

LESSONS
TO HER
GOVERNESSES
PUPILS:

OR,

Journal of the Method adopted by Madame de
SILLEY-BRULART (formerly Countess de
GENLIS) in the Education of the Children of
M. d'ORFANS, First Prince of the Blood-Royal.

PUBLISHED BY HERSELF.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

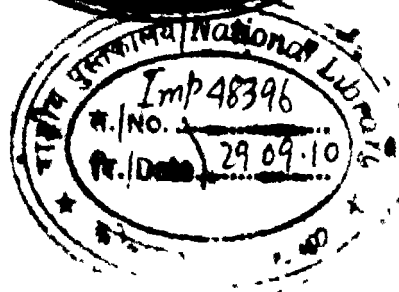
VOL. III.

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College of St. William



L E S S O N S
OF A
GOVERNESS TO HER PUPILS, &c.

CONTINUATION OF THE JOURNAL OF
M. LEBRUN.

Saturday, 28 October 1786.

Note of Madame de Sillery.

“ FOR a long time I had remarked a
“ great change in the character of the
“ Duke de Chartres. Meanwhile what set
“ me at ease upon the subject was my con-
“ fidence in these gentlemen and the na-
“ tural and unembarrassed air of the Abbe
“ Guyot. I was still farther encouraged
“ by his retrospective view inserted in
“ the Journal and the seeming friendship

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B

“ he

“ he displayed for the Duke de Chartres,
“ whom two years before he evidently
“ postponed to his brother : I observed,
“ as well as every body else, that the
“ Abbé treated him with particular
“ kindness, frequently took him by the
“ hand, and was perpetually telling me
“ that he was of a good, an excellent natural
“ disposition. At length I detected the Duke
“ de Chartres in a piece of scandal and
“ impertinence with relation to Madame
“ Hennegui. I expressed upon this fact
“ to the Duke de Chartres, in presence
“ of his brother, all that I thought best
“ calculated to inspire him with a becoming
“ horror for every thing that could
“ be allied to falsehood. When I had
“ done he suddenly threw himself at my
“ feet, crying out : *I know that they are*
“ *ruining me, but I will atone for every*
“ *thing by my sincerity, and will now ac-*
“ *quaint you with things much worse than*
“ *this and of which you have not the*
“ *remotest suspicion.* I was so much
“ astonished

“astonished and thunderstruck at this
 “speech that I could not utter a word.
 “His Highness then burst into tears, and
 “made to me the extraordinary con-
 “fession which follows, in presence of
 “his brother. I obliged him to repeat
 “it, and have taken it down from his
 “dictation with the most scrupulous
 “accuracy.

“His Highness declared that about
 “eighteen months ago he began,
 “whenever I scolded him, to com-
 “plain of me to the Abbé Guyot;
 “that the Abbé, instead of silenc-
 “ing him on these occasions, en-
 “couraged him in his complaints by
 “saying that I was in the wrong, and
 “that my *irritable temper caused me*
 “*to do a thousand absurd things*; that
 “presently the Abbé allowed himself to
 “speak ill of me in a more open
 “manner, and that these conversations
 “became every day more scandalous.
 “This constantly passed at the Latin
 B 2 “lessons

“ lessons before the Duke de Mont-
“ pensier, who never joined in the con-
“ versations, but observed a profound
“ silence, except saying now and then :
“ *Come, come, let us take our lesson.* The
“ Duke de Chartres added, that the
“ time of every lesson was thus occupied
“ in speaking ill of me and every body
“ about me, that of the three quarters of
“ an hour not one was devoted to study,
“ that even during this short time he,
“ the Duke de Chartres, exerted no sort
“ of attention, and that he did not un-
“ derstand a word of Latin. I at length
“ asked him, what all the Abbé had
“ said of me. The principal circum-
“ stances the Duke enumerated were
“ these—That I had some understand-
“ ing, but that I by no means possessed
“ so much as I imagined, and that M.
“ Bonnard was infinitely superior to me ;
“ that I had an astonishing degree of
“ pride ; that I loved nothing so much
“ as flattery and sycophants ; that Mon-
“ seigneur

“ seigneur and Madame were dazzled
“ by my works, but that these works
“ contained an infinite number of things
“ which I did not believe ; that I wrote
“ my private Journal with so much care
“ only because it was read by the Duke
“ and Duchess d’Orleans ; that I lived
“ in solitude and saw only my family
“ and my pupils, because I was hated and
“ nobody wished to visit me ; that my
“ treatment of the Abbe had been and
“ was still extremely unjust, particularly
“ in wishing to take every thing upon
“ myself and to encroach upon his
“ functions ; that it is not true that
“ the cares I bestow upon the princes
“ are wholly disinterested ; that it is not
“ true that I receive no emolument ;
“ that it is equally untrue that I intend
“ to withdraw from the society of the
“ world and spend the rest of my
“ life at a distance from Paris, when the
“ education of the princes shall be
“ finished ; that this is all artifice and

“deceit, and that my resolution is to
 “remain, that the Duchesse d’Orleans
 “has no real confidence in me, and only
 “affects to have for the sake of peace.
 “Many things were said by the Abbé
 “in a similar spirit respecting all that be-
 “longed to me: in short, my whole
 “conduct was arraigned by him, and I
 “was condemned in every thing. The
 “Duke

* It may not be improper to observe that, particularly during the past four or five months, the Abbé and I had lived upon terms of considerable intimacy. I knew indeed that at heart he had some jealousy, and that my success in the education was a source of displeasure that his reason could not surmount; but I persuaded myself that he had ceased to hate me, I felt an esteem for him, and was so confident of his integrity, that, I would not believe my friends, who were continually repeating to me, that I ought to be on my guard against him, and that he was continually aspersing my character. It is true that, on his part, the Abbé did every thing in his power to deceive me in this respect: he was lavish in protestations of friendship, to which he gave a degree of expression that

“ Duke de-Chartres burst into tears as he
 “ made this confession, and his brother,
 “ who was present and in tears, said to
 “ every particular as it was enumerat-
 “ ed : *It is true, nothing can be more true.*
 “ I desire the Abbé to answer imme-
 “ diately in the Journal to all these
 “ things. He has no need either of
 “ time or consideration. The answer I

that bordered upon tenderness and sensibility; he never praised me for any thing relative to the education, but on other points his encomiums were excessive. I was sensible of their extravagance, but I could not persuade myself that, after holding such language before so many witnesses, it was possible for him to calumniate me in the world. Two days preceding that on which the Duke de Chartres made this strange confession, the Abbé read aloud in my apartment, in presence of eight persons, a tale written by himself and of which I was the *heroine*. In this little performance he extols my *sensibility and the goodness of my heart*, and compares me to a *benignant fairy*, &c. and the very next morning he described me to my pupils as *proud, hypocritical and odious*. I have preserved the tale, which is in the hand-writing of its author.

“ demand (and I have a right to de-
“ mand it) must be clear, positive, direct,
“ article by article, and written without
“ a moment's delay in the Journal: M.
“ Lebrun will wait for it, and bring
“ it me. I have written this in less
“ than half an hour, and the answer
“ need not take a longer time.—I ought
“ to add in this Journal that the two
“ princes have also declared, that these
“ conversations had never passed in pre-
“ sence of M. Lebrun, *because no one*
“ *would have dared to say such things be-*
“ *fore him*, and it was for that reason
“ the time of the Latin lessons was
“ chosen, when M. Lebrun was not in
“ the apartment. I ought also to add
“ another indisputable truth, and for
“ which I have the same two witnesses
“ as have dictated this article: it is, that
“ I have never spoken to my pupils of
“ these gentlemen but to praise the
“ goodness of their hearts and their im-
“ maculate probity, to exhort them to
“ confide

“ confide in their preceptors, and cherish
“ for them sentiments of the tenderest
“ principles and the most lively grati-
“ tude. I have never asked the children
“ the most trivial question respecting what
“ passed between them and these gentle-
“ men, and that for two reasons: first
“ because I thought myself sure of being
“ informed of every particular and
“ every word by means of the Journal;
“ and secondly because I feared that by
“ interrogating them I might excite in
“ the children a suspicion that I had
“ not confidence in these gentlemen.—
“ The princes have just read this paper,
“ and desire to put their names to it
“ in attestation of the perfect accuracy
“ and truth of what it contains ”

“ Signed,

“ DUKE DE CHARTRES.

“ DUKE DE MONTPENSIER.”

•
* I did not send this long article to the Abbé
for reasons which will presently be seen. I had

Saturday, two o'clock.

“AFTER writing the preceding
 “article, I reflected that if I sent this
 “detail to the Abbé, conscious that he
 “had no excuse to assign, he would re-
 “fuse to answer or even acknowledge
 “that any mention had been made of
 “me : I have therefore simply written
 “the note annexed to this Journal *.
 “The

written it in the Journal, which I detained from M. Lebrun till the next day, contenting myself for the present with writing a note to the Abbé Guyot upon a separate piece of paper.

* This note, as I have observed, was upon a separate piece of paper. I only said in it, that M. de Chartres had informed me that, for eighteen months past, he had passed his Latin lessons in making complaints of me to the Abbé ; and without expressing myself in terms of strong resentment, I asked the Abbé how he could think of listening to such complaints, and why he had not informed me of the circumstance either in person or by means of the Journal ; and I demanded an immediate answer. From the tone of my note the Abbé was led to think that this was all the Duke had said to me :
 he

“ The Abbé sends me an answer in
“ which he confesses two things, the only
“ ones that I consider as of any import-
“ ance from his mouth. First, that it
“ is true the Duke de Chartres has for
“ a long time been accustomed to com-
“ plain and speak ill of me at the Latin
“ lessons. Secondly, that the Abbé has
“ not informed me of this, *because no*
“ *opportunity had offered*, and has not
“ mentioned it to M. Lebrun, as not
“ wishing *a circumstance of this nature to*
“ *be recorded in the Journal*. The Abbé
“ then, by his own confession, thought it
“ of great importance. In this he was
“ right. But how are we to believe that
“ during a period of eighteen months,
“ or even supposing it to be only six,
“ he has had no opportunity of inform-
“ ing me ? He has seen me every day ;

he flattered himself that the evil was not without remedy, and he answered as is stated above, by a note in his own hand-writing, which I shall be careful to preserve.

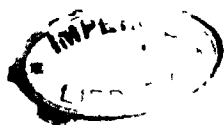
“ what should have prevented him from
 “ telling me that he had something of
 “ importance to communicate respecting
 “ the Duke de Chartres ? Does he not
 “ know that this would have been suffi-
 “ cient to have excited my attention
 “ and made me anxious to hear him ?
 “ Beside what should have hindered him
 “ from writing ? He has written page
 “ after page upon subjects of trivial con-
 “ cern, without mentioning a syllable of
 “ this matter. How are we to believe
 “ that he might not have silenced in the
 “ first instance a child so docile as the
 “ Duke de Chartres ? Why has this
 “ child never said any thing of a similar
 “ nature to M. Lebrun ? Because M.
 “ Lebrun would not have suffered it.
 “ How could the Abbé repeat every
 “ day before this child that he was of
 “ *a good, an excellent natural disposition ?*
 “ How redouble his kindness for him,
 “ shew him a thousand times more
 “ friendship than ever, and give so fa-
 “ vourable

“vourable an account of him in the
“Journal * ? He is indeed good ; the
“confession he has voluntarily made me
“proves it, and I will answer for his
“being one day an excellent, an admirable
“character : but all the efforts of
“M. Lebrun and myself might have
“been ineffectual and vain, if sincerity
“and remorse had not led the prince
“to a confession of the truth. I have
“now nothing farther to demand of the
“Abbé : it is not to be supposed that
“he will acknowledge facts of so horrible
“a nature as those contained in the
“declaration on the Journal, indisputable
“as they are. He has made the
“only confession it would be possible to
“extort from him. It is enough ; of
“the rest the Duke and Duchess

* The Abbé gave every day in the Journal an account of the Latin lessons, and since the period that these lessons had passed in speaking ill of me, the Journal repeated almost constantly this judgment : *Good lesson ; excellent Latin lesson, &c.*

d'Orleans

“ d’Orleans shall judge. In the mean
“ time I am expressly authorised by
“ them to tell the Abbé not to appear
“ before the children, till he has farther
“ orders, not to set his foot within their
“ apartment, and not to write to them.
“ M. Lebrun is charged with the care
“ of them. The Abbé may save him-
“ self the trouble of writing to me, as I
“ shall send his letters back without
“ opening them. He must now address
“ himself to the Duke and Duchess
“ d’Orleans. The Duke will return on
“ Monday, and will take the earliest op-
“ portunity of speaking to the Abbé.”



Reflections on the Abbé Guyot's answer, the original of which shall remain in this Journal.

THEY (*the princes*) have often told me that I was the subject of conversation at Belle Chasse and at Livri, that my conduct was severely criticised and blamed, and that I was not loved *

“ Unjust recrimination, replete with
 “ lies and absurdities. The Duke de
 “ Montpensier has never said a word;
 “ his brother did him this justice from
 “ the first moment, and still persists in
 “ asserting his innocence. If the chil-
 “ dren, or one of the children told him
 “ this, the Abbé either believed it or
 “ did not believe it; if he did believe
 “ it, how could he have professed before
 “ all the world so warm a friendship for

* The passages printed in Italics are the Abbé's; those marked with inverted commas are my reflections.

“ me?

“ me ? How, in presence of M. Lebrun
“ and five or six other persons at Livri,
“ could he have shed tears when he
“ spoke of his attachment, express-
“ ing himself at the same time in the
“ most affectionate terms ? If he did not
“ believe it, why was not this child re-
“ primanded in the severest manner for
“ a falsehood and calumny of so black
“ a nature ? How on the contrary could
“ the Abbé treat him with additional
“ kindness, and praise him every day
“ and upon all occasions for his excel-
“ lent character and disposition ? In ei-
“ ther case why did he not acquaint
“ me with the circumstance ? When I
“ undertook the education of the princes,
“ the Abbé was permitted to remain
“ upon the express condition, for which
“ he pledged his honour both by word
“ of mouth and in writing, *that he would*
“ *conceal nothing from me relative to the*
“ *children ; that he would inform me with*
“ *the most scrupulous accuracy of every thing*
“ *they*

“ they should say and do in my absence ;
 “ which was indeed the sole object of
 “ this Journal, and my only reason for
 “ instituting it.”

*I constantly told the Duke de Chartres
 that he ought not to bring me stories of this
 sort ;*

“ Constantly supposes that the stories
 “ were frequently repeated, and certain-
 “ ly a single word on the part of the
 “ Abbé, spoken with sincerity upon the
 “ first occasion that offered, would have
 “ silenced them for ever. *Ought not to*
 “ *bring me stories of this sort.* This ex-
 “ pression supposes the stories to be true,
 “ and does not blame them on their
 “ own account, but as brought to the
 “ Abbé. The true and becoming an-
 “ swer would have been, that I was al-
 “ together incapable of speaking ill of
 “ one of the instructors of my pupils,
 “ and that nothing could be more un-
 “ questionable than this, since Mon-
 “ seigneur and Madame would certainly
 “ not

“ not retain about the persons of their
 “ children a man in whom I did not
 “ place a confidence. It would have been
 “ true and becoming to have said, that
 “ the child must have mistaken my
 “ words or misapprehended my mean-
 “ ing ; and that the Abbé could not
 “ doubt of a friendship of which I had
 “ given him so many proofs.”

*That it was a proceeding by no means
 worthy of him ; that I certainly did my best
 to satisfy and please, and that I had no doubt
 of obtaining the success which my heart de-
 sired ; but that in any case I should always
 derive consolation from the testimony of my
 conscience, which a man who valued his
 tranquillity would at all times take care to
 ensure.*

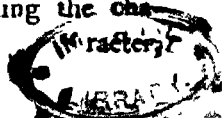
“ Who does not feel in all this cir-
 “ cumlocution and tautology the uncon-
 “ querable embarrassment of convicted
 “ dishonesty, desirous of denying its na-
 “ ture, and of artfully softening down
 “ what is imputed to it ? Who does not
 “ see

“ see in these double distilled insinuations
 “ the most direct complaint, and the most
 “ unequivocal censure? *I should always*
 “ *derive consolation from the testimony of*
 “ *my conscience.* Do not these words
 “ imply that consolation is necessary,
 “ and that the success is nothing less
 “ than certain? Do they not insinuate
 “ that my conduct is erroneous, and that
 “ my carriage is of a sort by no means
 “ calculated to inspire confidence? Is all
 “ this verbosity, and these unmanly in-
 “ sinuations, a part of the answer that
 “ ought to be made to a child who *adopts*
 “ *a proceeding by no means worthy of him?*
 “ Would it not have been better for the
 “ Abbé to have answered simply—*I am*
 “ *obliged by my duty to inform the Countess*
 “ *of all your conversation; I have passed*
 “ *my word that I would do so, and my*
 “ *situation and hers render it peculiarly*
 “ *indispensable: I shall record what you*
 “ *have said in the Journal, and if you offer*
 “ at

“ at any farther observations upon the same
 “ subject, they will also be recorded. I
 “ cannot persuade myself that, if the
 “ Abbé had thus spoken, the conversa-
 “ tions to which allusion is here made
 “ would have been often repeated, or
 “ in the first instance of any considerable
 “ length.”

*In other cases, where the conversation
 turned upon the paucity of business the Mar-
 chioness had left me, and which the Duke de
 Chartres treated in a jesting way,*

“ In a jesting way ! It appears then
 “ that the subject was sufficiently fami-
 “ liarized to the Duke, by the persons
 “ with whom he was conversing, to ena-
 “ ble him to treat it with frolic and jest.
 “ Certainly a familiarity like this had
 “ never experienced any considerable
 “ check, and at the same time the Abbé
 “ Guyot, who was the witness of these
 “ abortive jests, at my expence or his
 “ own, for that is not clearly expressed,
 “ was continually applauding the cha-



“rafter, fincerity, and openness of this
“child.”

*In a jesting way, telling me that he was
persuaded I did not know how to comport
myself under these new circumstances; I
constantly replied,*

“Constantly ! An air of repetition is
“always uppermost in these facts, and of
“consequence the jests, such as they were,
“were frequently made.”

*Replied, that I should be particularly
obliged to him to request the Marchioness to
be explicit with me upon this subject.*

“This is indeed a singular commi-
“sion. The beginning of the sentence
“led us to expect a grave and severe
“reprimand; no such thing: all that
“follows is a request, couching a strange
“sort of message, which assuredly was
“intended to bear the impression of se-
“vere irony.”

*Upon this subject, in which case I should
no doubt derive benefit from her censures, if
they*

they were just, or shew the error in which they were founded, if they were otherwise.

“ This stroke may with propriety be
“ styled a *jeſt worthy of Tartuſe* : the
“ hypocritical humility of the expreſſion
“ but thinly veils the ironical confidence
“ of the ſpeaker. Let me add, that
“ theſe long diſcourſes ſufficiently ſhew
“ the mutual confidence that prevailed
“ in the converſation. All was quiet
“ diſquiſition and tranquil dialogue.
“ The Abbé betrays no aſterity, no
“ diſlike of the topic, but repeats pom-
“ pous phraſes upon the ſubject without
“ end. He appears to believe every
“ thing that is told him, and when my
“ illiberality is deſcribed, he contents
“ himſelf with wiſhing that I would
“ make it perſonal, *in order that he might*
“ *derive benefit from my cenſures, if they*
“ *were juſt, or ſhew the error in which*
“ *they were founded, if they were other-*
“ *wiſe* ; and he probably expects, that I
“ ſhould find out this wiſh by divination,
“ ſince

“ since there is nothing that he appears
“ more anxious to conceal from my dis-
“ covery.”

*When I take a retrospect of the whole,
I am bold to declare that in this critical
situation,*

“ Critical ! How so ? Good sense and
“ integrity would have found no diffi-
“ culty in it.”

*Critical situation, I have displayed a
spirit of liberal justice towards the Mar-
chioness, and the purest moderation in what
respects myself. I should indeed have un-
doubtedly communicated the whole to her at
once, if liberty had been given, and opportu-
nity occurred for such communication.*

“ The stupidity of this passage is un-
“ paralleled. How is it possible that at
“ Livri, where we dined and supped
“ every day together ; at Paris, where
“ we dined together five times a week,
“ the Abbé Guyot should be in want of
“ opportunity or liberty to speak to me ?

“ It is true, that with respect to such
“ articles as were material to the educa-
“ tion, I required them *to be put in writ-*
“ *ing*; and the longer my experience
“ has been, the more judicious does this
“ method appear : but I was never ridi-
“ culous enough not to admit of an ex-
“ ception from this rule. My inflexibi-
“ lity has only respected the contests that
“ have occurred between these gentle-
“ men and myself ;⁷ in other respects, I
“ have a thousand times discoursed with
“ them about the children, and heard
“ from their own mouths many particu-
“ lars relative to their language, their
“ sentiments and their conduct, as this
“ Journal frequently testifies. The
“ phrase will more than once be found—
“ *I do not enter into particulars upon this*
“ *article, because I have given a verbal*
“ *account of it to Madame de Genlis.*’ He
“ would have *communicated the whole to*
“ *me at once* : and yet eighteen months
“ are

“ are elapsed, and not a syllable has been
 “ uttered upon the subject. On the
 “ contrary, he has every day repeated
 “ his eulogium of the Duke de Char-
 “ tres, he has seen me often in private,
 “ he has by his own desire a thousand
 “ times conversed with me alone respect-
 “ ing his own affairs, his brother’s, &c.
 “ and he has written me a hundred let-
 “ ters, all of enormous length, and not
 “ one containing a word of this impor-
 “ tant article.”

It has been only since last winter, pretty much about the time of Lent, that the Duke de Chartres has complained to me of the manner in which the Manchionejs treated him. At first I told him that he ought not to suffer it to give him pain.

“ *At first!* It is very remarkable that
 “ the Abbé stops there, and does not
 “ tell us what he said in the sequel.
 “ *That he ought not to suffer it to give him*
 “ *pain,* is a mode of expression that is

“incapable of being interpreted in a
“good sense. We ought to feel pain,
“severe pain, when we are justly repre-
“hended ; without that no error can be
“corrected. It is impossible to say to
“any one that he ought not to suffer a
“thing *to give him pain*, unless the thing
“itself be absurd and unworthy of no-
“tice.”

*That the strong expressions she employed,
were no unanswerable proof of her opinion
that his dispositions were erroneous and dis-
graceful.*

“What can we infer from this jumble
“of words, except that the Duke was
“to pay no attention to my reprimands,
“because I did not know the meaning of
“what I said?”

*They only proved the zeal of the Marchi-
oness for his welfare ; that it depended
upon himself to put an end to what occasioned
him so sensible a mortification, by exerting
all his diligence in the strict discharge of his
duty,*

duty, and that the more acutely he felt the treatment he received, the greater attention and effort he ought to exert.

• “ Such, even if we should give the
“ most implicit credit to the Abbé, was.
“ his mode of repelling the complaints
“ that were made against me ; such was
“ *at first* his language : and most cer-
“ tainly such language at first was calcu-
“ lated to encourage a repetition of
“ complaint. In spite of the hypocrisy
“ and falsehood that betray themselves in
“ every line, the Abbe has not the cou-
“ rage once to affirm that he asserted my
“ justice, the propriety of my reprimands,
“ and the discretion of my remarks.
“ Had he vindicated me in one single
“ instance, is it to be believed that he
“ would not have told of it ? He has not
“ even the courage to affirm that he once
“ told the Duke de Chartres that he was
“ in the wrong, or that he ought to be
“ persuaded that he was in the wrong.

“since I had thought it necessary to re-
buke him.”

I often told him that it was very improper to bring his complaints to me, and that I certainly would put them in the Journal if he continued them.

“If the Abbé said this often, he has
as often broke his word. What an
example in every respect has he been
exhibiting to his pupils !”

Sometimes at the lessons this sort of conversation continued for a long while.

“Observe we have here the Abbé’s
own confession for this material ar-
ticle.”

And I did not put an end to them, but by threatening afresh to insert them in the Journal. I did not put my threat into execution because I was unwilling to give them the permanent and unequivocal form that the Journal implied.

“Why not ? Why not publish them
in the Journal de Paris ? The present
Journal

“ Journal was peculiarly adapted for
“ that purpose, since it owed its existence
“ to motives of a similar nature. But if
“ the Abbé could not bear to think of a
“ Journal, why did not he write me a
“ letter upon the subject ?”

*It certainly was not a wish to hear the
complaints repeated, or a desire to lead to so
unpleasant a topic ; but a motive of politeness
and esteem for the Marchioness, that pre-
vented my having recourse to this expe-
dient.*

“ As much as to say that the com-
“ plaints were of so heavy a nature, and
“ would have so deeply wounded my
“ reputation, that the Abbé, out of pure
“ kindness to me, could not bear the
“ thought of their being placed upon
“ record. It is indeed impossible to say
“ whether politeness, frankness, or ho-
“ nesty constitute the most leading fea-
“ ture of this conduct.”

In every thing that passed upon the subject.

“ These are the last words of the
“ Abbé Guyot’s reply. The construc-
“ tion implies that there is something
“ wanting to complete the sentence; but
“ this is all that the Abbé gave to M
“ Lebrun; and his understanding was so
“ confounded, that it is no wonder he
“ found himself a little abruptly at the
“ end of his reasons.

“ The conclusion from the whole of
“ this insidious paper, evidently a fabri-
“ cation in every part of its detail, is that
“ the Abbé, however cased in the mail
“ of hypocrisy and falsehood, was unable,
“ pressed as he was for an immediate
“ answer, and ignorant that I was mistress
“ of all the particulars, to avoid the d -
“ ciive confession, that for eighteen
“ months past the period of the Latin
“ lessons was spent in invectives and
“ complaints against me. His place,
“ our

“ our reciprocal connection, the word of
“ honour which he had given, and the
“ first and most indispensable of his du-
“ ties, commanded him to give me an
“ immediate account of the whole.
“ What has been his actual conduct ?
“ He has never uttered a word to me
“ upon the subject, and he redoubled
“ his caresses and eulogiums of the Duke
“ de Chartres, precisely from the com-
“ mencement of that period : Abbé
“ Guyot, preceptor to the prince, and
“ ordained to the sacred office, has suf-
“ fered him to communicate for the first
“ time in the sacrament of the mass, un-
“ der these circumstances, without repa-
“ ration and without penitence. Such
“ are the facts that now stand proved
“ under his own hand. After this, what
“ faith is to be placed in his denying
“ that it was he who excited the com-
“ plaints of the child, and poisoned his
“ mind ; his manner of denying it proves

" its truth. The Abbé has always en-
 " vied and hated me ; for a time how-
 " ever he observed in his conduct to-
 " wards the children some constraint,
 " and did not begin to display his ran-
 " cour till he had secured his church pre-
 " ferment of twelve thousand livres a
 " year ; the risk would before have been
 " too great. He might by a single word
 " have put an eternal stop to these con-
 " versations, and by his own confession
 " they have continued for more than a
 " year, and the Journal has in general
 " given a favourable account of the La-
 " tin lessons, particularly during the last
 " six months. These, I believe, are
 " proofs as complete as can be desired
 " of the wickedness of this man, whose
 " conduct is as devoid of penetration as
 " it is contemptible. The first im-
 " pulse

* The absurdity of this conduct is indeed incon-
 ceivable ; but the Abbé, knowing that I never
 questioned

“ pulse of my mind was to request the
“ Duke and Duchefs d’Orleans to for-
“ give the Abbé, and in this resolution
“ I have perfifted for two days : but
“ they are of opinion, that to fhew the
“ leaft indulgence in a cafe of fuch fla-
“ grant deceit and malignity will be a
“ pernicious example to their children ;
“ and this reflection is fo juft that I am
“ angry with myfelf that it did not im-
“ mediately occur to me. The Journal
“ proves that, had my credulity been
“ lefs, the Abbé’s conduct is •precifely
“ what I ought to have expected ; a
“ thoufand instances are there apparent
“ of his envy and hatred againft me, of
“ his infincerity and extreme falfehood,

questioned the children refpecting what paffed be-
tween them and thefe gentlemen, knowing that I
was perfectly free from fufpicion, and that I ima-
gined every the minuteft particular to be recorded in
the Journal, never fupposed that the Duke de Char-
tres would have either the fortitude or the fincerity
to tell me of his own accord things of this nature.

