as in other European countries, and game, or wild fowl, is abundant in every part of the country; the wheatear, which is peculiar to England, is highly esteemed as a delicacy, being considered not inferior even to the ortolan so highly prized by epicures. The woods

abound with singing birds, especially black-birds, thrushes, nightingales, goldfinches, bullfinches, linnets, and larks, and a great variety of smaller birds. Few countries are better supplied with fish, both of the sea and river, than England. Reptiles are numerous, but, with the exception of the viper and the blind-worm, they are none of them venomous, or formidable in size.

There are numerous remains of antiquity in different parts of the country, which merit the attention of the traveller. Of these the celebrated relic of Stonehenge on Salisbury-plain, and a similar erection called Abney, on Marlborough Downs, are especially worthy notice, as being stupendous relics of the ancient superstition of Druidism, the religion of the aboriginal Britons. A great number of British, Saxon, Norman, Danish, and Roman antiquities, are also to be met with; which throw a considerable light on the manners and history of the nation, during the periods when it was subject to those powers. The natural curiosities of England are too numerous to admit of description, but we will notice the caverns of the Peak in Derbyshire, which are justly regarded with wonder by travellers. One of these caverns, called the Devil's hole, is six hundred and twenty feet in depth from the surface of the mountain, and its whole subterranean length, two thousand two hundred and fifty feet. In the first entrance a stranger is astonished by the sight of a company of twine-makers, who have established their residence





L O N D O N .

and manufactory in this tremendous gulf, and whose rude appearance and machinery seem to harmonize with the wild yet sublime natural scenery which surrounds them.

London, the metropolis of England, was founded before the Christian era, but the precise time is unknown; the first mention of it in history speaks of its being besieged and taken by the Roman emperor Nero, in A. D. 61. In the general denomination of London is now included the city of London, the city of Westminster, the borough of Southwark, and their respective suburbs. Its length from east to west along the banks of the Thames, exceeds seven miles, and its breadth at the widest part more than four miles, exclusive of the numerous houses or rather villages which surround it, and line the sides of the high-roads for several miles on either side. London has been computed to contain eight thousand streets, lanes, &c. sixty squares, and one hundred and sixty thousand houses, warehouses, &c. but the improvements and alterations which are daily carrying on, have probably made a considerable difference in numbers since this calculation. Its principal streets, though irregular, are handsomely and substantially built, and the whole are well paved, splendidly lighted with gas, and abundantly supplied with water.

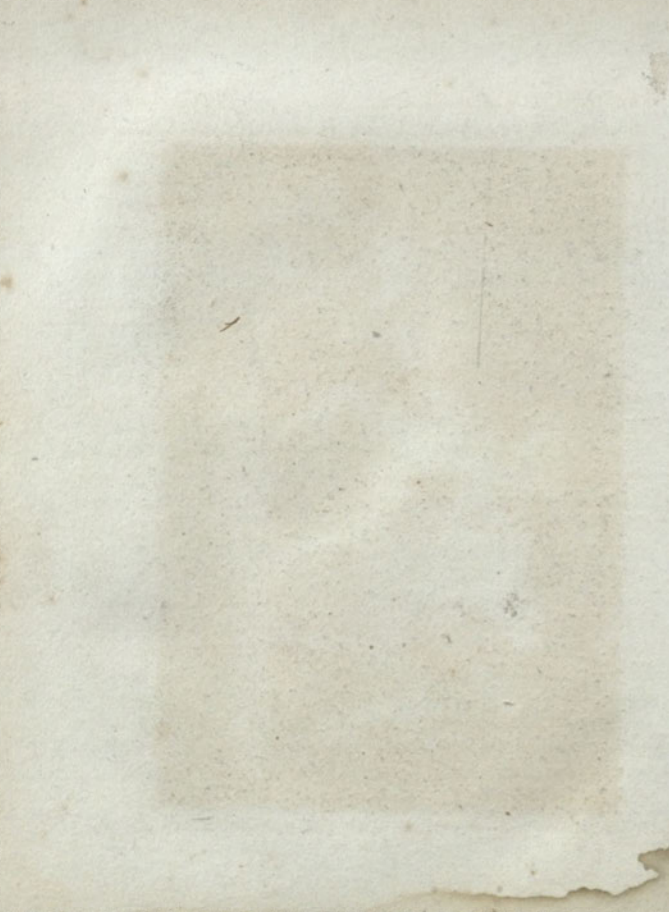
It has four magnificent stone bridges over the river Thames, and two light and elegant ones constructed of iron. The ancient London bridge was first erected in the reign of Henry II. about the year 1163; from

that time it has undergone many improvements and alterations, and at the present period, 1829, is about to be taken entirely down, a new and elegant one having been erected at a short distance from the old one. The other bridges of Westminster, Blackfriars, Waterloo, or the Strand bridge, Southwark and Vauxhall, have all been erected during the last century.

Among the principal edifices of the metropolis, the Tower claims the first notice, from its antiquity, and its important connexion with the history of the country. The part called the White Tower, which originally stood alone, was erected by William the Conqueror, 1076, and it was subsequently enlarged and improved during the reigns of William Rufus, Henry III. Edward III. Edward IV. and Charles II. It is strongly fortified, and surrounded on the land side by a wide moat. From the Thames it is divided by a ditch and a wharf, from which there is an entrance by a draw-bridge. There are three batteries on the walls, and on the wharf are planted seventy-three pieces of cannon, which are fired to commemorate any remarkable public event. There are several gates, which during the day are left open for free intercourse between the city and the inhabitants of the Tower. The buildings which are enclosed within the walls, are the offices of ordnance, the keeper of the records, the white-tower, the horse armoury, the jewel office, the grand store house, the new armoury, the church, barracks for soldiers, houses for officers, prisons for state



SIR WALTER RALEIGH.



criminals, a menagerie for wild beasts belonging to the king, and many inferior offices. There is also a platform within the walls, two hundred and ten feet in length, planted with trees, which is called The Ladies' line, and is open to company on Sundays.

Near the Tower stands an elegant building containing all the offices of the mint, for coining money, &c.

The Monument is a pillar of the Doric order, erected to perpetuate the recollection of the destructive fire of London, in 1666, and the subsequent restoration of the city to more than its former grandeur. The height of the pillar is two hundred and two feet, and it is surmounted by a blazing urn of gilded brass, to which there is an ascent in the inside by a staircase of black marble, which contains three hundred and forty five steps. The column is decorated on all sides with sculpture, and Latin inscriptions explanatory of the events which it is intended to commemorate.

St. Pauls' Cathedral is situated on a gentle eminence in the heart of the city. It is a very striking and magnificent edifice, erected in the form of a cross, with a noble dome, and three porticos supported by lofty Corinthian columns. The interior is enriched with beautiful carved work, paintings and sculpture, an elegant episcopal throne, and appropriate seats for the bishop, dean, city officers, canons, &c. Under the centre of the dome repose the ashes of Lord Nelson, to whose memory a superb monument has been erected by his grateful country. Statues and monuments to

the memory of many other eminent men, likewise ornament the interior of the church. The library, the clock-work, the great bell, and the whispering gallery, which runs round the interior of the dome, are all objects worthy the inspection of the curious.

Westminster Abbey is a beautiful Gothic building on the north bank of the Thames, near the foot of Westminster Bridge, from the centre of which it is seen to great advantage. It is built in the form of a cross, and at the eastern end has twelve distinct chapels, containing tombs of monarchs and other distinguished persons. The choir of the chapel is extremely beautiful, and from it there is an ascent of several steps to a magnificent altar-piece of white marble. The monuments of most of the kings of England, and of many noble and eminent persons, are situated in different parts of the edifice; and at the southern extremity, which is appropriately styled Poet's corner, are monuments erected to the memory of the most distinguished poets and authors of England. The elegant tombs of Handel and Garrick are also placed here. Westminster Abbey, independent of its other claims to attention, is remarkable as the spot on which the first printing press was ever used in England.

St. James's Palace, in which the kings of England have kept their court since the palace of Whitehall was consumed by fire in 1697, is an irregular brick building, destitute of any pretensions to beauty or elegance. The suite of apartments, however, which

are appropriated to regal state, are said to be the best adapted for that purpose of any in Europe.

The Queen's palace, or Buckingham House, on the site of which a superb palace is now erecting for his present majesty, George IV. was a substantial edifice, very pleasantly situated at the west end of St. James' park. The recent improvements in this park, and the extensive gardens in the rear of the palace, have rendered the situation of the new edifice delightful.

Kensington Palace, a large irregular building, is charmingly situated in Kensington gardens. The state apartments, twelve in number, are very elegant, and all the apartments are richly furnished and ornamented with valuable paintings. It has been the residence of several branches of the royal family, and is now in the possession of her royal highness the duchess of Kent.

The ancient palace of Whitehall, in which, until the reign of queen Anne, the court was generally held, is now principally occupied by public offices. In front of the banqueting house, the principal part of the building, Charles I. was beheaded on the 30th of January, 1648.

Westminster Hall, the grand seat of justice in England, is the largest room in Europe, except the theatre at Oxford, unsupported by columns. In this hall the coronation feasts are held, and here Charles I. was tried and condemned to death. On the south side of the hall is the House of Lords, and adjoining the

south-east angle, St. Stephen's chapel, now used for the sittings of the House of Commons.

Somerset House, in the Strand, appropriated to public offices, the Royal Academy of Painters, the Antiquarian Society, and the residence of various officers of government, is one of the most superb edifices in England.

The British Museum is a handsome and spacious edifice, lately much enlarged and improved, and contains a most surprising and extensive collection of the curiosities of nature and art.

The Mansion House, appropriated to the residence of the lord mayor of London for the time being, is a handsome but rather heavy-looking building. Its interior is extremely elegant.

The Royal Exchange, the Guildhall, the Bank of England, the East India House, and the Custom House, are all buildings deserving the attention of strangers, and worthy the character of an opulent and commercial nation.

The places of public amusement in London are numerous; of these, the theatres royal Drury Lane and Covent Garden, the Opera House or King's Theatre, and the theatre royal in the Haymarket are the principal. There are several minor theatres, which are very elegantly fitted up, and well attended. Vauxhall Gardens, situated about a mile and a half from London, is a very splendidly fitted up, and favourite resort, during the summer season.

There are numerous handsome and spacious buildings

in London devoted to charitable purposes; of these, the principal are Christ's Hospital, for the education of about one thousand children; Bridewell Hospital, appropriated to the purposes of correction and of charity; St. Bartholomew's Hospital, for the sick and diseased; St. Thomas's, Guy's, the London, Middlesex, and St. George's Hospitals, for the same purposes; the Foundling Hospital is for the reception of deserted children; the Magdalen, and the Female Penitentiary, for reclaiming and providing for females who have led a profligate life; Bethlem and St. Luke's Hospitals are appropriated to the reception of lunatic patients; the Charter House is for the support of eighty decayed gentlemen, merchants, &c., and forty-four boys, who are classically instructed; twenty-nine of this number are sent to the universities for eight years, with an allowance of twenty-three pounds a year, and the remainder are apprenticed to trades, with forty pounds premium.

There are several inns of court in the metropolis, of which the principal are the Temple, Lincoln's and Gray's Inn.

The prisons of London are Newgate, for the reception of criminals; the new prison Clerkenwell, for those to be tried; Giltspur street Compter for felons, vagrants, and debtors; the House of Correction, Cold Bath Fields; the General Penitentiary, Millbank; the Fleet, King's Bench, and Whitecross street prisons, for debtors and persons fined; and Horse-

monger lane prison, which is the county gaol for Surrey.

In the vicinity of London are two noble national hospitals, that of Greenwich for maimed and wounded seamen, and Chelsea Hospital for wounded and disabled soldiers.

Near the latter also is the Royal Military Asylum, for the children of soldiers, for whom an establishment is also kept up in the Isle of Wight, to receive them during infancy.

London is surrounded by numerous pleasant towns and villages, among which the most pre-eminent is Windsor, from its delightful situation, and its having been the favourite residence of the British sovereigns for more than seven hundred years. Windsor Castle is a truly royal residence, situated on a high hill, and commanding a most extensive and delightful view of the Thames and surrounding country for many miles. The town is built on the slope fronting the Thames, and contains many elegant houses, extensive barracks for horse and foot soldiers, and a very neat theatre. The vicinity of the court, and the residence of numbers of gentlemen and officers connected with it, render Windsor a very pleasant and lively place.

Kew, in which there is another palace, and Richmond, famous for its scenery, are also favourite resorts of the citizens of London.

Bristol, at one time considered the next in importance to London, is a very ancient city, the capital of

Somersetshire. It is situated on both sides of the river Avon, over which it has a good stone bridge, and which is here so deep and rapid, that vessels of one thousand tons burden can come close up to the bridge. The interior of the city is irregularly built, and the streets narrow and dirty, but those in the suburbs are spacious and handsome, and Queen's square exceeds in size any square in London. Bristol contains seventeen parishes, eighteen churches, and several hospitals, and charitable foundations. It is very populous, and has a very extensive trade with Ireland, Wales and the west of England, America, the West Indies, Portugal, Spain, France, &c. Near the city are the hot-wells, which are celebrated for their medicinal qualities. In the rocks above this well are found the fine crystals called Bristol stones. There are numerous manufactories of copper, brass, iron, lead, glass, pins, gunpowder, white lead, &c.

Bath is, in conjunction with the city of Wells, an episcopal city, and is considered the most beautiful and elegant city in England. The houses are built of white free-stone, and over the river Avon are two stone bridges, which connect the different parts of the city. The town is surrounded by hills, on which all the principal buildings are situated. The Royal crescent is built on a gentle slope fronting the Avon, above it rises Laansdowne crescent, which, with the Circus, the new streets, St. James's square, and other superb buildings, constitute a scene of fairy enchantment when lighted. The Baths, to which the city owes its

present splendour and importance, are situated in the city, and are resorted to by fashionables in search of either health or pleasure. The city contains a handsome theatre, concert rooms, a pump room for the company attending the baths, which are fitted up with every accommodation, and numerous superb and elegant buildings. It is nine miles distant from Bristol, and one hundred and five from London. The markets are most abundantly supplied, and the mutton fed on the high hills which overlook the city is considered the finest in England.

Oxford, the seat of the finest university in Europe, and the capital of Oxfordshire is a very handsome city, pleasantly situated at the confluence of the two rivers, the Charwell and the Isis. The streets are wide, well paved, and the buildings, both of ancient and modern architecture, very handsome. There are twenty colleges and five halls, most of them very magnificent and extensive, and many other superb public structures. There are several bridges within the city, that called Magdalen Bridge, which is the entrance from the London road, is very elegantly built of stone. There is also a valuable and extensive botanic garden, and a most beautiful promenade on the banks of the river, called Christchurch meadows, which in the summer season is crowded with fashionable company. The city was honoured, in 1814, by a visit from the allied sovereigns, who were most splendidly entertained by the university.

Portsmouth, one of the principal naval stations

and garrison towns of England, is a large and populous place, defended in so strong a manner as to be considered impregnable by sea or land. The dock-yards, containing warehouses for naval and military stores, and all the necessary manufactories for the equipment of the navy, are considered the most extensive and complete in the whole world, and the port combines every possible advantage. Its entrance is not wider than the Thames at Westminster, and is defended by forts, block-houses, and batteries, on both sides. The road of Spithead, the usual rendezvous of the British navy, is about twenty miles in length, and in some parts three in breadth, and is capable of containing a thousand vessels in perfect safety. Beyond this road is the bay of St. Helens, in which is the Motherbank, the usual station of Indiamen, and vessels under quarantine. The town of Portsmouth is surrounded with ramparts, on which cannon are planted, and which afford very pleasant walks to the inhabitants. In the dock-yards some hundreds of convicts are employed in the various departments of rigging, &c. and are brought regularly from the hulks to their daily labour. These dock-yards have repeatedly sustained considerable damage from fire; in 1776, an incendiary, called Jack the painter, occasioned a similar calamity, which destroyed buildings and stores to the amount of sixty thousand pounds. The naval review, which took place in Portsmouth harbour on the occasion of the visit of the allied sovereigns in 1814. will long be

remembered as a proud display of Britain's glory—the English fleet. The following brief account of this event is taken from the Gentleman's Magazine.

“About two o'clock the royal barges and the rest of the grand aquatic procession left the king's stairs at the dock-yard. Royal salutes were fired from all the batteries. On their arrival at the fleet they went on board the Royal Sovereign yacht, which immediately hoisted the royal standard. The emperor of Russia had previously gone with the duke of Clarence on board the Impregnable, the interior of which seemed to afford his imperial majesty peculiar delight. The fleet formed a line of seven or eight miles in extent, in front of the Isle of Wight. They received the royal visitors with a general salute, after which they slipped their cables, and were immediately under sail with a brisk wind. They speedily cleared St. Helen's, and went quite out to sea. The Royal Sovereign yacht led the van. The yachts and barges of the admiralty, the naval commissioners, the ordnance, and other public offices, a great number of private yachts, and above two hundred vessels of all descriptions sailed out, keeping at various distances from the fleet. About five o'clock the whole line of battle ships hove-to by signal, when the Prince Regent (his present majesty), the king of Prussia, &c. left the Royal Sovereign, and went to the emperor of Russia in the Impregnable, to which the royal standard was accordingly shifted. At this time the leading ships were about twelve miles from Portsmouth.

The royal party partook of some entertainment in the Impregnable's cabin, and the signal was made soon after for the return of all the ships of war to their anchorage. The wind was not so favourable for sailing back, but the general effect of so many vessels of war and pleasure-boats, turning to windward through a narrow channel, the men-of-war ranging up alongside of the smaller vessels, and the frequent repetition of signals in both directions along the lines, together with the accuracy of the naval movements, was of the most beautiful and magnificent kind imaginable. As they returned they continued their firing, so as to afford in some respects the idea of a naval engagement. In the course of the night and morning many private vessels had come in from various parts of the coast, so that the oldest boatmen of the harbour, never saw before so great a number of vessels collected together, nor so fine a sight at Portsmouth. The whole line were at their anchorage by half past seven off Spithead, when the emperor, king, regent, princes, &c. all quitted the men-of-war and got into their respective barges, sailed up the harbour and landed: the salutes on their coming away were very imposing on shore, and in the harbour. The discharge of all the artillery round the works of Portsmouth and Portsea, on the Blockhouse, Cumberland, and South Sea forts, and on the different batteries at Haslar and elsewhere, followed by ten *feux de joie* of the many thousand military drawn up chiefly on the ramparts, was prodigious.

Under this tremendous firing, the sovereigns retired to their respective residences."

Liverpool, two hundred and seven miles from London, is a very large and flourishing sea-port on the river Mersey, and commanding, by its advantageous situation, a most extensive trade with Ireland, America, the West Indies, Africa, and many other parts of the world. It has also a number of vessels employed in the Newfoundland, Greenland, and South Sea fisheries, as well as in the coasting trade with different parts of England. The town itself is handsome, well paved and lighted, and many of the streets are very elegant. The principal public edifices are the Exchange, which contains a most noble monument to the memory of Lord Nelson; the infirmary, and hospital for seamen; the immense pile of buildings called the Goree warehouses; St. Paul's and St. Ann's churches. St. James's walk commands a beautiful prospect of the town, the harbour, river, and sea, and the Welsh mountains. There are baths here admitting the sea-water, which are admirably contrived. There is also a theatre, concert rooms, and in fact every sort of diversion and amusement that are to be met with in the metropolis.