“ of the narrowness of his understanding
“ and his extravagant pride, of the most
“ limited and erroneous views, and the
“ most absurd mode of reasoning. These
“ facts are particularly demonstrated in
“ the year 1785 ; and whoever shall read
“ this part of the Journal only, will per-
“ fectly understand the Abbé’s character
“ and disposition, and will perhaps be
“ astonished that, with the authority I
“ possessed, I extended so far my pa-
“ tience, indulgence and credulity.
“ The Abbé has certainly done no in-
“ considerable injury to my work of edu-
“ cation, and I should at present have
“ greater reason to rejoice in the success
“ of my efforts, had he possessed the in-
“ tegrity and merit of M. Lebrun : but
“ the injury is not irreparable. The
“ fault of the Duke de Chartres is a very
“ common one ; and the ‘ confession he
“ has voluntarily made, without any in-
“ terrogation, any suspicion on my part,
“ is

“ is a proof of generosity, ingenuof-
 “ nefs, and an excellent heart. There
 “ is not one child in a hundred that can
 “ refist the pleasure of complaining when
 “ the person whom he beft loves reprim-
 “ mands him *, and that will not, at fuch
 “ a time, readily listen to any ill that

* It is to be remarked, that, particularly in his infancy, I reprimanded the Duke de Chartres much more frequently than the other children, becaufe he had a number of anticks and disagreeable habits, trifling indeed in themselves, but of which I thought it absolutely necessary to break him. Meanwhile he loved me with sincere affection, for a better heart than his does not exist; and he was truly unhappy when we were upon bad terms. At first the Abbé appeared to pity him, and thus became his confident in this respect; afterwards he attempted to incense his mind against me, and destroy in him that lively gratitude and natural regard which I never failed to experience. The Abbé did not succeed, but he was listened to by a child of eleven years, whose principles were unformed, and who knew that his complaisance would be rewarded with this account on the Journal: *Excellent Latin lesson.*

“ may be spoken of that person. My
“ daughters, whose dispositions were so
“ amiable, and who certainly loved me
“ with tenderness, were not exempt
“ from this fault, they have a thousand
“ times confessed to me in the course of
“ their education, that they had said in
“ their moments of chagrin to the femmes
“ de chambre who attended them, that
“ I was *unjust, tyrannical, and extrava-*
“ *gantly severe.* It is of importance that
“ children should never have about them
“ persons who will tolerate such discourse.
“ In the case of the Duke de Chartres
“ there was an additional temptation,
“ that of being excused from a tiresome
“ lesson in a language which he did not
“ like, of being treated with kindness by
“ the Abbé, and of knowing that I should
“ read a favourable account of him in
“ the Journal. One thing, however,
“ may be said in the Duke’s praise, that
“ since the period when these conversa-
“ tions

“ tions first began, his friendship for the
“ Abbé has very perceptibly diminish-
“ ed ; and I have long observed that all
“ his affection and preference, as well
“ as those of his brother, were ex-
“ clusively turned upon M. Lebrun.
“ It was that he despised the one
“ and esteemed the other. Thus what
“ the Duke de Chartres has done is
“ very excusable, and the manner in
“ which he has repaired it is entitled to
“ commendation ; and the conduct of
“ his brother is perhaps unexampled at
“ such an age. The first has com-
“ mitted no fault that need give us any
“ apprehensions as to the future, and
“ the second has displayed for the space
“ of eighteen months a degree of virtue
“ and firmness that would do honour to
“ a youth of fifteen years . There is
“ therefore

* It is true that M. de Montpensier was reprimanded by me less frequently, because he had more good qualities, and that I gave him fewer things to study, because he had not the astonishing memory of
of

“ therefore in all this nothing assuredly
 “ that could give us pain, but the con-
 “ trary. What however might have
 “ been the consequence if the Duke de
 “ Chartres had not made this confession !
 “ I cannot think of it without shudder-
 “ ing. My security in this respect was
 “ perfect ; I should never have disco-
 “ vered the truth, and the Duke might
 “ have been corrupted and irretrievably
 “ ruined ; without taking into the ac-
 “ count that the princes would never
 “ have understood a word of the Latin

of his brother. Beside the Abbé was more anxious
 to gain the eldest, merely from the consideration of
 his being the eldest. I can say however, without the
 fear of contradiction, that the conduct of M. de
 Montpensier announced at that time all the qualities
 that at present adorn his character. When I asked
 him why he had not informed me of these conver-
 sations, he replied : *I should have done so had I shared*
in my brother's fault ; but I was, unwilling to be my
brother's accuser. I have written an account of all
 these particulars in my private Journal, but have sup-
 pressed them in the printed fragments, because it was
 then my determination not to speak of these quarrels.

“ language :

“ language : but this gave the Abbé no
“ concern ; he had his answer ready : he
“ had continually repeated that I did
“ not allow sufficient time for this study,
“ and he would have thrown the whole
“ blame upon me alone

* The following letter was written to me by M. d’Orleans relative to the Abbé Guyot, whom he saw the day after my writing the above article in the Journal.

“ The Abbé is oppressed with grief, is unable to
“ say a word in his own vindication, and acknow-
“ ledges the impropriety and injustice of his conduct.
“ He always wished, he says, to act otherwise, but
“ was never able. I told him that he must never again
“ appear before me or the children, and must give
“ up his apartment on Sunday. He replied : *I*
“ *am then in the most horrid disgrace.* He withdrew,
“ his countenance pale as death. I have just spoken
“ to M. Lebrun, as was agreed between us. I am
“ glad that this affair is at an end, and I hope you
“ will have no future cause for chagrin in the educa-
“ tion of our children, &c.”

I have carefully preserved the original of this letter.

Note

*Note of M. le Couj :essor to the
Abbé G*

WHEN I had the honour of giving, about two months ago, my first lesson to the princes in the Latin language, I found that they had made very little proficiency, considering the time that appears to have been devoted to this

* M. le Couppey was equally learned both in the Greek and Latin languages, which he taught our pupils with singular zeal and success, and I constantly found in him the most sure and the most delightful society. How happy should I have been had he always occupied the place of the person whom he succeeded!—The world has thought it strange that I did not choose an ecclesiastic to supply the Abbé Guyot: priests were offended and bigots railed at me. But I as little regarded them as I did the atheists and irreligious persons whose resentment I had drawn upon myself by my publications. To say and do what I conceive to be virtuous and useful, will ever be the only rule of my conduct.

study

study. I have been obliged to return to the first rudiments of grammar, upon which too much stress cannot be laid when the object is to teach a learned language by the mode of principle and analysis; a method infinitely to be preferred to that of uninstructed and random practice, which has been attempted to be substituted in its room. I then passed to a work that by its nature excludes long periods, which are always embarrassing to a beginner: I speak of the *Colloques of Erasmus*, the Latin of which is sufficiently pure without being too difficult. For the sake of variety, both as to their studies and as to style, I have thought proper to add to this first author an easy historian, who gives an abridged life of the principal personages of ancient Rome, whose names and exploits are already familiar to the princes. By means of this previous knowledge the meaning of the writer is astonishingly facilitated, and they have nothing to attend

tend to but the words of this new language.

Note of Madame de Sillery, 1787.

“ MY health has not permitted me to
 “ answer sooner an article in the Journal of
 “ the sixth of this month. M. Lebrun ap-
 “ pears in it to blame the Duke de Chartres
 “ for having given me an account of
 “ some words that fell from M. Lebrun
 “ relative to me. He calls this action
 “ by the name of *tale bearing*; it de-
 “ serves it not in the odious acceptation
 “ of that word: the Duke de Chartres
 “ simply discharged a duty Monseigneur
 “ and Madame, after the cruel affair of
 “ the Abbé Guyot, expressly enjoined
 “ him never to suffer any person con-
 “ cerned in the education to speak a
 “ word or even the most indirect cen-
 “ sure against me, without informing
 “ me of it and telling the person
 “ chargeable

“chargeable with such indiscretion
“that he should do so. This has been
“precisely the conduct of the Duke
“de Chartres in the present instance,
“and he is only to blame for not having
“immediately said to M. Lebrun that
“he meant to tell me of it. To be a
“*tale bearer* is to repeat unnecessarily
“an imprudent conversation, for the
“sake of creating dissensions and ani-
“mosities, without the knowledge of
“the person cited, and by expressly de-
“siring that he may not be informed of
“it. It is indispensable that I should
“know in what manner the persons
“connected with the education speak of
“me to my pupils, and that they di-
“minish in no instance, not even in the
“most trifling things (in important
“things they cannot) the respect and
“affection which my pupils owe me.
“Beside the Duke de Chartres com-
“plied with the order of his father, an
“order for which there was too much
“reason,

“ reason, from the perfidy of which I
“ had been the object. He was not at
“ all desirous that M. Lebrun should be
“ ignorant of this proceeding ; he acted
“ the part neither of a traitor nor of a
“ busy-body ; on the contrary, he was
“ faithful to his word, and displayed
“ upon this occasion both integrity and
“ firmness : he has not therefore been
“ a tale bearer, he has done what was
“ his duty *.—M. Lebrun says : *How*
“ *can it be supposed that I should now have*

* M. Lebrun, who took it amiss that the Duke de Chartres had informed me of an instance in which my conduct had been censured, allowed himself, a few days after, respecting a jest that I mentioned in confidence before him, secretly to repeat it to the person who was the object of it, and whom it highly offended. For myself, I at this very time laid an injunction on the Duke de Chartres and his brother never in future to inform me of any thing that might be said against me by M. Lebrun or others ; adding, that I committed to them the care of defending me on such occasions, &c. These particulars may be seen in the first volume of this publication.

“ spoken

*“ spoken ill of Madame de Sillery, when it
“ is well known that I did not speak ill of
“ her upon occasions that have formerly oc-
“ curred? This is not properly speaking
“ the question; and unless a person should
“ descend to calumny like the Abbé
“ Guyot, I may safely put the speaking
“ ill of me at defiance. But to censure
“ the arrangements I make, is an indif-
“ cretion which a man of M. Lebrun’s
“ age and circumspection ought not to
“ allow himself. I will add, that, in the
“ confession made by the Duke de Char-
“ tres, respecting the Abbé Guyot, though
“ it be indeed true that he acknowledged
“ M. Lebrun had never spoken ill of me,
“ and that the Abbé had not dared do it
“ in his presence, yet the Duke said at
“ the same time that M. Lebrun very
“ frequently indulged himself in slight
“ animadversions on my conduct both
“ directly and indirectly. I did not record
“ this trivial fault in the Journal, because*

“ I did not think it of sufficient moment,
“ and because what I wrote was imme-
“ diately to be submitted to the inspec-
“ tion of Monseigneur and Madame.
“ Beside, considering the extreme inti-
“ macy that subsisted between the Abbé
“ and M. Lebrun, I was not at all asto-
“ nished at this ; I was satisfied with the
“ certainty that M. Lebrun had not been
“ so far seduced as to forget what he
“ owed to me and to his own situation,
“ and I readily excused these trivial er-
“ rors, which did not lessen the opinion
“ I had ever entertained of M. Lebrun’s
“ integrity and honour. I even thought
“ it right not to mention them, and but
“ for the trifling event that has happened
“ I should always have been silent upon
“ the subject. Meanwhile there is in
“ all this nothing that shall diminish my
“ regard for M. Lebrun, or make me
“ depart from the resolution I formed,
“ when I first took upon myself the
“ charge of the education, to live upon
“ terms

“ terms of good understanding with the
“ persons appointed to assist me, to shew
“ upon all occasions the same gentleness
“ and forbearance, and to exhibit marks
“ of sincere friendship to all who shall
“ be disposed to display kindness to me.

Saturday, 12 May 1787.

AT half after six I looked into the Journal, and read with attention the note of the Marchioness. I resume the subject only to assure her that in future she shall never have the smallest reason to reproach me, and that I do not recollect ever having allowed myself in any censure directly or indirectly before our pupils in the Abbé's time, though we sometimes complained to each other when we imagined that we had cause for complaint. I have before frankly acknowledged this, and expressed my regret to the Marchioness: she assured me that it should be buried in oblivion. I
count

count upon her friendship, and trust that I shall merit it by the sincerity and ardour of my attachment.

Sunday, 12 August 1787.

Note of Madame de Sillery.

“IN justice to the Duke de Chartres I
“ ought to observe in this place, that
“ he has voluntarily expressed a desire to
“ expend the whole of his ten louis in
“ charitable actions. I told him that he
“ would do well to employ a part of it
“ in that way, but that he might also
“ purchase some trifling things for him-
“ self. He has purchased some boxes.
“ one for me, which I have refused, and
“ another for my mother. Of his own
“ accord he gave a louis to the man
“ whom he had ordered to call upon
“ him, and another to an old man in
“ distress, whose two children he also
“ furnished with proper clothing: in
“ fine,

“ fine, he came to me again this morning
“ to tell me that he was inclined to give
“ all he had left to a certain poor woman.
“ I advised him to give her twelve livres,
“ to ask a similar sum of his brother, and
“ we thus collected for this poor woman
“ two louis. These things afford me
“ extreme pleasure ; they are the fruit
“ of the sentiments we have taught them,
“ and it is just that M. Lebrun should
“ be informed of this conduct, and par-
“ take of my satisfaction.”

26 November 1787.

THE Marchioness has done me the fa-
vour to renew her assurances that she
would be glad to see me as often as pos-
sible, on any of the days of the week
without exception, to dinner at Belle
Chasse ; assuring me at the same time
that she should not think herself neglect-
ed whenever I might be disposed to dine
with any of my acquaintance : on this

head she left me at full liberty, satisfied that whether I came oftener or seldomer my attachment would be the same: in this decision she has done no more than justice to my sentiments. She further added, that as she saw company on Sunday, she should be glad I would come on that day, as an unequivocal proof of the harmony between us. She has directed me to write to her by the appellation of friend, has desired that I would employ that epithet in speaking to her before her pupils, and has kindly approved of my making use before strangers of such expressions as may best convey the respect I feel, and the attachment with which I am penetrated. I acknowledge this condescension with gratitude, and hope she will have reason to be satisfied with my returns*.

* I was very much satisfied at that moment, and I wrote upon the Journal assurances of a friendship that I hoped would last for ever. But I soon experienced a repetition of the same reserve and captiousness.

Note

Monday, 9 June 1788.

Note of Madame de Sillery.

" I HAVE just been reading the Jour-
 " nal, and I see with extreme surprise a
 " very bitter complaint on the part of
 " M. Lebrun, dated 3 June. M. Le-
 " brun says that for twelve months past
 " I have *treated him ill*. I do not like
 " these vague accusations ; they remind
 " me too much of the Abbé Guyot.
 " In what do I treat M. Lebrun ill ? I
 " dine here with no one but himself and
 " the children : without treating him ill
 " I might dine *alone* with them, which
 " would be agreeable to the etiquette
 " that has always been observed. With-
 " out treating him ill I might invite
 " other persons to this table ; but I ad-
 " mit no one else. Beside I behave at
 " all times to M. Lebrun with uniform
 " civility and kindness ; for a year I
 " have never spoken to him but to say
 D 2 " obliging

“ obliging things, and there has not been
“ the shadow of any misunderstanding or
“ asperity. Let us not revive past bick-
“ erings; we live in peace, let us conti-
“ nue thus. I have reason to praise, in
“ every respect, the estimable conduct
“ of M. Lebrun, and his vigilant cares:
“ it is a justice that I am eager and de-
“ lighted to render him upon all occa-
“ sions. He discharges his duty towards
“ the princes with as much punctuality as
“ zeal and understanding, we have had
“ neither quarrels, nor ill humour, nor
“ disputes. What is he desirous of more?
“ That we should live upon terms of
“ greater intimacy? I will frankly tell
“ him that our characters and modes of
“ thinking stand in the way of this.
“ Our respective situations are another
“ obstacle, and I observe this intimacy
“ with no person concerned in the edu-
“ cation. I have a real esteem and con-
“ siderable friendship for M. Lebrun,
“ and I feel a sincere and lively interest
“ in

“ in whatever relates to him ; but he is
“ too little communicative, he has a cer-
“ tain reserve and captiousness too much
“ in contrast with my character for inti-
“ macy ever to exist between us To
“ endeavor any one to me, simplicity, ex-
“ treme frankness, and acute sensibility
“ are indispensable. M. Lebrun has all
“ the virtues that I esteem and admire ;
“ but he is deficient in certain qualities
“ that can alone attract me, place me at
“ my ease and inspire my confidence.
“ When he shall complain of me again in
“ the Journal, I beg that he will not
“ make use of vague expressions, but re-
“ late facts. Indefinite accusations are
“ always insidious ; when we accuse a
“ person of a wrong we ought to adduce
“ proofs. For my own part I do not
“ accuse M. Lebrun : I have nothing
“ but encomiums to bestow on his vir-
“ tuous and immaculate conduct : one
“ thing however I could desire of him,
“ and that is that he would recollect the

“ particulars of my behaviour and his
 “ since the period that our acquaintance
 “ commenced, and that he would be as
 “ just towards me as I am towards him .”

Tuesday, 10 June 1788.

Note of Madame de Sully.

“ I S P E A K all that I think and all
 “ that I feel to those whom I love ; be-
 “ tween us therefore the party could
 “ never be equal : *circumspection, pru-*
 “ *dence* and *diffimulation*, I conceive to
 “ be crimes in friendship ; I wish to be
 “ paid in the coin I can give, particular-
 “ ly as there is sufficient simplicity and I
 “ will venture to say excellence in my
 “ character, for a person to tell me all
 “ his thoughts without the risk of incon-

* To this M. Lebrun wrote in the Journal a very
 pleasing answer ; he renewed his protestations of
 gratitude and friendship, in which I once more be-
 lieved.

“ venience.

“ venience. This ingenuously is what
“ keeps me at a distance from you, and
“ the obstacle appears to me to be insur-
“ mountable, as it results from the nature
“ of our characters. In the mean time,
“ what you have written has sensibly
“ touched and even softened my heart,
“ an effect that was the more readily
“ produced from the friendship which I
“ have ever had, and ever shall have for
“ you, in spite of the incongruity of
“ our dispositions. But can I open my
“ heart, this heart so disposed to confi-
“ dence, so full of sincerity, to the man
“ who never opens his more than half,
“ and who has a thousand petty cautions
“ and reserves? I speak to you as if
“ you saw my soul unveiled: consider
“ this with your usual perspicacity, and
“ you will possibly be at no loss to un-
“ derstand the reasons which I assign to
“ you, without parade, but with the
“ purest and most inviolable sincerity.

“ When you write to me in this agree-
 “ able and charming manner, it makes
 “ a lively impress on me, and I con-
 “ ceive that the intimacy of which you
 “ seem so desirous and which would be
 “ so pleasing to me, is about to take
 “ place ; but afterwards, when I observe,
 “ even in the minutest trifles, your cold-
 “ ness, circumspection, &c. my heart
 “ despairs.—In spite of all this, be as-
 “ sured that the smallest proof of your
 “ friendship will ever be esteemed and
 “ valued by me, and that I shall at all
 “ times feel an active interest in your
 “ welfare and happiness.—Good night,
 “ my friend ; for if the closest intimacy
 “ cannot subsist between us, my heart
 “ will at least always place you in the
 “ rank of its friends whenever you shall
 “ shew me any marks of sensibility.

.

.

“ Our mutual misfortune proceeds from
 “ a false calculation that you have made.

“ Placed

“ Placed here as my friend, you might,
“ by an intimate union and alliance with
“ me (I will speak it without circum-
“ locution, for I hate false modesty), have
“ merited and acquired a friend worthy
“ of you, and at the same time consider-
“ able honour. But you have been de-
“ sirous of keeping fair with every body ;
“ you imagined that by giving me an
“ insight into the characters, by acquaint-
“ ing me with the negligences of the
“ masters and the faults of the domestics,
“ you should act the part of an informer.
“ From your Journal one would suppose
“ that you had never seen a master give
“ a lesson negligently, &c. for not an
“ instance of this kind is recorded.
“ Meanwhile I see myself the very re-
“ verse, and certainly there is more re-
“ straint when I am present than before
“ you. There are defects in my charac-
“ ter, I am as quick and rapid in action
“ as a girl of fifteen. I am impatient,
“ and easily excited to warmth of ex-

“ preffion ; but I am not wanting either
“ in juſtice, indulgence, or kindneſs ;
“ frienſhip and mildneſs have the ut-
“ moſt power over me ; I am incapable
“ of hatred and revenge, and always diſ-
“ poſed to hear reaſon. In fine, it is
“ certain that in educating theſe children
“ I have but one end in view, that of
“ doing good ; that I am actuated nei-
“ ther by intereſt, nor caprice, nor
“ contrariety ; that the good of the
“ education is the only motive that in-
“ fluences me. You ought to have im-
“ bibed all my ſentiments, and adopted
“ all my plans, relative to our common
“ enterprize, to have acted as if we had
“ been one and the ſame perſon, and had
“ in this reſpect nothing to conceal from
“ each other. Is a father, who tells the
“ mother of the family every thing that
“ he ſees and diſcovers in the houſe, an
“ informer ? A common intereſt, par-
“ ticularly when that intereſt is of an ele-
“ vated

“vated and sacred order, admits of no
“reserve between the persons concerned
“in it. Such should have been our
“conduct, and how greatly would the
“education have gained by it!

.
“What is done cannot be recalled; let
“us forget the past. We have still four
“years to live together, and those the
“most important of the education. If
“these reflections penetrate and work
“conviction in you, all may yet be re-
“paired. Give me your friendship,
“your unreserved confidence, feel for
“our enterprise the same ardour as I do,
“abjure for ever all unworthy caution
“and circumspection, and see only the
“children and a friend whom you may
“attach to you by the tenderest of all
“ties*.”

* This produced no change in the sentiments of M. Lebrun; and I was at last convinced that his heart was one of those which are so inaccessible to friendship, that no conduct and no kindness can win them.

Tuesday, 18 November 1788.

THE elder prince has no money ; he has remitted all that I had advanced him to M. Etienne ; I suspect for whom, but this reserve towards me I see with pain.

Note of Madame de Sillery.

“ I DO not understand this *pain*. The
 “ money is applied to the relief of a
 “ person in distress, of whom M. Lebrun
 “ has no knowledge : it is with grief
 “ and uneasiness that he receives an alms,
 “ and as he knows M. Etienne and not
 “ M. Lebrun, he would be mortified
 “ if the latter were admitted into his se-
 “ cret. It is strange that M. Lebrun
 “ should desire to be let into a secret of
 “ this sort. Formerly Abbé Guyot had
 “ acquaintance with a man who stood in
 “ need of relief ; he requested me to
 “ permit

“ permit the princes to succour him, and
“ I consented ; he was willing to have
“ told me the name of his unfortunate
“ friend, but I stopped him ; the dis-
“ tressed person had confided his neces-
“ sities to him and not to me.”

Tuesday, 22 September 1789.

Note of Madame de Sillery.

“ I CANNOT guess why M. Lebrun
“ expresses himself thus : *My task would*
“ *be too severe, if the Countess should take*
“ *for granted, in disputes between the Duke*
“ *de Chartres and me, that I am in the*
“ *wrong.* I venture to affirm that this
“ is infinitely unjust, as the Journal in-
“ deed proves. I have frequently re-
“ monstrated with M. Lebrun in the
“ Journal, respecting things which I
“ have not approved in him ; but there
“ is no instance to be found of my ever
“ having hesitated to condemn the
“ princes, the moment M. Lebrun
“ com-

“ complained of them ; and I have con-
“ tinually punished them, and that in
“ the severest manner, on such occasions.
“ I am sorry that M. Lebrun should
“ appear to be tired of what he calls his
“ *task* ; and in my opinion the sentiment
“ he ought to entertain towards these
“ amiable children might have dictated
“ to him, in the room of this word, a
“ more just and becoming expression.
“ I flatter myself that a little reflection
“ will dissipate this momentary ill-hu-
“ mour. In the article of yesterday M.
“ Lebrun says, that the Duke de Chartres
“ has a habit of answering him in an
“ improper manner ; and of frequently
“ resisting his orders. He will permit
“ me to attribute this reproach to a sud-
“ den impulse of anger, since, had it
“ been true, these improprieties would
“ have been stated in the *Journal* ; and
“ we need only look into it to be con-
“ vinced, that, for seven or eight months
“ past, no complaint of this kind has
“ been

“ been made, except against the Duke
“ de Montpensier. Though I condemn
“ the Duke de Chartres for having read
“ seven minutes longer than M. Lebrun
“ wished, yet I conceive it to be a fault
“ which we ought to pardon in consider-
“ ation of his habitual goodness and
“ docility; and I dare answer for him that
“ it will not happen again.”

23 September 1789.

Note of Madame de Sillery.

“ I REPRIMANDED the Duke de
“ Chartres yesterday evening upon the
“ subject of the complaint M. Lebrun
“ had made against him. He acknow-
“ ledged, with his usual frankness, that
“ he acted improperly in continuing to
“ read a few minutes longer than was
“ agreeable to M. Lebrun; but he said,
“ at the same time, that M. Lebrun was
“ mistaken in supposing it to be *seven or*
“ *eight* minutes, and that it was not more
“ than

“ than four; that he read standing before
“ the fire, opposite to the clock; that
“ M. Lebrun was in bed, was unable
“ to see the clock, and could therefore
“ only guess at this short space of time;
“ but that the exact truth was four mi-
“ nutes*. He added that as to the re-
“ proach of M. Lebrun, that he fre-
“ quently answered him in an improper
“ manner and refused to do immedi-
“ ately what he was desired, the very
“ reverse was proved by the Journal it-
“ self; which is true. In short, he as-
“ sured me that his answers had been free
“ from pettishness or warmth; and he re-
“ quested me to send for M. Lebrun,
“ that he might say these things to his
“ face. I replied that there was no ne-
“ cessity of putting M. Lebrun to incon-
“ venience for such trifles. He pro-

* He had employed those few spare moments in reading the Journals which gave an account of the proceedings of the National Assembly.

“ misfed

“ mised me that he would redouble his
“ efforts to satisfy M. Lebrun, and I
“ assured him that I should otherwise
“ not be satisfied myself.”

Monday, 5 October 1789.

THE princes set off at eleven o'clock, and we overtook them near the Hôtel des Menus. M. Myris and Biozat endeavoured to procure places for them in the gallery, not being able to succeed in the tribune of the *Suppleans*. The sitting was tumultuous, and we left the assembly before half after two in consequence of an order from the Duke d'Orleans, who sent a messenger to tell us to depart immediately, and to go by way of Saint Cloud, on account of an immense multitude who were about to set off from Paris for Versailles. We arrived at Passy at a quarter after three. The princes went up stairs to their friend, who appeared

peared to have waited dinner for them,
as it was served up instantly*.

Saturday, 5 December 1789.

Note of Madame de Sillery.

“WHEN the marriage of Ma-
“demoiselle was agreed upon†, I was
“informed that it was the request of the
“Count d’Artois, that no persons of the
“male sex should any longer be admit-
“ted to her table, a custom that had al-
“ways been observed respecting every
“princess immediately after her presen-
“tation. I mentioned it to M. Lebrun,
“who was excluded by this regulation,
“as well as my sons in law and every
“one else. As soon as this marriage

* I have inserted this article because it was
asserted in the calumnious depositions of the Châ-
telet against M. d’Orleans, that I this day con-
ducted the children to the assembly, &c.

† With M. d’Angoulême, eldest son of M.
d’Artois.

“ con

“ contract was dissolved, I reformed
“ this etiquette, which took from me
“ every opportunity of seeing M. Lebrun
“ in winter. He replied very coldly to
“ me upon this head in the summer, and
“ was loath to dine at Belle Chasse not-
“ withstanding my repeated invitations.
“ In the country I requested him to join
“ us in various parties, which he refused,
“ as well to accompany us to Ranelagh,
“ as to dine with us at Madrid, &c. And
“ since my return here he has not once
“ thought proper to come to dinner. It
“ is not then my fault if he is ignorant
“ at the time of a thousand things that
“ happen in my intercourse with my
“ pupils, since we pass nine hours every
“ day together without seeing him or
“ knowing where he is.”

Friday, 29 January 1790.

Note of Madame de Sillery.

“ M. LEBRUN has observed in the
“ Journal of to-day, that the Duke
“ d’Orleans excepts from the imposition
“ of *the fourth penny* all the salaries that
“ relate to the education. He ought to
“ have added that fourteen days before
“ he had given positive orders to exact
“ it ; that his orders in this respect had
“ been signified by M. Gally to the per-
“ sons concerned ; and that I, in conse-
“ quence, wrote to the Duke d’Orleans,
“ remonstrating against this regulation,
“ and entreating him to revoke it ;
“ finally, that through the medium of
“ M. de la Wastine, he had consented
“ to my request, having already so far
“ complied as not to suspend the regular
“ payments.”

Note

22 June 1790.

Note of Madame de Sillery.

“ AS by knowing how to swim a per-
“ son may save his own life and the life
“ of another, there is no exercise of more
“ importance. I am therefore very de-
“ sirous that the children should go to
“ swim two or three times a week, which
“ may easily be contrived without in-
“ croaching upon their hours of study.
“ I shall hire two apartments at Herbiay,
“ where, after taking an early supper,
“ they shall go and sleep on the nights
“ preceding their days of bathing.
“ These evening excursions may serve
“ in lieu of one of their airings, and as
“ they will have the next day only to
“ return, instead of going and return-
“ ing, they may be here in good time.
“ I request they may be taught *how to*
“ *save the life of a person in danger*, that
“ is to say, let some one, who has
“ ed

“learned to swim, throw himself into
 “the water, as if he were ignorant of
 “this art, and let the princes be taught
 “what measures to take in order to
 “bring him safe on shore, &c*.”

Tuesday, 28 September 1790.

Note of Madame de Sillery.

“HAVING been in the country for
 “some days past, I have had no op-
 “portunity of writing in the Journal :
 “I now reply to M. Lebrun. He did
 “not inform M. d’Orleans of the con-
 “tents of the letter which I requested
 “M. Lebrun to sign† : when I shewed
 “M. d’Or-

* This they have been taught, and their skill in it is perfect.

† The object of this letter was to refute certain calumnies, respecting M. de Chartres and me, inserted in the proceedings of the Châtelet against M. d’Orleans. M. Digoine, one of the witnesses, had said that I was present with M. de Chartres and M. de Montpensier at the sitting of 5 October,

“ M. d’Orleans this letter, the proceed-
“ ing appeared to him, as it really is,
“ wholly

which was not true : it was M. Lebrun who accompanied them ; I staid at Passy. In the same deposition it was affirmed in so many words, that I had said at this sitting a very inconsiderate thing ; and an absurd expression was attributed to M. de Chartres, addressed, it was said, to M. de Barbantane, who was supposed to be by his side ; whereas they were at a considerable distance from each other, and not a word passed between them. It was also by other witnesses pretended that they had been informed for certain, that I held meetings of deputies at Passy ; though the truth was, and though several servants of M. de Boulaivillers who remained in the house (the porter, his wife, and others) deposed, that during all the time that I was at Passy I did not see a single deputy, except the Duke d’Orleans, M. de Sillery, who came there only three or four times, and M. de la Touche, chancellor to M. d’Orleans, who came only once. At Passy indeed, as in every other country retreat in which we passed the summer, I received no visits but from my own relations ; and this year, without exception, I saw nobody but the persons above named, Madame d’Orleans, my daughter, her husband, my brother, and the different
masters

“ wholly incomprehensible. I only re-
 “ quested M. Lebrun to bear witness to
 “ the exact truth, to exculpate me from
 “ an odious suspicion, and to contradict
 “ a formal and injurious imputation, that
 “ the house in which I presided was a
 “ place of rendezvous for deputies of
 “ the assembly, &c. I also requested
 “ him to contradict a shocking expres-
 “ sion falsely attributed to M. de Char-
 “ tres, which M. Lebrun alone could
 “ do, as he was with him, and I was
 “ not*. To this M. Lebrun was not
 “ ashamed

masters employed in the education. Such were the
 facts which I entreated M. Lebrun to certify, be-
 cause he knew better than any other person the
 exact truth. I sent him a letter ready written in
 order that he might put his name to it, and get it
 inserted without delay in the newspapers. This
 letter contained no reflection favourable to myself,
 but simply a detail of facts.

* M. de Barbantane, without any kind of en-
 treaty, has since rendered this homage to truth.
 The expression attributed to M. de Chartres was as
 follows :

“ ashamed to answer, *that he could not*
 “ *think of appearing in print, and that his*
 “ *repugnance to this was stronger than his*
 “ *desire to oblige me.* Such was the only
 “ reason he assigned for refusing to bear
 “ testimony to the truth, when he might
 “ have exculpated me from a very hei-
 “ nous and false accusation! He con-
 “ descended to add, that if he were
 “ summoned before a court of justice,
 “ he *would not hesitate* to give the evi-
 “ dence I demanded. What astonish-
 “ ing generosity! Beside I might com-
 “ pel him to this, as I have the Journal
 “ in my possession, where the fact is re-
 “ corded in his own hand-writing. He
 “ concluded with saying, that I might
 “ write this letter myself. I doubted the
 “ possibility of this; but it was much

follows: that he should not be sorry if all the aristo-
crats were hanged. It is known that, while in
 garrison at Vendôme, he saved, at the peril of his
 own life, that of two priests, aristocrats, whom the
 people were desirous of hanging.

“ more natural and fitting that M. Le-
“ brun should have written it, nor was
“ there any other way of refuting the
“ calumny relative to M. de Chartres,
“ which ought to have induced M.
“ Lebrun to propose this of his own
“ accord, without any application from
“ me. I can readily conceive that M.
“ Lebrun might feel an *aversion to ap-*
“ *pearing as an author in print* ; but lit-
“ rature was not the question, he had
“ simply to relate a positive fact, and
“ the object of *his aversion* was an act of
“ probity, that of doing homage to
“ truth*.”

* I should not have made public M. Lebrun's conduct on this occasion, if my pupils had been ignorant of it. But they advised me themselves to prevail on M. Lebrun to contradict these imputations, which might have been done with more propriety and effect by him than by me ; and the letter which I wrote for M. Lebrun to sign, was delivered to him by M. de Montpenier, who was therefore first acquainted with his direct and positive refusal.

About

Monday, 25 April 1791.

ABOUT ten o'clock in the evening I found Messieurs de Montpensier and de Beaujollois at the gate of the convent; they were come down and waiting for the carriage, having staid no longer than was necessary in order to bring away with them M. Mirys, whom I had set down there. During the way home there was not a word uttered; our two pupils appeared full of grief, a feeling naturally to be expected, and in which we sympathised with them *.

Tuesday, 26 April 1791.

I WENT away with these gentlemen with an intention to return at five. Mess-

* I had given in my resignation in consequence of the demand of Madame d'Orleans, and I departed the next morning.

sieurs de Montpensier and de Beaujollois will be glad to spend that time with their sister, who will not be informed till her return, about eleven, of the loss she has sustained, at which time M. d'Orleans will place her in the hands of Madame Topin. I went to Belle Chasse at five, having met the footman upon my road, whom our pupils had sent to desire me not to come for them as usual, because they could not quit their sister, respecting whose situation they were very apprehensive, till after supper. I was charmed with this testimony of fraternal affection, though it was no more than what I expected.

At three quarters after nine our pupils were ready for me, and we returned together, they three, M. de Brulart and myself. The situation of Mademoiselle d'Orleans is painful, and the revolution of health she has undergone will demand
particular

particular attention : M. Couad * passes the night with her. The conversation turned entirely upon the alarm conceived upon her account, and in which, no doubt, Madame de Brulart † deeply sympathises. M. d'Orleans passed part of the day with her and his other children. M. de Chartres, after having set us down at the Palais Royal, from whence M. de Brulart wrote a letter, went with that gentleman to the house of M. de Valence. The princes confessed themselves and performed their devotions, previously to which I had seen tears in the eyes of M. de Montpensier ; they afterwards flowed with anguish and in great abundance, having been restrained during the day from consideration for his sister. I considered this burst of passion

* A skilful surgeon and very excellent physician.

† I had quitted the name of Sillery since the decree abolishing names derived from estates.

as a salutary crisis, and therefore, far from seeking to interrupt it, spoke to him only of the loss they had sustained, and the just regret they conceived. Their toilette and going to bed were at eleven. M. de Chartres did not come in till about one, and went to bed about a quarter of an hour after, giving previous orders for his valet to come to him at half after five.

Monday, 2 May 1791.

M. D'ORLEANS sent for me for the purpose of telling me, that he had informed his children that it was his wish that they should resume their ordinary avocations, as he thought it absolutely necessary for his sister to remove as much as possible every circumstance that might feed her grief, or prolong her frequent indispositions, which could only be remedied by dissipating

dissipating her mind.
.

About nine we set out for Belle Chasse, where we were present at an alarming attack of Mademoiselle, who had a very bad day. Messieurs de Chartres and de Beaujollois supped there, and I returned to the Palais Royal at ten with the latter. His two brothers did not come home till a quarter after eleven, and were deeply affected with the situation of their sister.

Tuesday, 3 May 1791.

ON my arrival at Belle Chasse about nine o'clock, I found Mademoiselle just recovering from an attack, after which she came down into the garden. . . .
. Mademoiselle has had four returns of her indisposition in the course of the day.

Wednesday, 4 May 1791.

MADemoiselle has had four returns of her indisposition in the course of the day.

Thursday, 5 May 1791.

ABOUT twelve o'clock our pupils were employed in writing; M. de Montpensier a letter to their friend, M. de Beaujollois an answer to Madame, who with reason complains that she was not first informed by him of having made his first communion. If I had read his preceding letters, I should have been to blame in this; but I never read what he writes to his papa and mama, unless he shews it of his own accord. Their minds have been so full for ten days past of their sister, and the state of her health, that

that this act of respect and duty escaped his memory *.

At five o'clock, when I arrived at Belle Chasse, I witnessed a new attack of Mademoiselle.

At a quarter before nine we set off for Belle Chasse, and took with us Messieurs Alyon and Couad, as yesterday. We were informed that Mademoiselle had had many attacks in the course of the day.

Sunday, 8 May 1791.

MADemoisELLE had a new attack this morning at church : during the rest of the day she has been better.

.

* It would not however have escaped mine had I been with him, though I never read the letters they received from M. and Madame d'Orleans.

Monday, 9 May 1791.

MADemoiselle continues better; the hope of seeing her friend has contributed to her amendment .

Thursday, 12 May 1791,

UPON our arrival at Belle Chasse we found the whole house in joy at the news of Madame de Brulart's return, who was expected in an hour or two. I immediately penetrated the motive of the sudden departure of Messieurs de Chartres and de Montpensier, and where they were gone †.

Madame

* *Contributed* is not the proper expression, as M. Lebrun well knew that my departure was the sole cause of her lamentable situation. This situation grew so alarming, that on the thirteenth day M. d'Orléans resolved to give her hopes of my return, and from that moment the returns of her indisposition diminished.

† They had set out to meet me, the instant they were informed by a courier that I was on the road, without

Madame de Brulart arrived at eleven o'clock, without being announced ; she quitted her carriage at the end of the street. Mademoiselle flew into her arms and experienced another return of her disorder, which will assuredly be the last. Her ecstacy was the cause of it ; we were not much alarmed, and it was of shorter duration than the preceding ones. Madame de Brulart was deeply affected, she wept, and the demonstrations of attachment and satisfaction visible in the persons who surrounded her were not lost upon her heart*.

without consulting any person, or taking time to inform M. Lebrun.

* This return of her indisposition, of which M. Lebrun speaks, unfortunately was not the last. She had suffered so much that her nerves were for a long time affected, and at the moment of my writing this (15 July) her health is far from being perfectly re-established.

*End of the Fragments from the Journal of
M. Lebrun.*

Reflections on the Journals.

FROM the foregoing Journals what I have attempted to prove is, I trust, apparent. 1. That my chief care has been to fill the minds of my pupils with excellent principles, and my sole object to render them virtuous. 2. That I have never employed the authority confided to me but for the good of the education, and that I have from my heart been desirous of obtaining the friendship of my coadjutors; that I have for their sakes abolished every etiquette likely to diminish the agreeableness of their situations; have rendered them all the services which depended on myself; have anxiously wished them to be respected and loved by our pupils, whom I have severely punished for every failure of obedience; have excused and forgotten a thousand instances of injustice of which I was the object,

object, pardoning without reluctance, jealousy, hatred and even ingratitude; always sincere, and of consequence always credulous, unable to doubt the truth of a promise and protestation of attachment, and restoring all my confidence, and all my friendship upon every accommodation. 3. That the contradictions, the bickerings, the eternal quarrels and reconciliations that took place, have occupied a considerable portion of time, and prevented me from executing many plans which I had formed relative to my pupils: in fine, that the domestic troubles, the envy of which I was the object, the chagrin that was felt at being under the directions of a woman, and particularly the rooted and invincible enmity of the Abbé Guyot, have proved greatly injurious to the education. My pupils, so dear to me, have not come from my hands as perfect as they might have been, had my efforts been
better

better seconded ; their knowledge and talents would certainly in that case have been greater : but, if my vanity be mortified and afflicted, my heart derives comfort from the consideration that no education could have inspired them with better principles, with juster ideas, with more elevated and sensible souls. One has quitted me at seventeen, and the other at sixteen years ; but, notwithstanding their extreme youth and inexperience, I am sure that their conduct will be always spotless and pure, and I feel the delightful certainty of having given two virtuous citizens to my country. The revolution has done more for them than my cares. The grand interests which have occupied us since that memorable period, by fixing all their attention, have suddenly raised them above a state of infancy, and the frivolous thoughts of youth ; at sight of their compatriots shaking off an ignominious yoke,

yoke, and assuming the dignity of man unfettered and free, their infant hearts have felt the inspiration of that legitimate pride, the best preservative against petty pretensions and puerile vanity ; in public events they have found the most striking and the most useful lessons ; our new laws have completely sanctified in their eyes all the principles of morality ; in short, patriotism, the sublimest of all sentiments, has been the first and only passion that has hitherto fired their minds ; and the first oath which their lips have uttered has been to support the constitution, to obey the laws, and to love and defend their country. In the age of candour and innocence, when all strong impressions leave indelible traces, they have seen the grandest of all spectacles, they have been penetrated with the purest and noblest sentiments that can actuate the human heart, and have acquired in two years a degree of reason

and experience which, under the old order of things, twenty years could not have taught them. I might have said to them on the 14th of July 1789: My children, suspend your studies. A volume opens before you superior to all our books; it will know how to address your imaginations, your eyes, and your hearts: look at it, listen to it, and, to judge of it properly, call to mind the principles you have received, and consult those guides which will never mislead you, religion, humanity, reason and conscience.—I cannot conclude this article without discharging a duty which justice demands of me. I have complained of M. Lebrun, and, desirous as I was of giving an exact and faithful account of my conduct, it was impossible to avoid it: he has failed in gratitude and justice towards me; from the moment of my appointing him to an office in the education, he sacrificed me to a
man,

man of a contemptible character, who hated me; he began with listening to his complaints, and presently he caught his unjust pretensions, his peevishness and his animosity: but this was the effect of weakness and not of depravity. Wholly devoted to my duties and occupations, continually shut up with my pupils, or alone in my apartment, I could not give to the persons associated with me sufficient time to form between us a true intimacy: they passed their lives together; and M. Lebrun, certain that I was incapable of an act of injustice, preferred the friendship of the preceptor to mine, because it was more necessary to his amusement, and the agreeable passing of his time, particularly in the solitude in which we lived in our retreat for seven months of the year. I do confess that I frequently allowed myself during our discussions in a tone of irony, which was the more calculated to disgust,
because

because it was addressed to people of particular irritability; but then it must be remembered that I always wrote from the feelings of the moment, and that such are the habits of my mind. Ridicule is at least excusable, when the topic upon which it is employed is absurdity enforced and defended by insincerity. I acknowledge also that in every thing relative to the education, I required an exactness, a punctuality, a subordination, at which friendship might perhaps have taken offence. In the mean time this rigour is indispensably necessary, and I do not therefore believe that a true intimacy can possibly subsist between a governor, vigilant and scrupulously devoted to his duty, and the other preceptors. As I have said elsewhere *: “ No-
“ thing can be less amiable than the man
“ whose authority, incessantly in action,
“ is felt every instant of the day; who

* *Dissertation on the Education of the Dauphin.*

“ is occupied with one sole idea, one
“ single object, who never speaks but to
“ give a new order ; never asks a ques-
“ tion but to know whether his direc-
“ tions have been literally executed ;
“ never makes his appearance but to
“ superintend, and who devotes his few
“ leisure moments to retirement and
“ study. The most inviolable obser-
“ vance of all the forms of politeness
“ cannot embellish a person of this cast.”

Yet such ought every one to be who is at the head of a plan of education. If however M. Lebrun has not seconded me with the ardour of true zeal, at least his punctuality has, in general, been perfect, and our pupils have constantly received from him an example of regularity, decency and virtue. Thus, all things considered, he has an eternal claim to their gratitude and attachment. I ought also to add, that, in the faithful friendship of the rest of the preceptors,
and

and the masters in general, I have found a very valuable compensation for the bickerings and contradictions I have experienced.

Before I finish my account of the Journals of Education, I have to speak of two other performances of this kind, made by different persons, in which also I wrote various notes and remarks. I have already observed that the education of M. de Beaujollois was distinct from that of his brothers: the disproportion of age not permitting him to follow the same studies, he was at first confided to the care of an Italian Abbé, who kept in that language a Journal of the manner in which he employed his mornings; but this Journal was written without the least care or accuracy, and contains only some irregular fragments. Since the retreat of the Italian Abbé, it has been continued by a valet de chambre, a man of merit, who has acquitted himself

himself in a perfectly satisfactory manner for the space of five years, and till the period that I was obliged to renounce the pleasure of directing the education of M. de Beaujollois, about three months ago. Of this Journal I have many volumes. The last of which it is necessary for me to speak, was made at Belle Chasse by Mademoiselle Rime, femme de chambre of Mademoiselle d'Orleans. This Journal contains, 1. The most circumstantial detail of all that Mademoiselle d'Orleans said and did before I rose in the morning, and during such hours of the day as she did not spend with me. 2. The opinions of the different masters respecting all the lessons given at Belle Chasse, not excepting even those at which I was present. Every day, at the conclusion of each lesson that was given, either to Mademoiselle or her brothers, the master wrote in this book his opinion, with the reasons on which it

it was founded, of the manner in which it had been received by the pupils, and signed the article with his name. As I am anxious to prove that I did not resume the care of Mademoiselle d'Orleans, but because her health was in the most alarming state, I shall copy some passages from this Journal, which is written with equal accuracy and simplicity. It was agreed, after my retreat, that the plan of education I had laid down should still be pursued; Mademoiselle Rime therefore continued the Journal. My extracts will be taken solely from that part of the work, written from the evening preceding the day of my departure to that of my return.

FRAGMENTS FROM THE JOURNAL
OF MADMOISELLE RIME.*Monday, 25 April 1791.*

AT half past nine in the evening Mademoiselle went to Madame de Brulart's apartment, and returned in an hour. A moment after a servant came to me for orange-flower water for Madame de Brulart, at which Mademoiselle was very uneasy, supposing her friend * to be unwell. I did every thing in my power to tranquillize her, assuring her that her friend frequently took orange-flower water at that hour, without being indisposed. Mademoiselle said her prayers and went to bed, having previously begged me to let her know when her friend should be alone. She was shortly after seized with convulsions; I gave her some orange-flower water, notwithstanding which she

* The name by which I am called by Mademoiselle d'Orleans.

fainted

fainted* ; I then made her inhale some four-thieves-vinegar, which brought her to herself. I asked her the cause of her uneasiness, to which she only replied, that she wished to go to sleep ; but she did not sleep till Madame de Brulart came to speak to and embrace her. This visit perfectly re-established the tranquillity of her mind, and her sleep was undisturbed for the rest of the night.

Tuesday, 26 April 1792.

. . . MADemoisELLE went to the baths at eight o'clock then with the young ladies to the Tuileries and afterwards to make some purchases at the shops. Mademoiselle de S*** proposed that they should return to the Tuileries,

* It has been seen by my Journal that she has some confused idea of our separation.

and to induce Mademoiselle to comply, gave her false information relative to the hour, as she enquired whether it was near the time when her friend had desired her to return home They arrived at Belle Chasse at half past eleven. Mademoiselle was in high spirits, and eager to carry to her friend the purchases she had made for her, when M. d'Orleans met her, and, having led her into the hall, informed her at full of the melancholy intelligence. Its effect was violent and alarming; it seemed to sink into her heart; she was seized with strong convulsions, sobbed so as to be almost stifled, and could get no relief by tears. All her household sensibly partook of her grief, which, though it appeared perfectly just, was to us exceedingly afflicting. To-day Mademoiselle also saw M. and Madame de Valence and M. de Brulart: every new comer, and particularly those who were most connected

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with and attached to her friend, renewed her pain, and her convulsions and trembling of nerves recurred continually. The arrival of M. de Chartres, who had just seen her friend, produced a very visible effect * At ten, when she went to bed, she was in very low spirits, and seemed to have no inclination to sleep. M. de Couad had ordered, that for that night, as she must have been very much fatigued with anxiety and grief, a hair mattrafs should be put on the bed †, which when she saw, she desired might be taken away, assuring us that, if she should be disposed to sleep, the mattrafs would prevent her. But by the persuasion of M. de Brulart and her brothers, she suffered it to remain. She desired that the bed of Mademoiselle de S*** might be placed near hers : mine

* He had escorted me as far as Bernis.

† Mademoiselle de S*** slept, upon the bare ground in the same manner as her brothers.

was as usual in the chamber, and M. Couad had one prepared for him in the dining-room. Mademoiselle passed a very restless night ; she had two convulsions, and once she fainted : M. Couad prevailed upon her to take a medicine. The whole night till six o'clock, when Mademoiselle wished to rise, was spent in continual tears and sobbings, except during the short time that she slept, which, at the utmost, did not exceed an hour and a half. When she rose, she went by the direction of M. Couad to the bath.

The relation of the following days affords little other than a repetition of the same accounts, except that on Sunday the first of May Mademoiselle went to mass, and returned home in strong convulsions.

Monday, 2 May 1791.

MADemoisELLE heard

F. 2

the

the sound of a harp, though great precautions had been taken to prevent it. She was seized with strong convulsions, which lasted for a considerable time. They occurred frequently during the rest of the morning. After dinner she desired to have her harp, and attempted to play ; but the same convulsions again returned, and continued for a much longer period, till at length she became delirious. When she was a little recovered she was taken into the garden, whence she shortly returned, and had a relapse : presently after she retired to her closet, and in the evening had several fits. .

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Tuesday, 3 May 1791.

. AT noon Mademoiselle took an airing in the carriage, and returned in about three quarters of an hour in strong convulsions. She fainted, and afterwards talked in a very incoherent manner.

Mademoiselle

Mademoiselle having gone into the garden after dinner, a footman came to inform me that she was taken very ill. I found her very weak and faint, but the violence of the attack had somewhat abated.

Mademoiselle passed a very restless night.

Wednesday and the following night were exactly of the same kind.

Thursday, 5 May 1791.

. . . MADEMOISELLE wished to sketch some flowers; her hand trembled excessively; and though she attempted to repel an approaching fit, it came upon her with the same degree of violence as the preceding. At noon

she took an airing in the carriage, during which she was twice ill. On her return she was very pale and weak, as indeed she has been for some days past.

At dinner Mademoiselle, as on the preceding days, ate very little.

Mademoiselle received a letter and two or three small jars of marmalade from her friend, and having read the letter was seized with strong convulsions, which lasted for a considerable time. . . . Madame de Bourbon came to see Mademoiselle, who during this visit had violent convulsions. She had frequent attacks during the rest of the day, and spent a very bad evening. At eleven o'clock she went to prayers as usual, and added one in particular beside those she said with me. . . . The night was very restless.

The account of what passed on Friday is exactly the same. Her situation continually grew worse, because her weakness increased, and she was able neither to eat nor sleep: it was then that they gave her hopes of my return. From that moment her convulsions considerably abated, without however entirely leaving her, and I found her on my arrival, as I have already mentioned, in the most deplorable state of languor and debility.

Recapitulation

*Recapitulation of the Journals of Education
which I made or caused to be made.*

1. **THE** Journal of M. Lebrun, containing an account of every thing our pupils said or did during the time they were not with me, together with the relation of all our private discussions. This Journal was begun as soon as the children were placed under our care, and is continued to this day without any other interruption than that of the journeys I made with my pupils unaccompanied by M. Lebrun.

2. My private Journal, which was not seen by the children, and which I continued for four years : it contains my observations and reflections on my pupils, their preceptors, &c.

3. My other Journal, written purposely to be read by my pupils : it succeeded to the preceding one, and continues to this day.

F 4

4. A Journal

4. A Journal of the manner in which M. de Beaujollois usually spent his mornings, written by M. Barrois.

5. The Journal kept at Belle Chasse by Mademoiselle Rime.

The result of all which is, that I can give a faithful and accurate account, from minute to minute, of every word and action of my pupils, of the instructions that have been given them, and of the manner in which they have received their lessons, from the time they were first entrusted to my care till the 26th of April 1791, being a period of eleven years and a half. No instructor hitherto has ever had it in his power to give a similar account. I believe that it will be of some use in proving that so scrupulous an exactness is possible; and I will repeat, that it is a very desirable thing that a similar accuracy should for the future be demanded of all those who shall be entrusted with the education of our princes.

ADVER.

ADVERTISEMENT.

I HAVE travelled a great deal with my pupils, during which time I suspended the Journal of Education in order to write that of our excursions. I shall proceed to give some fragments from these Journals, the originals of which I have still in my possession, and of which my pupils are furnished with copies. It is not my intention to give complete narrations of the interesting things we saw, as I mean to relate them in order in another place; but I shall endeavour to convey an idea of the method I adopted to form the taste of my pupils relative to the arts. A chaste and refined taste has greater influence than we are apt to imagine on the character and manners of individuals; a depraved taste narrows the understanding, debases the soul, and is the source of a multitude of false ideas. We had constantly with us in our travels

two persons whose company was as useful as it was agreeable; one of them eminent in the art of drawing and painting, and possessed of an infallible and delicate taste in every thing that had relation to the arts; the other an excellent chemist, perfectly skilled in botany, and in general well acquainted with natural history. With these assistances my pupils never made the shortest journey without deriving from it considerable advantage. They have travelled through no great extent of country, but what they have seen has been with attention, which is a point of considerable consequence. I have collected in the fragments the principal features which may explain my ideas relative to the manner in which travelling is to be made instructive to youth. I have also inserted entire descriptions of several curious and interesting places, such as la Trappe, Navarre, Maupertuis, Cayeux, Mont-Saint-Michel, &c. because they are short, and
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I do not recollect to have seen them in any previous publication.

Chantilly, 28 June 1787.