York, the capital of Yorkshire, and once the first city of England, is an episcopal see situated on an extensive plain, near the confluence of the rivers Ouse and Fosse. It is surrounded with walls, which are nearly entire, and has four principal gates. The streets are broad and well paved, and that from the

middle gate to the bridge is very handsome, and has many elegant buildings. The cathedral, or minster, the largest and most elegant Gothic structure in England, is now nearly in ruins, from the effects of fire, occasioned by an incendiary named Richard Martin. This man, whose senses were disordered by religious fanaticism, having concealed himself in the minster, a short time since, succeeded in setting fire to it, and but for a timely discovery, the whole edifice, which had been for ages the admiration of all who beheld it, would have been levelled to the ground. Martin, who boldly avowed the fact, and justified it by asserting that he had received a revelation from Heaven, commanding him to destroy this relic of priestly pomp and pride, is in confinement as a lunatic, and a public subscription has provided the means of restoring the minster to its pristine splendour. York castle, which was built by Richard III. is a very strong building, surrounded by walls, which are one thousand one hundred and three yards in circumference, and a deep moat, over which is a draw-bridge. It is now used as a prison. The mansion house, the assembly house, the theatre, the county hospital, and the lunatic hospital, are all very handsome buildings. York has but few manufactures, and very inconsiderable trade, its prosperity chiefly arising from the residence of a great number of nobility and gentry, who here find all the amusements of the metropolis at a much cheaper rate, and combined with the advantages of a country residence.

Manchester is a large, flourishing, and populous town in Lancashire, and is noted for its numerous and extensive manufactories, principally of cotton, cotton-velvets, checks, tapes, &c. The town is built on a gentle ascent at the confluence of the rivers Irk and Irwell, and its trade is greatly facilitated by canal communication with Ashton, Bolton, Bridgewater, &c. The collegiate church is a very handsome structure in the Gothic style, and there are fourteen other churches, and many other good public buildings.

Lancaster, the county town of Lancashire, is a very handsome town, and a good sea-port. It is delightfully situated on the declivity of two hills, on the summit of one of which are the remains of a castle, and on an eminence below it stands the church, which is a beautiful Gothic structure, and forms, with the town, and the river winding round the base of the hill, the most delightful and picturesque scenery. The town contains a handsome town-hall and exchange, a custom-house with a noble portico supported by lofty pillars, a commodious theatre, and a good stone bridge of five arches. Its chief manufactories are those of sail-cloth, coarse linens, and cabinet-ware. The ships belonging to the town are employed in trading with the West Indies, America, the Baltic, and in domestic commerce.

Richmond, Yorkshire, is a very handsome town situated on the river Swale, over which it has a good stone bridge. It was formerly a place of considerable importance, and was surrounded with a strong wall,

and fortified by a castle. It is now chiefly famed for its horse-races and the picturesque scenery of the adjacent country.

Scarborough, another town of Yorkshire, stands upon a high cliff, which, except upon the western side, is nearly inaccessible. The streets are well built, but from the situation of the town necessarily irregular. The harbour is one of the best in the kingdom, and the town employs a great number of vessels in the coal and coasting trade. The fishery for cod, ling, haddock, soles, and herrings, likewise employs a considerable number of hands. Scarborough is much frequented during the summer season, on account of its mineral waters, and for bathing. It has several extensive manufactories, rope walks, and ship yards.

Hull is a very populous and opulent sea-port town in the same county, and is most advantageously situated for the purposes of trade. The town is built in a triangular form, and is bounded on the longest side by the rivers Hull and Humber, which being connected with the Trent, and its tributary rivers, afford the utmost facility to trade and commerce. Hull consequently possesses a very large foreign as well as coasting trade. The town is generally well built, and some of the modern streets are very handsome. It is defended by three forts and a castle, and has a garrison, with governor, lieutenant governor, and other military officers.

Leeds, the chief of the clothing towns, and the

largest and most flourishing one in Yorkshire, is situated in a pleasant valley, and enjoys, besides its extensive trade in cloth, the manufacture of the country, a considerable traffic in coal, and a large manufactory of pottery-ware. The houses are well built, and the streets, except in the upper town, spacious and well paved. There are several churches, and two spacious halls, the one for the sale of white and the other of mixed cloth. The manner of carrying on the sales is curious to a stranger. Every Tuesday, and Saturday, at six o'clock in the morning in summer, and seven in winter, the market bell rings, and in a few minutes, without any noise or disorder, the benches are covered with pieces of cloth, each proprietor standing by his own goods. Upon the ceasing of the bell the buyers examine the cloth, and when satisfied with the quality, lean over and in a low voice bargain with the proprietor. About half past eight the bell again rings, and the goods are removed and the hall cleared without the least noise or disorder.

Sheffield, famed for its cutlery and manufactures of hard-ware, is likewise situated in Yorkshire, and within three miles of the borders of Derbyshire. On approaching the town it appears entirely enveloped in the smoke which rises from the numerous founderies, steam-engines, &c. above which are seen the spires of the three churches, which being built on a hill, tower above it. The houses, though well built, have a most dingy appearance, from the effects of the constant

exposure to smoke. The rivers Don and Sheaf, which water the town, and over each of which there is a good stone bridge, render the situation of Sheffield very advantageous for the purposes of trade. There are no less than six hundred master cutlers in the town, which also enjoys a considerable trade in other manufactures.

Halifax, another considerable town of this important and extensive county, is seated near the river Calder, and though irregular, is handsome and very populous. It has a great number of manufactories, particularly of calimancoes, broad and narrow cloths, shaloons, florentines, &c. The piece hall is an elegant edifice of an oblong form, occupying ten thousand square yards, and containing three hundred and fifteen distinct rooms, which are opened for the sale of goods once every week, from ten o'clock till twelve. Halifax formerly possessed a right of beheading offenders guilty of theft to the amount of thirteen-pence halfpenny, which was intended to protect the clothiers, who are obliged to leave their goods at night on tenters to dry. The instrument used on these occasions was called a maiden, and was similar to the guillotine employed by the French during the revolution. The earl of Morton, regent of Scotland, passing through Halifax at the time of an execution, took a model of this instrument, which he introduced into Scotland, and some years after had his own head struck off by it.

Durham, the capital of the bishoprick of the same

name, is a very old and irregularly built town, nearly surrounded by the river Wear. It has some good manufactories, and is the residence of many families of distinction. The assizes and quarter sessions are held here, in a building called the exchequer. On the palace green stand the cathedral, and the remains of a castle, a fine specimen of the early Norman architecture.

Sunderland is a large sea-port town in the county of Durham, on the banks of the Wear, and has a most extensive trade in coals, which are found in abundance in the neighbourhood. The harbour is too shallow to admit large vessels, they therefore lie in the roads, and their cargoes are conveyed to them in keels. The principal street is a mile in length and very broad and handsome; at the extremity is a magnificent iron bridge of a single arch, two hundred and sixty feet long, and so lofty that a vessel can sail under it without lowering her top-mast.

Carlisle is the capital of Cumberland, and is a well built town, surrounded by an old decayed wall, which has three gates, called the English, Irish, and Scotch gates. It is situated at the confluence of the Calder and Peterill with the Eden, and has a canal communicating with Solway Frith, by which it enjoys a considerable coasting trade. The town also possesses some extensive manufactories.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne is one of the most commercial sea-ports in England, employing not only an immense number of vessels in the coal trade, and

other domestic commerce, but also in the Greenland and Newfoundland fisheries, and the American and Baltic trade. The town, which is built on a steep hill, is in some parts very irregular, but the streets of modern erection are very handsomely built. The assizes for Northumberland are held here. There are several ancient buildings, of which the principal are Pandor hall, formerly a palace of the kings of Northumberland; Sunley hall, a seat of the kings of England; and the Scotch inn, once the residence of the kings of Scotland. There is also a theatre, assembly rooms, a race-course, several public libraries, and charitable institutions. Gateshead is a large suburb, chiefly inhabited by sailors and persons connected with the shipping; it is joined to Newcastle by a bridge, three hundred feet long and twenty four broad. Newcastle has several churches, of which St. Nicholas and All Saints are greatly admired.

Berwick on Tweed is, although situate in Northumberland, a town and county of itself, and the assizes are held here. The town is handsomely built, and has a fine bridge over the Tweed nine hundred feet long. The chief trade of the town is the exportation of corn, eggs, and salmon, of the latter of which great quantities are caught in the river, and, for the consumption of the metropolis, either packed fresh in ice or pickled.

Colchester, the most considerable sea-port of Essex coast, is built on the summit of a high hill, the

base of which is washed by the river Coln, which is navigable for vessels of large burden. Its chief trade is for wines with Spain and Portugal.

Gloucester, the capital of Gloucestershire, is situated on the banks of the Severn, over which it has a handsome stone bridge. It is a clean well built city, consisting principally of four spacious streets, which meet nearly in the centre. The cathedral is a noble Gothic structure, and its tower is considered the most curious piece of architecture in England. The bridge is connected with a long stone causeway, which runs through the Isle of Alney, famous for the single combat fought between Edmund king of England and Canute the Dane. The castle is a large building of modern erection, used as a county prison; there is also a city prison, a theatre, and a valuable mineral spring, discovered in 1813, around which have been since erected many handsome buildings, a pump-room, &c.

Cheltenham is a handsome town in the same county, situated beneath the Cotswold hills, and derives its chief prosperity from the great influx of strangers of fortune during the summer, to enjoy the benefits of the mineral waters, and the amusements of the place. There is a handsome theatre, concert and assembly rooms, pump-rooms, several beautiful public walks, libraries, &c. and two handsome churches.

Worcester is the capital of Worcestershire, a large, populous, and handsome city, and noted for its extensive manufactories of gloves, china, carpets, &c.

The city is built on the banks of the Severn, which is here shallow and narrow, and is surrounded on the east by the Worcester and Birmingham canal. Great quantities of hops are grown in the surrounding country, and afford a staple article of trade to the city. There is a handsome cathedral, and nine other churches, a neat theatre, assembly rooms, &c. The walls of the city were demolished by Cromwell, after the battle of Worcester, in which King Charles and his Scotch adherents were defeated, and the king himself obliged to hide from pursuit in the branches of an oak.

Warwick, the capital of Warwickshire, is an ancient city situated on the summit of a high hill on the river Avon, on the opposite bank of which stands Warwick castle, one of the noblest now remaining in England, and to which there is a communication from the town by an elegant stone bridge of one arch. The town-hall, in which the county assizes are held, is a very handsome building, and there are several noble churches and charitable institutions.

Coventry, which is united with Litchfield to form a bishop's see, is in the same county. The city is pleasantly situated, but the streets are narrow and ill paved, and most of the buildings very old. There are several handsome churches, and St. Mary's hall, a venerable building, is curiously decorated with ancient paintings, and old English inscriptions, among which is the charter of the city, and the story of Lady Godiva's riding naked through the town to

procure the redemption of the citizens from certain heavy penalties inflicted by her husband, Leofric, king of Mercia.

Birmingham, also in the county of Warwick, is famous for its extensive manufactories of hard-ware, trinkets, jewellery, fire-arms, plated-goods, japaned-ware, *papier machée*, &c. of which immense quantities are made, superior in quality and cheaper than any other place in the world. It has also a very considerable trade in leather. The upper part of the town contains many good streets and squares with handsome houses, but the lower part is crowded with old buildings, manufactories, and workshops. Notwithstanding the constant effluvia from the different forges and manufactories which envelope the town in smoke, it enjoys, from its situation, a very salubrious air, and, from the nature of the soil on which it is built, is remarkably free from damp. There is an elegant theatre, and other public buildings, and at a short distance from the town are the most commodious sets of baths, for hot or cold bathing, in the kingdom.

Leicester, the capital of Leicestershire, is but an indifferent town, the streets narrow and dirty, and the houses poorly built. It has, however, an excellent market, well supplied with good meat and a profusion of vegetables. The principal edifices are the town-house, a large inelegant building, the county and town prisons, and several hospitals. The hall and kitchen of the old castle are still entire, and in

the former the assizes, &c. are held. In the vicinity of the town is a mineral spring, and a pleasant public walk more than a mile in length.

Northampton, the capital of Northamptonshire, is a large and populous town, the streets are regular, and the houses uniformly built of a sort of free-stone, which is at first soft, but hardens and becomes durable by exposure to the air, assuming, in proportion to its age, a variety of colours, from a pale cream to a bright yellow, and ultimately a dark red, which gives to the streets a motley and singular appearance. A square called Woodhill, six hundred feet wide, surrounded by neat private houses and shops, forms one of the handsomest market-places in the kingdom. The chief trade and manufactures of Northampton are shoes, stockings, and lace, of which great quantities are exported.

Lincoln, the county town of Lincolnshire, is an ancient city on the river Witham. The cathedral is a very magnificent structure, and there are still remaining in this town several ancient monasteries, which are now converted to other purposes. There are thirteen churches, but most of them are mean and dilapidated. The houses are many of them very ancient, and the whole city has an antique and venerable appearance. The chief trade of Lincoln is in corn and wool. The plain near the city is famous for the battle fought there between the empress Maud and Stephen, in which the latter was taken prisoner.

Huntingdon, the county town of Huntingdonshire, is situated on the river Ouse, over which it has a stone bridge of six arches. The town, which is tolerably built, is about a mile in length, lying along the bank of the river. It is a great thoroughfare to the north, and has a considerable trade in coals, timber, iron, grocery, &c.

Bedford, the assize town of Bedfordshire, is a well built and populous place, containing five parish churches, and several dissenting chapels.

Buckingham, the capital of Buckinghamshire, is situated in a fertile country on the banks of the Ouse, over which it has three stone bridges. The town has only one principal street, and the houses being in general thatched, have but a mean appearance. There are several paper and corn mills on the river, and lace making employs a considerable number of the inhabitants. The summer assizes are held here, and the lent assizes at Aylesbury, another town of the same county.

Salisbury, the capital of Wiltshire, is a large and ancient city situated on the Avon. The streets are spacious and handsome, and are rendered particularly pleasant and clean, from a clear stream running through them in a channel of brick. The cathedral is very elegant, and the loftiest in England, the middle spire being four hundred and ten feet high. The bishop's palace is a handsome building, and the council-house was built at the sole expense of Lord Radnor. The towns of Wilton, Devizes, Malmesbury,

and Marlborough, are all good and flourishing towns in the same county. The latter is famous as the birth-place of John the celebrated duke of Marlborough.

Winchester, the county town of Hampshire, is pleasantly situated on the river Itchin. It is a city of great antiquity, and is very handsomely and regularly built. The cathedral is a magnificent Gothic structure. Winchester school and college is a spacious building in the south suburbs, and contains an elegant chapel, a suite of apartments for the warden, fellows, chaplains, choristers, scholars, &c. Near the cathedral is an alms-house for ten clergymen's widows; and there are also several other excellent charitable institutions, a handsome town-hall, a theatre, county and city gaols, &c.

Southampton, in the same county, is a beautiful and populous town, with a bay called Southampton water, which is navigable for vessels of considerable burden. The approach to the town is very striking, commanding a delightful view of the bay, the Isle of Wight which lies opposite, and the scenery of the New Forest. The Bar-gate is a very beautiful remnant of antiquity, over which is the room used for the town-hall. There are public rooms, assembly rooms, a theatre, and public libraries. Half a mile from the Bar-gate are the barracks, near which is a very handsome row of houses called the Polygon.

Reading, the county town of Berkshire, is a very spacious handsome town, pleasantly situated on the

river Kennet, which is here navigable for vessels of 1000 tons burden. The houses are well built, and the streets regular. It has a considerable trade in corn, malt, and flour.

Newbury is a handsome town also in Berkshire, famous for its manufactories of druggets and broad-cloths. In the reign of Henry VIII. a wealthy clothier named John Winchcomb, but better known by the name of Jack of Newbury, was so warm a patriot as to equip and maintain a hundred of his own men, whom he headed against the Scots at Flodden-field.

Cambridge, the capital of Cambridgeshire and the seat of a university, is situated on the river Cam, and is a very handsome and populous town. It has twelve colleges and four halls. King's college is considered the noblest foundation in the kingdom, and the chapel belonging to it the finest specimen of Gothic architecture in the world. A noble square is formed by the Senate house, St. Mary's church, the university library, the schools, &c. There is also a botanical garden, and a general hospital. In a field near the town, one of the greatest fairs in England is annually held, commencing on the 7th of September and continuing for a fortnight. It is visited by traders and merchants from all parts of the kingdom.

Canterbury, the principal city in Kent, and an episcopal see, is a very ancient place, having been founded before the Christian era. The cathedral, a very large Gothic structure, was once famous for the shrine of

Thomas à Becket, murdered here in 1170, and contains the tombs of Henry IV. and Edward the Black Prince. There is an ancient castle and fourteen churches, some extensive manufactories of silk and cotton, and a considerable trade for hops, which are produced in abundance in the surrounding country.

Dover, a seaport in the same county, is situated between two high cliffs which command a view of the French coast. It has an ancient castle, and is the station of the packets between England and France in times of peace. It is defended by batteries, and has a garrison of three thousand men.

Chatham, also in Kent, and united with Rochester, is one of the principal stations of the navy, and is strongly fortified. There is here a large dock-yard and arsenal, considered the most extensive in the world.

Chester, the capital of Cheshire, is an ancient city surrounded with a wall nearly two miles in circumference, with four gates answering to the four cardinal points. The principal streets have a singular appearance. The basement stories are shops, over which is a foot-path, ascended at the commencement of each street by a flight of steps. The first stories form another row of shops, over which the upper stories project, so as to form a sort of colonnade open to the street. These are called the rows, as Bridge street row, Eastgate street row, &c. Chester has two annual fairs of a fortnight each, at which immense quantities of goods are disposed of, particularly Irish

linen, and woollen cloth. It had formerly a considerable trade, but has been superseded by its rival, Liverpool. Its principal manufacture is gloves. Over the river Dee, which waters the town, is a very elegant stone bridge of modern erection. The castle, in which the assizes are held, is a very strong and extensive building. There are also a town-hall, a theatre, a handsome cathedral, and ten other churches.

Derby, the capital of Derbyshire, is situated on the river Derwent, over which it has a stone bridge. It has considerable manufactories of silk, the first machine for throwing which, that was erected in England, having been set up here by Sir Thomas Lombe, in 1734. Derby possesses also an extensive trade in cottons, stockings, porcelain, and malt; and in the spars, marbles, and crystals of the county, which are wrought into a variety of ornamental articles. There are five churches, of which that of All Saints is much admired for its beautiful towers. The famous mineral springs of Matlock and Buxton are in the county of Derby.

Dorchester, the county town of Dorsetshire, is a handsome town, almost surrounded by a fine terrace-walk planted with trees, and commanding a beautiful view of the surrounding country. There are three churches. The town has no manufactures, but is noted for its excellent ale. It is situated on the river Frome.

Blandford, another town of the same county is a very neat place, with a considerable manufactory of

thread and shirt buttons. It has a good market-place, and a neat town-hall.

Weymouth, also in Dorsetshire, is a sea-port with a beautiful bay. It is a handsome town, much frequented for sea bathing, and has a theatre, assembly rooms, &c. The esplanade is a beautiful raised terrace of considerable length and breadth, and is the fashionable promenade. The town is defended by a battery of twenty small cannon, and in the vicinity is another of heavy cannon, and some barracks. Weymouth is united to Melcombe Regis, by a handsome bridge over the river Wey.

Exeter, the capital of Devonshire, situated on the river Ex, is a very ancient city, and formerly noted for its woollen manufactories, which are now greatly decayed. The cathedral is a very magnificent Gothic structure, and there are in the city and suburbs nineteen other churches. There are a theatre, town-hall, &c. and near the city the ruins of its ancient castle.

Chelmsford, the county town of Essex, is a tolerably spacious and well-built town, but contains no remarkable edifices. It has no manufactures.

Harwich is a good sea-port town in the same county, much frequented for bathing, and is the station of the packet-boats to Holland and Germany. There are two light-houses at the entrance to the harbour, which is narrowed by shoals and sands.

Chichester, the capital of Sussex, is an ancient city on the river Levant, near its entrance to the sea. It

is walled round, and had formerly four gates. The cathedral is a very fine building, and it has seven other churches. It has a considerable trade in corn, malt, &c. and a manufactory for needles.

Brighton, or Brighthelmstone, also in Sussex, is a fashionable resort for sea-bathing. It has no harbour and only small vessels can approach that part of the coast. There are many very elegant streets and public rooms, a theatre, hot and cold baths, &c. His present majesty has a superb residence here called the Pavilion, which was formerly almost constantly honoured with his presence; adjoining is a royal chapel, and upon the summit of the hill is the church. At this place Charles II. embarked for France after the battle of Worcester.

Hastings is another sea-port in the same county, and is much resorted to as a watering-place, being most delightfully situated, and surrounded with charming walks and rides.

Bury St. Edmunds, the county town of Suffolk, is situated on the river Larke, and is a very considerable and populous place. It has two parish churches in one church-yard, a good free-school, and is famous for many antiquities.

Hertford, the capital of Hertfordshire, is a handsome market-town on the river Lea; it contains two churches, a neat sessions-house, a town-hall, a gaol and penitentiary, a market house, a school belonging to Christ's Hospital, London; and at a short distance from the town is a spacious college

belonging to the East India company, for the purpose of training up young men for the East India service.

Ware is a town in the same county, with a good market and a spacious church.

Norwich is the capital of Norfolk, and stands on the river Wenson, over which there are six bridges. On an eminence in the middle of the city stands the ancient castle, joining to which is the county gaol. The cathedral is one of the most spacious and handsomest buildings of the kind in England. The bishop's palace, the guildhall, St. Andrew's hall, the theatre, the assembly rooms, and the several hospitals, are all handsome and appropriate buildings. Norwich has always been famous for its extensive woollen manufactories.

Falmouth is the principal sea-port town of Cornwall, and has a spacious harbour, and a very extensive trade. Truro, Penzance, Padstow, and Launceston are all considerable towns in the same county.

Hereford is the capital of Herefordshire, and is a very ancient city situated on the river Wye. It was formerly surrounded with walls, which, with the castle, are destroyed, and only three of the six gates remaining. It has a handsome cathedral and four other churches, a town-hall, &c. The assizes are held here.

Monmouth, the county town of Monmouthshire, is situated at the confluence of the Monnow and the Wye, over which it has three bridges. It has some remains of its ancient castle, and of a Benedictine

monastery. There is a new and handsome town-hall in the market-place. St. Thomas's church is a very ancient structure. Monmouth has a considerable trade in bark, of which great quantities are furnished by the woods of the surrounding country.

Durham, the capital of the county so called, and a bishop's see, is built on a hill on the river Wear, over which there are three stone bridges.

Guildford, the principal town of Surrey, is a very populous place on the river Wey. The county elections are held here alternately with Croydon. Guildford has a considerable trade in corn and malt.

Croydon, is a good town on the river Wandle, and the residence of a great number of gentry and nobility.

The islands of England are the isles of Wight, of Man, Jersey, Guernsey, Sark, and Alderney.

The Isle of Wight is situate opposite the coast of Hampshire, and is remarkable for its fertility. It produces abundant pasture for sheep, and great quantities of poultry, &c., are reared. The purity of the air, and the fertility and beauty of the landscapes, have procured for this island the title of the garden of England. The chief town is Newport, which stands nearly in the centre of the island. It is a well-built place, with broad, clean, and handsome streets, crossing each other at right angles. A great number of gentlemen's seats are scattered about the island, in which, also, is Carisbrook cattle, the place in which king Charles I. was confined for nearly a year previous to his execution. His children were afterwards

kept prisoners here, and his daughter the Princess Elizabeth died here.

The Isle of Man is in St. George's Channel, and was once an independent sovereignty. Its length is about thirty-one miles, and its breadth about twelve. The chief employment of the inhabitants is the herring fishery, in which about four hundred boats, composing what is called the Manks fleet, are usually employed, under the directions of an admiral and vice-admiral, who are annually elected. The value of a successful night's fishing of this fleet is estimated at five thousand pounds. The climate is generally temperate, frost and snow seldom continuing long; but the summer is sometimes too cool properly to ripen the productions of the soil. Castletown, the residence of the governor, is a pleasant sea-port town; the streets are spacious, and the houses are handsome. Castle Rushen, which gives to the town its name, is a very ancient and strong edifice, surrounded by a moat and walls of prodigious thickness. It is built on a rock rising out of the midst of a creek of the sea which runs through the town. Peel, Ramsay, and Douglas are the other towns of the island. The established religion and laws of the Isle of Man are the same as in England; but the language is a mixture of the ancient Erse or Irish with the dialects of other nations. The people are in general of a pensive indolent nature, attached to their native place, and jealous of their hereditary rights and privileges.

The Isle of Jersey is in the diocese of Winchester, and is about twelve miles in length and six and a half in breadth. The air is very temperate and healthy; great quantities of apples are grown here, and upwards of twenty thousand hogsheads of cider are sometimes made in the season. The principal manufactures are woollen stockings, caps, &c.; and they have some few ships employed in the Newfoundland fishery. The principal town is St. Helier or St. Hilary, which is situated at the foot of a high hill. It contains several good streets, with the court-house in the centre, and near it the church, in which the service is performed in the French and English languages. It has also a corn-market with handsome piazzas, and the streets are particularly clean and pleasant, from a rivulet running through them. The only other town is St. Aubin, about three miles distant from the former. It has a good port, defended by batteries, and enjoys a tolerable trade.

Guernsey is distant about five leagues from Jersey, and is about thirty-eight miles in circumference. It is pleasantly diversified by hill and valley, the soil fertile and well cultivated, and the climate temperate.

The only town on the island is that of St. Pierre, or St. Peter-le-Port, which is the residence of the governor, and enjoys a considerable foreign and domestic trade, especially in wines from France, Spain, and Portugal, which are brought here to be

prized. The mouth of the harbour is defended by two castles. The pier is a very noble structure.

The little island of Sark lies about three miles distant from Guernsey, and contains about two thousand acres of land. The air is serene and healthy; the population about three hundred, who are chiefly employed in agriculture and knitting stockings, caps, and jackets for seamen, principally for the Bristol markets.

The Isle of Alderney is about twenty leagues from Berry Head, in Devonshire, and is about four miles in length, from one to two in breadth. — The soil is extremely productive, and the climate particularly salubrious. It is famous for a small and beautiful breed of cows, known in England as Alderney cows. There is only one town, a small inconsiderable place, called La Ville, situated in the centre of the island. On the Caskets, a ridge of rocks extending westward from this island, Prince Henry, son of Henry I perished, with the flower of the young English nobility, in a storm, in 1119.

CHAPTER XXIX.

WALES.

—————“That country, beautified
With woods that wave, and streams that glide,
Where beauteous air and earth unfold
The gales of health, and crops of gold.”

DELTA.

THIS principality, which was until the reign of Edward I. an independent kingdom, is bounded on the north and west by the Irish sea, on the east by Cheshire, Shropshire, Monmouthshire and Herefordshire, and on the south by the Bristol Channel. It is divided into North and South Wales; the former containing the counties of Flint, Denbigh, Montgomery, Anglesea, Merioneth, and Caernarvon, and the latter those of Radnor, Brecon, Glamorgan, Pembroke, Cardigan, and Caermarthen. The soil is in general mountainous, but the rich valleys between are very fertile. There is abundance of coal, and numerous quarries of freestone and marble.

The two principal mountains of Wales are Snowdon and Plinlimmon, the summits of which are crowned with perpetual snow. The animals of Wales are in general the same as in England, but the cattle are small and the horses particularly so, though sure-footed, and capable of enduring great fatigue. Great numbers of goats feed on some of the mountains, but the breed has of late years considerably decreased; mines of silver, copper, lead, and iron, are met with in different parts of the country, and the latter, especially, are a source of considerable wealth.

St. Asaph, in Flintshire, is a bishop's see, pleasantly situate at the confluence of the rivers Elwy and Clwydd. The town is but indifferently built and populated. There is a cathedral, not distinguished for any thing particular but its antiquity.

Holywell, in the same county, is a considerable town. It has a good trade, and in the vicinity are productive mines of copper, lead, and calamine. The well of St. Winifred is celebrated for a supposed miraculous power of healing. It is a great natural curiosity, as it throws up every minute twenty-one tuns of water, which forms a stream of such impetuosity, as to turn a great number of mills within the space of a mile from its source.

Denbigh, the capital of Denbighshire, is a good town built on the declivity of a hill in the middle of the beautiful and romantic vale of Clwydd. It has some extensive linen manufactories, and bleaching grounds, in the vicinity; and some others of

leather articles, as, gloves, shoes, caps, &c. which supply the London market.

Montgomery, the capital of the county of that name, is a small but neat town on the river Severn. It has but little trade.

Beaumaris, in the Isle of Anglesea, consists of one broad and handsome street, and has a good harbour. Beaumaris Castle is a large Gothic structure, erected by Edward I.

Holyhead is the port from which the packets usually sail to Ireland, the passage between that port and Dublin being generally effected, in fair weather, in about twelve hours. The bay is very safe and spacious, and the town, which is built beneath a high mountain, is much resorted to for sea bathing.

Dolgelly, considered the capital of Merionethshire, is an irregularly built town, almost surrounded with mountains. On the south is the celebrated Cader-Idris, a mountain with two peaks, which exhibit strong signs of a volcanic origin. The town is the seat of a peculiar manufacture, called webbing, or white plains, most of which is exported.

Caernarvon, the capital of the county of that name, is a neat, clean and regular town, situated on the shore of the strait of Menai, and much frequented for sea bathing. There is a magnificent castle standing on a neck of land almost insulated by the sea and the river Seint. In the part of this castle called the Eagle Tower, Edward II. of England, the first Prince of Wales, was born.

Bangor, a bishop's see, is a neat little city, and has a small harbour, difficult of access for ships of burthen, except at high-water. There is a cathedral, a plain Gothic edifice, and episcopal palace, which is a substantial building, surrounded by an embattled wall. Penmanmawr, one of the principal mountains of Wales, extends eight miles along the road from Bangor to Aberconway, which is a small ill-built town, but appears very picturesque, being surrounded with a high turreted wall, with twenty-six round towers, at regular distances, covered with ivy, and having three large gateways. The town has a small harbour, and a trifling trade.

Presteign, the modern capital of Radnorshire, is a pleasant little town, bearing the marks of original extent and grandeur. The vale in which it stands is watered by the river Lugg, in the midst of which rises, on a rock, an ancient Gothic structure, called Stapleton Castle. Old Radnor is now a wretched village, and New Radnor is a very inconsiderable town.

Brecon, the capital of Brecknockshire, is situated on the river Usk, which here unites with the Honddy. The streets are narrow and irregular. It has three churches; and part of the walls which anciently encompassed the city, and one of the towers of the castle, are still standing. The arsenal here is a beautiful brick building, two stories high, and contains an armoury for fifteen thousand stand of arms, and one thousand five hundred swords, arranged as in the Tower of London.

Cardiff, the county town of Glamorganshire, is situated on a flat between the rivers Rumney and Taafe. It is a well built town, with a handsome bridge of five arches, and a very elegant church. It has also a commodious harbour, three miles below the town, called Pennarth, or the Head of the Bear.

Swansea, in the same county, is a famous bathing-town, and possesses every accommodation and amusement for the company that resort thither in the season. It has also a considerable trade, iron foundries, roperies, and seven large copper works for smelting of ore. The remains of the ancient castle, consisting of one massy tower, are now converted into a prison and workhouse.

Llandaff, also in Glamorganshire, though an episcopal see, is a small mean place, but contains a cathedral.

Pembroke is the capital of Pembrokeshire, and is situated on an isthmus formed by Milford Haven and the sea. The town consists principally of one long and neat street, which leads to the remains of the once magnificent castle, now reduced to one immense round tower. The other towns of this county, are Tenby and Whiston.

Cardigan, the county town of Cardiganshire, is a sea-port at the mouth of the river Tyvy, over which it has a handsome bridge. The town is well built, on the declivity of a hill; and has a considerable export trade in lead and iron.

Carmarthen, the capital of the county of that name,



WELCH.

is a handsome town, situated in the delightful vale of Towey, over the river of the same name; it has a good bridge of ten arches. There are several iron and tin mines, and a large smelting-house in its vicinity, and it enjoys a tolerably extensive commerce.

The Welsh are a brave and hospitable people, and are remarkably attached to their native country, and ancient customs and manners. In the mountainous parts of the country they still retain much of the primeval simplicity of their character; but in the great towns this has disappeared, owing to their constant intercourse with their Saxon neighbours, as they denominate the English. They are in general very curious and inquisitive, and extremely irascible in their tempers. The habitations of the cottagers are in general of the poorest description, and their food of the most homely kind. They are mostly very industrious, and the women in many places never even go to market without having their hands constantly employed with their knitting. They frequently go barefooted, or reserve their shoes only for Sunday or market-day, when they will carry them in their hands, and previous to their entering the town, wash their feet in the nearest rivulet, and then put them on. The peasantry are extremely credulous and superstitious. The Welsh are generally very great antiquaries and genealogists, and were formerly enthusiastically attached to poetical composition and music, and still retain some portion of this national predilection. Almost every town and village

has still its harper; these, however, are but faint representatives of the ancient bards, whose influence the tyrant Edward so greatly feared might rouse their countrymen to oppose his usurpation, that he massacred all of them at Caernarvon. The Welsh are in general a good looking healthy race; the women, many of them, fair and pretty featured, but seldom very graceful or elegant in their appearance. The dress of the higher classes is the same as in England, but the country women and girls in most places wear hats the same as the men's; and in some parts, particularly in North Wales, are seldom seen abroad without a long blue woollen cloak which wraps them to their heels. Contrary to the usual maxim of health—keep the feet warm and the head cool, their general practice is to go entirely barefoot, while their head is completely enveloped in a large handkerchief tied over the cap, and hanging down on the shoulders, over which, when out of doors, is placed a heavy beaver hat. They are very particular and ostentatious in their celebration of weddings, christenings, and burials; and though professing the religion of the established church of England, retain many superstitious doctrines and ceremonies very inconsistent with the purity of its worship.

CHAPTER XXX.

SCOTLAND.

“Highland and lowland, glen, and fertile carse,
The silent mountain lake, the busy port,
Her populous cities, and her pastoral hills.”

SOUTHEY.

SCOTLAND is bounded on the south by England, and on the east, north, and west, by the Atlantic Ocean. It is about two hundred and seventy miles in length and one hundred and sixty in breadth, and is divided into thirty-three shires, or counties. The climate of Scotland is for the most part considerably colder than that of England; but storms of thunder and lightning are less common, and earthquakes very rare. It is in general a bleak and open country, very mountainous and destitute of wood; the latter defect however, is rapidly disappearing, from the number of plantations of firs and other trees, which have of late years been made all over the country. In the Highlands there are some extensive woods of Scottish

oak, which, however, from the difficulty of carriage, are of little value to the proprietors. The chief mountains of Scotland are the Grampian, the Pentland, Lammer Muir, and the Cheviot hills, which are on the borders of England.

The principal rivers are the Forth, the Tay, the Spey, the Don, the Dee, the Tweed, and the Clyde.

The lakes of Scotland are numerous and exceedingly grand and beautiful. The principal are Loch-Lomond, Loch-Tay, Loch-Ness, Loch-Au. There are numerous mines of iron and coal, and some of lead and copper. Gold mines formerly were worked in Scotland, but they have long disappeared.

Scotland produces most sorts of grain, hemp, flax, &c.; and the fruits which flourish in England come to great perfection in the southern counties. Many extensive tracts of country are, however, entirely covered with heath.

The red deer and the roe-buck are common in the Highlands, and incredible numbers of black cattle are fed on the hills, as also sheep, further south. Game is very plentiful, and in some of the Lochs swans are seen in great numbers. Sea fowl of all descriptions are also abundant. Great quantities of fish are caught off the coast, and the lakes and rivers abound with them.

Edinburgh, the metropolis of Scotland, is situated on three eminences, and is divided into the old and new town. The former is built on the steep sides of an immense rock, and is very irregular; the houses



EDINBURGH.



are seven or eight stories high, and each story has a distinct staircase, and is inhabited by a separate family. The castle is built on the summit of the hill, and is a very strong fortress, occupying nearly six acres of ground. On the south and east are the public walks, Heriot's Hospital, the stupendous rocks of Arthur's Seat, Salisbury Craigs, &c, and on the north, can be had a full view of the Frith of Forth; to the east of the castle, in a plain, called the King's Park, is the palace of Holyrood House, the ancient residence of the seven sovereigns of Scotland. The new town is separated from the old by a valley, which was formerly a stagnant lake, but has been drained and converted into gardens; over this valley, in order to facilitate the intercourse between the two parts of the town, is a handsome bridge, called the North Bridge; and another, which is built on both sides with shops and houses, unites them in another direction; this is called the South Bridge. The new town consists of several handsome streets and squares, running parallel to each other, with smaller streets intersecting them. The principal edifices of Edinburgh are, the Parliament House, the College, the Advocates' Library, the Exchange, and several noble hospitals and charitable institutions. There is also a handsome theatre, concert-rooms, &c. and several elegant churches.

Leith, the seaport of Edinburgh, and separated from it by long walks planted with trees, and called the Links, has a commodious harbour, quay, &c.

Here are numerous manufactories, iron foundries, flour mills, &c. the shipping of which employs an amazing number of vessels. There are also a great number employed in trading to the Baltic, Holland, Norway, Portugal, the Mediterranean, and the West Indies. The old town of Leith is narrow, dirty, and irregular; but there are some modern streets handomely and uniformly built.

Glasgow is a handsome city on the river Clyde, and by far the most commercial city of Scotland. The foreign trade of Glasgow is immense, and the extent of its manufactures equally great. It is considered the rival of Manchester, in the quantity and quality of its cotton goods; and in many branches of the trade stands pre-eminent. Independent of its extensive cotton-mills, bleaching-grounds, print-fields and other establishments, connected with the cotton manufactories, Glasgow has numerous glass-houses, potteries, sugar-refineries, distilleries, and breweries, besides manufactories for carpets, blankets, &c.; and has long been conspicuous for its excellence in the various branches connected with the art of printing. The profits arising from the herring fishery are also very considerable. The principal buildings are the cathedral, considered the most perfect Gothic structure in North Britain; the university, to which is attached a very fine garden of ten acres; the town-house, an elegant building; the exchange; the guildhall, which has a spire two hundred feet high, and several well-endowed charitable institutions.

There is also a neat theatre, assembly and concert-rooms, public-libraries, &c.

Aberdeen, the chief city of the north of Scotland, and the seat of a university, is divided into the old and new town; the former built near the mouth of the river Don, and the latter about a mile distant, on the banks of the Dee, near a small bay, deep enough to admit vessels of two hundred tons burden. The old town has a Gothic bridge, of one arch. Of the ancient cathedral situated here, there remain only two spires and one aisle, which, however, is still used for divine service. King's college, a large and stately edifice, built in form of a square, stands to the south of the town. The buildings of the new town most worthy notice are an octagonal structure in the middle of Castle-street, adorned with bassó-relieyos of the Scottish monarchs, from James I. to James VII.; Mareschal College, the town-house, grammar-school, and Gordon's Hospital.