ALL the old part of the gardens of Chantilly is very beautiful in its kind. The new is in general in a very bad taste. The outside of the cottage appears to be nothing better than a mean thatched hut ; and the inside is ornamented with glass and gilding, and furnished with stuff of rose colour and silver, which produces a very unpleasant effect, because this combination of magnificence and rusticity constitutes an *incongruity* rather than a *contrast* : these are two very different things which bad taste continually confounds. A contrast is pleasant, an incongruity is always offensive. Generally speaking, we may term that an incongruity which exhibits a too strong and violent opposition ; but a contrast is formed by a delicate opposition, which

produces only a moderate surprise, and an effect rather mild and striking than violent. There are ideas which cannot, without exciting disgust, be united or brought together, that is to say, placed in opposition to each other ; for example, tragedy and burlesque (a defect we frequently find in Shakespeare), or a cottage furnished like the house of a farmer general, &c. These are incongruities. But sensibility and melancholy may be connected with graceful and even gay images : the old Anacreon tottering and letting fall his crown of roses at the foot of a cypress tree ; the Shepherds of Arcadia of Poussin ; these are pleasing contrasts. I could wish that in literature and the arts you should never lose sight of these principles, which are equally founded in nature and reason ; and that you should never admire new ideas of any kind but in proportion to the degree of utility or justice they contain. If you observe this principle you will never be
the

the admirers of a multitude of childish and absurd productions, which only serve to prove the narrowness of mind of those who invented them.

The famous picture of the great Condé, in the gallery, is badly painted and ill imagined ; there are in it labels written on slips of paper, a circumstance in the most absurd taste. The allegory of the picture is ingenious. History is represented as having just written the life of the great Condé, and France is tearing out a leaf of the book, implying that to admire this hero you must obliterate one feature which sullies his character, the dreadful crime of having turned his arms against his country. M. de Voltaire considered this as an excellent picture ; and by his praises it has gained considerable eclat in the fashionable world. But it must be considered that Voltaire had no knowledge of the arts ; it must be considered that he ranked Le Moine and Vanloo among first rate painters, and as
the

the equals of Pouffin and Le Sueur .
M. M. David, Giroult and Mirys have
fully shewn you the absurdity of this
opinion.

Journey to Spa.

Peronne, 8 July 1787.

WE slept at the post-office. . . .
My pupils were perfectly satisfied, and
in high spirits. They are very desirous
of an occasion that should oblige them
to sleep upon straw.

Tirlemont, 12 July 1787.

. . . . WE lodged at the
Plantin, a large and excellent inn; but
all the best apartments were engaged, so
that we were very miserably accommo-
dated. I slept myself in a child's crib,
which I thought too small to be used by
Mademoiselle. Our male and female

* In his notes on the Age of Louis XIV. there are,
relative to the arts, a great number of similar judg-
ments.

attendants

attendants stopped on the road ; but the princes, and particularly the Duke de Chartres, waited on us most excellently in the capacity of servants. The Duke put our apartment in order, and mounted a ladder for the purpose of nailing some covering to the windows, which had neither curtains nor shutters ; and Mademoiselle, Henrietta and Pamela made our beds. . . . The children were all very obliging *.

Spa, 25 August 1787.

THE waters of *the Sauveniere* having been very salutary to the Duchefs d'Orleans, her children constructed a delightful walk round the fountain in the midst

* Though travelling should serve no other purpose than that of forming children and young people to habits of obligingness and activity, and of accustoming them to undergo cheerfully the variety of accidents which continually occur in the progress of life, it would still be very useful.

of

of a wood, totally uncultivated, and full of stones and pieces of rock. They removed the stones, prepared the walks, covered them with gravel, and cleared away the brushwood. They placed benches at regular distances, constructed bridges over the brooks, and planted among the trees flowering wild briar. At the end of the walk was a kind of **arbour**, under which was a path leading to a precipice very beautiful and magnificent, on account of its extreme declivity and the intervention of rugged cliffs, springs and verdure, which were happily contrasted. Beyond the precipice a delightful and extensive prospect presented itself to the view. Under the arch formed by the arbour, we placed an altar of white marble, dedicated to Gratitude; the form of which was designed by M. Mirys. At the top of the altar the following words were written in large letters: **TO GRATITUDE**; and beneath this inscription: "**The waters of the Sau-**
"**veniere**

“ veniere having re-established the health
“ of the Duchefs d’Orleans, her children,
“ desirous of embellishing the environs
“ of the fountain, have themselves made
“ walks, and cleared this wood with
“ more ardour and assiduity than the
“ labourers who worked under their di-
“ rections.”

Under the inscription was the cypher of the four children. The children had indeed, as the inscription declares, worked in person with an astonishing degree of perseverance. * This day we gave an entertainment on the spot to the Duchefs d’Orleans. I invited the most beautiful women in Spa, requesting them to be at the fountain at one o’clock, dressed in white, and ornamented with white

* Particularly the Duke de Chartres and his brothers, who, having more strength than Mademoiselle, and being desirous of surprising Madame d’Orleans, worked privately, rose at five o’clock in the morning, went five or six miles to the wood, and continued this employment daily for the space of three weeks.

feathers,

feathers, nosegays, and garlands of wild briar, and violet-coloured ribbon. I left all the men at the entrance of the wood, and conducted the women to the farther part of the walk, where I placed them in different groups, some walking, others sitting, &c. The Duchesse d'Orleans came last. The band of Vauxhall was placed at the entrance, and began to play as soon as she appeared, which gave me information of her approach. I immediately went to meet her with the four children, who had rakes in their hands, as emblems of their having just finished the walk in homage to her goodness and worth. M. de Chartres, who undertook to address her, expressed this with considerable grace. The children then quitted her, and by a shorter path arrived at the arbour where the altar was erected. All the avenues were decorated with garlands of wild briar, the tint of which mingled with the green produced

produced a very agreeable effect. Flowers of the same kind scattered through the wood, the multitude of garlands interspersed among the trees, the rivulets which intersected the turf, many of which falling among the rocks formed cascades, a company of thirty beautiful women uniformly dressed, and dispersed over the walk, and the beauty of the sky, formed a whole, of which it is difficult to conceive an idea. The Dukes passed a quarter of an hour in viewing the scene, when the music ceased, and we arrived at the altar, where she perceived her four children, with Henrietta and Pamela, forming a most enchanting group. The altar and the arbour were ornamented with garlands: the children had other garlands in their hands, which they placed on the altar. The Duke de Chartres, seated at the foot of the altar, with an engraving instrument in his hand, appeared to be
writing

writing the word *Gratitude*. Sufficient time having elapsed for the contemplation of this picture, the four children threw themselves into the arms of their mother. The spectators burst into tears, and sufficiently shewed that the liveliest emotions are frequently produced by the most simple causes *.

Givet, 1 September 1787.

. THE following are the persons whose society I found most agreeable at Spa.
 Miss Plunket, a young lady full of sensibility, whom I had the happiness of being able to serve. She is to go with me to Sillery; I hope that I have acquired in her a friend for life †. . . .

* This break only contains particulars of the entertainment, which are too long to be inserted here.

† Now Madame de Châteaux; for whom I procured an appointment in the Palais Royal.

M. DE

Givet, 2 September 1787.

M. DE VALENCE has given a charming entertainment to the Duchefs d'Orleans. Some beautiful couplets were fung in honour of the Duchefs and her children *. . .

Sillery, 10 September†.

. . . . ANOTHER entertainment. Transparent illuminations representing the *Temple of Friendship*. I was present with the four chil-

* Madame d'Orleans made a visit at Givet, by the invitation of M. de Valence, and because every thing that was connected with me had at that time an interest in her heart.

† Madame d'Orleans had been there from the 4th. She had intended to stay only eight days, but had the complaisance to remain three days longer. She lavished on me, in the presence of her children and a numerous company, many affecting marks of that kindness and friendship which were for so many years the source of my happiness.

dren of the Duchefs d'Orleans, and fung
 fome verfes written as an addrefs to her*.

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Journey to la Trappe and Navarre.

Montmagne, 5 June 1788.

I AM very much pleased with the young
 princes ; they employ every moment of

* These verfes were expreffive of the pleafure I
 felt in forming the hearts and underftandings of the
 children whom her friendship had confided to my
 care. The Duchefs threw herfelf into my arms, her
 face wet with tears ; her children furrounded us,
 and partook of the fweet emotion. Is it poffible that
 the perfon who has been the means of deftroying
 fuch pure and virtuous pleafures, fhould feel no re-
 morfe ? What a reward for the fervices I have done
 her ! What a return for the benefits of Madame
 d'Orleans herfelf ! Before this perfon knew her, Ma-
 dame d'Orleans adored and cherifhed thofe whom it
 was her duty to love ; and now h
 But though they have been able to alienate her from
 her children, they can never alienate the children
 from their mother : thefe children will eternally pre-
 ferve the f acred unalterable fentiments, which nature
 and education have engraven on their hearts.

their

their time : they read, write, draw, and shew themselves in other respects in a very amiable point of view. Hitherto Mademoiselle has played on the harp every day ; she also writes and draws. .

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*La Trappe, 6 June, half past eleven
in the evening.*

I FOUND great difficulty in gaining leave of admission from the fathers, who said that it was unprecedented. At length, after considerable contest, they consented to admit me, as well as my young princefs, and from that moment they treated me with the greatest possible respect. We first heard a lecture delivered in one of the cloisters, all the fathers being seated : it was a kind of sermon in the French language, of which I recollect the following passage : “ Ap-
“ proach us not, vain and deceitful plea-
“ sures ; it is here that you are held in
6 “ contempt,

“ contempt, or that your former votaries
“ expiate their folly.” There was
something striking and attractive in the
thoughtful attention of these monks.
After the sermon we were conducted
into a saloon, where the late and the pre-
sent abbot accompanied us. After a
space of three quarters of an hour they
introduced us to the choir of the abbey :
the building is considerably striking,
and all the monks at once joined in the
sacred psalmody with a truly angelical
devotion ; from time to time they threw
themselves into the attitude of prostration,
and remained thus till the stroke of a
hammer gave them the signal to rise.
These various circumstances, combined
with the simple majesty of the edifice,
excited in me an emotion that I want
words to describe. After divine service
they led us from the chapel to the foot
of a great staircase that leads to the cell :
here we made a full pause, and the ab-
bot, with a green branch in his hand,
pronounced

pronounced his benediction upon each monk individually, who all passed before him in order, one after the other, making a profound inclination of the head, and then ascended the staircase to go to rest. This ceremony ended, we were conducted back to the saloon where we supped, and remained till ten o'clock engaged in conversation with the fathers. In an adjoining room we saw a portrait of M. de Rancé finely painted by Rigaud: M. de Rancé is represented writing. His features are regular, and his physiognomy penetrating and intelligent; it bears a striking resemblance to M. de S****, except that it has a less lively complexion. I should never have imagined such to have been the figure of the reformer of la Trappe. There is also in the apartment of the Duke de Penthièvre an excellent picture brought from Rome by M. de Rancé, and which represents Saint Bernard dying.—We then left the inner compartment of the

VOL. III. G abbey

abbey to retire to rest: our bed-room is a very handsome one.

Conches, 7 June, 10 o'clock in the evening.

THIS morning at a quarter before ten we entered once more into the inner compartment of the abbey. After having heard mass, we were admitted into the refectory to see the fathers dine. There was no cloth upon the table, but each monk had a napkin; their plates were of pewter, and their spoons of wood; each monk received a porringer of soup, a plate of herbs, two or three uncooked apples, a large slice of bread of a good sort, a little mug of water, and another of beer. One of the society ascended a sort of pulpit made for that purpose, and preached them a sermon during their repast. Each monk preaches this sermon in his turn, and the monks who dine are attended by other monks, who afterwards take their refreshment along with

with the preacher. The lay-brothers dine at the same time in a lesser hall adjoining to the principal, and which is separated from it only by an arcade without any door : we could see them therefore as we stood in the refectory ; and they, as in the former instance, were served by other lay-brothers, who ate when they had finished*.

From the refectory we went to the library.

We afterwards visited the tomb of M. de

* The establishment of lay-brothers, so contrary to Christian humility, is inconceivable, particularly in the austere orders. At la Trappe, for example, as the labours are equally shared by all the individuals of the order, and as the lay-brothers do not wait upon the fathers, whence could have originated the distinction of name and eating-room ? It is not because the brothers are not priests, for this is equally the case with the majority of the fathers. Reason teaches us to love equality, religion enjoins it ; and it is a strange contradiction to see a monk prostrate himself, his face in the dust, and at the same time disdaining to eat his brown bread and his

de Rancé.

. . . The cells are very small : they contain a straw bed, a wooden table, and a crucifix.

We saw the monks at work in the gardens. We entered the medicine room, which is large, and well supplied with drugs : adjoining to it is an excellent botanic garden filled with the usual plants.

. I shall here relate all that I learned from the conversation of the fathers. The history of Count de Comminges is fabulous, as well as various other things, viz. that the monks are every day employed in digging their tombs : that they raise and level hills for the purpose of occupying

beasts with certain of his brethren as virtuous and devout as himself. This establishment is of no great antiquity; it was Saint Gualbert who instituted the lay-brothers in 1072, but without these proud distinctions; I am ignorant of the name of him who reduced them to the condition of valets, but we may presume that it was some gentleman monk.

them-

themselves : that their salutation when they meet is, *We must die* : that they wear upon their hearts a cushion stuck with thorns, &c. All these things are absolutely false. They fast continually ; they never eat either fish, sugar, eggs, butter, or oil, except a small quantity with their sallads. Vinegar is allowed them, as well as milk, but the latter is prohibited during Lent. Their rule never allows them the use of wine except in journeys, and in any place of occasional residence, where they may use both wine, fish, and butter.

Their dress, like that of the Chartreux, is entirely white, their head and beard are shaved, and they have a large hood which they put on at pleasure. They always sleep in their clothes ; their shirts are of wool, not hair cloth, every mortification of this kind being prohibited by the rules of their order. No one is admitted among them till the age of

twenty, when he enters upon his noviciate, which continues for the space of twelve months. The infirm alone employ themselves in little articles of industry, such as the making of rosaries, wooden spoons, and in winter the work of the garden; after which they shell the peas, dress the vegetables, press the grain for use, &c. These last occupations are common to them all. The monks of this abbey amount to about a hundred and twenty, including both the fathers and lay-brothers. There are sixty of the former, of whom eighteen only are priests; the rest, though equally engaged by irrevocable vows, do not say mass, and have not received holy orders, thinking themselves not sufficiently virtuous and devout to celebrate the sacred mysteries. The abbot is elected for life*, and is named by

* The authoress seems to contradict here what she has said at the beginning of the article (p. 120), "that the late and the present abbot conducted her into the salon." T.

the king in pursuance of the vote of the monks; the votes are collected by way of ballot; and as soon as that is done, the balloting box is sealed up and sent to Versailles. There are three monks, called *boteliers*, whose business it is to receive strangers and the poor that press at themselves at the monastery. From their original endowment and the bequests of private individuals, they are sufficiently wealthy to afford three days hospitality to every poor traveller who passes that way. When all the beds in the house are occupied, the traveller is accommodated at the inn, and his expences defrayed by the monks. If, during these three days, he fall sick, they take care of him till his recovery; he is attended by their surgeon, supplied by them with medicines; the monks also visit him, dress his wounds, &c. If any poor traveller be in want of money to pursue his journey, they give him as

much as is necessary to carry him to the place of his destination. Not a day passes without their being visited by persons of this description, particularly soldiers. It frequently happens that the gratitude and admiration which so much benevolence inspires, induce the persons who are the objects of it to become members of their fraternity, and pass their lives with them. Indeed, whoever is in pursuit of virtue in all its perfection, will find it only here, under a form it may be somewhat too austere, but so true, so sublime, that it is not at all astonishing that a mind susceptible of enthusiasm should resolve upon this great sacrifice. These monks also assist and take care of all the poor in the neighbourhood for many leagues round. I interrogated a great number of the peasants, who spoke of them with the respect and veneration that we should feel for angels if they were to condescend to reside

fide

side among us. Shew me the individuals that, with the same revenues, can do an equal portion of good both by their example and their beneficence! Where shall we find such virtues, unless religion inspires them?—They never receive a widower among them unless his children are already provided for: whatever may be the age of these children, if their situation be not such as to insure them a subsistence, they conceive that a father cannot, in that case, dispose of his liberty, but is bound to bestow all his care upon his family. When they have made their vow, they renounce every kind of epistolary correspondence whatever, and do not allow themselves to be visited by their relations, except their father and mother, and this but seldom. They are expressly enjoined not to shew the least preference to any individual of their order, as being bound to love them all equally. If one monk should perceive that another had a particular friendship for him, he

would consider it as his duty, when they were all assembled, to ask leave to speak, and then publicly to accuse him. In this case the superiors impose a penance on the person criminated, who is not allowed to justify himself, or answer a word, even though he should think himself to be wrongfully accused. He is to believe that he has in some way or other, though he cannot recollect it, given cause for the reproach, and he must sacrifice without hesitation his self-love to the obedience due to the rules of the order. In all cases, indeed, where one monk observes in another any kind of fault, he is equally bound publicly to accuse him, and the accused must observe a perfect silence, and submit with resignation to the penance that may be imposed. If a word escape him in his defence, all the monks instantly prostrate themselves on the ground to ask pardon of God for his pride: but this never happens

happens except to novices and persons newly professed, and very seldom even to them. These particulars were related to me by brother Prosper, a young monk twenty-eight years of age, and who has been eight years at la Trappe. He has a delightful physiognomy, strikingly characteristic of candour and good sense. I entreated him to tell me honestly if he did not know, among his brother monks, some single individual who had, at heart, more friendship for him than the rest? No indeed, was his reply; I could sooner name a dozen than one. I was charmed with his answer, which proves the tender union that reigns among them. He added, that as to these twelve his discovery did not justify his accusing them, as it was derived from first emotions that were absolutely involuntary. For example, said he, there are a thousand little circumstances purely mechanical by which we know those who love us best; in our labours we are all bound to suc-

cour one another with equal zeal ; if one of us lift too heavy a burthen, if he falt, &c. we ought to fly to his succour ; but there are always in this case twelve or fifteen who hasten with greater alacrity than the rest ; and on these occasions, which frequently happen, we cannot avoid discovering by whom we are most loved. But God condemns not these natural inclinations of the heart, and does not disapprove of our secretly loving those best who are most virtuous, provided we do not evince our partiality and esteem in such a manner as to offend others ; which would be a very heinous crime, contrary to general benevolence, and destructive of that universal harmony which ought to exist between us.

When a sick monk is pronounced to have but a few hours to live, he is told that he must receive extreme unction ; he is then carried to the church, where it is always administered, and after the ceremony is over conveyed back to his bed.

bed. When he approaches his last moment, a bell is tolled to signify to the whole house that a brother is in the agonies of death. All the monks assemble round the dying man, and, having placed him in ashes, pray aloud for him. This description is terrifying to worldly minds; let it be observed however, that at la Trappe the apparel of death and the religious solemnities that accompany it, are considered as august and consolatory, as the fore-runners of a grand triumph and supreme felicity. “The frugal and laborious life we lead,” said father Theodore to me, “exempts us from violent and putrid disorders. I have never seen among us an instance of any epidemical malady, even when the contagion has spread through the country. We know scarcely any disorders but those of the lungs occasioned by singing at church, and by the law which obliges us to get up frequently in the night. When a con-
stitution

“stitution is able to resist these dangers,
“and it has passed the age of thirty,
“life is protracted longer here than elsewhere, and old age is sound and vigorous: thus we commonly die in
“the possession of all our faculties, and
“during the fifty years that I have lived
“here, I have scarcely seen an instance
“to the contrary. As we only live that
“we may die in security, the last moment has no terrors; and when we
“assist at the death of a brother, there
“is not one of us who does not envy the
“crown he is going to receive, and does
“not wish to be in his place. It is not
“that life is disagreeable and burthen-
“some to us, we believe ourselves as
“happy as it is possible to be on earth;
“but in dying we feel all the delight
“that the sweetest and most exalted
“hopes can inspire. I have never be-
“held a monk who has not received,
“not only without fear, but with ex-
“treme satisfaction, the notice of his
“ap-

“approaching death; I have even be-
“held many whom this intelligence has
“so enlivened and invigorated, that
“their life and strength have been pro-
“longed in an astonishing manner, and
“almost all display at this time a viva-
“city, fire and eloquence which appear
“supernatural. It is not long ago that
“a monk, upon being informed that he
“had but one day to live, became so
“animated at the news, that he told us
“he should be able to go to the church to
“receive extreme unction without being
“carried. In reality, though his weak-
“ness had, till that moment, been ex-
“cessive, he got up, walked through
“the house, descended the different stair-
“cases, arrived at the church, returned,
“and, to the great astonishment of the
“surgeon, lived two months longer.”—
Father Theodore, who recited these
particulars, was the late abbot; he had
lived in the world before he embraced
the monkish state, and was thirty years
of

of age when he entered la Trappe; he is now upwards of fourscore, of a comely figure, his teeth perfect, his features charming, his complexion truly beautiful; I have never seen in any face so complete a vermilion. He has a strong understanding, an extraordinary degree of politeness, and a memory so surprising, that he recollects every thing he read that was interesting previous to his arrival at la Trappe. He cited many traits of history, and a great variety of passages from Bruyère, whom he knows by heart. He related also a number of interesting stories, among others the following: "Some years ago a young man
"well born, rich, of a handsome figure,
"and the only son of an affectionate
"mother, whose consent he obtained,
"desired to be received among us, al-
"leging a vocation which he had felt
"from the age of ten years: he was ad-
"mitted to his noviciate; but before the
"expiration of the period, his mother,
"re-

“repenting the consent that had been
“torn from her, suddenly arrived at la
“Trappe and demanded her son, who
“received her, accompanied by father
“Theodore. The conversation was
“long, that is to say, on the part of the
“mother, who conjured her son to re-
“turn with her, assuring him that she
“particularly wished it for the sake of
“his own happiness. He heard her in
“silence, without interruption; and when
“she had done speaking, My mother,
“said he, do me the favour to answer
“me one question. Supposing I had
“left you to settle at a distance in some
“foreign country, where it was impossible
“for you to come, and where I had ac-
“quired a considerable fortune and the
“most distinguished honours, but was
“not permitted to return to you, unless
“I renounced all these advantages,
“would you demand of me this sacri-
“fice?—Certainly not, cried the mother,
“it is your happiness only that I have at
“heart.—

“heart.—Well then, my dear mother,
“replied the son, I am exactly the fortunate man I have described, or rather
“I am a thousand times more happy than
“it is in the power of all the riches and
“honours of the universe to make me;
“and my happiness is the greater as the
“inconstancy of fortune cannot rob me of
“it, and death, far from putting a period
“to it, will render it supreme and secure
“it for ever. Consider then the extent
“of the sacrifice which you demand!
“At these words the mother rose, embraced her son in tears, and departed.”
—Had I time, I could cite various incidents of a similar kind which I learned from father Theodore, father Peter, the present abbot, and the three *boteliers*. These five monks, with whom I had a great deal of conversation, were all equally obliging; they answered my questions with an air of frankness; but as soon as I had done interrogating them, they retired into themselves, hung down their heads,

heads, and fell into so profound a meditation, that I have no doubt they believed themselves to be absolutely alone with God: in this there was no sort of affectation, but on the contrary a striking simplicity and nature. When I addressed myself to them again, they recovered from their reverie, and assumed a cheerful and obliging aspect, which continued till they had satisfied my new enquiries. —The monks of this order observe a perpetual silence, the superiors and the *boteliers* excepted; but there are certain hours when they may speak to the superiors if they have any request to make; at their labours, however, they are only allowed to express themselves to each other by signs. There are monks among them who have not spoken for many years, except to confess, to read, and raising the praises of God. The *boteliers* observe, like the rest, the law of silence, and never speak but to strangers. —There is not a single looking-glass at la Trappe
either

either in the interior or exterior apartments. Many of the monks have wholly forgotten their own form and features.—As they work not only in the garden, but out of it, the gates are wide open, so that if a monk be desirous of running away he has a fair opportunity: in that case he meets with no obstruction, and he is never pursued and brought back again when his flight is discovered; on the contrary, the fraternity think themselves happy in having got rid of a bad member. But the rules of their order oblige them to receive him if he return, and prescribe that he shall be confined for a period of time equal to that of his absence, and have no other food than bread and water. Meanwhile the abbot has the power of abridging as much as he pleases this time of atonement, which he never fails to do if the transgressor discover any marks of penitence: in that case, though the absence should
have

have been ten years, the confinement never exceeds one.

When a man presents himself to be received, a minute account is given him of the austere life they lead, and he is farther told, that however robust may be his constitution, it will probably sink under it in the course of two or three years : it is after this information that he enters la Trappe. They receive among them none but tall, strong and well formed men, and I was struck with the extraordinary stature of the generality of these monks.—They have had for several years a very skilful surgeon, a young man who has settled at la Trappe out of pure affection to the fathers, and who observes the same mode of life, and performs the same offices as themselves, when his occupations will permit him. He administers medicine to the poor gratis, and frequently walks ten or twelve leagues to take care of them. He told

that it was impossible to live with these fathers without feeling a desire to imitate them, and that the offer of the most splendid fortune on earth would not tempt him to quit them.

. These monks are strongly impressed with that indulgent temper that characterises true virtue. They told me that upon a certain occasion, a woman in man's clothes came with her husband into the convent, but that she saw nothing, because they immediately detected the disguise and obliged her to withdraw. I exclaimed with pious vehemence upon so dreadful a profanation, which by the rules of the church is a specified case, and has the penalty of excommunication : but they observed very naturally, that it was not proper in this instance to have recourse to strict justice, as the lady was very young, had certainly not considered what she was doing, and as it was easy to conceive of a husband's having
 2 this

this censurable condescension towards a woman that he loved.

Travellers go a great way to study men, and observe the influence of institutions, examples, laws and authority on the mind. We have here an instance nearer home of manners far superior in austerity to those of the ancient Lacedæmonians, of virtues infinitely more sublime than were displayed by the boasted sages of antiquity; in short, of a little republic where every dangerous passion is extirpated, and all the virtues are carried to a degree of perfection that seems beyond the powers of nature. Is this a picture unworthy the attention of a true philosopher? Can any one say, as he quits this respectable enclosure: *These men are fools!* Before you thus decide, prove to me that you are wise; prove to me at least that you are consistent, and that your principles, whatever they are, are conformable to your manners. You think that we ought to follow the inclinations

tions which nature gives us, and that it is in this way only we can be happy. Why then are you perpetually complaining? why does happiness fly from you, or always elude your grasp? why is peace of mind a thing to which you are a stranger?—But, it is asked, where is the utility of all these absurd austerities? Do you not then admire the disciples of Pythagoras, who passed so many years without speaking? Do you not admire the temperance of Diogenes, and numerous other philosophers, who subsisted solely upon herbs? Do you not admire Epictetus and Socrates, their mildness, their calm endurance, their contempt of wealth and honours? And is it only in past ages and Pagan countries that you are struck with examples of these great virtues? But tradition may have exaggerated these features of their character, and it tells us that these extraordinary men had their errors and weaknesses: on the contrary, of what exists so near you,

you, you can entertain no doubt, and though there is some singularity in the life of a monk of la Trappe, you will at least find none of the vices with which the philosophers of paganism have been reproached. But it is again asked, where is the utility of those woollen habits, those hard beds, this privation of all the comforts and conveniences of life? What! is there no utility in distributing to the poor all the money that garments of silk, beds of down, sumptuous furniture, and delicate viands would cost? Dare you farther demand, where is the utility of spending a part of the day in cultivating the earth? Confess at least that these labours of agriculture are beneficial, and afford an excellent example to the peasants of the neighbourhood. Who would not blush in such a country to be indolent and inactive? Lastly it is asked, where is the benefit of passing so many hours in a church? Let me ask in reply, for what purpose do you pass so

many years at Versailles, where the scene is so mortally tiresome to you? In the hope, always uncertain and frequently deceitful, of obtaining—What? an empty title, a ribbon, a feat of honour. They are not such frivolities that attract and rivet to the church the monks of la Trappe; it is not the hope, it is the certainty of obtaining, not the frail and perishable goods of this world, but an eternal felicity. Suppose them, if you please, to be mistaken in their opinion, it is of little importance, so they entertain the persuasion; the recompense they promise themselves being greater than that of which you are in pursuit, they derive more pleasure from singing the praises of God, than you in making your court: beside you have competitors and uncertainty to torment you, they have no rivals to fear, and are sure of receiving the reward of their labours: you restlessly aspire, they patiently wait. Judge then how much happier they
they

they are in their church than you in the *Oeil-de-Bœuf* *. Thus, should their opinion be founded in error, you ought not to call them *fools*, since they are virtuous, beneficent, useful, and have found the way to make themselves happy: but should it be founded in truth, to what name would they then be entitled, and what ought you to be called? What will be your lot in eternity, and what theirs †?