Montrose is a seaport town, situate on a peninsula between the river Esk and the sea. It has a very commodious harbour, wet and dry docks for ship building, and very extensive manufactories of linen, yarn, thread, sheeting, and sail-cloth, tanneries, and rope-walks. The houses are substantially built, but have an awkward appearance, from their gable-ends being all turned to the street. It is a lively place, and the residence of many opulent families, who there enjoy the amusements of the theatre, monthly balls, &c. There are several mineral

springs in the vicinity, and the hills are covered with gentlemen's seats and villas.

Dundee is a well-built town on the Tay, which forms a safe road here for ships of considerable burden. The principal buildings are, the town-hall, the trade-hall, and St. Andrew's Church, which has a fine spire one hundred and thirty nine feet high. The town has a very extensive trade, and numerous manufactories, soap-houses, sugar-houses, distilleries, &c. &c.

Inverness is a royal borough, the capital of Inverness-shire, and is a very considerable sea-port and manufacturing town. It is situated on the river Ness, over which it has a handsome stone bridge. In the centre of the town stand the tolbooth and court-house. Near this town, on a high hill, are the ruins of a castle, said to be that in which Duncan was murdered, and which gave rise to Shakspeare's tragedy of Macbeth.

Stirling, the capital of Stirlingshire, resembles in its situation the old town of Edinburgh. The principal street is broad and spacious, and has some elegant houses, but the others are mean and irregular. There are two churches, called the East and West Kirks, the former of which is very handsome. The town is famous for its excellent grammar-school. The castle of Stirling, situated upon the western extremity of the rock on which the town stands, is of very great strength, and has been the scene of many important historical events.

Carron is a village also in Stirlingshire, famous for the most extensive iron-foundries in Europe. To a stranger the approach to these works, especially at night, is most awful; the vast bodies of flames, the clouds of black smoke, the loud roaring of the immense bellows, and the weighty strokes of the hammers upon the anvils, produce a most astonishing and terrific effect.

Inverary is a small town, the capital of Argyleshire, and the sole property of the Duke of Argyle, whose residence, the Castle of Inverary, stands near it, commanding a beautiful view of Loch Fyne, the river Aray, the hill of Dunicoich, which rises in a pyramidal form to the height of seven hundred feet, with a Gothic watch-tower, or observatory, on the summit, and the distant hills and mountains. The town is neatly and regularly built, and the inhabitants have some considerable manufactories, and are many of them profitably employed in the herring fishery.

St. Andrew's, once the metropolis of Scotland, is the capital of Fifeshire, an episcopal see, and the seat of the oldest university in Scotland. The town, which is about a mile in circumference, is pleasantly situated upon a bay formed by the rivers Eden and Kenlorie. It once possessed an extensive foreign trade, but has now only a few manufactories of sail-cloth and osnaburgs. The castle of St. Andrew was the scene of many tragic events in the history of Scotland.

Paisley, a large manufacturing town, is situated on the river White Cart. It stands on the west bank of

the river, and communicates with the new town on the opposite bank, by three handsome bridges. The streets of the latter are handsome and regular; and in the centre of the town is one of the largest and best inns in the kingdom. For these improvements they are indebted to the late marquis of Abercorn, The manufactures of Paisley are of silk and cotton fancy goods, and particularly of shawls, which are made here in great quantities, and of the most elegant texture and patterns.

Greenock is a seaport, extensively engaged in the Newfoundland and herring fisheries. It has also very numerous manufactories, sugar refineries, ropewalks, ship-builders' yards, tan-yards and iron-foundries. It is a handsome, well-built town, and in the centre of it is a very fine square, in which are the theatre, assembly-rooms, an infirmary, bridewell, town-house, and a neat church, with a spire. There are two other parish churches, and several dissenters' chapels.

Perth, the capital of Perthshire, on the river Tay, is a large, pleasant and populous town, with a most beautiful stone bridge over the river, connecting the new and old towns. There are a tolbooth, town-hall, and guildhall, and several of the incorporated trades have halls, of which, that belonging to the Glovers is the most elegant. The church is divided into three distinct places of worship, called the East, West, and middle Kirks. There is also a very elegant chapel of ease, and numerous chapels for dissenters. The

surrounding scenery is very pleasant. The chief manufactures of Perth are of linen and cotton goods, leather boots, shoes and gloves. The salmon fishery likewise yields a considerable profit to the inhabitants. The grammar school of Perth has long been considered one of the best in Scotland.

Linlithgow is the county town of West-Lothian, to which it gives its name. The buildings are in general old and irregular; but the magnificent ruins of the palace and the venerable church, both standing together on a grand terrace, shaded with lofty trees, enlivened by a most beautiful lake beneath, give this ancient town an interesting appearance, and impress the mind of the beholder with its former grandeur. The town has a manufacture of woollen-cloth, a bleach and print field, on an extensive plan, and a manufactory of leather. In the palace already mentioned the unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots was born; and from one of the windows of the houses in the High-street the Regent Murray was shot by Hamilton of Bothwell-haugh.

Dumfries, the capital of Dumfries-shire, is seated on the river Nith, over which it has a bridge. The principal streets are spacious and handsome, and the situation of the town, rising gradually on the east bank of the river, beautiful and convenient. In a square in the centre of the town, a handsome Doric column has been erected to the memory of the Duke of Queensberry, one of the chief benefactors of the place.

Except the infirmary, there are no very remarkable

buildings, though there are many excellent schools, a well frequented theatre, assembly rooms, &c.; the town is inhabited by many respectable families. Dumfries has two annual fairs, which are resorted to by great numbers of traders. On the opposite side of the river is a large village called Bridge-end, which is connected with the town by two bridges.

Lanark, the county town of Lanarkshire, is a very ancient borough, at a short distance from the Clyde. It possesses a considerable cotton manufactory.

Ayr, the capital of Ayrshire, is situated on the river Ayr at its influx into the Frith of Clyde. It has a harbour, the entrance to which is dangerous, from a bar of sand which runs across its mouth, at which there are two light-houses to conduct vessels safely in. The principal street is broad and spacious, but the houses present a motley appearance; elegant buildings being intermingled with wretched mean huts, with fronts, gables, or corners, projecting to the street just as whim or chance directed. The tolbooth and town-hall are in the centre, the latter having a spire one hundred and thirty feet high. Ayr has a very considerable export trade to Ireland, and different parts of the coast. It also imports spars and deals from America, hemp and iron from the Baltic, &c. and has a salmon fishery. The town is very gay, and has all the amusements that can be met with in other principal towns.

Forfar, the county town of Angus-shire, is a considerable manufacturing town. The streets are irregu-

lar, but the houses are many of them handsome and well-built. The church, a handsome structure, stands nearly in the centre of the town. In the steeple of it is still shown an engine of torture, in past ages called a witch's bridle. It is an iron hoop, intended to encircle the head, which fixes behind with a lock; in the front is a piece of iron about an inch long, with two spikes, one above and the other below; this goes into the mouth, and not only prevents speaking, but causes great pain. At the back is an iron chain, by which the unfortunate wretches were fixed to a stake and burnt. In the records of the borough are still preserved the *proces verbal* of an unfortunate man, who, by the superstition of the age, about one hundred and fifty years ago, was burnt with his head in this horrible hoop, a little to the northward of Forfar. —A considerable manufacture of coarse linens, osnaburghs, and shoes called brogues, is carried on here.

Gretna or Graitney, a village in Dumfries-shire, has long been famous for the clandestine marriages which are celebrated here; it is the first stage from England, and owes all its celebrity, and much of its prosperity, to the circumstance above mentioned, it being computed that sixty or sixty-five couple are annually married here; the fees alone, at fifteen guineas each, bringing in nearly a thousand a year. There is a very elegant inn here, fitted up by the Earl of Hopetown, whose seat it formerly was, under the denomination of Graitney Hall.

The Islands of Scotland consist of three distinct

clusters, viz. the Hebrides or Western Isles, the Orkneys, and the Shetland Isles; which contain many remarkable monuments of antiquity; the inhabitants of which, for the greater part, still retain the simple mode of life and customs of their forefathers.

In personal appearance, the Scotch are generally tall, well made and muscular, with fair complexions, and hair. The women are, many of them, possessed of considerable beauty, and are remarkable for their domestic virtues. The Scotch are perhaps superior to all nations in sobriety, activity, and perseverance; they are also remarkably bold and adventurous, and the union of these qualities has occasioned them to be considered the best soldiers and sailors in the British army and navy. In their manners, the higher classes assimilate with the English, but the common people retain many primeval customs and superstitions. They are, however, remarkably intelligent, and indefatigable to acquire knowledge, as well as to improve their situation. They are very poetical, and enthusiastically attached to music. In the Highlands especially, almost every kind of work which requires more than one person, such as reaping corn, hay-making, milking cows, &c. &c. is cheered by singing their national songs and tunes, and not only all occasions of merriment and diversion, but their funeral processions, marriages, and other great events, are attended by the solemn strains of the great bagpipe, which is also a never-failing attendant on their warlike expeditions.



SCOTCH.

CHAPTER XXXI.

IRELAND.

“ Oh, Erin, how sweetly thy green bosom rises,
An emerald set in the ring of the sea.”

MOORE.

IRELAND is bounded on the east by St. George's Channel, the Irish Sea, and the North Channel, and on the north, west, and south, by the Atlantic Ocean. It is divided into four provinces, and subdivided into thirty-two counties. The face of the country is in general level, though there are some chains of mountains, which pleasingly diversify its appearance. The climate is mild, but particularly humid; for though probably less rain falls than in England, the dews are so constant and heavy, that the atmosphere is moist even in the midst of summer.

There are numerous beautiful lakes in Ireland, which afford the most picturesque and romantic prospects, particularly that of Killarney, which excites the admiration of all who behold it.

The principal rivers of Ireland are the Shannon, the Boyne, the Liffey, the Barrow, the Slane, and the Sure; and the coast is indented with numerous bays, harbours, and creeks, which afford the greatest facility to foreign commerce. The soil is extremely fertile, though a great part of the country is occupied by bogs, many of which, however, have been reclaimed by industry and art, and rendered subservient to the purposes of agriculture.

There are many rich mines of silver, copper, iron, and lead, in different parts of the country; but from the scarcity of wood and coal, these are less valuable than they would be in a country better provided with fuel. Turf and peat-moss, which are found in abundance in many places, are the principal fuel.

The chief manufactures are of linen, cotton, woollen, and silk goods, and it exports great quantities of black cattle, horses, beef, pork, cheese, tallow, hides, &c.

Dublin, the metropolis of the kingdom, is situated on both sides of the river Liffey, over which it has no less than six handsome bridges, the principal of which are Queen's bridge, and the New bridge, which are both elegant and handsome structures. The form of the city is nearly a square, extending about two miles and a half each way. The streets and squares, though not very uniformly built, are very extensive. St. Stephen's square is probably one of the largest in Europe being nearly a mile in circumference. Rutland and Merrion squares



DUBLIN.



also greatly contribute to the beauty of the city. There are two cathedrals, and eighteen parish churches in Dublin, besides two chapels of ease, a Danish, a Dutch, and a French church, fifteen Roman Catholic chapels, a Jews' synagogue, and numerous meeting-houses for dissenters. The other principal public buildings are the Castle, which is the residence of the Lord Lieutenant, the Custom-house, the Exchange, the law courts, the Bank, Trinity College, which is the only university of Ireland, and several excellent charitable institutions.

Cork, the capital of the county of that name, is a flourishing sea-port town, situated on the banks of the river Lee, over which it has several handsome bridges. The streets are wide, airy, and well built, and there are a number of elegant and substantial public buildings, a cathedral, theatre, &c. The harbour is seven miles below the town, which carries on a most extensive trade with England, America, the West Indies, &c.

Limerick is a very considerable trading city, situated on an island on the river Shannon. It contains some good public structures, and charitable institutions. The town is divided into two parts, called the Irish and English towns, the latter of which is entirely surrounded by the river.

Cashel, the capital of the county of Tipperary, and an archiepiscopal see, is situated on an eminence near the river Sure. It has a handsome market-place, town-house, &c.

Kilkenny, one of the pleasantest and handsomest cities of Ireland, is the capital of the county of Kilkenny, and is situated on the river Nore, which divides it into two parts, called the Irish and English towns, which are connected by two handsome bridges. On a hill commanding a beautiful view of the town and surrounding country, stands the cathedral, a small but venerable Gothic structure. There is also a small college for about seventy students, founded in 1682, by James, Duke of Ormond. Ormond castle, the ancient residence of that noble family, stands on the banks of the river, and is a very substantial and extensive edifice. The trade and manufactures of Kilkenny are very considerable, chiefly in woollens, blankets, and starch.

Armagh is the seat of the Primate of Ireland, and has, by the care and liberality of the Archbishop, risen from an inconsiderable place, which within fifty years had few buildings superior to mud cabins, to a handsome city with good store-houses, a cathedral, and three churches, a public school, and library, a good market-place, &c. The exertions of the same noble-spirited individual likewise successfully promoted industry among the inhabitants, and Armagh is at the present time one of the best linen-markets in the province.

Londonderry is an episcopal see, situated in a rich and beautiful country on the banks of the river Foyle, over which it has a wooden bridge, one thousand and sixty feet in length, by forty in breadth, in the

centre of which is a draw-bridge, in order to let vessels of considerable burden pass. The town is well built, with four main streets terminating in a large square, called the Diamond, and having at each of their extremities a gate. It has a very considerable coasting trade, and possesses extensive manufactories for domestic purposes.

Belfast is the most populous and considerable town in the north of Ireland, and is situated at the mouth of the Logan waters, where it falls into Carrick-fergus bay. The public buildings are not very numerous or striking, but the town on the whole is well built, and the streets broad, well paved, and lighted. Over the river Logan, is an extensive and handsome bridge of twenty-one arches. There are numerous manufactories, breweries, distilleries, &c.

Galway is a considerable seaport-town, with a harbour, defended by a fort. It is well built, surrounded with walls, and has an extensive linen manufactory, salmon and herring fishery, and corn trade.

Wexford, the capital of the county of that name, has a large harbour, and enjoys a considerable trade with England and other countries, especially in hogs, hams, bacon, beef, flour, oatmeal, &c. In the town and its neighbourhood are also some extensive woollen manufactories.

The Irish are in general a handsome healthy race of people, cheerful, lively, and spirited in the extreme, in their manners; but indolent, and easily disheartened in their undertakings. There is little

difference in the customs, manners, or habits, of people of property and those of the same class in England. The lower classes are remarkable for their love of society and all active diversions, which lead them into many violent excesses. They are in general warm friends, but implacable enemies; and though by nature civil and submissive, their too frequent habits of intemperance lead them to be quarrelsome and noisy to an excess. In the country, the hospitality of all classes is a striking merit, and the cheerfulness with which they bear the privations of the most extreme poverty, equally surprising and gratifying.

The cottages, or cabins as they are called, of the Irish peasantry, are in general merely mud walls, across the top of which are laid a few rafters, the covering of which is either straw, potatoe-haulms, or sods of turf; and it not unfrequently happens, that the place chosen for the erection of the hovel is a broad dry ditch, the banks of which are the supporters of the roof, on which the pigs are often seen feeding while the inhabitants are regaling below. The furniture corresponds with the wretchedness of their outward appearance, being seldom more than a pot for boiling potatoes, their principal food, an old table and a couple of stools, to which is added some straw for a bed, on which it is not an unusual circumstance to see the cow and pig reposing quietly with the family. This poverty however, is more in appearance than reality. An English cottager thinks first of furnishing his



IRISH.

cottage, and probably never rises to the possession of a cow or pigs, which the Irish peasant considers as indispensable to the support of his family. In no country, therefore, are seen finer or healthier children, than among the poorest classes of the Irish. The lower orders still retain many singular customs and superstitions, especially at funerals, which are celebrated with the most uncouth howlings, and in many places, even in the neighbourhood of the principal cities, the corpse is exposed for a day or two to public view, having on its breast a plate, in which are deposited the offerings of those who visit it, a great part of which is appropriated to the purchase of beer, liquor, &c. and not unfrequently, the scene of mourning is changed into one of intemperate revelry and brawl.

The bagpipe, and Irish harp are the national music of Ireland, and their melodies are many of them extremely plaintive and pleasing. Dancing is a never-failing amusement at all their convivial meetings, and may be almost said to form a necessary part of the education of the cottagers, an itinerant master, accompanied by a blind fiddler or piper, travelling in most parts of the country, from cabin to cabin, to teach this necessary accomplishment, for which he is paid at the rate of sixpence a quarter, receiving, beside, such refreshment as the cottage affords.

The poorer classes are in general as indifferent to their personal appearance, as the accommodation of their cabins; the children are always barefooted, and

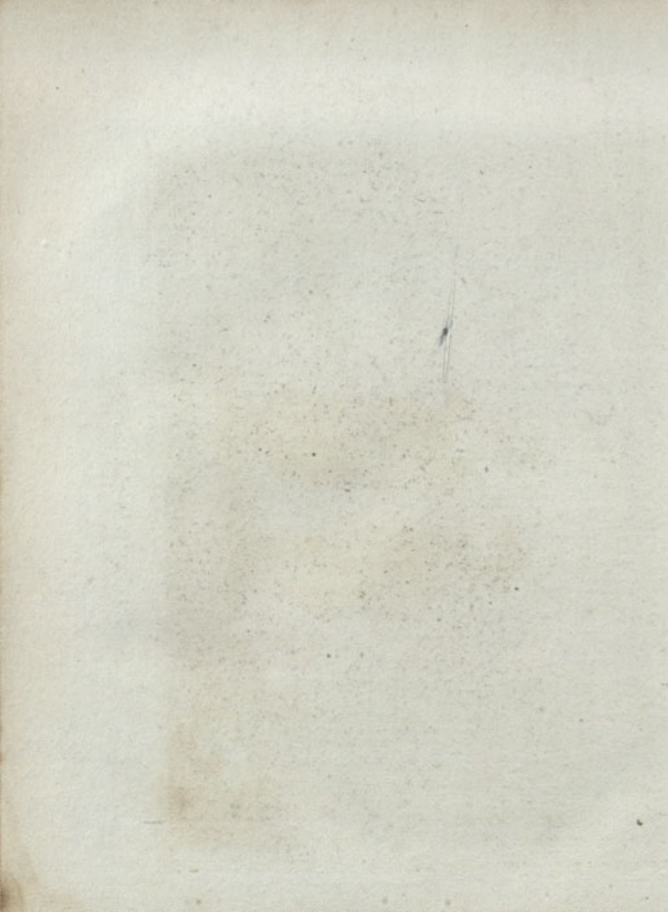
commonly shoes and stockings are by those of riper age reserved only for particular occasions, as attending church on Sundays and holydays, &c. but in the upper classes, prodigality is the prevailing character, and in no country is the traveller more forcibly struck with the great disparity of conditions than in Ireland.

The Protestant is the established religion of Ireland; but the number of the people of that persuasion is greatly exceeded by those who still adhere to the Roman Catholic faith; and the disabilities under which the latter have for so many years laboured, has been a fruitful source of discontent and disloyalty to the great mass of the Irish people. This, however, has been in a great measure relieved by the judicious measures of his Majesty's present ministers, by whom a bill was passed in the last session of parliament (1829), restoring their Catholic brethren to those civil liberties of which they had been so long deprived.