For

* A celebrated tavern at Versailles, opposite to the royal palace. T.

† This ridiculous panegyric upon the monks of la Trappe, and preference given them over the sages of antiquity, are founded in an ignorance or oblivion of the simplest of all principles, the nature of virtue. It is the nature of virtue to seek the benefit of others, incessantly to labour for the increase of the happiness, the information, and the moral excellence of mankind. *You admire*, says our authoress, *the austerities of Diogenes and the calm endurance of Socrates*. Why do we do so? Because Socrates spent an active life in what the Athenians called corrupting their youth, that is, in perpetual practical lessons of moral and political energy; because Diogenes, when he was asked the reason of his inflexible austerity,

H 2

replied:

. For ourselves, my children, may our respect and love for religion

replied : " It is only by shewing that the health and " felicity of a human being may be obtained with " the complete absence of these things, that I can persuade my contemporaries how little valuable are the " indulgences they covet." The monks of la Trappe, as in effect she confesses, have no object of this sort. We ought to admire them, she says, because *they have found the way to their own temporal happiness*. In this surely there is nothing very sublime. We ought to admire them because they are skilful and *wise in securing to themselves the felicity of heaven*. I can envy, but cannot admire, a man who only shews me that he perfectly understands his own interest. Madame de Brulart felt in a certain degree these objections, and therefore says : *Can you help acknowledging their merit in giving money to the poor ? Can you deny that their cultivation of the ground is useful, and gives a good example ?* It is not necessary to deny this. In order that much stress should be laid upon it, it ought to be shewn, 1st. That they have these purposes of usefulness principally in view ; and 2dly, That these purposes of usefulness are as sublime as those proposed by Diogenes and Socrates. It is an example of the effect of superstition upon an enlightened mind, that ought not soon to be forgotten, to see Madame de Brulart comparing and preferring the suggish and
 useless

ligion be increased by the remembrance of what we have just seen and heard!

Saint Leu, 9 June 1788.

WE arrived here yesterday, at midnight, in perfect health, and not at all fatigued, which is extraordinary considering all we have done in the six days that we have been absent.

From Conches we proceeded to Navarre. A lady of Conches, who expressed a desire to see the princes while they were at supper, gave us a description of the curiosities of Navarre, adding that the most charming spectacle was by the river side, a female rustic and a fisherman in coloured plaster. These figures she told us were so natural, that one day a man on the opposite side scolded the fisherman for catching the duke's carp,

useless monks of la Trappe, to men who devoted every moment of their lives to the active increase and propagation of virtue. T.

H 3

and

and perceiving the fisherman still to persist, threw with indignation a large stone at him which broke one of the arms. The lady assured us that it cost the duke an immense sum to repair this misfortune.

. . . . From Conches to Navarre the distance is five leagues. . . .

The gardens of Navarre are in my opinion the most beautiful beyond comparison of any in France ; they are of prodigious extent, and join to a vast and superb forest. The water is admirable ; a large natural river runs through the gardens, forming streams and cascades which flow day and night and in every season of the year. The surprising effect of shadow and water, the majestic forest that completely incloses and every where overlooks the gardens, the profusion of flowers, the inexhaustible variety of rare shrubs and trees, the magnificence of the works of art, the happy sites that are chosen for them, the pure taste and bold originality that extend through the distribution

bution and plan, together with their immense extent, render the place truly worthy the curiosity of amateurs and foreigners. In the French part, the most remarkable ornament is the *Temple of Hebe*, which every where delights us by the different surrounding objects, flowers, prospects and cascades. In the English part, the most charming work is the *Temple of Love*, upon an island of the same name. On the outside it appears a beautiful temple in ruins, adorned with fine antiques in bas-relief. When you are entered every thing seems like magic; the inclosure is one delicious rotunda, wainscotted with white marble, decorated with arabesques, and supported by crystal columns of a brilliant purple, perfectly transparent, and which, being the medium through which the light enters, give a splendid gloom to the whole. Several altars enriched with gilded statues of bronze, upon which perfumes are perpetually burning, are interspersed a-

mong the columns. Rich pavilions are placed at different openings. The rotunda is lighted by means of a cupola at the top, and the light already mentioned which passes through the columns. The furniture of embroidery upon a ground of white satin, is unsuitable to the rest; it ought to have been purple satin with fringes of gold: I could farther have wished that the glazing of the cupola had been stained with purple to correspond with the columns. Upon finding ourselves in this enchanted place a reflection occurred to us which offered a singular contrast: we recollected, that precisely at the same hour the preceding day we had been in a cell of a monk of la Trappe.—There are many things in this garden in a bad taste, but they are slight defects amid numberless predominant beauties. For example, the grotto is nothing more than an unwieldy and shapeless mass; which is the more to be lamented, as it is very conspicuous and in a delightful situation. I could have wished

wished that instead of this villanous rock there had been a *Temple of Glory*, in which there might have been suspended to the roof, as the principal ornament, the sword of Marshal Turenne. I could farther have wished the temple to have been decorated with the statue of this hero, and the bas-reliefs to have represented his victories. In the gardens of Blenheim, in England, all the works of art are so many glorious monuments emblematical of the exploits of the Duke of Marlborough. The gardens of Navarre, not inferior to those of Blenheim, might have been rendered equally interesting, by reminding us at every step of some hero or glorious period of French history. Instead of this, there is only erected a tumulus of sod, as a monument to Turenne's war-horse. Upon the top of this paltry memorial, the poney (I mean this celebrated animal) is represented by a miniature in bronze; at the four corners of the sod is placed an urn of porphyry; and the whole resembles, as

P*** remarked, a piece of furniture to be set on a chimney-piece. The woman and fisherman of plaster, notwithstanding the admiration of the lady of Conches, have in point of sublimity and effect pretty much the same merit. But we must forgive these disparities in favour of the numerous and astonishing beauties that every where strike us. There is an express prohibition to pluck the flowers, or kill any of the game or other birds. Accordingly the winged tribe are very numerous, finding a greater plenty of provision here than elsewhere, and the gardens have a delightful brilliancy and fragrance. I have never seen such a profusion of roses and flowers of all sorts, or heard such warblings and chorusses of birds, and such murmurings of torrents and cascades. The house does not answer to the extreme magnificence of the gardens ; it contains, however, a superb saloon, and other agreeable rooms furnished with taste.

JOURNEYS TO LA MOTHE *, NORMANDY, BRETAGNE, TOURAINE, &c.

La Mothe, 1 August 1788.

WE have been this day to Saint Valery, a sea-port five leagues from hence, where we dined at an inn by the sea-side.

. We were after dinner conducted on board a new vessel, to which no name had as yet been given. They requested me to permit the Duke de Chartres to name it, and to stand godfather ; to which I readily consented, having never seen a ceremony of this sort. Upon the quarter-deck a table was placed, covered with a cloth fringed with lace, on which were a pot of holy water, and some plates filled with salt and corn. The priests, dressed in the habits of their profession, stood round

*An estate belonging to M. d'Orleans, in Normandy, near the town of Eu, and on the sea-coast.

the table. The Duke de Chartres and Mademoiselle were the sponsors. The vicar having delivered a very pathetic discourse, and the other priests chanted some prayers, the former pronounced his benediction, walking round the vessel, and strewing corn and salt, the symbols of abundance. This ceremony of pronouncing a benediction on a new ship ready to sail on a long and perilous voyage, might afford, I conceive, an admirable subject of discourse, particularly when addressed to a young man. . . .

. . . : . The rigging, and every thing relative to the vessel, were explained to the princes with great minuteness; they also saw in the dock-yard two unfinished ships on the stocks.

La Motte, 4 August 1788.

THERE have been brought to us every morning such shell and other sea fish as we were desirous of seeing alive. We have
already

already seen thornbacks, flounders, mullets, cod, a tunny, some soldier or hermit crabs, star fish, and various kinds of zoophites*.

La Mothe, 11 August 1788.

WE have been this afternoon to see a very singular village, about three leagues from hence, of the name of *Cayeu*. It is by the sea-side, and consists of about eight hundred houses. The bank of the sea is in this place of considerable height, and is formed by a very fine sand, which the wind drives from the coast. The consequence is, that the sand is again blown from this eminence, and scattered not only over the village, but to a great extent beyond it; so that you cannot

* In education no object of instruction that presents itself should be despised; particularly when it does not interfere with more important studies, and we have only to look before us and ask questions.

walk

walk in this melancholy country without being up to your ankle in sand, and as far as it extends, not a blade of grass or moss, not a tree or shrub is to be seen. We might suppose ourselves transported to the dry and burning deserts of Arabia. Also when the wind is violent, which frequently happens on the coast, the sand is raised in thick clouds in the air, and this unfortunate village is almost buried under it. But an abundance of fish, which give them a certainty of subsistence, retains the wretched inhabitants to the spot, in spite of so many calamities, and in spite of the privation of fruits, herbs, fresh water, and every convenience that nature elsewhere offers to the poorest peasant. Their situation appears to me the more deplorable from the consideration that, at the distance of little more than a quarter of a mile, there are rich meadows and fertile corn-fields, which must be to them a mortifying contrast. I have never experienced
more

more painful sensations than the aspect of this village excited in me. On one side the boundless ocean; on the other a vast plain of white sand, interspersed with the wretched huts of the fishermen; vegetation annihilated, a burning sun, doubly incommodious from the reflection of its rays on the glittering sand; an obscure air rendered unwholesome by continual dust; the dismal roaring of the sea; in short, every thing seems to concur to make this village the most dreadful abode in the universe. Meanwhile it is inhabited; it is even populous, and we see a multitude of children. **How** strong is the power of habit and the love of life! These fishermen are content to endure all these evils, upon condition of being free from inquietude, as to the means of prolonging this miserable existence. What do I say? Perhaps the majority of them, whom we regard with pity, prefer this dreary land, where they
drew

drew their first breath, to the fertile fields of their neighbours ; since, as a poet whom you have read observes,

E istinto di natura

L'amor del patrio nido*.

In observing what these men can endure, not only without despair, but with apparent content and ease, you ought to admire the fortitude from which it springs, and of which those who have been continually nursed in the lap of prosperity can scarcely form an idea. Weep with the unfortunate who sinks under the weight of his calamities ; if you cannot meliorate his lot, deplore at least his situation, and partake his sorrow : every being that suffers has a claim upon the compassion of his fellow creature. But let more dignified sentiments rise in your soul, at sight of those who support their pains with serenity and

* To love the paternal nest is an instinct of nature.

firmness.

firmness. Let the example you have this day seen teach you to bear any misfortunes that may befall yourselves with similar courage. With these fishermen in your remembrance, should you not blush if the contradictions and mortifications you might meet with in society were to make you peevish and ill-humoured, if you were to be cast down by an attack of a fever or a head ache, or were to allow yourselves in the least habit of softness and effeminate delicacy ?

Havre de Grace, 1 September 1788.

WE first visited the arsenals, afterwards the Mole

We saw there a dreadful monument of the restless cupidity of men, a large vessel called a *slave ship*, and destined for the transportation of negroes. It was extremely cumbersome, from the number of cells it contained for the confinement of these unfortunate beings.

WE

Mount Saint Michael, 6 September 1788.

. . . . WE changed horses at Pontorfon to reach this place, which is only three leagues farther; but for one whole league the road is exceedingly bad, and we travelled a considerable part of it on foot. It is at certain times, and indeed ordinarily, necessary to be governed in this route by the ebb of the tide, the road being impassable at other times; but the sea had now been at low water for several days. When we arrived it was totally dark, and the objects which under these circumstances presented themselves to our eyes were extremely impressive. The coast is sandy and barren; the guides precede you with flambeaux, and utter at every other moment horrible cries, to warn you of certain deep holes and dangerous places that intercept your progress: on account of these it is necessary to make a thousand circuitous

circuitous windings. The fort was illuminated in compliment to the princes, and appeared to be as it were at our feet full half an hour before we arrived. The bells were also rung, and their mournful and funereal sound swelled the melancholy impression that was made by the surrounding objects. Well might it have been said of this castle in the language of the poet,

Nature's abhorrence, on a rock it stands,
Whose barren summit seems to touch the skies *.

No imagination indeed can suggest an image of height and declivity that can keep pace with this object ; and its aspect is rendered more striking by its towers, its fortifications, and its venerable gothic architecture. We first entered into a citadel where the people of the place, dressed in uniform and accoutred with

* Sur un rocher désert, l'effroi de la nature,
Dont l'aide sommet semble toucher aux cieux.

muskets,

muskets, waited to receive us. There are no troops here but in time of war ; upon other occasions the prior of the convent is the commandant of the fort. Next to the citadel we were presented with the view of the town, which is very small and seems to be very poor : it consists of one long and uncommonly narrow street, in which every step you take is a steep ascent, and in a course perpetually winding and irregular. It is impossible to proceed along it otherwise than on foot. On the present occasion every house was illuminated, and the inhabitants collected at their doors. After having climbed along this street for half an hour, escorted by all the monks and many attendants with lanterns, we left the houses and came to a flight of steps of about four hundred in number, very steep and difficult, and covered with briars and moss. The ascent is now and then interspersed with little esplanades where you rest yourself for a moment.

It

It is impossible to imagine any thing more tiresome than this climbing; and, though the weather was not hot, it occasioned a violent perspiration. At length we entered into a spacious chapel, of which the choir is very fine and very noble: we were then in the convent. After having crossed the church, we ascended another staircase which led to a series of apartments large and handsome. There is farther a belvedere placed upon the top of the fort, with an ascent to it of four hundred steps from the level of these apartments. The air is very keen, but sufficiently wholesome. They have a supply of cistern water which is not unpalatable. The winter is extremely rigorous, and begins early in the season of autumn: sultry and hot weather is here unknown. To some of the houses in the town there are very small gardens, and some of the inhabitants keep cows; but the monks are obliged to procure necessities from other places, even bread,
which

which is never made here on account of the dearness of fuel: they have no supply nearer than Pontorson. It is very seldom and by mere accident that they have any fish upon the coast: thrust out therefore as they are upon a tongue of land, they are obliged to buy it elsewhere. About a league and a half from hence there is a summer habitation belonging to the convent, with a fine garden and a plentiful supply of vegetables. The monks are twelve, and they receive no novices. It appears to me, that they seek as far as is in their power to alleviate the misfortune of their prisoners. They assured us that they never kept them in constant restraint, unless they had positive and particular orders from the king for that purpose, and that even very frequently they indulged them with excursions in the neighbourhood. I questioned them about the famous iron cage: they told me it was not made of iron, but of wood, the bars exceedingly massive and thick, and
the

the distance between them of the breadth of three or four fingers. It is now fifteen years since any prisoner has been constantly confined in this cage; but they often put their prisoners into it, when they are mischievous, as they say, for one or two days, though the place be excessively damp and unwholesome, and though there be another place for their confinement as strong and of no injurious effect. I testified surprise at this account. The prior answered me, that it was his intention some day to destroy this monument of cruelty. Instantly Mademoiselle and her brothers exclaimed, that it would give them inexpressible pleasure to be present at such a catastrophe. The prior replied, that he considered himself as perfectly at liberty in this respect, and would therefore indulge their wish to-morrow morning: it will certainly be the most delightful compliment that hospitality and kindness have any where paid you. I sleep

in the chamber which was lately that of the Abbé Sabathier, the illustrious martyr of so glorious a cause *. The monks cannot speak of him at this moment but with veneration and love.

*Saint Mulo, 7 September, half after
nine in the evening.*

THE following are the particulars of what we saw this morning before we quitted Mount Saint Michael. The prior, together with the monks, two carpenters, a Swiss belonging to the castle, and the greater part of the prisoners, for we had desired they might be present, accompanied us to the place where this terrible cage was inclosed. To arrive at it we were obliged to pass through such dark subterraneous passages, that it was necessary to have flambeaux: and after descending a variety of stair-cases, we at length reached the spot. The cage was

* For opposing despotism.

extremely

extremely narrow in its dimensions, and was placed in a damp cave, where the water ran in streams. I entered with feelings of horror and indignation, tempered by the pleasing reflection, that at least, thanks to the benevolent interference of my pupils, no unfortunate victim would henceforth painfully ruminate in this dreadful abode on his own sufferings and the cruelty of mankind. M. de Chartres gave the first blow of the axe to this cage. The carpenters then demolished the door and other parts of it. I have never witnessed any thing more affecting than the transports, the shouts and acclamations of the prisoners, during the demolition. It was surely the first time that these vaults had ever resounded with the cries of joy. In the midst of this tumultuous ecstasy, I was struck with the melancholy and dismayed appearance of the Swiss, who regarded this spectacle with the utmost chagrin. I communicated my remark to the prior,

who informed me that this man regretted the destruction of the cage, because it had been his office to shew it to strangers. The Duke de Chartres gave two louis to this Swift, telling him, that instead of the cage, he might in future shew to travellers the place where it had stood, which would certainly be a more agreeable sight to them

After attending mass, we took a view of the whole house, where we saw an enormous wheel, by means of which, with cables, heavy provisions for the use of the fort are raised from the strand on the outside, and conveyed through a window into the castle. We walked upon the terraces or parapets, which are very high. The view from hence is on all sides admirable: you see *Mont Tomblasne*, which is larger than Mount Saint Michael, but not inhabited. It abounds with excellent rabbits, and is at the distance of about three quarters of a league, which appears incredible: for as, like Mount
Saint

Saint Michael, it is in an isolated situation in the sea, and there are no surrounding objects that should enable us to judge by comparison, it seemed to us exceedingly small, and not farther off than a hundred paces. We afterwards saw what is called *the Hall of the Chevaliers*, which is large and handsome, and supported by columns. It derives its name from its being a custom with the chevaliers of the order of Saint Michael to visit this mountain . . .

The library is a very poor one, which mortified me, from the consideration how useful a good collection of books would be to the prisoners. Superstitious tradition relates, that Saint Michael wrought miracles upon this mountain, at that time inhabited by hermits; that afterwards the Saint ordered buildings to be erected on it, and it was at first called *Mont de Tombe*, on account of its form. The ancient dukes of Normandy and other princes have made pilgrimages to this mountain, and presents which we

saw in the treasury of the church. Pilgrimages are still made to this place, and we were loaded with medals and little silver shells, which are given to pilgrims on such occasions. . . .

We obtained for a number of prisoners a permission which they requested with earnestness, that of accompanying us to the bottom of the castle. Among them was one who had been confined fifteen months, without having been once suffered to leave the top of the fort. When he found himself out of the convent upon the little esplanade, and particularly when he saw the grass on the steps of the descent, he felt an emotion of joy that no words can describe; he gave me his arm, and exclaimed with transport at every step, *Oh, how delightful it is to walk upon the grass!**

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* On our arrival at Paris, we made various attempts in his favour, but to no purpose. M. de Chartres,

I am charmed with having had an opportunity of seeing this melancholy but singular place, this amphibious castle, rejected in turns both by the sea and land; for this mountain, during one part of the day, is an isolated island in the midst of the waves, and during the other part is deserted by the water, and situated on a vast extent of dry land.

Lanballe, 8 September 1782.

. . . WE have seen at Saint Malo a very singular instance of what may be done by activity and industry united. Fifteen years ago, a merchant of the name of Dubois lived in that town, whose affairs were in a ruinous state. Finding himself destitute, he was on the point of sailing for the Indies, when a vessel, which had been supposed to be lost, enter-

Chartres, however, had the felicity of procuring instantly the release of one of these prisoners, and of contributing to that of another.

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Laudalfe, 8 September 1788.

. . . WE have seen at Saint Malo a very singular instance of what may be done by activity and industry united. Fifteen years ago, a merchant of the name of Dubois lived in that town, whose affairs were in a ruinous state. Finding himself destitute, he was on the point of sailing for the Indies, when a vessel, which had been supposed to be lost, enter-

Chartres, however, had the felicity of procuring instantly the release of one of these prisoners, and of contributing to that of another.

ed the port. Dubois was one of the principal proprietors of this vessel, which had gained such immense wealth, that his share amounted to six hundred thousand livres (25,000*l.*). With this sum he made other adventures, in which he was successful. He then obtained permission to construct a port at his own expence, at a place called *Montmorin*, a short league from Saint Malo. This port is finished, and is an exact miniature resemblance of that of Brest. Dubois has built there a handsome house, in which he resides, and his occupation is that of building ships for sale. This portion of land, acquired by labour and industry, is thus become the property of Dubois, and is a kind of republic founded and governed by himself. The workmen are numerous, for every thing is manufactured on the spot; ropes, cables, sails, masts, planks, &c. He lends money to naval adventurers, who in that case lay up their vessels in his harbour as a security

ity for the repayment. There are six of this kind at this moment in the harbour, with flags of different nations. This singular man is extremely hospitable, and receives strangers and those who come to see him with the greatest civility.

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Tours, 16 September 1788.

. GAILLON is a singular village, within the district of the little town of Langenis. All the houses of Gaillon are built in the rock, which gives them a very extraordinary appearance: the doors to some of them are at a considerable height, and there is no way of ascending but by means of a moveable ladder, which is taken away at night. Many of these doors are nothing more than large branches of trees crossing each other, which gives a wild and uncivilized air, that is in my opinion very agreeable. We

saw another village of this kind in the last stage but one before our arrival at Tours, called *Saint Etienne le rebigné*. We alighted from the carriage, and entered one of these extraordinary habitations: it was very neat in the inside, and the room into which we were admitted was of a tolerable size: such a room they told us might be dug with ease by two men in five months.

Paris, 3 October 1788.

. WE have been to-day to the Sorbonne. The church is beautiful, and is a miniature representation of Saint Paul's at London, and consequently of Saint Peter's at Rome. The monument of Cardinal de Richelieu, by Girardon, is greatly inferior to his reputation. It is composed of three figures, Religion supporting the Cardinal, and Science lamenting

menting his death : the latter figure is in a fine attitude, and has great expression ; but the design is in a bad taste, and the figure clumsy and heavy . the arm upon which the head is reclined is ridiculously short ; the drapery of the cardinal, which falls in innumerable folds, deserves no estimation : the figure of Religion is cold and unmeaning. M. Myris has observed to you that the figure of Science is servilely copied from Pouffin, being a figure in one of his sacraments—the *Extreme Unction*. Pouffin died in 1665, and the monument of Cardinal de Richelieu was erected 1694. . . . In the internal government of the Sorbonne there is a particular that deserves to be noticed. The prior is always chosen from the youngest members of the society ; he continues in the office for a year ; but the functions annexed to it are discharged by certain old and experienced members. In this we have presented to

us an excellent moral: they accord to youth the general object of its ambition, honour and distinction; to age and mature experience they entrust the conduct of affairs.

Paris, 21 October 1788.

WE have this day visited the prison of Vincennes; we first saw the dungeon. We were in the apartment that was inhabited by the great Conde: that of Cardinal Ret: is no longer known. These apartments have three massive doors completely studded with iron; each having, beside a lock, three enormous bolts. The chimneys are grated up on the inside; the windows extremely high, very small, and fortified with three rows of iron bars. When we consider all this, we are astonished that a prisoner should ever have formed
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the project of making his escape : but the beautiful verse of Dante,

*Lasciate ogni speranza voi qu' entrate * !*

is only applicable to hell ; and there is no door of a prison upon which it can with propriety be written. As long as he breathes man preserves and cherishes hope ; and this at least is a blessing of which tyrants have not the power to rob him.

Paris, 31 October 1788.

. . . . WE have been to the Luxembourg to see the gallery of Rubens, containing a complete history of Mary de Medicis. The following are the most excellent of these paintings : That in which Love shews to Henry the portrait of Mary de Medicis ; while Wisdom, under the figure of Minerva, appears to recommend to the king a

* Farewel hope to those who enter here !

union with this princess. The *accouchement* of the queen is a chef d'œuvre worthy the reputation of this great artist. We see distinctly in the countenance of the queen the two expressions of joy and suffering. The head is turned a little aside, and the body full in front; an attitude that is commonly devoid of grace, but this figure is grace itself: it has also an air of dejection perfectly in nature. Behind the queen stands Lucina, whose cold and tranquil visage forms an excellent contrast with that of the princess, which is full of expression. The apotheosis of Henry the Fourth is also an admirable picture.

Paris, 13 November 1788.

. TO Saint Roche.
Saw the tomb of Madame de la Vive,
who died at the age of twenty. The
bas-relief represents Time cutting off a
rose; a very absurd allegory, for the

rose is here the emblem of early youth, and it is not Time that withers and destroys youth. Time, with its scythe cutting down an oak, would be, upon the tomb of an aged person, a more just allegory.

14 April 1789.

. WENT to a sale of pictures with M. Lebrun. We saw there a cat in porcelain, the price of which was a thousand crowns, which the connoisseurs say is not too much, though the design is wretched; but its beauty consists in a certain violet hue, which renders this sort of china very valuable. We have laughed, during our lectures, at the absurd taste of the ancients for *myrrhin* vases^{*}; but

* Brittle vases that were in high estimation. Nero purchased a great number at a very enormous price; and his favourite, Petronius, gave for one three hundred talents, or seven hundred and twenty thousand livres (40,000l.).

these

these vases were at least of a beautiful form, and might be applied to some use, whereas cats, monkeys, toads, and frogs, of ancient porcelain, for which an exorbitant price is given, are very clumsily made, and represent very despicable objects. It is truly absurd to esteem a trifling and disagreeable object, merely because it is rare. I trust that you will never indulge such ridiculous whims, but, on the contrary, that your taste will be rational and noble ; that if you purchase pictures, you will not prefer to graceful and heroical subjects, cook-maids, tobacco-smokers, and fish-women; that you will not fill your cabinets with toys and china, and glass beads, and tiffue, &c. ; and that when we enter your house, we shall not imagine ourselves in the apartment of a silly woman full of childish and ridiculous fancies. .

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FROM

*Saint-Affise, Saint-Port, ten leagues
from Paris, 13 March 1790.*

. FROM Saint Affise we went on foot by the woods to Saint Port, to see an interesting monument in the church erected by my aunt. In this edifice, in pursuance of his will, the heart of the late Duke d'Orleans has been buried. In the article of his will expressive of this disposition, he has added his *hope that the ashes of the lady of the manor would hereafter be united to his own*. You descend a few steps which are terminated by a marble door belonging to the vault, the door is detached from its place in the frame, and lies on one side; thus ingeniously expressing that the vault is still kept open to receive the body of another inmate, an idea which could not have been more happily conveyed. On the door is inscribed the article of the will of the late duke which refers to this subject; and this
insep-

inscription seems also to be a lucky thought. At the conclusion of the extract my aunt has farther subjoined :—
This monument is consecrated to this noble personage, with sentiments of grief, respect, and gratitude, in expectation of the moment when his last dispositions shall be ultimately obeyed. Instead of the last clause, I should have been glad that it had been termed thus : *in expectation of the moment when this door shall close never to be opened more.* It seems to me that this style would have suited the subject, and suggested a more awful idea. In other respects, the general idea is new and striking, and worthy of the understanding and character of her in whose mind it originated.

26th.

. THIS garden, laid out in the English taste, would be very beautiful if it was less crowded, and had fewer narrow winding paths, which is
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the common defect of almost all gardens of this kind in France. There is in it a tomb in white marble of a little dog. These puerilities are extremely absurd; and I hope that my pupils, should they ever form a garden, will reject such frivolous ornaments which, common as they are, are proofs of a very corrupt taste.

27th.

. I AM shocked when I see a melancholy event made the subject of an ornament in a garden, as the death of a mother, a child, &c. ; unless the monument is placed in a solitary situation, and separated from the garden. It is an act of profanation to expose it to the view of every one that passes. For if an entertainment be given in the garden, the company will dance and sing, with this monument of sorrow and death before their eyes ; the daily visitors will indulge in gay conversation at the
foot

foot of this funeral column ; and if it be well executed, we shall hear them continually repeating : — *The situation of this monument has a charming effect.* All this is terrible : good taste is always offended with indecorum, particularly in things of sentiment.

28th.

. AT the other extremity of the garden is a handsome rustic temple, the inside of which is delightful. It is dedicated to Hope ; in the representation of which the artist has displayed great ingenuity. She is leaning upon an anchor ; at her feet is a bird's nest, emblematical of the purest and sweetest hope of life, that of maternal love ; and as hope is too often founded on illusions, the figure is surrounded by *chimeras* *. The chimerical personages are intro-

* Represented under the form that fable describes them.

duced

duced upon a small scale as accessories, and are painted in the Tuscan manner. There are four: one figure holds its chimera closely embraced, another is in the act of caressing and expressing affection; a third is giving it suck; and a fourth whipping its chimera with a bouquet of roses. This last idea wants clearness and perspicuity; and I should have been better pleased if the painter for his fourth subject had found some mode of expressing the unhappiness of him who had ridded himself of his chimera. The group recalls to our memory the fine idea of Sir Joshua Reynolds, who has represented Hope with her arms stretched out towards heaven, and her eyes fixed with eagerness upon the fleeting clouds. The vagueness of this idea constitutes its beauty, and admirably typifies the nature of Hope, which has always in it something loose, undecided, and uncertain.

WE

12 June 1789.

. . . . WE have seen in the cell of one of the monks of this convent a refinement of cruelty of which I could have formed no idea. This monk has a canary bird, which he has confined in a cage for ten years. The poor bird has for a perch a slender rod of wood suspended like the beam of a balance; when he alights at one end, the perch by its motion opens the door on the opposite side of the cage, and the bird flies eagerly towards this door, which shuts the moment he quits the extremity of the balance: the canary bird then alights on the other extremity of the perch, and in like manner opens a door on the contrary side. Thus has this unfortunate little prisoner continually before him the image of liberty, without being ever able to enjoy it! This struck me as a diabolical invention. It is probable that the monk wears with regret the chain he has taken,
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and that his soul, envenomed by this regret, is become cruel. Vices produced by restraint and slavery have a character of meanness not to be seen in men that are free.

Chaillot, Convent of Saint Mary, 13 July 1789.

. A FEW days ago we were at the Champ de Mars, to see the works that are carrying on: it exhibited a striking and pathetic picture, and I could not help pitying those whom a party spirit renders incapable of enjoying the delicious sensations we felt. Wheelbarrows were offered to my pupils, who immediately went to work, and that not in jest, but with serious application, and for the space of an hour.

18 August 1789.

WE have been to Ivry-sur-Seine to see the house of M. D***
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The gardens are large, but exhibit no inequality of surface ; on the contrary, it is one continued level : there are however some superb forests which have a very majestic appearance. There are various little erections, cottages, &c. that do not at all correspond with their situation, which is grand and noble, and by no means rustic and picturesque. I could wish that grass were sown, and a beautiful temple of Druids erected on the most majestic site. An English garden can never be beautiful unless the artificial erections correspond with their situation and the nature of the landscape ; a rule that is too commonly neglected. A ruin in a solitary place, and surrounded with old trees, would have a much happier effect than in the front of a house, or in the midst of a new plantation : grottos, cascades, and rocks, should be environed by mountains and precipices : a pyramid, or an obelisk, demands a noble site, and not a rural land-

landscape : it is absurd to place a Chinese pavilion on a spot that Nature has deserted : in short, the fitting and the probable should in all cases be taken into the consideration, or nothing will be produced but gewgaws or monsters.

23 July 1789.

. DEPARTED from Pont-aux-Dames at eleven o'clock, passed *Chapelle sur Crecy*, which is a charming house, stopped three hours and a half at *Maupertuis* : the house is a pleasing one, and the gardens vast and delightful. We first walked in the Elysium, which is the most beautiful part. It is a large wood, the ground of which is extremely unequal ; but the slopes and ascents are gentle, and not at all fatiguing. The wood is formed by trees of a most majestic size and height, there are young trees interspersed among them, and small clumps of willows of a different

different verdure. The paths are intersected by an infinite number of streams, and frequently by a river so large, that every now and then we had to pass rustic bridges placed across. At every step you perceive fountains of a clear water, which are formed into cascades, and are always flowing. One thing I remarked in the Elysium which appears to me ingenious: there is a single place in which it was impossible to hide the wall that forms the inclosure; the wall is very high, and suggested the idea of converting it into an ornament. In that place the ground is considerably rising, and the wall appearing only from the top of the hill is crowned with parapets, and flanked at one end by a fort with cannon. Nothing is wanting to enhance the effect but that the fort should have been larger, it being too mean in proportion to the objects that surround it. In the Elysium there is also a rustic temple, supported with trunks of trees, instead
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of columns: the idea is common and trite, and I cannot say pleases me, the general effect partaking of a magnificence little congruous to the rudeness of the materials. Undoubtedly, they thought a building wanting in this place, which should neither exhibit an exquisite refinement, nor be altogether coarse: and this idea is tasteful and good, for the wood, though rural in its general features, has I know not what of elegant and striking in it, that would have ill assorted with a simple cottage. But however we judge of the temple, its situation is certainly delicious; it is surrounded with cascades of a sparkling beauty, the water of which is pleasing both to the eye and the palate. We dined in this temple, and the gardener told us that the place was always open to the curious; and that every one, without being known to the master of the house, might bring his dinner and eat it in what part of the garden he

pleased : this proceeding is full of affableness and hospitality. As we ascend to the highest part of the Elysium, the scene insensibly changes its features, and, as we advance farther, wears a romantic and uncultivated air. At the end is a hermitage silent and tranquil, and at its foot a beautiful fountain. It is pity that the statue which is placed here is not better ; and perhaps, in a retreat where the hand of nature only is visible, and which looks like the dwelling of some shepherd swain, a fountain covered with moss, and half falling into ruins, would have been more suitable than the marble basin, which has too new and too polished an air. When we left the Elysium, we followed a path that led us to a magnificent bridge, from which is presented to our view the most beautiful scene in the whole garden. In front of the bridge is a grand mausoleum, round which flows the water of the river. The mausoleum in itself would have been but a trifling
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and a common object, but this situation renders it original and new; and the invention is the more ingenious because the person to whom it was erected was an admiral, Admiral de Coligni, whose remains are actually deposited in this monument: the interior of the mausoleum is not less beautiful. To the right of the bridge is a majestic pyramid, with a very handsome door, and an arcade of columns; the inside is a grotto, and is very striking from its loftiness, its grandeur, and the beauty of the finishing. There is another door of less splendid structure, which looks upon a country rude, rugged, and barren. The other parts of the garden are not so beautiful, but they are all agreeable, and the whole design was formed by M. de Montequiou himself. M. de * * *, in a random remark, made the finest eulogium of this delicious solitude. Animated with the enthusiasm of the scene, he cried—*No, it is not possible that the con-*

triver and proprietor of this garden should be a man of ambition! It was a charming observation, for nothing can be more natural than to conceive that he who was able to design such a retreat could feel little pleasure in the tumult of a court. The inexpressible beauty which adds the highest grace to this spot no words can describe, because it depends chiefly upon the delicate, but never-failing taste that formed the outline, and distributed the parts. It is thus in all productions of excellence, every thing seems spontaneous, yet nothing is done without mature design: hence they appear rich without profusion, various without irregularity, harmonious and complete in all their parts, as well as in the great whole. We also observed that there was an air of nobility that more or less diffused itself over the spot; and of which you might discover the features even in those parts that seemed most rude and neglected. There

WAS

was not a single scene in the petty taste of a Dutch or a Flemish painting; indeed never upon any occasion have I seen so thoroughly realized the woods, the meadows, the thickets, which Poussin has painted and the best poets describe: every thing suggests to us the period of heroes and the golden age. . . . Maupertuis is fifteen leagues from Paris, and the road to it is remarkably good.

6 September 1790.

. . . . WE have been for some days at Charenton with the Fathers of Charity. . . . These fathers assured us that the raving lunatics were commonly cured, but the tranquil or melancholy ones seldom or ever. The reason is, that for the former there are physical remedies which are universally known, as bleeding, the ice bath, &c. but for the latter the remedies must be moral ones, and the physicians philosophers: such phy-

ficians however are seldom found among the faculty, and are not attired in the regalia of the college. From what I observed in this house, it appeared to me impossible that the melancholy lunatics should ever recover their reason. Without perceiving the consequences of so cruel a practice, their madness is made a subject of amusement; persons draw them into conversation, reply to their vague and extravagant fallies, talk madly with them, and thus augment and radicate the distemper. I have had the care of many children and grown persons delirious from a fever, and I have always observed that by continually talking to them and answering them, as nurses commonly do, the delirium has been increased, whereas by mildly persuading them to be silent, by pacifying and soothing them, by replying to them in a proper manner, and so as to preserve the thread of the discourse, the delirium has always abated, and often totally subsided.

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The monks told us an extraordinary circumstance, which is, that by threatening them with the cold bath and other punishments, they obtained from the most raving and unmanageable patients five hours perfect silence and quiet every night: this mode was adopted that those who were disposed to sleep might not be disturbed by their cries. If this fact be not exaggerated, and I believe it not to be, for all the monks assured us of its truth, it proves that in the most perfect derangement of intellect man still preserves some remains of reason and self-government. . . . We saw a species of madness of a novel kind, in a young aristocrat rendered insane by the revolution, and I believe beyond the power of cure. His madness is that of supposing himself to be dying, and that the earth is opening to swallow him up. He is continually feeling his pulse, and saying in a stifled voice: *I die.* . . . *I*

sink into the earth. and he lays hold of the object nearest him in a manner strikingly expressive of grief and terror. We felt for him strong emotions of pity; but we flattered ourselves that were the head of a democrat to be deranged, he would not display this sinister kind of madness; patriotism and the love of liberty would preserve a character of sublimity more like the enthusiasm of inspiration than the sombre reveries of a vulgar maniac.

29 September 1790.

. THE chateau (of Chilly), of which Metzeau was the architect, was built by Marshal d'Effiat, superintendent of the finances. It is remarkable that all the superb houses, resembling our royal palaces, have been built by superintendants or comptrollers general of
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the finances *, a spectacle which, thanks to the national assembly, we shall never more behold. These men must have had an astonishing degree of effrontery to have thus displayed, with so much pomp and splendour, the fruits of their depredations. When the aristocrats boast of the *advantage of the old order of things*, we should send them to Vaux, Chilly, Maisons and other places, where are to be seen these shameful monuments of the insatiable cupidity of placemen, the imbecility of kings, and the oppression of the people. I would send them on this excursion not to convert them, for thus prodigality is the thing they regret, but at least to shame them into silence.

* There are among other instances (beside Chilly), Maisons, which cost twenty-two millions (916,666 l.), Vaux - Pralin, eighteen millions (750,000 l.), &c. &c.

4 November 1790.

SINCE the month of February of the present year 1790, we have travelled, to see new houses and other curiosities, six hundred and twenty leagues, exclusive of our excursions to places with which we were already acquainted, and our various journeys from Saint Leu to Paris. In the course of our travels we have had occasion to make one general remark which has led to very useful reflections : In the numerous villages through which we have passed we have uniformly found the peasants mild, affable and obliging where the seignors have been generous and beloved ; but where these seignors have been tyrants and detested, we have found the peasants disobliging and churlish. Tyranny is not only hateful because it is unjust, but because it sours and contracts the hearts of those whom it bends
to

to its yoke: it is impossible to degrade and oppress men without at the same time corrupting them.

*End of the Extracts from the Journals of
our Travels *.*

* If the limits of this work would have permitted, I would have inserted in these extracts a description of the beautiful gardens of Dampiere, Méréville, Bayes, Raincy, Villeroi, &c but these shall be given in another work, which it is my intention to publish in about eighteen months

*Summary of the Course of Studies I pursued
with my Pupils, and the Treatises I
wrote for their Instruction.*

THE general end of study is to form the understanding and the heart ; that is, to cultivate, extend and perfect the intellectual faculties of the pupil, and to present to him during the course of his education a complete system of morality ; in fine, to furnish him with resources in adversity, with preservatives against wearisomeness and the passions, and of consequence to inspire him with a taste for literature, the fine arts, and every other source of moral amusement. In general, every individual well organized is endowed with a propensity and aptitude to a particular science, or discovers a talent of some kind or other. It is of importance that we should find out what
this

this propensity is, that it may be placed in action; and we cannot succeed in this enquiry but, by means of a very extensive and diversified plan of studies. This is precisely what I have done for my pupils. In this plan were included the living and dead languages, history, mythology, literature, natural history in general, botany, chemistry, natural philosophy, geography, civil law, drawing, architecture, the mechanical arts, pharmacy, &c. I was desirous at the same time that they should neglect no bodily exercises that might develop and augment their physical strength. This was embracing an infinity of objects; but I conceived that by reforming absurd practices and defective methods, by employing various new means which I had arranged in my head, by making all their recreations instructive, and by devoting myself wholly to my pupils, I should easily accomplish this enterprise. I am not qualified to judge of the proficiency they have made in
Latin :

Latin: having no knowledge of this tongue I presided not in their studies. I am as little acquainted with Greek, and yet I was not useless to them with respect to that language. I wished them to learn it; but they felt no predilection but for living languages. That I might excite in them a desire for this acquisition, I pretended myself of a stratagem: I pretended that, in order to be mistress of the etymology of an infinite number of words in our own language which are derived from this source, as the terms of medicine, anatomy, and many other arts, I was resolutely determined to learn Greek. I accordingly engaged a master, and took lessons from him for two months. During all this time I never spoke of the Greek language but with rapture, and frequently enlarged with emphasis upon the delights of my progress and the pleasure I found in the investigation of Greek roots. Meanwhile they perceived with surprise that I read

fluently the strange and uncouth characters in which this language is written : it is true that my science extended only to the alphabet and a small number of words in the language : but to them I appeared a Stephanus in petticoats. They requested me to teach them what I knew : I consented, and at the end of a month they wished to receive instructions from a master. I must observe here, that if you wish children to learn a great many things at a time, it is necessary artfully to induce them to propose the study and desire masters themselves ; and when they do this, you ought to tell them that you cannot consent to their request but on condition they will promise to persevere in this new study of voluntary choice, because there is something weak, and of consequence something shameful, in renouncing a purpose in which we have spontaneously engaged. If this stratagem be not employed, children, to whom it is intended to give a very miscellaneous

cellaneous education, will find themselves overloaded with studies, and will conceive disgust and aversion. I would not have recourse to this artifice in matters of absolute necessity or reputed to be such, as Latin in the education of men, history, geography, &c. but I would employ it in relation to all those instructions which it is not accounted shameful to be without. My pupils took two Greek lessons a day, and generally that of the afternoon in my presence, as well as the English, Italian *, and German lessons, languages of which they have a perfect knowledge, particularly the two last. It is impossible in this place to give a minute account of the methods I pursued :

* To engage them to learn Italian, I undertook to instruct them myself in the elements of this language for the space of three months and a half, and have frequently supplied the place of the English and Italian masters, in case of absence or indisposition.

this will be the subject of a work in two volumes, which I shall one day publish. I have, unassisted by any one, taught my pupils history, mythology, and every thing appertaining to literature, and I will venture to affirm with a minute attention and study that are without example both in public and private education. I do not believe it possible for a person to be better informed in this respect than M. de Chartres, considering his age. It is true that his lessons were peculiarly agreeable to him, and such they will always be when we take care to mix with them researches not to be found in any elementary book, and to relieve them by conversation. Beside the readings of two hours or two hours and a half every day, beside the chronological abridgments which I composed for them to learn by heart, I contrived relative to history and mythology a comprehensive table, containing hints of all that was singular and curious in these sciences.

This

This catalogue I called *A Table of Memoranda*. I read successively to my pupils these heads, and they related from memory the incidents to which they referred. For example, I read the following article : *Ægeus; sail of the ship*. The pupil recites the particulars of the return of Theseus, conqueror of the Minotaur, and of the death of Ægeus, caused by Theseus forgetting to change the black sails of his vessels for white, &c. I read again : *Chilon, paternal love, admirable inscription*. The pupil relates that Chilon died with joy on embracing his son, who had come off victor in the Olympic games ; and that to this same Chilon is attributed the inscription engraven on the doors of the Temple of Delphos : *Know thyself*. These instances may suffice to give an idea of my plan, from which I derived the greatest utility. The table should contain hints only to excite the memory, and not tell the story afresh, as its title implies. This
kind

kind of exercise, while it strengthens the memory, will at the same time teach the pupil to express himself with facility and purity, because the preceptor will be careful to point out to him every impropriety of language.—I have caused a magic lantern to be constructed, including in it a double advantage, that of presenting instructive facts to the mind, and of offering to the eye figures delineated in a pure style of design, with an accurate observance of the costume. My pupils, at their recreations, amuse themselves with explaining this magic lantern, which contains the principal events in sacred and Grecian history *. The

* I had formed a plan of representing in the manner of the *ombres chinoises* the most striking incidents of fabulous history ; but the persecutions and mortifications I have undergone for two years past, have not left me enough of leisure and tranquillity to employ myself in matters of mere amusement, which, however useful, were of the nature of recreations.

tapestry

tapestry of the chamber of Mademoiselle d'Orleans, at Belle Chasse, represents all the great men of the Roman republic, and all the emperors and empresses in regular succession down to Constantine the Great. The heads are profiles, formed from antique medals so that the resemblance is preserved. The screens of the same apartment represent the succession of the kings of France. In all these collections the corresponding dates are placed. To neglect no means of instruction, the copies from which my pupils learned to write were upon the subject of history, mythology, and geography, and were selected from my extracts ; all these copies have in the course of their education been transcribed by them a great many times. With respect to literature, I have successfully pursued the method which I pointed out eleven years ago in one of my publications. I began by reading to them all the poets and authors of the third and second order.

der. During these readings I endeavoured to cultivate in them an excellent spirit of criticism : we had sufficient opportunities of exercising it ; and as it is much easier to perceive the defects of a moderate work than to feel and discriminate the beauties of a first-rate writer, they were soon very competent judges of the plays of Mademoiselle Barber, la Grange Chancel, Campistron, Antreau, and other authors of this class ; but they would certainly at the same age have been very imperfect judges of Corneille, Racine, Voltaire, Crebillon, la Fontaine, Moliere, &c. A person who learns a language, however great may be his penetration, begins with explaining such books in it as are of inferior reputation ; he reserves the reading of the best works till he knows enough of the language to discover all its delicacies and feel its harmony. Is it to be supposed that a child of eleven years can taste this kind of beauty even in his own tongue ? That
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he should perceive excellencies which can neither be analysed nor defined; for example, the undefinedness of idea which constitutes the sublimity of Rousseau's odes, and the charm of various passages of Telemachus, and numberless descriptions of Buffon.² Certainly not; your pupil will not be competent to this till he has read and compared a great deal, till you have formed his taste and cultivated in his mind all the germs of sensibility.

In reading the first description of books I have recommended, we must be careful of two things, that our criticisms be not puerile and trifling, and that the idea of their mediocrity have no influence on the judgment, and do not occasion asperity and injustice. After having read all the authors of the second class, and made extracts from them with remarks and reflections, we proceeded, when my pupils had acquired all the rules necessary to be observed relative to works of a different nature,

nature, to a course of reading for which they waited with extreme impatience, that of our great authors. Here it was necessary to guard them against another inconvenience, that of blind admiration. Nothing corrupts the taste and arrests the progress of knowledge so much as prejudice of whatever kind it may be ; whether it be partiality or contempt, all the operations of the mind are suspended : we no longer see with our own eyes ; no longer judge from the understanding and the heart, but renounce all the noblest faculties of man. This is a vice from which sufficient care is not taken to preserve young minds.

Preceptors in general wish their pupils not only to adopt all their opinions, but to adopt them without discussion or enquiry. I am persuaded that it is a shorter and more commodious method to pronounce dogmatically, than to give a clear and explicit definition, and hear what are the thoughts and opinions of the pupil :
but

but to decide and to dictate is not to convince; and the preceptor who shall proceed in this way will form only men of stupidity and devoid of character. For myself, I am certainly desirous that my pupil should respect and love me, and that he should entertain, if possible, a good opinion of my judgment and taste: but whenever he differs from me in sentiment, if it imply no breach of the confidence he ought to repose in me, I applaud him; I wish this sometimes to happen, and I should even ridicule him were I to see that he implicitly followed my judgment in all things. My experience, the esteem he has for me, and the friendship which unites us, lead him to hear me with attention, pleasure and deference: this is all I desire in things the most essential. I am sure of convincing him respecting any point of morality: my reasonings being founded on principles which I have deeply rooted in his heart, he understands me before I have

have done speaking, and finishes what I was going to say, we start from the same point, our feelings are similar, and it is precisely as if I reasoned with myself. But in arbitrary things, or things of mere taste, where, without any violation of good sense, we may be allowed to differ in opinion, we do not always think exactly alike; we then debate and argue, and it is thus we have lived together since he attained the age of thirteen or fourteen years. If I am unwilling that he should entertain blind partiality respecting myself, if on the contrary I am desirous, as soon as his reasoning faculties begin to unfold themselves, that he should in general examine my opinions before he adopts them, it may be supposed that I am careful he should not contract prejudices of any kind or upon any subject. In fine, to accustom the pupil to judge for himself, as soon as his understanding appears to be sufficiently formed, we should let the task

devolve wholly upon himself of remarking the beauties and faults of the author we read with him, contenting ourselves with pointing out to him those which he passes over in silence.—I have also instructed my pupils in geography, have given them a general idea of the manners and customs of the different people of the ancient and modern world, and a particular knowledge of all the remarkable monuments and natural curiosities to be found in Europe and other parts of the globe. One of their tutors (M. Alyon) taught them the use of maps and the globes.—I farther undertook to instruct them in every thing I knew of natural history, that is to say, the animal kingdom, and what was most curious in the phenomena of nature and its singular productions. As to mineralogy I was incompetent to the task ; but as I knew an acquaintance with chemistry to be necessary to that science, I caused a course of chemical lectures to be drawn up, which
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I studied with them, and they were then taught the elements of mineralogy*. We also learned botany together, chiefly at the time of our airings and recreations; and I attended the lessons that were given them in medicine; for I was desirous they should acquire a knowledge of drugs, of the quantity that might be taken at once, and particularly the danger of making use of them. I wished them also to be able to distinguish from the appearance of a drug whether it were stale or fresh, that is to say, salutary or pernicious, that thus they might be secure from those negligences and mistakes which have proved fatal to the life of so many individuals. Medicine is a science con-

* They have studied various other chemical courses. I assisted only in the first, not with a view of learning this science, for which I have no inclination, and which, like all other abstract sciences, is greatly above my comprehension; but in order to give my pupils a taste for it; for nothing so powerfully excites the emulation of a child as to find himself at school with his preceptor.

nected with natural history, inasmuch as it employs the substance of the three reigns, and with chemistry inasmuch as relates to the composition and decomposition of these substances, and it has over both the advantage of philanthropy and utility. I am therefore at a loss to perceive why it has hitherto been excluded from our systems of education. I was farther desirous that my pupils should be competent to the performance of phlebotomy, and that like the heroes of Homer they should be at no loss to apply the first dressing to a wound. With respect to anatomy we contented ourselves with a small number of illustrations from figures moulded in wax, and those only in relation to the heart, the circulation of the blood, and the two organs of hearing and sight; to which they added a regular course of myology (in which I did not join them), illustrating it as they went along by the sort of figure well known among artists, and having the
skin

skin stript away from one whole side of the body : without this study they could not have become perfect in drawing, since from it we learn the exact position of the muscles, and are enabled to copy them with correctness and judgment.— As my pupils were destined one day to possess considerable fortunes, I wished them to have a love of the arts : but in order to this it is necessary that we understand and cultivate the principles of those arts, otherwise we shall prefer the meaner kind and admire moderate talents. My pupils therefore were taught drawing, and with an accuracy and truth that might give them eminence, if the disposition were not wanting ; but at all events a thorough knowledge of this delightful and sublime art. The elements of geometry they were taught solely by M. Lebrun. They studied also, without me, a course of natural philosophy in which he presided, and a course of law,

commenced long before the Revolution, and which has since been continued, adding to it a comparison between the old code and the new. These lectures were given partly under my inspection and partly under that of M. Lebrun, and they derived from them great pleasure and benefit.

Such are the studies which they have regularly pursued. But they have acquired other kinds of knowledge under a more agreeable name, that is to say during their recreations, which have been contrived so as to be equally instructive and various. In the winter season I accompanied them every eight or ten days to the Comédie Française, taking care to select such pieces as they had never before seen. During the representation, attentive solely to my pupils, I studied their sentiments and feelings, corrected their ideas when they were erroneous, and the next morning I made
· them

them dictate* an analysis of the performances, which was brought to me and instantly corrected. At other times we spent part of our mornings in visiting monuments, sales and collections of pictures, cabinets of natural history, extraordinary animals, either at the fairs or in private menageries, and lastly manufactures. In our excursions of this kind relative to the arts, we were always accompanied by a person who from his talents, information and taste, was competent to direct our judgment relative to

* Till the hand writing of children be perfectly formed they ought not to write their compositions themselves, but dictate them; not only that their hand writing might not be injured, but to accustom them to dictation; for we may be able to compose with great facility when we write ourselves, and may entirely lose this facility when we attempt to dictate to an amanuensis, from want of practice. I am myself an example of this: I write without difficulty in a room full of children reading aloud, or with a person playing upon a harp by my side; but I could not dictate a letter that should have common sense.

architecture, sculpture and painting. The tombs in the churches, the statues and pictures we saw, recalled to the minds of the children certain leading particulars in history and mythology, and the ease with which they discovered their true explanation rendered it doubly delightful, and led them to perceive the utility and beauty of their course of studies. I also found that our visits to the different manufactories were productive of one very considerable benefit to the children, distinct from the knowledge they acquired, that of making them hardy, and of curing them for ever of a thousand petty delicacies at once incommodious and absurd. For six years they employed a part of three or four mornings in a week in descending into subterraneous places, mounting staircases composed of six or seven stories, and commonly terminated by ladders, traversing on foot large courts covered with mud or snow, &c. : and during all this curiosity led them

them cheerfully to support the inconvenience of the strongest and most disagreeable smells (such as those of tan-pits, and places where catgut is prepared and soap and candles are manufactured), the dampness of vaults, the burning heat of stoves, the deafening noise of hammers and anvils, and lastly the risks which it is necessary to encounter in examining certain of these operations *. I accompanied them myself in all these excursions, and they have reaped from them considerable advantage ; but the advantage would have been greater had I possessed at first in this respect the knowledge I have since acquired, as I should then have given a systematic arrangement to

* Being present at a smelting operation at the house of M. Boulher, silversmith, M. de Chartres went too near to the furnace, and had his leg very much burned ; but he took no notice of the accident, nor was it discovered till we came away, and upon perceiving his stocking torn and bloody. He was then thirteen years of age.

these things, which would have impressed them more strongly on the memory. We ought to follow the regular course pointed out to us by the chain that connects one trade or manufacture with another : an interesting picture would thus be exhibited of the progress of human industry, we should be taught properly to appreciate first discoveries, and the potter would not be despised when his humble labour was considered as having given rise to the brilliant works of *Sèvres*. It was proper also that we should pass from the glass-houses to the manufactories of crystal, and from thence to the workshops of Saint Gobin, where you see large quantities of glass in a state of perfect fluidity. This thought only occurred to me in the last year of our excursions ; but I repaired the defect as far as it was possible. I had regularly written an account of what we saw, and this account I took the trouble to compose afresh, placing the arts and manufactures in the order

order in which they ought to have been seen, and having done this the manuscript was read by us again and again. —The other recreations for the winter season were billiards, shuttlecock, &c. the study of vegetable history in engravings, the amusement of the historic magic lantern, the exhibition of proverbs and pantomimes of my own writing, the laying down plans in relief, the construction of enamel and various other operations of chemistry in application to the arts, the working at turnery and joiners work, and the taking to pieces and putting together miniature models of palaces : each member of these palaces is marked with a number referring to a manuscript catalogue of architectural denominations and terms. One person has this catalogue in his hand, and examines as the pupil takes up the member of the building, whether or no he call it by its right name. In this manner the scholar is not only familiarized with the names of the

members and ornaments in the different orders, but also has a practical lesson upon several of the geometrical solids. These models were made under the direction of M. Lebrun and constructed with great accuracy; and the children who take to pieces and put together by way of amusement these members for ten years successively, assuredly learn as much of architecture as theory can teach, and are in no danger of confounding the places of the different ornaments which they have verified several thousand times.