Ireland has to boast of having given birth to many illustrious literary characters, both in ancient and modern times; and though the benefits of education are not even yet so widely extended there as in other parts of the British dominions, there are many literary endowments for that most important object, both from the crown and the generosity of private individuals; and the number of Catholic schools without any endowment, exceeds even the proportion which the individuals of this faith bear to those of the Protestant religion.



ICELANDERS.



CHAPTER XXXII.

DENMARK.

“ Remains of a primeval land,
That 'midst the raging tempests stand.”

ANON.

DENMARK PROPER is the peninsula of Jutland, but the name of Denmark is extended to several islands at the mouth of the Baltic Ocean, which are subject to the Danish government. Of these islands the principal are Zealand and Iceland. Denmark Proper is divided on the north, from Norway, by the river Scaggerac; on the east, from Sweden, by the Sound; on the south, Germany and the Baltic form its boundaries; and it is divided from Great Britain on the west by the German Ocean.

The climate of Denmark Proper is, from its being nearly surrounded by the sea, necessarily humid; and, though pleasant in summer, it is subject in winter to severe frosts, which sometimes cover the sea with ice for miles from the shore, and render the cold so

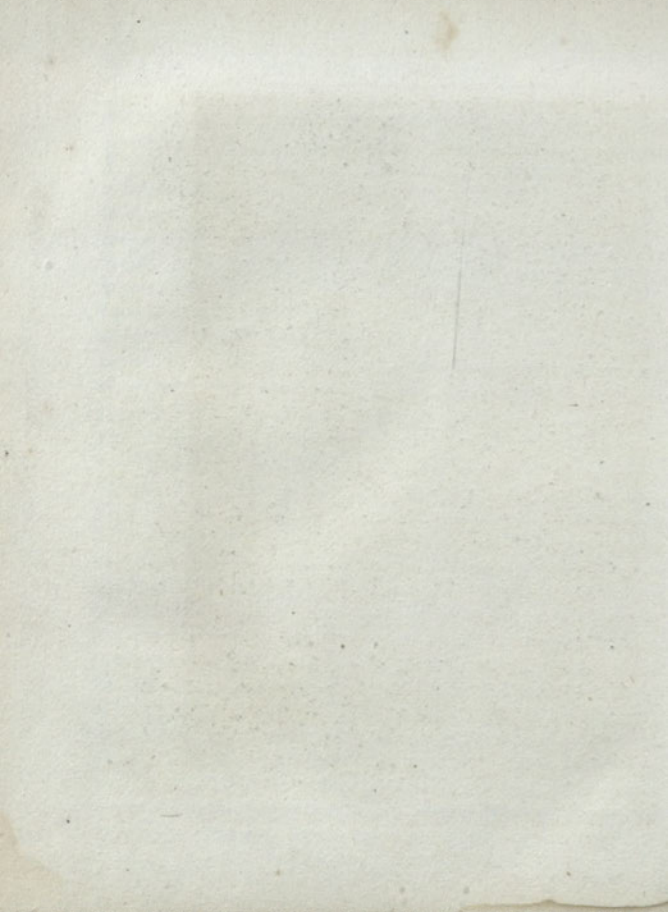
intense as scarcely to be endurable by any but the natives. The islands of Zealand, Funen, Laaland, Falster, and Langeland, are very pleasantly diversified in appearance; the valleys extremely fertile, and watered by small rivers; woods of oak and beech trees are scattered here and there, and interspersed with neat cottages and fields enclosed with mud walls. The duchies of Sleswic and Holstein are also fertile and well cultivated; but in Jutland there are many extensive tracts of barren moors, which generally lie very high, though there is nothing deserving the name of a mountain in the whole country. The islands of Ferro consist entirely of rocks of freestone, and that of Suderoe contains a mine of coal.

The only river of consequence in Denmark is the Eyder, but in the north of Jutland is an inlet of the sea called Lymfiord, which penetrates upwards of ninety miles inwards, and is very beneficial to the inhabitants of the towns and villages on its sides, affording an abundance of fish and a ready communication with the Cattegat, or Sound, it being navigable all the way for vessels of small burden.

Copenhagen, the capital of Denmark, is situated on the eastern shore of the island of Zealand, upon a fine bay of the Baltic Ocean, and near to the Sound. The city is divided into three parts, called the Old town, the New town, and Christian's-haven. That which is called the old town is, however, the most modern and elegantly built, nearly all the ancient buildings having been destroyed by two dreadful



COPENHAGEN.



fires, in the first of which (in the year 1728) one thousand six hundred and fifty-three houses, besides churches and other public edifices, were destroyed, and in the last (in the year 1794) nearly one thousand. Since this event the old town has been rebuilt in a style of uniform elegance, far exceeding the other quarters of the city, though in the new town the part called Amälienburg contains many elegant buildings; in particular an octagon, composed of four large symmetrical edifices, three of which are the residences of the king and royal family, and the fourth appropriated to the academy of naval cadets. Besides these, Amälienburg contains many handsome houses of the nobility, who principally reside in this part of the city, the old town, though on the whole much handsomer, being chiefly occupied by merchants, ship-owners, and the upper classes of tradespeople. Christian's-haven consists of numerous streets laid out with great regularity, but the houses are none of them above one story in height, and are occupied only by seamen and the labourers in the dock-yard. The theatre is an irregular building, situate in the market place; but although it has no claim to architectural beauty, it is very handsome and convenient in the interior. The round tower of Copenhagen is one of its principal curiosities. It was built by Christian IV. and designed for an observatory. Though very lofty, there is no staircase, but the ascent to the top is by a spiral road most ingeniously constructed. Mr. Wraxall, an English traveller, observes "The

professor who showed me over it (the round tower) assured me that one of their kings drove in his carriage up and down it, and he even produced a book to prove the veracity of his assertion. I must own it may be done, though probably at some risk of the driver's neck."

Kiel, the capital of the duchy of Holstein, is situated at the mouth of the small river Swentin, and upon a bay of the Baltic Ocean. It is divided into the old and new towns. The old town is seated on the peninsula, surrounded by deep ditches, and contains a number of good buildings, particularly a very handsome church, and a hospital, formerly a monastery. The new town is extremely pleasant, being situated on a rising ground above the old town, and the streets handsomely planted with trees. The trade of this place was formerly very considerable, and the annual fair in February is still very numerously attended.

Sleswic, the capital of the duchy of that name, is a beautiful town, situated on the Sley, a long narrow bay of the Baltic. It consists of one principal street, two miles and a half in length, and the houses, many of them being built of wood, and detached from each other with gardens, give it much the appearance of some of the capitals of the Swiss cantons. There is an old cathedral, which is remarkable only for the number of monuments it contains, among which is that of Frederick I. of Denmark, which is of white marble, ornamented with several statues. Adjoining the town is the castle of Gottorp, a very

extensive structure, and formerly the residence of the dukes of Sleswic.

The town of Flensburg is the most opulent in the duchy, the streets, which are rather narrow, presenting one continual scene of bustle and activity. The principal street is very long, the backs of the houses are towards the harbour, and in the front each house has a garden, which, with the view of the country beyond, renders them delightfully pleasant. This place has a very considerable trade, which is chiefly owing to the excellence of its harbour, being buried between two high hills that effectually shelter it from tempestuous winds.

There are several towns in Jutland, but they are small and inconsiderable.

The Danes are in general tall and strongly made, with tolerably good features and fair complexions, and mostly red, yellow, or light hair. The upper classes generally follow the fashions of the French, in their dress, style of living, and manners. The language of that nation is also in much use among them.

“The general character of the Danes,” says an intelligent writer, “is a strange composition of pride and meanness, insolence and poverty.” Of the upper classes the same author observes, “Conscious that they enjoy their possessions at the nod of an arbitrary sovereign, they are at little or no pains to improve their estates, and they look upon trade as beneath their dignity. They therefore rack their tenants with

the utmost oppression, in order to procure the immediate means of gratifying their vanity and extravagance. Those courtiers who derive money from their employments, instead of purchasing land, remit their cash to the banks of **Hamburgh** or **Amsterdam**. The merchants and burghers tread in the steps of their superiors, and spend all their gains in luxury and pleasure, with an impatient avidity, as if they were afraid of incurring the suspicion of affluence, and being stripped by taxation. The peasant or boor follows the same example, for no sooner has he earned a rix dollar than he hastens to expend it in brandy, lest it should fall into the hands of his oppressive landlord. The lower class of people are as absolute slaves as the negroes of the **West Indies**, and subsist upon much harder fare. The value of estates is not computed by the number of acres, but by the stocks of boors, who, like the timber, are reckoned a parcel of the freehold."

CHAPTER XXXIII.

LAPLAND.

“ Though the great summer sun eludes our gaze,
Still burns wide heaven with his distended blaze.”

COLERIDGE.

LAPLAND is bounded on the north and east by the Northern and White seas, and on the south and west by Sweden and Norway, and is divided into Danish or North Lapland, Swedish or South Lapland, and Russian or East Lapland. The face of the country exhibits a vast mass of irregular mountains, divided by rivers and lakes, which contain innumerable islands. The principal of these rivers are the Tornea, the Tona, and the Alten.

Lapland is situated so near the pole, that during three months in the summer season the sun never sets, and for the same space of time in winter is never visible. The brightness of the moon and stars, and the brilliant effulgence of the aurora borealis, compensate in some measure for the loss of the daylight.

and enable the inhabitants to follow, with little inconvenience, all their usual occupations. The climate is in winter excessively cold; snow covers the ground to the depth of four or five feet, and the air is so intensely keen, that the limbs of the inhabitants often mortify with cold. M. Maupertius, who resided in Lapland some time, for the purpose of astronomical observations, states, that "in December spirit of wine, even, was frozen within the house; and if the door of a warm room were opened only for a moment, the external air instantly converted the warm vapour within it into snow." When they went abroad they felt as if the air were tearing their breasts in pieces, and within doors the cracking of the wood, of which the houses were built, continually warned them, by its contraction, of the increase of cold. The dreadful rigour of winter, however, is somewhat compensated by the delightful and brilliant summer, during which nothing can be more gratifying than the appearance of the country, particularly in the numerous islands, which form the most inviting places of residence, and are believed by the natives to have been the scene of the terrestrial Paradise.

There are a great variety of wild animals, especially wolves, which are entirely white; beavers, otters, martens and foxes are in great variety, and some very valuable on account of their skins; the number of squirrels is almost incredible. The only tame animal is the rein-deer, which constitutes the chief wealth of the Laplander. Every part of this valuable

creature is converted to some use; their skins cover the tents, and make the bed and clothing of their masters; their milk is made into cheese and whey, which is their constant drink; their sinews make bow-strings, springes for catching birds, and thread for sewing; and their horns are converted into glue. Yoked to a sledge, the rein-deer carries the Laplander on his journeys with the greatest ease and celerity. When hard driven, they will run between fifty and sixty miles without resting; but this exertion endangers the life of the animal, and they are seldom compelled to go more than thirty miles without a halt.

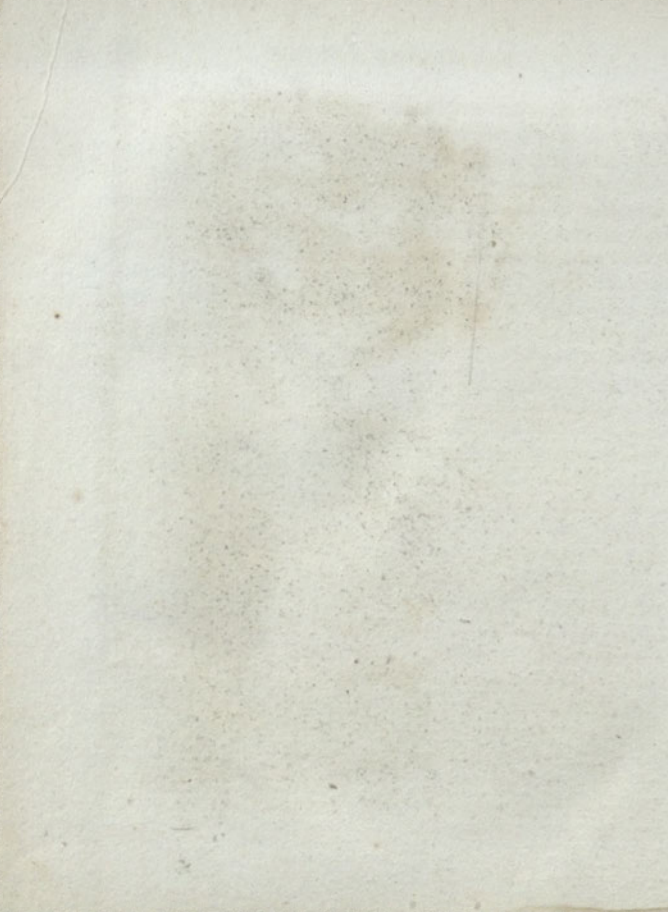
Of the larger sort of the winged species, Lapland produces great numbers and variety, especially water fowl, as swans, geese, ducks, &c.; and of fish they have incredible quantities, particularly salmon and pike, which are the produce of the lakes, and of which whole ship-loads are annually exported to Germany.

The Laplanders have no fixed residences; those who inhabit the mountains live entirely in tents, which they shift from place to place, as suits their convenience. "In winter," says a modern traveller, "a Laplander, before he fixes his tent, clears away the snow to make a ground floor for it, and with it forms a circular wall. Into this wall of snow the poles, which support the woollen covering, are fixed, and a small beam, crossing the principal poles, supports the iron hook on which his kettle hangs. The woollen cloth which covers the tent is in two pieces,

fastened together with wooden skewers; the door of the tent is cut in a triangular shape, out of woollen stuff, extended by wooden stretchers, and fastened to the tent by thongs of leather at the upper part of the triangle; the sides of the door lean on slender poles, which serve as door-posts, and are attached to them at the side the wind blows; so that the door admits of passage only by the side opposite to the wind. The Laplander usually pitches his tent in the woods, and goes out every day, Sundays and holidays excepted, to gather fuel. When he prepares to light his fire he collects the ignited ashes from the hearth in a piece of birch bark, and covers them with dry leaves and twigs, over which he lays the wood he has collected. This, being generally incrustated with snow, sends forth, as soon as it is kindled, a thick smoke, rendered still more intolerable by the noxious smell emitted by the wood. The whole tent is for a time involved in a pitchy cloud, and all who remain in it run the risk of losing their sight. As the flame bursts forth the smoke gradually diminishes below, but the upper part of the tent always remains full. Near his tent he raises a hovel upon a few poles stuck in the ground, which he covers with boughs, and which serves him as a store-house for his rein-deer skins and spare utensils."



LAPLANDERS.



CHAPTER XXXIV.

SWEDEN.

"Oh, Nature, thy sunny hues, fair forms, and breathing sweets."

ANON.

SWEDEN is a kingdom in the north of Europe, bounded on the north by Norwegian Lapland, on the east by the Gulf of Bothnia and the Baltic Sea, and on the south and west by the same sea, and by Norway. It is in general a very flat country, and is enclosed on the west and north by high mountains. The chief rivers of Sweden are the Ljusna, the Dal, the Clara, the Angerman, the Umea, the Skelestea, the Pitea, the Lulea, and the Torneo. There are also many immense lakes, the principal of which are the Wenner, the Wetter, and the Ujelman. The climate is cold, but temperate, considering the exposed situation of the country. The soil produces rye, barley and oats in considerable quantities; but wheat

will thrive only in the southern provinces. The plants, trees, and animals of Sweden are nearly the same as those of England. There are numerous mines, especially of iron and copper, and the chief manufactures of the country are of those metals.

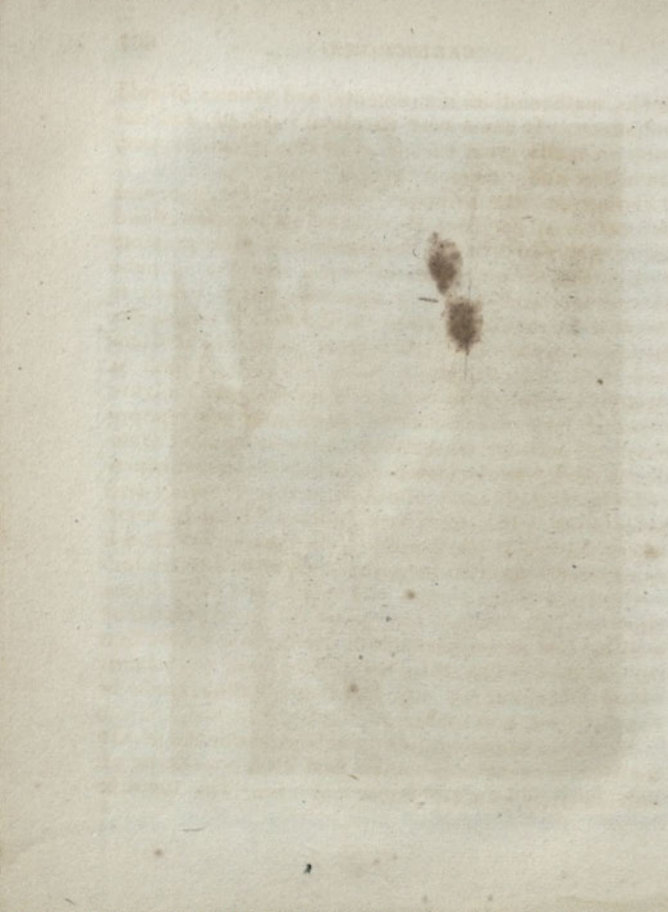
The Swedes in their habits and manners somewhat resemble the French, particularly in the higher ranks. The men are in person tall, robust, and well-proportioned, and the women slender, and elegantly formed. They are in general less fair than most northern nations, and in some provinces the complexion approaches to brown.

Stockholm, the capital of Sweden, stands in a most picturesque situation, at the junction of the lake Maeler, with an inlet of the Baltic Sea. The city is built on seven islands, which are connected by twelve bridges. The central island contains the palace and other public buildings, and is also the busiest part of the city; but the streets being very narrow, and the houses lofty, it has but a dismal appearance. In the part called the Noormalm stand the prince's palace, the opera house, and a square, in the centre of which is a bronze equestrian statue of Gustavus. The royal palace is an extensive building, in a grand but simple style of architecture. The other principal public buildings are the house of assembly, the town-hall, the bank, the mint, the exchange, the royal stables, &c.

The chief manufactures of Stockholm are of iron, glass, leather, cotton, silk, hats, stockings, watches,



STOCKHOLM.



clocks, mathematical instruments, and articles of gold and silver. It has a very excellent harbour, and exports annually great quantities of iron, steel, copper, pitch, tar, and timber.

Carlsrona, the principal seaport of Sweden, and the station of her fleet, is situated on a rocky island rising gently in a bay of the Baltic Sea. The greatest part of the town is built of wood, and the suburbs extend over another small rock to a basin, which is fortified by a strong stone wall, and in which the fleet is moored. Carlsrona from its central situation, and the excellence of its harbour, which is strongly defended by two forts, enjoys great advantages of foreign commerce, and is extremely populous. There are most excellent docks, cannon foundries, and manufactories of gunpowder, sails, ropes, cordage, and all kinds of naval stores. Twenty-two miles from Carlsrona is the town of Carlshaven, which has likewise foundries, copper works, and a considerable woollen manufacture and timber trade.