Subsequent to the journey we made to the coasts of Normandy and Bretagne, in which we saw so many sea ports, and examined with minuteness the works of Cherbourg and the dockyards of Brest, l'Orient, &c. M. d'Orleans gave us a very beautiful and accurately constructed model of a man of war, which was fixed in a proper situation at Belle Chasse, and my pupils, under the direction of a person instructed in the subject, amused themselves three or four times a week with naming and explaining

explaining the different parts of its construction.—During the summer we visited monasteries, as well as the country seats and gardens of the nobility. We also represented plays, confining ourselves to the pieces in my Theatre of Education. At other times we have recited in a dramatic form different passages in the history of voyages, the scene of exhibition being the garden, and every person belonging to the house taking a character in his turn. The play at prison-bars was also one of their favourite amusements. I confess that I entertain a particular partiality for this sport, because it is capable of considerable moral effect. The persons engaged may display in the first place probity and a willingness to condemn himself, as well as courage and a willingness to suffer rather than see others suffer, since the parties are to be arranged so as to render the skill on both sides equal, since you have an opportunity of pronouncing
against

against yourself in all doubtful questions, and of exposing yourself to deliver your friends. It is of the utmost importance to present the game in this point of view to the mind of children, to have a vigilant eye upon them during the exercise, and to applaud not him who runs with the most grace, but him who shews himself most hardy, equitable and generous. When in the country my pupils always took two airings every day, the first of them at half after six in the morning. This began with running, leaping, and climbing trees, and then consisted in going round the park with the gardener, who told them the names of the different plants and pulse, and the mode of cultivating them, and concluded with manual exertions in the cultivation of a little garden of plants belonging to themselves. The gardener was a German, and spoke to them in that language. Our evening airing, unless when we took severer exercise than usual, was for the greater

greater part dedicated to botany. When we did not botanize the conversation was always in English, our rule was also to talk English every day at dinner, and Italian every evening at supper. This continued for five or six years, and was then laid aside, but we persisted in speaking English in our walks to the end of the education. When I took an airing in the carriage, M. de Chartres and his brother for the five last years rode with us on horseback, and M. de Beaujollois for the three last. Finally, when the weather was extremely unfavourable they had a dance in which the servants and the peasants of the vicinage took a part.

Gymnastics,

Gymnastics, or Bodily Exercises.

TO this branch of education, too much neglected among us, I had paid great attention. Without recurring to antiquity for instances of bodily strength that would in the present day appear miraculous, a view of the armour of our ancient French knights is sufficient to shew how greatly the human species is in this respect degenerated. Where is the man now to be found who could walk a mile clad in a suit of such armour, without sinking under its enormous weight? Yet every knight wore it for months together; and travelled, ran and fought under the load. Since the execrable invention of gunpowder, an artificial and succedaneous strength has rendered personal vigour nearly useless in war: but in common life the exercise and perfect development of man's physical powers are still equally necessary. The object of gymnastics, considered as a part of education, is

to strengthen the constitution, establish the health, enable us to undergo fatigue, give agility, address, suppleness, force, and that confidence which confirms courage, and makes us perform extraordinary actions without danger ; in fine, to fortify us against all the accidents of life, and determine the growth of the body to the last degree of extension that nature can give it. For it is not to be supposed that a young man, brought up effeminately, will acquire that shape and size which a good education would have procured him. Effeminacy and corruption of manners in early youth oppose nature's efforts and intentions, stop her slow but wise progress, and produce rickety and dwarfish beings, those weak effeminate creatures, full grown at sixteen and decrepit at forty-five. For some years I was entrusted with the care of a child (my nephew), to whom I paid as much attention as my duty to my pupils would permit. My care was particularly turned to-
ward

ward his health, which was in a deplorable state: we were apprehensive for his lungs, and that he would be deformed, and he was beside little, weak and thin to an extreme degree. I gradually and with proper care made him pursue the exercises performed by my pupils: like them I made him sleep on wood, a custom excellent on a thousand accounts, particularly as to the shape and the lungs, as it prevents catching cold, which is generally occasioned by perspiration at night, excited by the heat of mattresses, and checked upon getting out of bed (particularly in winter) by the cold morning air. Six months ago I returned this child to his father, and I do not think there can be found a finer, stronger, or more active young man, of the age of fifteen, better and more regularly formed, or of a more robust constitution. The following are the means I adopted with respect to this part of education.

1. *Shoes with leaden soles*, which my pupils wore

wore from the time they were put under my care to their quitting me. These soles were at first very thin, and their thickness was insensibly increased. When M. de Chartres left me each of his shoes weighed a pound and an half, consequently the two weighed three pounds, and with this weight he ran, leaped, and walked three or four leagues at a round pace without being in the least fatigued. The shoes of Mademoiselle d'Orleans weigh at present two pounds, she never wears any others, except when she dances; she walks and runs with them without any appearance of being thus loaded; in the mean time her constitution is naturally very delicate, and she is not yet fourteen years of age. Beside the strength and swiftness which the habit of wearing such heavy soles must necessarily give, it has two other advantages attending it, that of guarding the feet from all dampness, and promoting the growth by gently stretching the muscles of the legs.

2. The

2. The exercise of *dumb bells* which I directed to be performed before breakfast, and which continued only for ten or twelve minutes. It is an ancient exercise which Galen prescribed to his convalescents : a full account of it may be seen in the *Encyclopedie*, from whence I took it, under the word *balteres*. After this exercise the children carried, for an equal portion of time, pitchers full of water. In the country they crossed a considerable space of the garden, filled their pitchers at a natural fountain, and carrying it into their chamber filled the decanters for dinner. As this exercise had a useful object, they performed it in the country with pleasure ; but at Paris, where we had no natural spring, they carried pitchers full of sand from one apartment to another, and as it was then merely a lesson it was repeated without desire or alacrity. These exercises therefore should have an appearance of utility, which is very easy in the country,
but

but very difficult at Paris. The size of the pitchers is to be increased as the children grow older: they should be round, with a small opening, and the handle, instead of being on the side, should cross the mouth. The two exercises just mentioned were performed on rising in the morning, and before breakfast.

3. The exercise of *the pulley*. M. Tronchin originally invented this, and formerly practised it with success in amending the shape of deformed children. He related the circumstance to me thirteen years ago, and I immediately applied the idea to education. This pulley, fixed to the wainscot, resembles exactly that of a well, but instead of a bucket a leathern bag filled with sand is fastened to the rope. Round the pulley I directed a close balustrade to be placed to prevent any accident from the fall of the weight. In performing this exercise the child must stand perfectly upright,

upright, his feet close together, never rising on his toes when he pulls the rope, and not letting it slide through his hands in lowering the weight. In the country it was performed at real wells, placed in the children's little gardens. The wells were constructed of large casks, over which the pulley was fixed, and from these they drew water; and as the size of the buckets could not be increased, because it was necessary to proportion them to that of the well, I contrived buckets with a double bottom into which weights might be put at pleasure.

4. The exercise of *the doffer**. This I had ordered so as to interrupt the drawing lesson for a quarter of an hour. In the midst of the lesson the children rose, took upon their shoulders doffers proportioned to their size, and loaded according to their strength, and with these they went down and up several pair of

* A sort of basket to be carried on the shoulder. T.

stairs. When M. de Chartres set off for Vendome, he could carry in his dosser two hundred and twenty-five pounds, which no person belonging to the house could do with forty pounds less.

5. Exercise of the *rope*. This is a large rope fastened to a staple in the ceiling in the middle of the room. The exercise, which is fit only for boys, consists in ascending to the ceiling by means of this cord; this is very difficult without the assistance of the legs, that is, by keeping them asunder, instead of twining them round the rope, because all the weight of the body rests entirely on the wrists. Difficult, however, as it is, M. de Chartres, his brothers, and my nephew, performed the exercise equally well in this manner. This capability of ascending and descending readily by the help of a single rope, may be of great use on a thousand occasions in life. In case of a fire, if the flames should
render

render it impossible to escape by the doors; in travelling, if we wish to descend into those deep and curious grottos which many travellers, for want of this practice, have not been able to see, or at least have incurred great danger. This exercise, as well as that of the pulley, I employed as a relaxation between their studies; and in the winter, at Belle Chasse, between each language lesson, and after our reading, my pupils exercised themselves in one of these two ways, or in a *trial of strength of wrists* (*lutte des poignets*) for ten or twelve minutes.

6. *The exercise of weights at the feet.* This was an invention of M. de Montpenfier and my nephew, who practised it every day for six months. This exercise astonishingly increased their growth. The pupil fixes to each foot a weight as heavy as he can carry, without great exertion; he then raises himself by his hands on the rope fixed to the ceiling,
till

till his feet are at some distance from the ground, and for some minutes contracts and extends his legs alternately with considerable force. The weights which M. de Montpensier fastened to his feet last winter amounted together to fifty pounds, consequently weighed twenty-five pounds each.

7. *Leaping.* There are three modes of leaping ; first, horizontally ; secondly, over something raised above the ground ; thirdly, from a high place to the ground. The last is dangerous, as in this kind of leaping there is a risk of breaking the leg, if it deviate ever so little from the proper direction in falling. This exercise therefore should be proscribed ; especially as a perfect master in the other two modes will leap well in this, if ever he should be under the necessity of risking it to avoid a great danger. In the garden of the country-house, where we spent our summers, I caused a piece of ground about twenty feet square to be dug up. This piece of ground, which was called

the leaping-ground (*fautoir*), was situated under the windows of my chamber, and on a large green, where the exercises of running were performed, so that without quitting my chamber I could see the children run, leap, and play at prison-bars. As the earth in this leaping-ground was soft they could receive no injury by falling. They thus leaped at full speed, that is to say, taking a distance to run: this distance should neither be too short nor too long; twelve or fifteen paces are sufficient. In leaping the feet should not be separated from each other, and the legs should be thrown forward, so that if the child fall his position might be that of sitting on the ground: if he fall on his knees it is a proof that the leap was not well performed. For the high leap I placed two forked sticks on the border of the leaping-ground and between them suspended a cord. The object is to leap over this cord, which may be done in two ways, either by taking a run, or with the feet close,

close, that is, without a run. The cord is only to be hung upon the sticks, and not fastened to them, in order that it may give way if the child should not clear it; for if his feet were to be caught in it, the resistance would make him fall in a dangerous way on his back, and out of the leaping ground. When the pupil is perfect master of this mode, he may venture to leap over real bars, taking care that their height be less than he is accustomed to clear with ease; for instance, if he commonly leap four feet with the loose cord, the bar should be no more than three feet, and we may be sure that, if any imminent danger should require his leaping over a bar, or any similar obstacle, he would then rise as high as if it were only a cord. At this kind of exercise M. de Chartres did not excel the rest of my pupils; but in the horizontal mode, he could clear at a running jump a space of twenty-one lengths of his own foot.

8. *Running.* This exercise I had divided

vided into two kinds ; one a trial of speed, the other of long-windedness. In the latter the pupil does not exert all his force, and by habit a child may run a long time. Mademoiselle d'Orleans at twelve years ran a league without stopping or walking a single instant. No one is ignorant, that in walking the body should be erect, the toes turned out, and the leg advanced before the body at each step ; for it is impossible to walk well if we advance the body and the leg at the same time. In running it is quite the reverse ; the body must be inclined forwards, the toes turn neither in nor out, and the body advance with the legs.

9. *Walking, running, and leaping on the tight rope.* I employed a rope-dancer a whole winter to teach my pupils this exercise at Belle Chasse. They took their lessons when they rose from table, as it is not at all fatiguing, and requires no exertion. This exercise gives agility and boldness : it teaches a person to walk

walk with address and safety in the narrowest and steepest path, which in travelling *, and on many other occasions, is of no small utility.

10. *Riding.* Of this M. d'Orleans gave his children the first lesson, and has since presided at almost all they have taken. They all mount on horseback with courage and skill, leap bars, ditches, &c. M. de Chartres, though he does all these things, has the least inclination to his exercise, and M. de Beaujollois is in this respect a most astonishing youth. Like his brothers, he will travel twenty leagues on horseback and two or three on foot in the same day, without being in the smallest degree fatigued ; but it must be observed that he has been exercised from his earliest infancy in every thing that could render him strong and hardy. When he was put under my care he was only

* For example, on the cornice from Nice to Genoa, a very curious journey, which can only be made in a sedan chair and on foot.

three years old ; and there is not a child living of his age that possesses his agility, address, and strength. If these happy physical qualities were sedulously cultivated, at seventeen he would assuredly be a prodigy in this respect : but of this I have not the smallest hope, since within the four months that he has been no longer under my care, he has been made to give up almost all the exercises which I directed him to perform, and in which he excelled.

11. *Swimming.* Of this too M. d'Orleans gave his children the first lessons, and has frequently swum with them since. They all swim perfectly well, leaping into the water head foremost. I know nothing of this art, but I recommended two things ; that they should sometimes be thrown into the water with all their clothes on, because people are commonly in this state when they fall in by accident, and that they should be carefully instructed in the methods proper

per to be pursued to succour and bring to shore a person in danger of being drowned.

12. *Archery.* Neither M. de Chartres nor his brothers were fond of this exercise, which has in it more gracefulness than utility ; but Mademoiselle d'Orleans and the young persons brought up with her handled the bow with considerable dexterity.

13. *Shooting.* As I was very desirous that my pupils should never be enamoured with the sports of the field, the delight only of the idle, and a passion fatal to the people before the revolution, I never encouraged t' em in this exercise, and they were therefore very indifferent about, and scarcely ever pursued it.

14. *Shooting with a pistol.* M. d'Orleans, who excels in this, gave them lessons, by which they have profited, and they still continue to practise this exercise.

15. *Fencing.* An exercise unfortunately

nately necessary. M. Lebrun alone presided at this. They were taught by an excellent master, whose instructions, I am told, were not thrown away upon them.

16. *Military exercise*, which they partly learned under my inspection. To this they applied themselves with zeal and activity.

17. *Billiards* I had no desire that they should excel in this, for I wished them to have as little inclination for gaming of any kind as for the chase. They played at billiards only by way of exercise, when the weather would not permit them to walk out ; yet they played tolerably well.

18. *Shuttlecock*. In this I procured a tennis-player to give them lessons. To play well, the racket must not be held before the player, near the stomach, nor above the head, but by the side, and thus the shuttlecock is to be struck. Children should be accustomed to play equally with both hands.

19. *Dancing*.

These

These are all the exercises I made them pursue, and the success exceeded my expectation, for in this branch of education I was less seconded and more thwarted than in any other. It was particularly on account of these that I was accused of having a systematic turn of mind, of being *wedded to systems*, &c. Those leaden soles, beds of wood, baskets, dumb-bells, pitchers and pulleys, were thought cruel and whimsical inventions. It was said at first, that *such foolish conceits, such extravagant systems, would kill the poor children, whose delicate constitutions were unable to support so Spartan an education*. Afterwards, when all these delicate children visibly grew more robust; when the defective shape of some of them entirely disappeared; when their health became daily more confirmed; when without effort they were able to bear fatigue which men would with difficulty have supported; when,

their tempers and dispositions feeling the effects of their happy constitution of body, they became cheerful, active, and lively, nothing more was said. My coadjutors, however, never presided with any degree of zeal at these exercises, which were in general performed well only when I was present. Either what I directed was forgotten, or was regarded with indifference and inattention. This appears from various passages in M. Lebrun's Journal, and I was therefore obliged to resume continually the same subject, and repeat the same orders. How different would have been the success, had my vigilance and activity in this respect been seconded! The six winter months which we spent in the capital were also detrimental to many of these exercises, particularly after the residence of the king was fixed at Paris. Before that period we had a very charming garden within the precincts of the
Tuileries,

Tuileries *, where I had caused a leaping-ground to be made, and where my pupils went every morning to exercise themselves in running, jumping, and climbing trees. But having for the last two years been deprived of this garden, it was impossible they should make the same progress †. I was very desirous of passing a whole year together in the country with my pupils, in a solitary place, and at a distance from any capital. Had it not been for the troubles by which France has been agitated, I should have executed this project during the last year that M. de Chartres was with me, and it is in this manner that every education ought to be finished : but I have never been able to effect but in part, and very

* This garden belonged to M. de Penthievre, who had the goodness to make me a present of it, and I gave it to Mademoiselle d'Orleans.

† The garden of Belle Chasse was a very excellent one ; but as it belonged to the nuns of the convent, females alone could be permitted the free use of it.

imperfectly, the plans I have formed. I mention them, however, as far as I am able, in the hope that other preceptors may follow them, improve upon them, and experience in their execution fewer obstacles and contradictions. Beside the moral advantages which would have accrued from a whole year of absolute solitude, and from studies pursued without interruption, at an age when the faculty of reason is expanded, I could have wished to accustom my pupils to the rigours of a winter in the country. I would have exercised them in sliding on the ice, running in the snow, braving the severest cold, climbing slippery rocks covered with ice ; for I would have chosen a wild and picturesque situation, and they would have admired nature under a new and austere form. Instead of this grand and striking spectacle, they have seen, during their winters, nothing but mist and mud, and their eyes have never been struck with the bright splendour
of

of sheets of ice, and a pure dazzling snow *.

Before I terminate this article upon the subject of gymnastics, I ought to make one observation, which is of no small importance ; that all bodily exercises are salutary only when their performance requires no painful exertion. If they fatigue, if they depress, if they leave behind them a continual sensation of pain and weariness, they debilitate instead of strengthening : but a due gradation in applying them, and habitual use, render easy the most violent. I could give the exact steps of the gradation adopted for all my pupils, as the particulars respecting M. de Char-

* It is only in mountainous places, such for example as the environs of Thiers and Clermont, in Auvergne, that the country exhibits a beautiful spectacle in winter. This picture is admirable in its kind, when adorned with rocks, cascades, frozen torrents, &c. but in flat countries the earth, stripped of its verdure and shades, offers only the most monotonous and insipid prospect.

tres and his brothers were minuted every two months in M. Lebrun's Journal, and those relative to the other children in mine: but this account would be too long, and would occupy too much room in a work dedicated to extracts and summaries. Beside, the gradation must be varied according to the subject, and the best and safest rule that can be laid down is, to examine attentively and consult the child on every exercise that he is directed to perform. He should exert all his strength, but the weight should be diminished if it appear to occasion him the least pain. I will only say in general, that the method of making an insensible addition daily is a very bad one. Twelve years ago I made this experiment as to the pulley. Every day I put into the bag a tea-spoon full of sand, and I found that the child strained as much to hoist it at the end of two months as the first day, which ought not to be the case. I then took out of the bag sixty tea-spoons-full.

The

The child did not appear to raise it any easier at first, but in a fortnight he could do it with extreme facility. Thus at every new exercise, or new addition, the child ought to strain a little, but without finding this effort painful. At the end of ten or twelve days he should not strain at all. If the contrary should take place, it is a proof that the weight is too great, and it ought to be diminished a little; and when the child has acquired the capability of hoisting or carrying a weight without difficulty, he ought to persevere for three or four months, at the end of which time the weight is to be increased to what he can bear without great exertion, unless the exercise has been interrupted; and in that case, on resuming it, the weight should be somewhat less than it was on his quitting it.

When a child is in his fifth year, we ought to begin to exercise him in running, to make him carry light burdens, drive wheelbarrows proportionate to his
size,

size, at first loaded with grafs, afterwards with branches of trees, sand, &c. When he has completed his fifth year, leaden soles, very light and thin at first, should be added to his shoes. In the case of a girl, these soles should be fastened to the shoes by a ribbon passed round the bottom of the leg. This precaution is not necessary for boys, whose feet are not concealed by their clothes, and whose leather shoes are less liable to come off than stuff slippers. At six he should begin to carry the dosser and pitchers, and successively in the course of the year, all the exercises should be begun with light weights. My grand-daughter, whom I am now educating, and who is just turned of five, hoists up thirteen pounds with the pulley, without any exertion. Three months hence, when the hot weather is over, I shall add two pounds more, for we should always take care to avoid increasing the weight during the excessive heat of summer. Her shoes with leaden soles,

soles, which she has been in the habit of wearing for four months, have, during the two past months, weighed ten ounces and a half; those of a child of the same age and size weigh without leaden soles three ounces, and thus she carries an extra weight of seven ounces and a half, that is to say, nearly half a pound. This weight I shall not increase these three months, and then only half an ounce, because the progressions of weight should be particularly slow and insensible from the age of five to eight, on account of shedding the teeth, which takes place in that interval, during which we should be careful not to fatigue the child, though it is at the same time highly necessary to augment his strength. Another child nine years of age, whom I have had under my care for twelve months, but whose physical education was before very defective, and whose constitution is extremely delicate, began these exercises only three months ago. She hoists with
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the pulley twenty pounds; her shoes with leaden soles weigh twelve ounces; those of Mademoiselle weight two pounds; each shoe consequently weighs a pound. Mademoiselle carries in her dosser sixty-two pounds; but it is to be remarked, that the revolution in her health, occasioned by my departure, and the nervous effects that were the consequence, have thrown her back in all these exercises; she could not resume them till after an interruption of three months, and then with a diminution of all the weights. For example, before my departure she hoisted forty pounds with the pulley, and now she can hoist only thirty-four. Eight months ago M. de Beaujollois hoisted forty-seven pounds: he was then only eleven years old. I must observe, that a person never will be able to raise with a pulley so great a weight as he can carry in his dosser. Mademoiselle d'Orleans carries in this way sixty-two pounds, yet she can hoist but thirty-four. M. de Chartres

Chartres carries two hundred and twenty-six pounds, and hoists only ninety-six : meanwhile this was more than any man who came to the house could hoist with ease. From numerous observations which I have made, it appears to me, that the strongest man cannot hoist a weight greater than that of his own body, yet by habit he may be able to carry three or four times that weight. I have farther observed, that the increase of strength is particularly perceptible from fifteen to seventeen, especially in the last year. M. de Chartres, for example, carried at seventeen two hundred and thirteen pounds ; two months after, he carried two hundred and twenty-six ; at the expiration of three months, he was preparing to increase this weight, when he set off for Vendôme. Unfortunately I have only been able to pursue this progression to the age of seventeen, never having had an opportunity of prolonging an education beyond that term ; but I have

have reason to believe that this increase of strength continues at least to the age of twenty-four or twenty-five. Hence it would follow, that a young man, accustomed from his infancy to these progressive exercises, and continuing them to that age, would acquire a degree of strength of which we can scarcely form an idea*.

In this recapitulation it has been seen, that I made them pursue certain studies and exercises with a view to the utility which may be derived from them in travelling. The following was my mo-

* These exercises gave M. de Chartres and his brothers a degree of bodily strength superior, beyond comparison, to what is usual at their age ; yet, notwithstanding my vigilance, these exercises were in general neither well nor regularly performed. M. Lebrun, as I have said, disliked them, and they were therefore indolently executed, except under my own eyes. Judge then from the accounts I have given of the degree of bodily strength these children would have acquired, had all the tutors in this respect possessed my zeal and punctuality.

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tive: I am of opinion that the education of a young man cannot properly be finished till the age of nineteen or twenty. I knew that my pupils would be taken from me as soon as they should have attained their seventeenth year; and I anticipated, if not with dread, at least with regret, the moment when I should see them enter upon an empty, trifling world, where the least fault to be acquired is a habit of idleness, and a dislike of study and serious conversation. I had sufficient confidence in the principles I had taught them, not to fear their falling into the vices and shameful irregularities so common in the present day: but I beheld them at an age when the mind is as yet not perfectly formed, and surrounded with all the examples and seductions that retard the progress of reason, blind the understanding, deprave the taste, and debilitate the soul. The only way that appeared to me calculated to preserve them
from

from these dangers was to inspire them early with a desire of travelling as soon they should be their own matters. It is by no means difficult to impart this desire to those who have imbibed every species of knowledge which can render travelling truly agreeable. I took care that they should learn to travel with advantage, to make a journal, to discriminate wisely, to enquire, to listen, and to derive information from every thing they might see. After these cares, I was certain that, if they were permitted, the first use they would make of their liberty would be to traverse all the provinces of France, and then to visit foreign nations. There they might, without my assistance, have completed their education. Travelling cannot benefit an ignorant young man, who has no knowledge of history and the arts: on the road he travels post from place to place; in cities he goes to the play and other public amusements, is presented at the houses of the

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the great, and spends his time in visits. He might as well stay in Paris. But a well-informed youth, properly educated, sees every thing with a degree of interest and curiosity; he will not be constantly shut up in a carriage, but will perform the greater part of his journey on foot, or on horseback; he can admire a beautiful landscape, and knows how to transfer it to paper; he will examine the plants with which he is unacquainted; the manners of the peasant will be far more interesting to him than those of the metropolis; frequently will he stop at the door of a cottage; willingly will he repose in a barn; he who has been accustomed to sleep on boards will not be distressed because his lodging is homely. If, in order to see a natural curiosity, a grotto, a singular cascade, it be requisite to climb steep rocks, to walk in narrow paths formed by nature on the brow of a precipice, to descend into a deep cavern by the help of a ladder or

a single rope, he will not hesitate, he will go without fear and without danger, for these were the sports of his infancy. Should it be necessary in a desert that can be traversed only on foot, to carry two days provision, he will cheerfully share the fatigue with his guide; he will say; *This burden is nothing, my dossier weighed a hundred and fifty pounds more* *. Should he visit a sea-port, he will make some stay there; he will compare the wealth, industry, and resources of this foreign mart with those of his own country already familiar to him. He will go into all the manufactories, into the dock-yards, on board the vessels; he will enjoy and feel all the value of the esteem shewn him by his conductors, who in their turn will be astonished to

* Three years ago M. de Chartres made this answer to a person who asked him the day on which he was admitted a knight of the order, if he were not oppressed with the immense weight of his velvet cloak, embroidered with gold.

see a Frenchman of seventeen well informed without being vain. Having satisfied the veteran seaman with the solidity of his knowledge, he may possibly have the ambition to astonish the young mariner by his activity, and, before he quits the ship, spring with agility to the yard-arm or the mast-head. In cities he will frequent society, to learn their manners and customs, but it will be society of his own choosing: as he loves neither gaming nor the pleasures of the table, he will not visit those who keep open houses; he will seldom also be seen in the palaces of kings: he seeks new objects, all courts resemble each other, and he who has seen one knows all. Fond of literature and the arts, he will be eager to find out those who cultivate them with success; he will derive no small pleasure in conversing with them in their own language, in shewing them that he is not ignorant of the history of their country,

and that he is a stranger to no kind of knowledge. With them he will visit the cabinets of the curious, and the workshop of the artist. All the studies which he has just quitted will thus repass before his eyes; and the celebrated pictures, the monuments, and chefs d'œuvres of the arts of every kind that he sees will be engraven so much the more deeply in his memory, as he is acquainted with them before-hand from accurate descriptions. On his return to his hotel, he will not be idle; he knows how to write a journal, a work that will habituate him to every kind of composition: in his will be found sound criticism, striking relations of customs and manners, sage reflection on laws and government, curious anecdotes, fragments of history, descriptions, and every thing that can paint men and interest the world.—In this manner I dare believe my pupils would have acted, had it been in their power to travel when they

they quitted me ; and this hope and these motives had a considerable influence in the plan of education I pursued *.