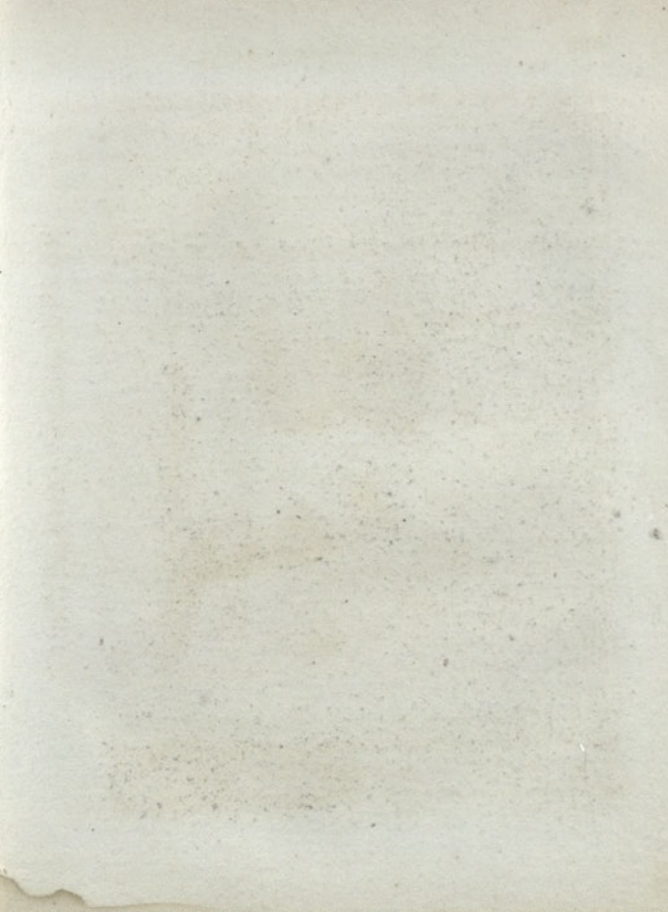
Carlstadt is the capital of the province of Wermland, and is a bishop's see. The episcopal palace, as well as the houses, is built of wood, and painted on the outside. The town is situated on an island, called Ingwalla, and enjoys a considerable trade in copper, iron, and timber.

Upsal, in ancient times the chief residence of the Swedish monarchs, is a very neat city, containing an university and an archiepiscopal see. The town is

divided exactly through the middle by a small, clear rivulet, and the streets all branch off at right angles from a central square. Here are a few houses built of brick, and stuccoed; but the generality are composed of trunks of trees, smoked and painted red, and the roofs covered in with turf. The remains of the old palace of Gustavus Vasa, the deliverer of his country, stands on an elevated spot, commanding a fine view of the town and the adjacent country. It consists of the principal front, one wing, and a small part of another, the remainder having been destroyed by fire.

The cathedral of Upsal is a very fine building, containing a great number of monuments, especially of the ancient kings of Sweden, among which is that of the immortal Gustavus Vasa. It stands in a private chapel, and is of marble. His effigy stands between those of his first two wives. The remains of king Eric repose in a silver box near the altar, where they have remained undisturbed for above three hundred years.

Gottenburg is the most magnificent city of Sweden, and the great depôt of British and continental goods. In the principal street, called *Stora Harna Gatan*, or Great Harbour-street, the houses are mostly three stories high, built of stone or brick, covered with white plaster. Most of them have French folding windows, and many are decorated with stone pillars. A canal runs through the middle of this





SWEDIES in the COURT DRESS.

street, which is crossed at certain intervals by wooden bridges, two only of which, ornamented with figures of lions and men in armour, admit of carriages, the rest being only for foot passengers.

Calmar is a very considerable city, and the capital of Smaland. It is built on a strait of the Baltic, called Calmar Sound, and is divided into the old and new town. From its situation, Calmar is a very strong place, all the avenues to it being obstructed with marshes on the land-side, and the sea is so full of broken rocks as to render an approach to it impossible, except by the mole, which is built of stone, and defended by a strong fort. It is a town of good trade, and much frequented by strangers, it being the passage from Sweden to Germany. Westerwick, Jonkioping, and Ekeshio, are also places of considerable trade.

The dress of the Swedes among the lower classes is suited to the climate. In winter, those who can afford it, wear furs of different kinds, and the poorer sorts sheepskins with the wool on. The higher class adopt in general the German and French fashions. The houses of the nobility and rich people are very magnificently furnished, and they are very fond of large parties, in which they vie with each other not only in show but in the plentifulness and delicacy of their tables.

The peasants are very poor, yet extremely hospitable, and when not under the influence of strong liquors, to which they are greatly addicted, they are

respectful and docile, and remarkably courteous and obliging to strangers. Their poverty obliges them to exercise many of the mechanical arts, and there are few who do not make their own clothes, shoes, tools, and rude implements of husbandry.

The wives of the lower orders are treated with very little consideration, being obliged to do all the drudgery, out of doors as well as at home, and are viewed rather in the light of servants than the companions of their lordly masters.

CHAPTER XXXV.

NORWAY.

“These wilds, these caverns,

Round which the roving sea-gulls roar.”

COLERIDGE.

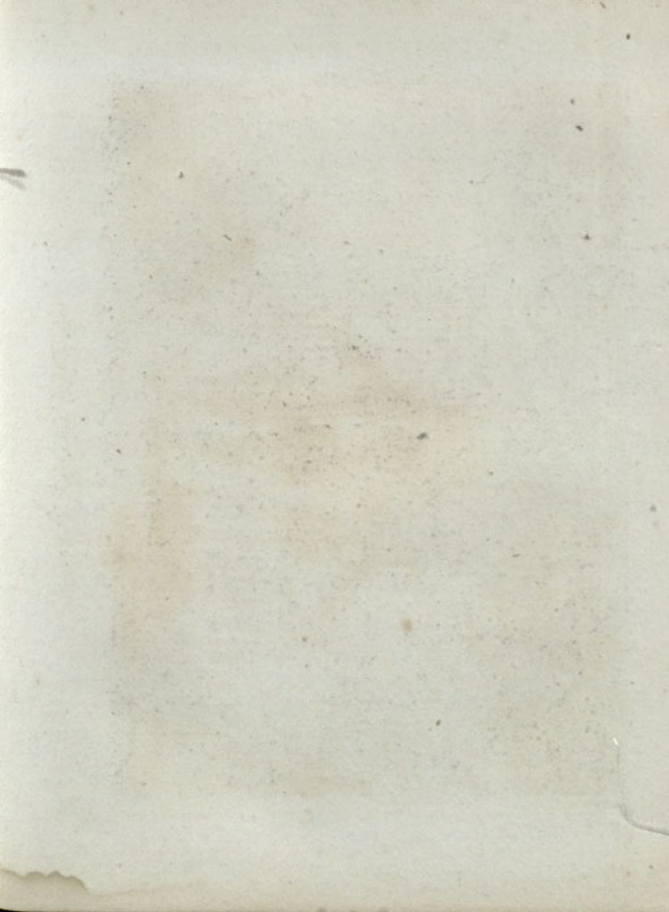
NORWAY, or the Northern Way, is in length about one thousand one hundred miles, and in breadth one hundred and fifty. It is bounded on the north and west by the Northern Ocean, on the south by the entrance into the Baltic Sea, called the Seagar-roe, and on the east by the mountains which divide it from Sweden.

The climate of Norway is in general intensely cold in winter, but differs in various parts according to their position towards the sea. In the eastern parts the winter sets in about the middle of October, and continues, with intense severity, to the middle of April; but in the western parts the frost and snow seldom continue longer than three weeks. During

the short summer season of Norway the heat is as excessive as the cold is in winter, as a proof of which it is said, that many vegetable productions, and especially barley, will grow up and ripen perfectly in the space of six weeks. In the eastern parts, the sun is for many weeks invisible, and the only light is that afforded by the moon, and in her absence by the aurora borealis, which, from the reflection on the snow-covered mountains, is generally sufficiently strong to enable the inhabitants of the valleys to follow their usual occupations.

Norway is one of the most mountainous countries on the globe, and one of its mountains, called Dofrefeld, is supposed to be the highest in Europe. Detached mountains are scattered over the whole face of the country, and a long chain of unequal heights crosses it from north to south. Mines of silver and gold are found in Norway, but the principal ones are of iron and copper, which give employment to a great number of people. The chief riches of Norway, however, arise from its immense forests, which supply, in various kinds of timber, pitch, tar, &c. the principal articles of its commerce with other countries.

The animals of Norway are in general small, but active and spirited, particularly the horses, which will ascend and descend the highest steeps with surprising agility. They are also very courageous, and when attacked, while feeding on the mountains, by a wolf or bear, will defend themselves, standing on their





NORWEGIANS.

hind legs, and fighting with a perseverance which, it is said, generally comes off victorious. The wolves, however, of this country, though numerous, are much less ferocious or voracious than in many countries, and even a cow or a goat, that will turn against them, can generally put them to flight. The lynx, called in this country the *goupe*, is a very dangerous and fierce animal, and the Norwegian bears are extremely strong and sagacious. The elk, an animal in form between a stag and a horse, is common in Norway, and in winter is seen feeding about the houses and villages. The most common and pernicious of the vermin kind is the lemming, which is in size between the rat and mouse, with very short legs. These sometimes appear in such immense bodies, that they lay waste whole districts, marching forward in a direct line, and destroying every vestige of grass and vegetable in their way. The peasants relate many miraculous things of these animals, whose visitations are as destructive to them as those of the locusts in the countries of the east.

Norway produces a great variety of birds, among which are two kinds of eagles, the land and sea eagle; the former so fierce and strong, that they have been known to pounce upon and carry off a child two years old. The sea eagle lives principally upon fish, and sometimes darts upon the larger sorts with so much force that, unable to free his talons from their bodies, he is dragged under water by their weight, and drowned.

A great number of the inhabitants of the mountainous parts of Norway obtain their living by their dexterity in snaring birds, and surprising their nests, in which pursuit they encounter the most frightful dangers.

The seas of Norway abound with fish, particularly of the larger kind. About the month of January whales are seen in amazing numbers on the coasts; sharks are also very numerous and dangerous, and the walrus, or sea-horse, is occasionally met with.

The cod-fishery employs an immense number of hands, and the coast of Norway is considered as the native place of herrings, which form the principal article of food for the poor. The sturgeon is likewise found in the greatest perfection in the North sea, and there is a great variety of shell fish, besides those common to other countries, as oysters, lobsters, crabs, muscles, &c. Some of the oysters are of a prodigious size, and a great number afford pearls. There is a pearl-fishery at Christiansand, which is under the management of an intendant.

Christiana, the capital of Norway, stands in a fertile country, at the extremity of a deep arm of the sea, which extends twelve miles inwards, affording a safe navigation for the largest vessels. It is a handsome town, the streets broad and straight, meeting each other at right angles, and, except in the suburbs, where the ancient wooden log houses still keep their station, it is mostly well and substantially built of stone, though possessing but few claims to beauty or

elegance. Christiana contains two theatres, and a gymnasium, which, under the modest appellation of a school, possesses most of the advantages, with few of the disadvantages, of an university, and an excellent military academy.

Bergen is one of the largest and most commercial cities of Norway. It is situated in a deep gulf, surrounded on all sides, except towards the sea, by steep and almost inaccessible mountains. It has, therefore, no communication by land, and owes its great prosperity to its being the factory for the disposal of fish, which is brought from all parts of the coast, and in part exchanged for grain and other necessaries. The streets are wide and well paved, though from the rocky site of the town necessarily crooked and uneven. The houses are, for the most part, of wood, painted of various colours, and the whole has an extremely neat and clean appearance. Some of the houses, however, as those of the consuls and principal merchants, are built of stone. There are a great number of churches, several schools, an hospital, and an infirmary. The most remarkable edifice is the custom-house, which is at the entrance of the port.

Drontheim stands on a small plain, on a large creek of the sea, by means of which it enjoys a considerable trade, especially in copper, deals, and fish. The city is extensive and well-built, but the streets, though broad, are badly paved. It has three churches, one of which, called the Domkirch, is considered a fine specimen of ancient architecture.

Christiansand is a rising city of great opulence, possessing the advantages of an excellent harbour, and extensive storehouses for grain.

Fredericshall, Fredericstadt, Kongsvinger, Jonsburg, Larwig, Dram, and the fine town of Rovaas, are likewise all considerable and flourishing towns.

The Norwegians are in person tall, well made, and robust; and from the purity of the air, and their habits of industry and exercise, are generally healthy and of cheerful dispositions. Their complexions are very fair, and they usually have much lighter hair and eyes than other nations. They are in general active, ingenious, and penetrating, and excel in most of the mechanical arts; and their capacity for literature is not inferior to their other endowments. As sailors, they are considered equal if not superior to every other nation, and in all warlike enterprises, they, as soldiers, maintain the national character for great skill and bravery, and patience and capability to endure the greatest fatigues and hardships. In the towns they have almost all kinds of provisions in abundance, except butcher's meat, which is not very plentiful; and the merchants usually live in the most splendid manner. Wine, in particular, is so commonly drank in Norway, that it is supposed greater quantities are consumed than even in the wine countries. The peasants, however, live very hard; their bread is made of oatmeal, and such as live near the sea-side usually eat dried stockfish instead of bread. They make a kind of hasty-pudding of oatmeal or barley-

meal, which they call soup, and add to this, by way of dainty, a pickled herring, or a half-salted mackerel or salmon. Their principal meat is beef, mutton, or goatsflesh, pickled, and then cut in thin slices, and dried in the wind, which renders it as hard as a board. Their only beverage is small-beer in winter, and in summer milk and water, except at Christmas, when they indulge in strong beer and smoking tobacco, of which they are very fond.

The inhabitants of every province vary in the cut or colour of their clothes. Some wear black edged with red, others black and yellow, and others again all black; but those who are bent on making a gay appearance, generally border their clothes, and cover the seams with stuff of a different colour. Their shoes are of a peculiar fashion, without heels, and the upper leather joined to the sole with a great many small plaits or folds. In winter they wear a kind of half-boot, somewhat like a Roman buskin, and, to go in the snow, they either wear skates as broad as the foot, and six or eight feet long, or what they call *truvieres*, which are round; like the hoop of a small barrel, with twigs worked across and across, like wicker work. They never wear any covering for the neck, and go about for hours with the snow beating into their bosoms, yet they take care to bind their wrists warm with a woollen fillet. Around the waist they have a broad leather belt, ornamented with brass convex plates,

and to this hangs a brass chain, which holds a large knife, gimlet, and other useful tools.

The women wear tight jackets, with leather girdles, and when full dressed, are ornamented with as many silver chains and rings, on their arms, neck, and head as they can procure; and, to add to the brilliancy of this attire, the jacket, handkerchief, and cap are covered as thickly as possible with brass, tin, and silver buttons, rings, &c. A bride, in particular, is loaded to such an excess with these ornaments that she can scarcely move under the weight of her trappings.

In country villages they do not build the houses adjoining each other, but every house stands by itself, with the fields and grounds belonging to it around. A farm-house is sometimes so large that it looks like a village; but these are generally let to three or four different families, who have one common magazine for provisions, standing at a distance, for fear of fire. The kitchen, brewhouse, &c. also stand separate from the dwelling house, together with the hay-lofts, cow-houses, stables, &c.

The funeral rites of the Norwegians appear singular; they play on a violin at the head of the coffin all the way to church, and frequently kneel down and ask pardon of the corpse for the offences they may have committed against the person while living.





CHAPTER XXXVI.

AFRICA.

“ ————— Where by night
The lion couches ; or hyæna dips
Deep in the lucid stream his bloody jaws,
Or serpent plants his vast morn-glitt’ring bulk.”

COLERIDGE.

AFRICA, the fourth quarter of the world, and the third in size, is bounded on all parts by the sea, except where it is connected with the continent of Asia by the isthmus of Suez. The principal divisions of Africa are Barbary, Egypt, Lybia, Zahara, Negroland, Guinea, Bornou, Darfour, or Soudan, Cashna, Fezzan, Sennar, Nubia, Abyssinia, Abex, Galla, Loango, Congo, Angola, Benguela, Matama, Zanguébar, Sofola, Caffraria, Mozambique, and the country of the Hottentots. The mountains of Africa are equal in height to those of any other part of the world, except South America. Mount Atlas, the mountains of the Moon, and the mountains of Kong, are the principal. In these mountains, and in the streams which flow from them, gold is

found, and is also said to be abundant in Wongara, and the eastern part of Nigritia, or Soudan. Copper also is obtained in these mountains. There are many large rivers, the principal of which are the Nile, the Niger, the Congo, the Zaire, the Senegal, and Gambia.

In so extensive a territory there is of course great variety of soil and climate. The coasts, valleys, and banks of rivers, are in general extremely fertile, the plants and trees vigorous, and the fruits excellent; but these are interspersed with immense deserts of sand, inhabited only by beasts of prey. The desert of Sahara, or Zahara, in particular, is two thousand five hundred miles long, and between seven hundred and eight hundred broad. There are more wild beasts in Africa than in any other part of the world, some of which are peculiar to this country, as the hippopotamus, or river horse, the rhinoceros, with two horns on his nose, and the beautiful striped zebra. The buffaloes are numerous and fierce; the lion and elephant are met with in great numbers, as also the panther; but tigers are neither so common nor so dangerous as in Asia. In Abyssinia and the northern parts hyænas are in immense numbers. They swarm about the tents and villages at night-fall, and nothing is safe from their voracious attacks. The antelope, and several other varieties of the deer species, abound in many extensive tracts of country, and the camel and dromedary have also been multiplied greatly, from their fitness for traversing the great deserts

being able to endure fatigue, hunger, and thirst, to a much greater degree than any other beast of burden, besides their capacity for carrying much heavier loads. The bullock and ass are chiefly used as domestic animals of burden in northern and central Africa. Major Denham, in his travels through those parts, observes, "Strangers, and chiefs in the service of the sheikh or sultan, alone possess camels. The bullock is the bearer of all the grain, and other articles, to and from the markets. A small saddle of plaited rushes is laid on him, when sacks made of goat-skins and filled with corn, are lashed on his broad and able back. A leather thong is passed through the cartilage of his nose, and serves as a bridle, while on the top of the load is mounted the owner, his wife, or his slave. Sometimes the daughter or the wife of a rich shouaa will be mounted on her particular bullock, and precede the loaded animals, extravagantly adorned with amber, silver rings, coral, and all sorts of finery, her hair streaming, with a black rim of *kohol*, at least an inch wide, round her eyes, and I may say arrayed for conquest at the crowded market. Carpets or *tobes* are then spread on her clumsy palfrey. She sits *jambe déjà*, *jambe delà*, and with considerable grace guides her animal by the nose. Notwithstanding the peaceableness of his nature, her vanity still enables her to torture him into something like caperings and curvetings. The price of a good bullock is from three dollars to three dollars and a half."

Crocodiles and ostriches are likewise inhabitants of many parts of Africa; the former are met with on the banks of most of the rivers, and the latter in the deserts, where they are hunted for the sake of their feathers, which form a most important article of commerce.

The population of Africa is divided into two distinct races, the moors and the negroes; the former are the descendants of the Saracens, or Mahometan Arabs, who, in the seventh century, subdued the whole of the north and part of the north-western coast, and have from that period continued to encroach upon the possessions of the negroes. They are in general a very ferocious and bigoted race, and, from their situation and prejudices, very little known to Europeans, though the late enterprises of several intelligent travellers, Majors Denham and Laing, Captain Clapperton, &c. have thrown considerable light on their customs and manners, and promise considerable benefits hereafter, by opening a freer communication than has hitherto existed between them and more civilized nations.

The aboriginal Africans or negroes are divided into many different nations or tribes; but Europeans generally divide them into foulahs and mandingoes, the former, whose country lies eastward of Sierra Leone, being Mahometans, and, though black, possessing in hair and features a strong resemblance to the people of Asia, from whom they are, in all probability, descended. They are not so bigoted or

ferociously intolerant as the moors, and are in general a very active, intelligent, and industrious race, principally employing themselves in agricultural labours.

The mandingoes, when unvitiated by their intercourse with slave dealers, are a simple, kindhearted, and hospitable race. Their colour is entirely black, and their features and hair, or rather wool, distinguish them from all the other races of mankind.

In some parts of Africa salt, and in others shells, circulate as money; and gold dust, elephants' teeth, skins, ostrich feathers, gums, drugs, palm oil, dye-woods and timber, form the principal articles, both of the internal trade and of the exports of Africa.

Egypt, an extensive and important country of Africa, extends about five hundred miles along the river Nile, and is divided into two parts, Upper and Lower Egypt. It was formerly celebrated for its superiority in science and commerce. After suffering a variety of revolutions, it declined from its ancient splendour as a kingdom, and became a Roman province, in which state it remained for more than seven hundred years. It was afterwards conquered by the Saracens, and subsequently by a body of Circassian slaves, who, under the name of Mamelukes, continued to rule it until the greater part of them were destroyed by Mahommed Ali, the sovereign of the Sublime Porte, who treacherously invited them to a feast, and barbarously murdered some, and expelled the rest.

The present inhabitants of Egypt are a mixture of

Copts, Arabs, and Turks. Their complexions are dark brown, their habits in general extremely indolent, and their dispositions cowardly, and intolerant to those who differ from them in religious points. The Copts, who are the remains of the original Egyptians, are the only class that can read or write, and therefore monopolize all the public offices and commercial departments. The Arabs are the most numerous class, but in the commercial cities Turks and Jews are numerous.

The climate of Egypt is temperate during a few months in the year, but in the summer, from March to November, the heat is insupportable to Europeans. Rain is so uncommon, that a slight shower is considered a miracle. The want of it, however, is fully supplied by the waters of the Nile, which periodically inundate the country, and which, when they retire, leave behind a rich mud, which produces a plentiful harvest.

Lower Egypt produces abundance of rice, corn, flesh, fish, sugar, herbs and fruits. In Upper Egypt lentils (a kind of small beans), onions, and other vegetables, supply the place of rice or grain, which is very scarce.

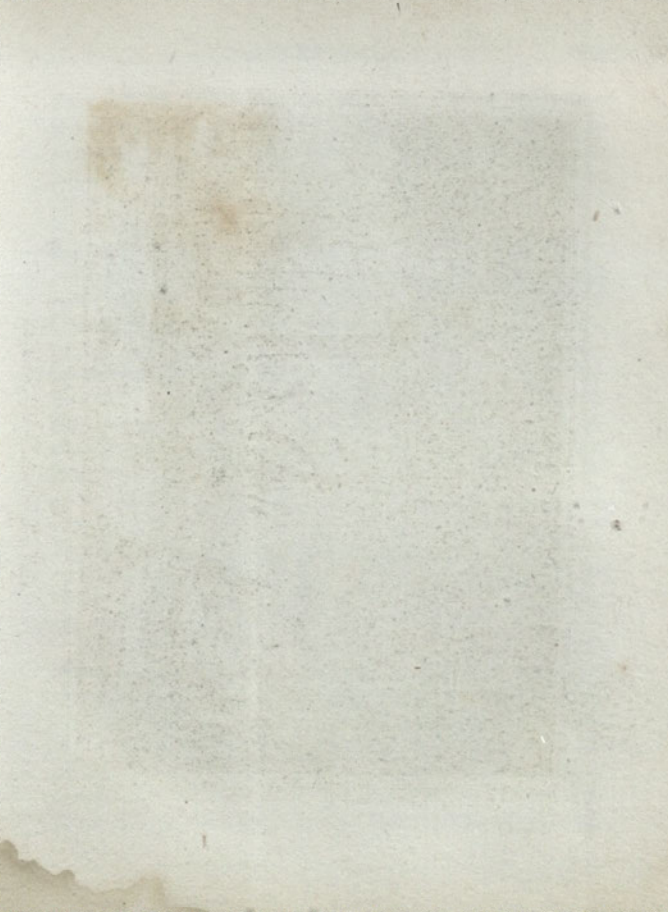
The stupendous remains of antiquity, most of them in excellent preservation, are strongly contrasted with the present feebleness and inertness of the Egyptians. The aim of most of these structures appears, however, rather to astonish by their immensity than to create admiration by their beauty.

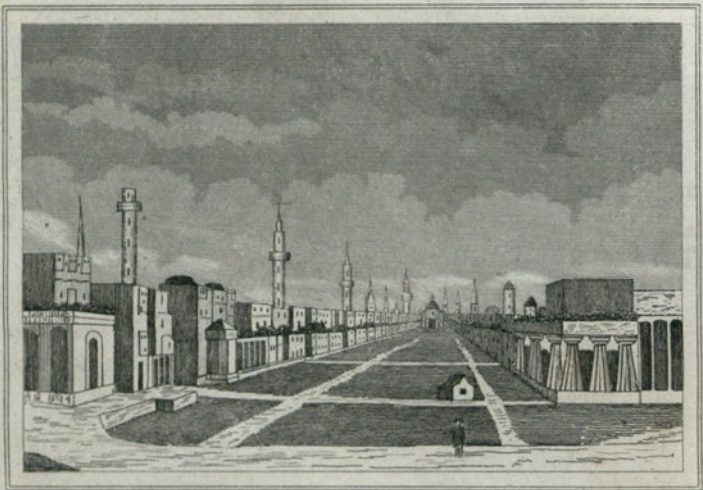


EGYPTIAN DANCING GIRLS.



ALEXANDRIA.





CAIRO.

This is particularly the case with the famed pyramids, the largest of which is nearly five hundred feet in perpendicular height, and has a square base of seven hundred feet. A striking peculiarity of Egypt is the ancient manner of burying the dead, who are found in caverns embalmed, and set upright in niches of the walls.

Grand Cairo, the capital, is situated on the western bank of the Nile. It is divided into three parts, Old Cairo, New Cairo, and the port called Bulac, each of which are a mile apart from the other. There are in the whole above three hundred mosques, the lofty minarets of which give it a very splendid appearance. There are many handsome public baths, and numerous bazars, where each trade has its allotted quarter. The best houses are built round courts, having few or no windows to the streets. The women have much greater liberty in Cairo than in any other part of the Mahomedan empire. They resort to the baths without restraint, and have a mosque appropriated to them outside the walls of the city, to which they repair on Fridays as a place of pleasure.

Alexandria, formerly a celebrated city of Egypt, is famous principally for the numerous remains of its former splendour. The ancient Pharos, formerly counted one of the seven wonders of the world, stands at the entrance of the new port, and is now called the castle of Pharillon. Pompey's pillar, another surprising monument of antiquity, likewise serves as a sea-mark. The shaft of it is one entire piece of granite,

nearly seventy feet long and twenty-five in circumference, and the whole height of the pillar is ninety-three feet. The two obelisks covered with hieroglyphics, called Cleopatra's needles, which are above sixty feet long and of one entire piece of granite, are likewise within the city of Alexandria. The city was originally built by Alexander the Great, and is now, with the exception of one long street leading from the port, nearly all in ruins.

Barbary contains the countries of Barca, Tripoli, Tunis, Fez, Algiers, and Morocco. It is nearly two thousand miles in length, and in some parts seven hundred and fifty in breadth, and is considered, next to Egypt, the most fertile country of Africa.

Tripoli produces every article peculiar to the finest tropical climates; and bullocks, sheep, and poultry, are bred in immense numbers. The interior, however, is chiefly occupied with deserts of sand, or with the mountainous and uncultivated districts of Garian and Mesulata. The climate is considered healthy, except during the *sirocco*, which in autumn often blows for three days together, destroying both the animal and vegetable creation.

The population of Tripoli consists of Moors, Arabs, Turks, and their descendants. They are described as possessing few virtues, revenge, avarice, treachery and deceit, being their predominant traits. The sobriety usual to the followers of Mahomet is not adhered to in Tripoli, wine-houses being publicly open and intoxication a common occurrence.

Tripoli, the capital, is a very large city, built on a low neck of land projecting into the sea. It is surrounded by a high wall, flanked with bastions, and having two gates. It has also a castle, an irregular square pile, and the batteries mount about fifty pieces of cannon. The caravanseras, public baths, and mosques, are spacious and convenient, and one of the latter is particularly elegant.

Tunis, one of the most powerful of the Barbary states, consists chiefly of a large peninsula, stretching into the Mediterranean sea. The cultivated part extends about two hundred and fifty miles into the interior, where it terminates with the chain of the Atlas mountains and the dry plains of the *Bled-el-Jeredde*, or *country of dates*. The mountains of Tunis contain mines of silver, copper, lead, and quicksilver, but they are not turned to any account. The climate is extremely hot, and the soil near the sea-coast very fertile.

Tunis, the capital of the above territory, is situated on a plain at the head of a bay, and distant about ten miles from the ruins of the ancient and celebrated Carthage. The city of Tunis is built in the most irregular manner, and the streets are narrow and filthy in the extreme. The principal exports of the city are grain, olive-oil, wool, soap, and sponge. Six miles to the west is Goletta, the famous harbour and citadel of Tunis, and its great naval and commercial depot. It has a basin artificially formed, sufficient to receive all the Tunisian fleet and merchant vessels.

Algiers is a powerful state, about four hundred miles in length and one hundred in breadth. The climate is excessively hot, and the soil in general of exuberant fertility, producing immense quantities of corn and other grain, pulse, vegetables, and fruits of the finest quality. The population is divided into four parties;—the Turks, who possess the government, the Moors, who inhabit the towns, the Arabs, who have possession of the plains, and the Brebers, who live in the mountains. The prevailing language is Arabic, but the common people and merchants in the towns speak a jargon called *lingua franca*, which is a medley of Italian, French, and Spanish.

Algiers, the capital city, is built on a hill, in the form of an amphitheatre, and has a very beautiful appearance from the sea, the houses being all snow white, and the tops of them flat and covered with earth, so as to form complete rows of gardens. The city is surrounded with high and strong walls, but the streets are excessively narrow, to keep off the extreme heat of the sun; the principal one, though twelve hundred paces in length, is not more than twelve wide. There are no considerable squares, and the mosques are the only public buildings, except the dey's palace, which is of no great extent, but is adorned with marble pillars of very curious workmanship. The population consists of Mahometans, Jews, and slaves, of different nations. The chief wealth of Algiers for ages has arisen from their extensive piracies, which long defied the power of the



ALGERS.

christian nations to check ; but in 1816 the English fleet under the command of Lord Exmouth gained a complete victory over the Algerine fleet, and burnt and injured the city so severely, that the dey was compelled to submit to the terms proposed. The christian captives, many of whom had been years in the most wretched slavery, were all liberated and sent on board the English ships, and such terms imposed as will, it is to be hoped, in future prevent a recurrence of their former depredations and barbarities.

Fez is an extensive and populous country, and, though mountainous, extremely fertile, producing corn, fruit, honey, wax, cotton, flax, &c. in abundance. The intense heat of the summer is scarcely supportable, and the winters are proportionably severe. Fez, the capital, is one of the largest cities of Africa, and is composed of three towns, Beleyde, New Fez, and Old Fez.

Arabic is spoken here with more purity than in any other part of Africa, and the rich Moors send their children here to school. Its markets also are the resort of the wandering Arabs for all sorts of foreign and manufactured articles.

Barca is situated between Tripoli and Egypt. Along the coasts it is fertile and well peopled, but the interior is a sandy desert, inhabited only by wandering Arabs. The capital of Barca is the city of Derna.

Guinea is the name given to a vast extent of country in Africa, and which is divided by traders

into the Gold coast, the Slave coast, the Grain coast, and the Ivory coast.

The Gold coast extends from the Cape to the Rio Volta, which separates it from the Slave coast. The climate is moderate, and the general appearance of the country from the sea is that of an immense forest, of which small parts only are cleared for cultivation. The British have an extensive settlement upon this coast, of which Cape-coast Castle is the capital. The natives, of whom the principal are the Ashantees and the Fantees, go almost naked and are in other respects completely uncivilized.

The Slave coast extends from the Rio Volta to the bay of Logos. It was formerly frequented by Europeans, for the sole purpose of carrying on the inhuman traffic from which it takes its name; but the slave trade, chiefly by the exertions of the British government, has greatly decreased, and it is to be hoped will in a few years be annihilated.

The Ivory coast extends from Cape Palmas to Cape Apollonia. It derives its name from the vast quantities of ivory, or elephants' tusks, which are brought down from the interior to the coast, some of which weigh not less than two hundred pounds. The traffic in this article is so great, that ten thousand pounds weight have been sold in one day for exportation. The country is fertile, and thickly studded with populous villages. There are no towns of any consideration. The natives are quite black, tall, strong, and extremely ugly.

The Grain coast, called also the Malaghetta, or Pepper coast, is little frequented by Europeans, the supply of that spice having soon been exhausted, and it offering no other article of commerce. It extends from the Mesurado to the village of Gowra, ten miles from Cape Palmas.

Sierra Leone is a country of West Africa, and takes its name from a long ridge of mountains, which is greatly infested with lions. The country presents the appearance of a vast impenetrable forest, which is in parts only cleared for the purposes of cultivation. The soil is extremely fertile, and produces rice and an abundance of delicate fruits; but the climate is dreadfully unwholesome, and though a very large British colony is established here, it is considered as the grave of Europeans. The benevolent objects for which this colony was formed were the improvement of Africa and the abolition of the infamous slave trade, which have occasioned it to be kept up in spite of many difficulties and discouragements.

Besides the principal, Granville or Freetown, many new towns have been formed in different parts of the territory, as Regent's, Charlotte, Leopold, Gloucester, Wilberforce, Waterloo, Wellington, &c. The natives of Sierra Leone are not so deep a black, nor have such flat noses and thick lips as many of the African negroes. The woods and mountains are inhabited by multitudes of wild animals. Apes in particular are met with in troops, and insects, flies, musquitoes, and particularly ants, swarm so as to

create the most distressing annoyance to strangers. Serpents are also very numerous.

Bornou is an extensive empire of Negroland, bounded on the west by Cassina and on the east by Nubia. A great part of the country consists of barren, sandy deserts, interspersed with oases, or fertile tracts, which produce maize, rice, beans, cotton, hemp, indigo, figs, grapes, and a variety of excellent fruits, together with a tree peculiar to the country, called redeynah, resembling the olive, and bearing a nut, the kernel of which is valued as a fruit and the shell for the oil it produces.

Wild animals, as the lion, elephant, leopard, buffalo, wolf, &c. are numerous, as also are snakes, scorpions, centipedes, and toads. The natives, though black, are not negroes; they profess the Mohamedan religion. This country has been recently visited by several English travellers, Major Laing, Major Denham, Captain Clapperton, Dr. Oudney, &c. The latter fell a victim to the fatigue and privations of the journey, and the first mentioned has since been treacherously murdered by one of the African chiefs or sultans.

Next in importance to Bornou is the adjoining kingdom of the Fellatahs, the principal cities of which were visited by a part of the expedition under Major Denham. This territory seems to produce abundantly all the necessaries of life. Captain Clapperton, in his description of the city of Kán o, the capital of one of the Fellatah provinces,

thus speaks of the market, " Particular quarters are appropriated to distinct articles, the smaller wares being set out in booths in the middle, and cattle and bulky commodities being exposed to sale in the outskirts of the market place. Wood, dried grass, bean-straw for provender, beans, Guinea corn, Indian corn, wheat, &c. are in one quarter; goats, sheep, horses and camels in another; earthenware and indigo in a third; vegetables and fruit of all descriptions, such as yams, sweet potatoes, water and musk melons, pappaw fruit, limes, cashew-nuts, plums, mangoes, shaddocks, dates, &c. in a fourth, and so on. Wheaten flour is baked into bread of three different kinds, one like muffins, another like our twists, and the third a light puffy cake, eaten with honey and melted butter poured over it. Rice is also made into little cakes; beef and mutton are killed daily. Camel's flesh is occasionally to be had, but is often meagre, the animal being commonly killed, as an Irish grazier might say, to save its life.

" Near the shambles there is a number of cook-shops in the open air, each consisting merely of a wood fire, stuck round with wooden skewers, on which small bits of fat and lean meat, alternately mixed, and scarcely larger than a penny piece each, are roasting. Every thing looks very clean and comfortable, and a woman does the honours of the table with a mat, dish, and cover, placed on her knees, from which she serves her guests, who are squatted around her. Ground gussub water is retailed at hand

to those who can afford this beverage at their repast; the price at most does not exceed twenty cowries, or about two farthings and four-tenths of a farthing English money. Those who have houses eat at home; women never resort to cook-shops, and even at home eat apart from the men. The interior of the market is filled with stalls of bamboo, laid out in regular streets, where the more costly wares are sold, and articles of dress, and other little matters of use or ornament, made and repaired. Bands of musicians parade up and down, to attract purchasers to particular booths. Here are displayed coarse writing-paper of French manufacture brought from Barbary, scissors and knives of native workmanship, crude antimony, and tin, both the produce of the country; unwrought silk, of a red colour, which they make into belts and slings, or weave in stripes into the finest cotton; amulets, and bracelets of brass; beads of glass, coral, and amber; finger rings of pewter and a few silver trinkets, but none of gold; tobacs, turkadees, and turban shawls; coarse woollen cloths of all colours; coarse calico; Moorish dresses, the cast-off gaudy garbs of the mamelukes of Barbary; pieces of Egyptian linen, checked or striped with gold; sword blades from Malta, &c. The market is crowded from sunrise to sunset every day, not excepting their sabbath, which is kept on Friday."

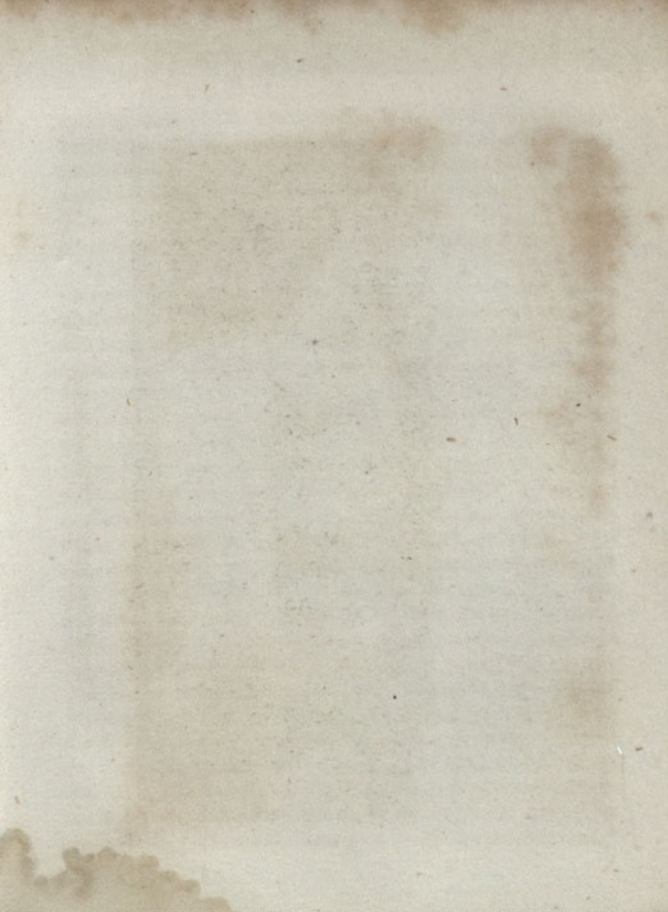
Cassina, another extensive territory of Negroland, lies west of Bornou, and nearly resembles it in climate, except that the rains are less violent and preju-

dicial than in the latter. The animals are also the same, with the addition of numerous monkeys and parrots, which are seldom met with in Bornou. The natives also resemble the Bornouese in person and habits, and are, like them, bigoted Mahomedans. The country is very populous, containing not less than one thousand towns and villages, of which the capital, also called Cassina, has a considerable trade in gold dust, slaves, goat skins, ox and buffalo hides, cotton cloths, senna and civet.