* At the moment of my finishing this article of bodily exercises, letters from Vendôme inform me of an action of M. de Chartres, which I should have been glad to have mentioned under the article *swimming* : but as the work went to press as fast as I furnished copy, the sheet in which that article is contained was printed off. I shall content myself, therefore with observing here, that M. de Chartres has just saved the life of a man (inspector of bridges and roads at Vendôme) who was on the point of being drowned, by leaping into the river the moment he heard his cries.

Of Diet.

I HAVE always found that, both in public and private education, too little attention has been paid to the regimen which children ought to observe; as if it were nearly a matter of indifference whether the health were good or bad. On this head I can only repeat what I have said at large in *Adela* and *Theodore*. I shall only add, that health depends principally on two things, temperance, and a knowledge of our constitution. It is not sufficient therefore to prevent your pupil from eating unwholesome things; he must be rendered abstemious, and taught perfectly to know the qualities of aliments, what are salutary and what detrimental to him; without which, he will undermine and destroy the good health you have given him as soon as he becomes his own

own master. To make him abstemious, example, as in all other things, will have far more weight with him than precept; but, above all, if he be inclined to gluttony, we should not suffer any one to jest with him upon the subject; when it is made a matter of pleasantry, he will no longer consider it as a vice, but as an accomplishment, and the cure will be impossible. There are certain kinds of food which are prejudicial to every body; as tarts, salt meat, rich soups, cream, truffles, mushrooms, &c.; and the same may be said of all spirituous liquors. There are others wholesome in themselves, but very improper for particular constitutions: as milk, so injurious to bilious persons, or those who are subject to complaints of the liver; and acids, pernicious to all who have weak lungs, to very thin children, and to all young persons at a certain period of life. The advice of the oracle of Delphos, *Know thyself*, to be completely

useful, ought to be understood physically as well as morally. A child therefore should learn to know himself in both respects; and I would say to one child, that he is inclined to melancholy, that he is sluggish and indolent, that he has a brown and yellow complexion, and sometimes spotted with a dusky red, because his liver is disordered, and he is of a bilious habit; I would then point out to him the regimen that he ought to follow, and, without deception, would promise him cheerfulness, vivacity, and a good complexion, upon condition that he sleep less, use more exercise, and totally abstain from milk, eggs, fat viands, &c. To another, who is subject to choler, and is of a sanguine temperament, I would say, that he will get rid of his frequent painful sensations, and correct the heatiness of his temper, if he will observe a soft and cooling regimen, renounce farinaceous vegetables, eat less bread, &c. &c. These children

children will consider health as so much the more valuable, as they will know that the state of the body has great influence on that of the mind: once persuaded of this truth, they will feel, to the degree that I wish them, how beneficial and estimable temperance is. At the same time I would tell them that this influence, resulting from the state of the body, is capable of being subdued, and that reason can always triumph over these mere animal dispositions: but that it is nevertheless both prudent and necessary to spare ourselves, as much as possible, painful conflicts and habitual sufferings; that the author of nature, who only wishes our happiness, imposes on us beneficent laws even when he appears to demand rigorous sacrifices; that to every virtue he has affixed a recompense; and that the reward of temperance is to render more easy the exercise of all other virtues, and to bestow a perfect and unalterable health.

Account of my private Labours for my Pupils.

1. **T**HE journal which I kept during the first three years, containing my observations upon the children, &c.

2. The journal which I continued for a period of six years, written purposely for the inspection of my pupils, and which they read every day.

3. Another journal of our readings, in which I gave an account of every work as soon as we had finished it; writing the title, the name of the author, the number of volumes, and the date when the reading ended.

4. The remarks, observations, and discussions, which I have been obliged to write in M. Lebrun's Journal. This work consists of eleven large volumes, which would make at least twenty in print, and of which the quantity of three or four was written by myself.

5. My

5. My observations on the other journals of the education, those of Barois, Mademoiselle Rime, &c.

6. The moral and religious instructions which I have successively given to my pupils, and which they have learned by rote, and an enormous quantity of loose papers which I wrote at the beginning of every season, under the title of Plans for the Morning * : these I did not insert in the Journal, because they contained a distribution of time which I submitted to the examination of the other preceptors. I required that all the studies and the time allotted to each

* These plans for the morning ought to be renewed on the changes of the season, on account of the walks, the hours for which must vary according to the time of the year ; and the plan of study for winter, summer, &c. cannot serve from one year to another, because the age of the pupil is not the same : one sort of study will demand more time next year, another less ; and their proficiency, new masters, &c. will interrupt the arrangement every year.

should be comprised in the morning; but I gave these gentlemen leave to make their remarks on the arrangement, and to alter such things in it as might be inconvenient to them: thus they examined my paper, returned it to me with their remarks, when I altered what appeared to me reasonable, and M. Lebrun then copied the plan in his Journal, with this title—*Distribution of Time directed by Madame de Sillery*. I have kept all the loose papers in my hand-writing, which make the quantity of a volume.

7. All the chronological extracts, making an enormous volume, which my pupils learned by heart, were drawn up by me, and written with my own hand.

8. The subjects for the magic lantern, all written by myself.

9. The explanation of the tapestry of Mademoiselle d'Orleans' chamber, another volume.

10. Remarks, notes, and explanations,

tions, together with many analyses, entirely re-written from the literary common places of my pupils; containing among others an analysis of the following poems: the Iliad, the Odyssey, the Eneid, the Lusiad, the Henriad, and Paradise Lost, which is entirely of my own composition; beside sixteen large books of analyses, made by the pupils themselves, of all the plays they have seen, or that we read, together with marginal notes and observations in my own hand.

11. Historical, geographical, and mythological extracts, which I made myself from what we read; never reading a work to them without making an extract of greater or less length. These extracts were perused continually; they are all written with my own hand, partly in stitched and partly in bound books, making the quantity of about three large volumes.

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12. One

12. One volume bound on the subject of natural history.

13. Another volume, in my own hand-writing, *on Medicine for the Use of young People of both Sexes, and on Botany and Chemistry as applied to Medicine and the Arts.*

14. Two other volumes in my own hand; one on Religion, the other entitled, *Explanation of Words little known.*

15. One large volume of Miscellaneous Literature; consisting of the most beautiful passages, both in prose and verse, of the best English and Italian authors; beside three small duodecimo in volumes of vocabularies and dialogues those languages, and in German; all made by myself, and written in my own hand.

16. Critical notes written in my own hand in the margins of certain books; among others, of Rochefoucault's *Maxims.*

17. Corrections of the compositions

of my pupils, which I have kept, and which together make a large volume.

18. Journals of the tours and excursions which I made with my pupils; consisting of four volumes.

19. A minute description of all the cabinets and curiosities which we have seen at Paris, a very large volume.

20. A description of all the arts, trades, and manufactures which we saw; two volumes.

All the works above mentioned, written entirely with my own hand, make thirty-five large manuscript volumes, and in print would amount nearly to fifty. Of these I have in my possession all the originals. Copies of them are now preparing for my pupils, who are desirous of having the complete collection, which was made solely for their benefit, and which they have read several times in the course of their education.

Considerable as this labour may appear, it is but a part of what I have
done

done for them. I wished them to preserve for ever in their memory the fruit both of their own reading and mine; I foresaw that these unwieldy volumes which I purposed to give them at the close of their education, were the less likely to be read, from not being easily portable, and as they knew them by heart; had I made them in duodecimo, still I was sensible that it is always inconvenient to carry a book in the pocket, and that it thereby frequently becomes injured and spoiled: it was therefore necessary (beside the volumes of which I have spoken, fit only to be consulted occasionally, and which must generally remain on a shelf in their library) to devise some means of furnishing them with a small portable collection for daily use, and which would thus be truly serviceable. I conceived therefore the design of making my extracts over again, of arranging them in a different order, and of classing all the incidents and
sentiments

sentiments under distinct heads. For example, I extracted from the historians, the moralists and the poets, whatever occurred to me on the subject of *friendship*. For this purpose I consulted my former extracts, and to complete my purpose I had recourse to a fresh series of reading, subjoining to the extracts of French authors several beautiful passages in English and Italian upon the same subject. My treatise upon friendship presently amounted to two volumes in a very small size of one hundred and sixty pages each, and containing a considerable quantity of matter, as they were written in my own hand extremely close and small. I procured two pocket-books of Morocco leather, of the size of my manuscript, and inclosed in each of them one of the little volumes. Each pocket-book was ornamented in the inside with a handsome miniature analogous to the subject. It is astonishing how successful this invention was upon the minds of
my

my pupils. As they had many occasions to have a pocket-book constantly about them, they found it very delightful to add to it an agreeable picture, and the commodious addition of an important and instructive manuscript, to which they might have recourse at every idle moment. They begged me to give them a pattern for these pocket-books; they set themselves to draw and paint proper subjects to ornament them, and determined to learn the art of making pocket-books themselves; they were eager to improve in their writing that they might be able to transcribe such little books; in fine, they were for some time unable to think of any thing else. Madame d'Orleans gave me about that time her portrait in miniature, representing her with Mademoiselle in her arms. I placed this at the head of one of my volumes, and the subjects treated in it were *virtue and innocence*. In this, as in the others, I inserted some Italian and English verses, and added Haller's fine
ode

ode on Virtue, in German. I finished it the 9th of February 1789, and was going to write the date conformably to the custom I have of dating all my extracts, when M. de Chartres, who was with me, asked permission to write on the last page of the book a Latin verse from Horace, applicable to Madame d'Orleans; the following is a translation of it, which he wrote underneath: *Modesty, incorruptible fidelity, and unadorned truth, find in her their most perfect image.*

I next made a pocket-book on *liberty*, of a larger size; but still capable of being carried in the pocket. In this I placed two charming miniatures taken from nature; one representing M. de Chartres giving the first stroke of the axe to the cage of Mount Saint Michael, the other the demolition of the Bastile. I also placed in it a pebble from the ruins of the Bastile, having previously got it cut and polished: over this pebble I wrote the four following lines, composed on
purpose

purpose by M. Pieyre, and which will certainly be read with pleasure.

Redoutable instrument du pouvoir despotique,
J'outrageai trop long-temps la nature & les loix.
La France s'arme enfin pour le plus saint des droits,
Et ma chute affermit la liberté publique*.

I afterwards made a pocket-book on *patriotism*, and then another on the subject of *courts and courtiers*: after which I wrote in this way upon history and mythology. I then resumed moral themes, and made pocket-books on the following subjects: *Curiosity; country life; beauty and the graces; talents; affability and modesty; melancholy; gaiety; celebrated ancient and modern preceptors, with an account of their lives and writings; premature children; temperance; youth; one on oracles,*

- * Redoubted engine of tyrannic sway,
I taught mankind to tremble and obey:
At sight of me even Nature stood appall'd;
Each nerve unstrung, each intellect enthrall'd.
Such power was mine, till indignation came,
O'erturn'd my walls, and blotted out my name.

sybils,

sybils, soothsayers, astrologers, and superstition; six on travels; on time and study; on glory; on celebrated women; on the people; on luxury; two on the arts; abridgment of Fenelon; abridgment of Pascal; four on religion; two of miscellanies; on the dresses of the ancients; on ancient and modern gymnastics; on medicine, with an account of celebrated physicians, ancient and modern, amounting in all to fifty-one pocket-books, of which the least contains a hundred and fifty pages, and the majority of them a hundred and seventy, or a hundred and ninety, written in my own hand extremely close and small. In general they are of the small duodecimo size, but there are twelve of them nearly as large as octavo. Beside these fifty-one which are finished, I have nineteen others begun on different subjects. This work I did not think of undertaking till towards the close of the year 1788; and*

* These consist of two hundred and fifty pages each.

I have

I have therefore written all these volumes in three years. My pupils have profited astonishingly by these new extracts, which contain the essence of what they had been taught, with infinite additions, and interesting and curious incidents, which had the charm of novelty. Nor were the accessory circumstances, as elegance of form, convenience of size so as to be portable, the addition of a fine miniature or beautiful drawing, by any means useless ornaments ; it is of more importance than is commonly imagined to neglect nothing that can embellish morality and instruction in the eyes of youth. In fine, the method I have pursued classed events and ideas regularly in the mind ; and if we want an incident, a motto, or a quotation upon any subject, it may be found without difficulty in this little library, nothing more being necessary than to turn to the pocket-book, the title of which answers to the subject we have in view.

This

This compilation I endeavoured to render equally entertaining and curious by my selection and researches. I have avoided inserting a single line from my own works, that I might have room for all that is most striking in our best authors, contenting myself with adding a few notes. I purpose to complete the undertaking, and to pursue this interesting collection as far as eighty or ninety volumes. Some of them I intend to print, in a small size, so as to be placed like mine in pocket-books. The following will be the first I shall publish : *on patriotism ; on liberty ; on courts and courtiers*. If these specimens appear to be useful to those who have the instruction of youth, the rest shall be published in succession

Thus since I have had the care of my pupils, I have written, as I have already said, the quantity of thirty-five volumes

* And in the same size, so as to be conveniently carried in the pocket.

for

for their education, beside these fifty-one pocket-books that are finished, and nineteen others that are begun. All these works are dated ; of consequence it cannot possibly be said that I include in the number extracts made before my arrival at Belle Chasse, particularly as I have still in my possession all the manuscripts which I wrote prior to that period, except what have been printed : for instance a journal which I began in my youth, consisting of nine large volumes bound, written while I lived in the world, and a considerable part of it at the Palais Royal ; my travels into Switzerland, Italy and Holland, which form six enormous volumes ; and even my excursion to England since my being at Belle Chasse, and which I have not included in the works of education, because the excursion was made without my pupils. I have beside four bound volumes of extracts, and about the same quantity unbound, and a work in three volumes, the
fruit

fruit of my imagination. These make all together twenty-seven manuscript volumes, written in my own hand, and not comprised in the account of my labours for my pupils, because in fact they were finished before the children were committed to my care ; and among these manuscripts I reckon none that I have published either before or since^r my arrival at Belle Chasse ; nor a Journal in two volumes written at that place for my daughter, whose education was not finished till some years after my first residence there. I ought to add, before I conclude this account, that I have given to the public, since my arrival at Belle Chasse, fourteen volumes, exclusive of the present publication. All these works, extracts and manuscripts may possess perhaps little merit ; but certainly the labour of executing them is immense, and to such a degree that the recital may appear fabulous ; nor should I have had the courage to have made it if I had not
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my pupils and fifteen persons beside as witnesses to its truth : I have even a farther proof, that admits of no reply, since the manuscripts in my own hand-writing are still in my possession. I had no secretary, no amanuensis, I have written every thing myself, and no person has ever assisted me in a single extract, either by giving me notes, or reading and marking passages for me.

*My separate Labours for Mademoiselle
d'Orleans.*

I ALONE taught her to play on the harp, and the method I adopted rendered it necessary to compose and to note an infinite number of passages and preludes, which, during the first year, occupies a considerable portion of time. I also invented within the last three years many new things on the harp, which it was necessary to practise by myself, that I might be equal to the teaching them; and finally having undertaken to play with Mademoiselle, I found it necessary to continue the practice I had begun.

Mademoiselle being present at our historical and mythological readings, I gave her no separate lessons on these subjects; but I gave both to her and M. de Beaujollois lessons in orthography,

phy, and presided at several others. As I was desirous that to knowledge and talents Mademoiselle should unite that readiness at manual employment which is so becoming in a female, and tends to make her pleased with a *sedentary life*, I caused her to be taught not only to sew, to embroider, &c. but also every trade that requires neither much strength, nor many implements, such as turnery, making wicker baskets and artificial flowers; and these, with many others of the same kind, I learned with her and the young persons who have the happiness to be her companions and friends. These lessons were deemed recreations because I partook in them, and thus did I give her resources of every kind against wearisomeness and want of employment. Most of these works, when the children had acquired some skill in them, were performed during the readings, by which they preserved their knowledge of them without devoting to them any distinct

portion of time *. To M. de Beaujollois I dedicated every care that could be bestowed on a child of his age ; but eight months before he quitted me all his studies were interrupted, shortened, and deranged, by Madame d'Orleans. As to the moral principles which my pupils received from me, a judgment may be formed from my own Journal and that of M. Lebrun ; and if to these lessons be added those found in my printed works, which they have read several times, with copious extracts from our best moralists, it will be acknowledged that no preceptor ever gave his pupil a more extensive and complete course of morality.

Thus have I given a faithful account

* For the first four years I presided at the drawing academy, but I played during the time on the harp. When I ceased to preside, I established a reading aloud, which was performed in the country by M. Lebrun. I also accustomed my pupils to read while their hair was dressing.

of my conduct, and an exact abstract of my labours. Unquestionably a person endowed with superior talents might *do better*, but *to do more*, to display greater zeal and activity is impossible. The first six years of the education I spent in complete retirement; I then permitted my pupils to see company, once a week, from six till nine in the evening; and at last, during the past eighteen months, I changed these evening visits for a dinner (still once a week), to which I invited five or six persons alternately. The evening visitors had become so numerous that it was impossible to have much conversation with them. My pupils had acquired from them politeness and the manners of the world; but I wished to give them a taste for society and useful conversation, and this induced me to substitute dinners in the room of evening visits: but this one day in the week excepted, we still continued to live in our profound solitude. At a quarter after
4 nine,

nine, when my pupils quitted me to go to supper, M. d'Orleans and two or three persons of my own family came to pass an hour with me, and upon their retiring the grate of the convent of Belle Chasse was shut, and I studied alone till two or three o'clock in the morning. It was by leading this regular and laborious life, by giving up all kinds of visits, by interfering in no business, by continuing no correspondence, by refusing to receive any letters that came to me by the general post *, by disregarding my health,
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* I received so many letters, packets and manuscripts which people had the indiscretion to send me by the post, that to avoid ruin and the loss of immense time, I was forced, five years ago, to send notice to the general post that I should in future refuse all letters coming to me by that conveyance. Frequently, indeed, I received in that way anonymous letters filled with the most opprobrious language; but if works in which the cause of religion and morality is uniformly defended invite enemies, they also procure friends, and I hesitate not to say

and by great watching and fatigue, that I was enabled to perform so many things. In confiding the education of his son to a woman, M. d'Orleans certainly did a very extraordinary thing; and I felt that I ought to justify this confidence by devoting all my time and talents to the charge. This I have done with a regularity and perseverance, which assuredly no man about the court (for there his choice must have fallen) would have been capable of. The particulars of my conduct could not be known. When one lives in the retirement to which I devoted myself, there are no pannegyrists to puff us; partisans are not made without great loss of time, and

that mine have obtained me a great number of friends in the different provinces of France and in foreign countries. The loss of these testimonies of esteem, which were so dear to me, and which were sent by the post, I regret: but I was obliged to add this sacrifice to the many I had already made to my duty.

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there are no praises that I would seek at such a price. Beside, the two principal tutors who were concerned with me in the education, far from doing me justice, employed the extreme leisure I allowed them in speaking ill of me : discourses of this kind were swallowed with avidity by the courtiers of the Palais Royal, displeased that the choice of M. d'Orleans did not fall on one of them, and by their means were propagated through the great world of fashion, where satire always meets a welcome reception. The men of letters, who in general hated me because I have always done without their advice, have never sought their society and still less *their support*, and because, while I esteemed and admired what was excellent in their publications, I at the same time freely censured their principles when I conceived them to be of a dangerous tendency, these literary characters treated me with as little justice as men of the world. Lastly, difference of

political opinions has completed the mania of abuse. I love the revolution, but disorder and intrigue I detest. I am not of the party called *moderate* men, because they are undecided, timid or treacherous, and because principles and oaths admit of no restriction; to compound with them is impossible, we must either wholly reject, or adopt and pursue them. I am not of the party called *violent patriots*, because they want a republic, which is contrary to the constitution and to the civic oath: I have therefore against me the adherents of both parties, as well as all those among the true friends of the constitution, who set no value on the reformation of manners and with the downfall of religion. I have had to encounter a still more irreconcilable and envenomed hatred, that of the aristocrats, particularly the numerous enemies of M. d'Orleans, and the new friends of Madame d'Orleans. It is not therefore to be wondered at that I am the butt of so
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many calumnies, satires and libels. For three years past the object has been to depict me as a person devoted to ambition and affairs of state, forming cabals, entertaining the leaders of parties, concerting deep designs with them in private, &c. Let me ask those who shall read the present publication, whether it has been possible for me to have concerned myself with intrigues, in the course of the twelve years of which I have given an account? I defy any one to relate a single fact of this kind; and I here declare that I have all my life been so void of ambition, so perfectly disinterested, that I have never solicited the least favour, never waited on a minister, but have even broken off my intercourse with those whom before their preferment I had known and esteemed. That I have had nothing to do with such things has been solely owing to myself; since, during the lives of the late M. de

Puyfieuix and the Marshal d'Etrée, it would have been very practicable for me to have obtained reversions of pensions on my life ; but I neither asked nor accepted them. In a word, so great has been my disgust through life for business of every sort, and so manifest my indifference, or if you please incapacity, that in no instance have any of my friends thought proper to consult me on their affairs. I listen to the recital of their griefs with the liveliest emotion ; but the instant the concerns of fortune or ambition are mentioned, I become absent and inattentive, as my answers sufficiently evince. I boast not of this as a virtue, and perhaps friendship has a right to be offended at it, but it is impossible for me to take a part in things that are in my eyes of no value. I have always been averse to pomp and what is so improperly called grandeur : they have ever appeared to me wearisome and embarrassing.

harrassing. I love only mediocrity and that for a thousand reasons; but particularly, I confess, because it requires not the care of superintending revenues, and the accounts of stewards, because no external show and parade are necessary, and because the time of its possessor is his own. Since the great events that have lately passed before our eyes, I listen to public affairs with attention, because such conversation is nothing more than a continual discussion of moral principles that are most interesting both to the understanding and the heart. But this kind of interest inspires neither a taste for intrigue, nor a desire to meddle in private affairs; and I can still declare with equal truth that I have

* By a happy mediocrity I understand three or four hundred a year, a small farm at the distance of at least a hundred leagues from Paris, a neat garden of five or six acres, a man-servant, a maid-servant, and a gardener. This is the only *castle I ever built in the air.*

neither

neither directly nor indirectly interfered in any, and that M. d'Orleans, whom I have the honour to see almost every day, has never consulted me respecting his *. For example, when his *Instructions*, a work containing such valuable principles, made its appearance, I had no previous knowledge of it, and had never read it till it was in the hands of every body. I do not know even by sight his secretaries and agents; and in short M. d'Orleans has never asked my advice in things of this nature, either before or since the revolution, justly thinking that I am neither capable nor desirous of giving it on such subjects; and knowing at the same time that I wish only for his confi-

* His last letter on the regency excepted, which has been inserted in some of the periodical publications. This is the only instance in which M. d'Orleans ever consulted me relative to public affairs; and as I have resolved not to violate truth in the least circumstance, I think it necessary to mention this fact.

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dence relative to his children. I do not make this declaration with a view of diminishing the hatred entertained for me by the enemies of M. d'Orleans, which is solely derived from my inviolable attachment to him, and the profound contempt with which their absurd calumnies and pitiful arts inspire me. In despite of their lies and intrigues, M. d'Orleans has acquired an eternal right to the gratitude of the public, by the lustre and importance of his services, by the sacrifices he has made, by the constancy and purity of his patriotism, and to the people and the true friends of liberty he will ever be dear. Thus when I declare that I have not had the slightest influence on his conduct, and that he has never consulted me respecting either his projects or his affairs, my intention is only to relate an incontrovertible truth, and to exhibit myself such as I really was, solely occupied with my duties, my pupils, and the labours of which they were the objects. Many no doubt

doubt will say that *this apology for my conduct is infinitely too long*, and many will for very good reasons think it *much too minute*. But it is impossible to give a clear and complete justification of a private and sedentary life without entering into a multitude of little particulars. For twelve years injustice and calumny have been unable to make me break silence; but they have within these three years risen to so extraordinary a height, the writings in which I am accused of forming *cabals*, *plots*, and *intrigues*, have so multiplied, these absurd fables are swallowed with so much pleasure by a certain class of society, unfortunately too numerous, and I have suffered so many slanders and persecutions, public as well as private, that I have at length resolved to answer them in the only way that can completely justify me, by exhibiting this faithful picture, and giving an account of the employment of every hour of my life for the last twelve years. In a court
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of justice we prove that we have not committed an action of which we are falsely accused, by establishing an *alibi*: I prove in like manner, by relating the particulars of what I have done for my pupils, that it is morally and physically impossible for me to have employed myself on any thing, but their education. It appears to the world in general very natural, that they who have causes pending should print voluminous cases, filled with minute details of private chicanery, and in which are unblushingly displayed the injustice, and frequently the shame of a brother, a father, a husband, &c. even when the vile interests of money or of ambition only are concerned: but is not reputation, next to virtue, the most valuable of all possessions? Is it absurd, is it even singular, to defend it when we have the means? Is it not permissible to speak of ourselves, of our private conduct, of our feelings and sentiments, and to plead a cause with
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warmth, unless to acquire money or a place? My justification however is only an episode in these volumes, which contain, distinct from this consideration, a sufficient number of new observations and precepts upon the subject of education for me to flatter myself, that in publishing them I present a work truly useful to children, to mothers of families, and to preceptors. Let the world now be my judge : this is what I have wished ; and envy, hatred and malice may henceforth vent their rage, it will give me no disturbance. In this publication, together with my other works, the upright and feeling mind will ever find a refutation of all the calumnies that shall be directed against my probity, rectitude, and disinterestedness ; and no impartial person, after having read this compilation, can believe me capable of forming cabals, and engaging in *plots of state*. I may continue, indeed, to be the object of
perfe-

persecution ; but it is no longer possible to blacken my character, at least by ascribing to me ambitious views, or the vile talents and disposition for intrigue. In this pleasing confidence, I am about to resume my occupations with greater ardour than ever, and when the beloved pupils that are left me have no longer need of my cares, I shall retire to an obscure and profound solitude—there to lose the painful remembrance of the envious, the ungrateful, and the wicked.

POSTSCRIPT.

AS two editions of this work have been printed, one in octavo, the other in duodecimo, it appeared much later than I had supposed. The delay has afforded me the opportunity of adding this note, which will answer before-hand a censure that certain persons will not fail to bestow. It will be said that, out of respect to the happy order of things now established, I ought to have suppressed or altered various passages in the preface to the first volume. To this the following is my answer: The preface was composed and printed long before the departure of the king. The particulars relative to the king include the necessary explanation of a part of the motives which rendered the constitution respectable and dear to my pupils.

pils. Beside, I dare believe that these particulars exhibit true and useful moral principles. These are sufficient reasons to have prevented my suppressing them. Lastly, the king has justified his departure; we ought to believe, that in quitting Paris he had no intention to leave the kingdom, and to overturn the constitution, if it were really the fruit of the general wish. The truth of this he has particularly proved by his acceptance, which bears every mark of sincerity. Had fear led him to accept it, he would have returned, without examination, a short and dry answer, and nothing farther could have been required. But he reflected deliberately, answered at large, and has bound himself by all the reasoning that can render so solemn an oath sacred and indissoluble in the eyes even of those who pay the least respect to public faith. In this view the king's acceptance is a real blessing: the form could not be prescribed to him, and that

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that which he has chosen dispels every alarm, destroys the seeds of discord and of war, both foreign and domestic, and secures the return of order and tranquillity. Nothing therefore that I have said in my preface ought to be suppressed; it was the truth; its utility will at all times remain, and there is nothing in it offensive to the king, since his present conduct dissipates every cloud, and leaves not the smallest ground for suspicion of the inviolableness of his oath.

THE END.