Nubia is an extensive tract of country, situated between Egypt, the Nile, the Red sea, and Abyssinia. The greatest part consists of sandy and rocky deserts, with here and there a few *wadeys*, or valleys, shaded by trees, and producing shrubs and grass, and, what is still more valuable in this arid country, cool wells or rills of water. The banks of the Nile are, however, rendered fertile by its waters, aided by the laborious industry of the natives. At the extremity of the great desert, which extends from the Nile to the Red sea, is the district of Berber, which consists of four villages, the inhabitants of which are employed in carrying on the trade of Egypt and Arabia with Africa. The Nubians are in general handsome and well made, especially the women. Their dress is usually a white or blue shirt, with a shawl thrown over the shoulders. Children remain in a state of nakedness, the girls till they are six and the boys twelve years old. The Nubians are quarrelsome and ferocious; few of them are ever seen unarmed;

even the boy wears a short crooked knife tied over the elbow and ready to be used on the slightest offence being given. The people of Berber are particularly dissolute in their manners, drunkenness and every vice disgraceful to humanity being openly practised among them. This is undoubtedly, in a great measure, to be attributed to their being chiefly employed in the slave trade, which must have the effect of hardening the heart and deadening the feelings to every good impression. Nubia is famous for the magnificent monuments of earlier ages with which it abounds.

Caffraria is a large territory of Africa, extending along the Indian Ocean to the mouth of the great fish river, which divides it from the country of the Hottentots. It is ruled by a king, who appoints inferior chiefs to govern different provinces. The caffres are jet black, tall, well-proportioned, and handsome. They are extremely industrious, courageous, and expert in hunting, fighting, &c. They possess a fertile country, and the women are employed constantly in agricultural pursuits, raising corn, tobacco, hemp, water melons, kidney beans, and other vegetables. They are extremely ferocious towards their enemies, and their appearance alone is calculated to strike terror. The clothing of both sexes consists entirely of the hides of oxen, which they render as pliant as cloth; to these the men add the tails of different animals tied round their thighs, pieces of brass in their hair, and large ivory rings on their arms; feathers





HOTTENTOT VILLAGE.

and the hair of the lion's mane they wear fastened on their heads, with various other uncouth and fantastical ornaments. Their oxen and other animals are much smaller than those of neighbouring countries. They are extremely attached to their dogs and domestic cattle, of which they have great numbers.

Hottentot country is a territory bordering on the Cape of Good Hope, and adjoining Caffraria. The Hottentots are divided into three races; those who are subjected to European sway inhabiting the district in which the British colony is situated, the Bosjesmans, or wild Hottentots, and the nation of the Namaguas. The first are a wild inoffensive race, of very confined intellects, but honest, faithful, and extremely kind and affectionate to each other. They appear almost incapable of being taught any thing useful, and prefer, if not compelled to labour, the most extreme poverty and misery, which will allow them to indulge their natural indolence, to any exertion which might better their condition. In their persons they are well-proportioned, but extremely ugly, with high cheek-bones, flat noses, and complexions of a yellowish brown.

The Bosjesmans inhabit the mountains, and are the avowed enemies of the colonists, upon whose property they make continual inroads, carrying off their cattle and sheep, and not unfrequently destroying whole families; while in return the colonists hunt them down, and shoot them wherever they find them, so that they dare not venture out of their retreats by

day, but frequently assemble on moonlight nights, and dance from sun-set to sun-rise. They are by far the ugliest and most deformed race of the Hottentots, but are extremely active and ingenious. The Namaguas, who inhabit the north-western part of the colony, are a better looking people than the other tribes, taller, less robust, and some of them, especially the women, have really elegant figures.

Cape Town, the capital of the British colony, called the Cape of Good Hope, is situated at the head of a bay called Table Bay, and on a slope of the Table Mountain, which rises behind it to the height of 3582 feet. The climate of the Cape is excessively hot and dry during a part of the year, while during the cold months it is rendered extremely uncomfortable by the constant rains which completely deluge it. The soil is fertile, producing wine, fruits, and grain, in abundance; the latter said to be equal in quality to any in the world. The town, which is defended by a castle of considerable strength and numerous batteries, is regularly built, the streets run parallel to and intersecting each other at right angles. Many of them are spacious and airy, with canals running through them. The only public edifices deserving of notice are a Catholic and Lutheran church, a town-house, the barracks, which is the largest building in the town, and capable of containing two thousand troops, and a large building which is appropriated to the government stores.

Mosambique is a city and sea-port of the country of

the same name, and the capital of the Portuguese territory in Africa. The country, besides a part of the eastern continent, includes the island of Mosambique, and the islands of St. George and St. James. The islands are in general sandy, though there are some fruitful spots, which produce oranges, citrons, and other fruits. On the continent the soil is rich and fertile, producing rice, millet, fruits, pulse, &c. and the rich pasture lands feed an immense number of cattle. Gold is found in the rivers in great abundance, and, with ivory, ebony, silver and copper, form the principal articles of commerce. The city is built on the island of Mosambique, which is two miles and a half long and a quarter of a mile broad, resembling in form a crescent, with the hollow towards the sea.

Abyssinia is a kingdom of Africa, about eight hundred miles long, and six hundred broad, and is one of the most mountainous countries in the world. The soil in the valleys is, however, very fertile, and produces many fine trees, plants, fruits, flowers, and gums. In the higher districts, and even on the summits of the mountains, wheat is grown; but the bread of the country is principally made from teff, a sort of millet, which grows plentifully on every sort of soil. From April to September the country is drenched with incessant rains, and to these succeed cloudless days of scorching heat, which are followed by piercing cold nights. Abyssinia is remarkable for the number and variety of its quadrupeds, both wild and

tame. All kinds of beasts of prey, except the tiger, inhabit the woods and deserts, but the hyænas in particular are dangerous and troublesome in the extreme. The fiercer birds, as the eagle, vulture, &c. are also abundant, and the greatest annoyance is felt from the numerous insect tribe, of which the tssal-tsal, a species of large fly, is the most formidable, and so fatal to cattle, that in certain districts they are compelled to drive the flocks and herds to other quarters at the commencement of the rainy season, to prevent their being entirely destroyed.

The natives of Abyssinia are of a dark olive complexion, and their dress consists of light robes, bound with a sash round the waist, the head being covered by a kind of turban. Their language approaches to the Arabic, and their religion is a mixture of Judaism with the ceremonies of the Greek church. Their houses are meanly built of clay, and covered with thatch; they are most usually of a conical form, and the churches are round, encircled with a portico. One of the most singular and cruel customs of the country is the practice of eating flesh cut from living oxen. At their principal feasts a bullock is driven up to the door of one of the houses or tents, and strongly fastened to a stake. Large slices are then cut from the buttocks of the tortured animal, and handed to those within, who devour it with the greatest avidity, while the muscles and tendons are still quivering with life, and the cries and bellowings of the wretched beast are sounding in their ears. This



ST HELENA.

is continued till all the fleshy parts are devoured, when its throat is cut by one of the bystanders, and the remainder of the carcass is delivered to the inferior people, none but the priests and chiefs being allowed to partake of the living repast.

Gondar is the metropolis of Abyssinia, and its only sea-port is Adulis, on the Red sea, near Massua.

Galla is an extensive territory south of Abyssinia. It is a fine fertile country, but the inhabitants are the most ferocious and uncivilized of all the African nations. They wear no clothing except a goat-skin on their shoulders, and ornament their hair with raw entrails of oxen, which they likewise twist round their waists, and thus emit a stench which would go near to poison an European.

Loango is a country of western Africa, very populous and fertile; so fruitful indeed are its cultivated lands, that they yield three crops of millet in a year. Great quantities of palm wine and oil are also made in this country, and bananas, bacavas, and other fruits are in abundance. The inhabitants are well-formed, mild, and tractable. The women only are employed in agricultural labours, the task of cultivating the gardens, sowing, and getting in the harvest, being committed to them. The capital, which is also called Loango, is situated at the mouth of the river Quilla, and has a harbour. The streets are wide and pleasant, being planted with rows of fruit-trees. The houses are all separate from each other, and though never raised above the ground-floor, have a very

neat and pleasing appearance, each being enclosed within a hedge of palm-trees, canes, or planted bulrushes. In the centre of the city is a large handsome square, and in the front of this stands the royal palace, which forms another square, a mile and a half in circumference, and shaded all round by beautiful and stately palm-trees. The kingdom of Loango possesses a considerable trade in elephants' teeth, palm-oil, iron, copper, lead, and tin.

Angola is a kingdom of Africa, extremely fertile and productive, and maintaining a considerable trade with Europe. It produces abundance of maize, beans, oranges, lemons, and other tropical fruits. The Portuguese have several settlements on this coast, and their principal town is built on an island in the river Congo; it is called San Paulo de Loando. The English and Dutch also trade with the natives of Angola.

Zanguebar, a term which literally means the country of the blacks, is indefinitely applied to the large extent of territory situated between Mosambique and the Red sea, and which is subdivided into several different nations, the principal of which are those of Jabo, Melinda, Mombaza and Quiloa.

Jabo has a capital of the same name, subject to the Portuguese, who carry on a considerable traffic in gold dust, ivory, &c. with the natives, a great number of whom they have converted to christianity.

Melinda is a very fertile country, producing abundance of fruit, especially citrons. It has also plenty



A MAN OF QUALITY IN CONGO.



of venison, game, oxen, sheep, poultry, and a breed of sheep with tails so enormously large as to weigh between thirteen and fourteen pounds. The natives differ in complexion from quite black to nearly white; but the women are mostly all of a pale olive complexion. The higher class of females dress in fine silks, with rich gold or silver girdles, collars, bracelets, and other ornaments, and have their heads covered with a kind of veil. The men wear a turban and a piece of cloth wrapped round them, reaching to the knees; the poorer sort, and those of the interior, have no other clothing than a piece of cloth round the middle of the body. The capital, which is also called Melinda, is situated in a fine plain at the mouth of the river Quilmanci, and was built by the Portuguese. Many of the houses are very handsomely constructed of stone and furnished in a very magnificent style, and the warehouses are abundantly supplied with European goods, which are brought in exchange for gold, ivory, ostrich feathers, aloes, senna, and other drugs. The prevailing religion is Mahomedan, and the number of mosques give the city a very splendid appearance. The king of Melinda resides in great pomp and magnificence in the capital, and is treated with the greatest respect and veneration by his subjects. The city possesses a good harbour, but the entrance is dangerous, by reason of the great number of reefs and rocks.

The city of Mombaza, the capital of the kingdom of that name, is situated on a peninsula which has

been converted into an island by cutting a canal through the isthmus. It has a very good harbour, which is defended by a strong citadel. The city carries on a very considerable trade with the neighbouring islands and kingdoms, as well as the empire of Brazil, which it supplies with ivory, gold, rice, and other provisions.

Quiloa is a very fertile country, producing abundance of rice, millet, fruits, oxen, sheep, and poultry. It had formerly a flourishing city and sea-port, which was the capital of the Portuguese settlements in Africa, but is ruined and reduced to a few scattered huts. The natives are some of them black, and others of a tawny complexion, and are in general Mahomedans.

Benin is an extensive and fruitful kingdom of western Africa. The appearance of the country is beautiful, but the air, from the number of marshes near the sea-coast, is very pestilential. It produces oranges, lemons, cotton, and pepper. The principal animals are elephants, tigers, leopards, wild boars, stags, civets, horses, and sheep, with hair instead of wool; and the principal birds are paroquets, pigeons, storks, partridges, ostriches, &c. There are also a great number of serpents and other reptiles. The natives are all idolaters, and go nearly naked, wearing only a kind of petticoat of white calico. They are very expert in manufacturing and dyeing cotton cloths. The capital, called also Benin or Formosa is situated on a river of the same name.

The streets are long and wide, and there are a great number of shops, but the houses are mean, being built entirely of clay covered with reeds, straw, or leaves. The king has a palace, which is very extensive, but has no claims to elegance nor even convenience. There are great numbers of slaves in Benin, but they are natives of other African countries; the king, though dealing largely in slaves, not being allowed to sell any of his subjects, though they are all called his slaves.

Benguela is a province of Africa; the climate is very pernicious to Europeans. The men wear skins and beads, and use darts headed with iron, and the women wear collars of iron, and bows and arrows, and cloth of bark round their waists. The capital is also called Benguela, and is defended by a fort erected by the Portuguese.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

AUSTRALASIA.

“ Who to the power of man shall set a bound,
Or limit his dominion—who shall say,
Thus far thou shalt advance, but here thy course is stopped ?”
H. M. JONES.

AUSTRALASIA is the name given generally to the extensive islands that lie in the Pacific Ocean, south of the continent of Asia, and which are rapidly rising into importance from the numerous English colonies which have been and still continue to be formed there. The distinct names of the principal islands are New-Holland, New-Guinea, New-Britain, New-Ireland, New-Caledonia, New-Zealand, New-Hebrides, and those of Solomon, Arroo, &c.

New-Holland, the largest island in the known world, extending from east to west two thousand six hundred, and from north to south two thousand miles, was first discovered by the Dutch, in 1605, but was little known until it was visited by Captain Cook, in 1770, who sailed along the coast, and at length

came to an anchor in a commodious bay, to which he gave the name of Botany Bay. The climate of this island, particularly in the inland districts, is very pleasant and salubrious, though the heats of summer are sometimes excessive, and near the coast during the winter months, which are June, July, and August, the mornings and evenings are cold, and ice is sometimes seen half an inch thick. The soil on the coast is sandy and barren, but at the distance of five or six miles from the sea it begins to assume a more fruitful appearance, and farther inland is truly beautiful and fertile, presenting an endless succession of hill and dale, clothed with the most luxuriant herbage, and now covered with flocks and herds.

The natives of this island are of a middle stature, ill shaped, with large heads, flat noses, eyes sunk deep in their heads, and enormously large mouths and thick lips. Their complexions vary from a reddish brown to an almost African blackness. In their manners and habits they are as rude and uncultivated as imagination can conceive, wandering about in a state of complete nudity, and scarcely able to preserve themselves from famine. The residence of Europeans among them seems to have effected very little improvement in their condition; and in the towns of Sydney and Paramatta both men and women may be seen daily wandering about the streets in a state of entire nakedness.

The animals of Australasia are kangaroos, of various species, a beast called the wombat, which is

about the size of a large dog, but thick, short-legged, and very inactive, and the native dog, resembling the wolf, and remarkable for its illnature and viciousness. There is also an amphibious animal of the mole species, considerably larger than the English mole; also the opossum, the flying squirrel, the kangaroo rat, and the large fox bat. The European animals, cows, sheep, hogs, and deer, have multiplied amazingly. The birds are the mountain eagle, the cassowary, and the mesura, a very beautiful bird, parrots, pigeons, thrushes, hawks, &c.

Botany Bay is the most important inlet yet discovered; its chief river is the Hawkesbury, which falls into Broken Bay, near Port Jackson, seven miles from which is the town of Sydney, the capital of the British settlements in New South Wales. It is situated on two hilly necks of land, with a proportion of flat ground intervening, which forms one of the finest natural basins of water in the world, called Sydney Cove. The town covers a considerable space of ground, and though the houses are in general mean and small, there are many good public buildings as well as private houses. They have a bank, public schools, a theatre, and in fact most of the luxuries, as well as conveniences of life. The first settlements were made entirely by convicts from Great Britain; but the advantages of climate, soil, and freedom from oppressive taxes, have since induced many respectable capitalists to emigrate from different parts of the united kingdom; and the country is fast rising into opulence

and respectability. Roads have been constructed upwards of a hundred miles in length across the mountains, and the population is increasing in every direction. Besides Sydney, which is considered the capital, the British settlements here are the towns of Paramatta, Windsor, Bathurst and Liverpool. In the district of the Coal river, sixty miles from Sydney, is a small settlement, to which incorrigible criminals are sent from other settlements. It has a small town, called Newcastle, and contains generally between four and five hundred of these irreclaimable offenders, besides the troops who guard them, and a few free settlers.

The productions of the soil include wheat, maize, barley, oats and rye. Every species of vegetable grown in England flourishes here, and the country is famous for the goodness and variety of its fruits; peaches, apricots, nectarines, oranges, grapes, pomegranates, figs and melons, attain to the greatest perfection in the open air, and all the less delicate fruits are produced in abundance. In fact, no country in the world enjoys more natural advantages than this, which was at first thought only a fit place of residence for convicts, but is now considered the land of promise by thousands of British subjects.

Van Diemen's Land is an island separated from New-Holland by a navigable canal, called Bass's Straits. It was first discovered by Tasman, in 1633, and afterwards visited by Captains Furneaux and Cook, in 1773 and 1777. Several colonies were

subsequently sent from the original establishment at Port Jackson; and in 1804 the first town, called Hobart's town, was founded. Another settlement, named Launceston, was soon after formed, about thirty miles, in a straight line, from the former. The aspect of the country is generally mountainous, but the soil is extremely fertile, and the climate more congenial to Europeans than that of New-Holland. The animals and the vegetable productions of Van Diemen's Land are nearly the same as the former island, but the wheat is of a much superior quality to any of that grain raised in the district of Port Jackson. The British colonies have of late years received a considerable accession of settlers from the mother-country, and are all in a fair state of progression towards wealth and consequence. The natives of this island are of a middling stature, generally slender, with black skins and woolly hair, but of features much more pleasing than those of negroes.

The new settlement of Swan River is situated on Cockburn Island, one of a group of islands in the Indian Ocean. The climate is considered even more salubrious and pleasant than that of New South Wales, and it possesses a considerable advantage in geographical position, being much more convenient of access as well as considerably nearer to, and having much more easy means of communication, than those colonies, with every part of the civilized world, except the eastern coast of America. The voyage from England is nearly a month shorter than to Port

Jackson, and it is situated so near to the Mauritius, Cape of Good Hope, Java, Timor, Sumatra, and the East Indian presidencies, that every necessary, and even luxury, can be procured in a very short time, and at moderate prices. The animals and natural productions of these islands are nearly the same as those of New South Wales, and the natives also resemble those of that place in their persons and habits. Most of them wear kangaroo cloaks, which are their only clothing. They appear to live entirely in the open air, no traces of a single hut having been discovered by the party who, under the command of Captain Stirling, first discovered and visited these islands. In winter they live entirely in the woods, on the higher grounds, where they subsist on birds, roots, the kangaroo, land-tortoise, and opossum tribe, which are plentiful. In the summer months they frequent the coast, where their skill in spearing fish is described as wonderful: they have no boats or rafts. The number of respectable capitalists who have lately emigrated to Swan River, which takes its name from the elegant black swans which inhabit its waters, promises to make this a very important colony to England. One great recommendation it possesses is, that no convicts are intended to be introduced into the settlement. The French have fixed on a point to colonize, called Shark's Bay, distant about four hundred miles to the north of Swan River.

THE END.

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