

blance to the people of *Japan*, as might be deemed a strong family likeness. The *Swedes*, inhabiting the same country, are quite a different race ; with large features, gigantic limbs, and stature. The *Laplander* is truly a pigmy : his voice, feeble and effeminate, accords with the softness of his language. When taken from his tent, he rolls his weak eyes about, like a bird or beast of darkness suddenly exposed to the sun. The *Lapps* are said to be more cunning than the *Swedes*, who consider them as a crafty set of knaves ; just as the *Gipsies* are regarded everywhere. Perhaps their cunning may be principally due to the necessity they are under of being constantly upon their guard, lest they be maltreated ; the people considering them as an inferior order of beings in the creation, and thinking it lawful to make them the objects of contempt and ridicule, using their very name, *Lapp*, as a term of degradation. We have seen a *Lapp*, when surrounded by *Swedes*, deny himself to be a *Laplander*, as if ashamed and fearful of scorn. But they live better than the *Swedish* peasantry ; and in their dealings demand specie, refusing the paper-currency of the country whenever it is offered. It is, nevertheless, impossible for human beings to wear an aspect more hideous than some of their old women ;

CHAP.
IV.

Further
Observa-
tions re-
specting
this People.

CHAP.
IV.

and hence it is that the credulous fear them, and suppose them gifted with the powers of witchcraft. A person unaccustomed to their appearance, meeting one of these creatures suddenly in the midst of a forest, would, as we have said before, start from the revolting spectacle: the diminutive stature, the unusual tone of voice, the extraordinary dress, the leering unsightly eyes, the wide mouth, nasty hair, and sallow shrivelled skin, "the vellum of the pedigree they claim," all appear, at first sight, out of the order of Nature, and dispose a stranger to turn out of their way. The men whom we saw upon this mountain, notwithstanding the keenness of the morning air (*Fahrenheit's* thermometer then being at 45°), made their appearance with their necks and bosoms bare, exposed to the chilling blast. Upon the dwarf birch-trees round their tents, the limbs and carcasses of *rein-deer* were drying in the wind. These articles of food are offered for sale to the peasants, together with the fermented milk of the same animals, contained in the paunches of *rein-deer*, and hung up with the flesh. Sour-milk thus prepared may be kept all the winter: it is in great request among the inhabitants, who buy it of the *Lapps*. Many of the *Lapp* women crowded round us, as soon as we arrived: their necks

and fingers were covered with trinkets and rings. We prevailed upon some of the younger females to sing. Their tone of voice did not differ from the sort of howl we had heard in *Torneå Lapmark*; but they accompanied their voices with a continued beckoning motion of their right hands, standing at the same time opposite to each other, while they sung; which were gestures we had not before observed.

Near the tents there was a large enclosure constructed of trees, thrown together so as to form a tall fence like a *cheval-de-frise*. This enclosure contained about six or seven hundred *rein-deer*, and many of the female *Lapps* were employed milking them. Other *rein-deer* were roaming about the mountain; and, at a distance, we saw several *Lapps* dragging more of these animals towards the enclosure. They are thus folded every night for milking; the fence serving to confine them, and to protect them from the wolves; some persons being constantly appointed to watch them in their enclosure, which has only one narrow gate or place of entrance. We breakfasted by taking draughts of the *rein-deer* milk, which was as rich and luscious as cream, tasting deliciously sweet: but we had afterwards reason to repent of our rashness in having so done; as this milk is very difficult of

digestion, and we were grievously troubled with head-ache in consequence. Afterwards, we entered into the tents, and sat down in some of them. The *Laplanders* themselves have a peculiar mode of sitting in their tents, which may be considered as one of the marks of their *Asiatic* origin: they first kneel, like a *Turk* or *Arab* preparing for his devotion; then, leaning back, they sit, in this posture, upon their feet. Every thing respecting the economy and arrangement of a *Laplander's* tent, and of their manners and customs, has been represented by plates, and accurately described, in the curious work of the Missionary *Leems*¹: but this work is so rare, that we shall briefly describe the ground-plan of one of them, according to the notes made upon the spot. The hearth, or fire-place, is in the centre, between two parallel rows of stones; and a large oblong stone is placed at the entrance: smoke, always filling the tent, escapes through a hole in the top. Pots, kettles, &c. hang from the sides. In the small space between the parallel rows of stones is the only area for cooking. The floor is covered with bushes of the *Betula nana*; upon which are

(1) *Canuti Leemii de Lapponibus Commentatio*, multis tabulis æneis illustrata, &c. Kiöbenhavn, 1767.

laid *rein-deer* skins, for the beds, all round the hearth.

CHAP.
IV.

We took this opportunity to buy one of their finest and fattest *rein-deer*; upon condition that a *Lapp* would conduct it to *Bracken*, upon the *Norwegian* side of these mountains, and there kill it. This fine animal was five years old: we paid for it seven rix-dollars, in silver; and would gladly have sent it to *England* from *Tröñjem*; but without a *Laplander* to attend it, we knew that it would not live. It is also necessary that a *Laplander* should kill the *rein-deer*, in order to taste their venison in perfection. Their mode of doing this is the same used by the butchers in the south of *Italy*; the most antient and best method of slaying cattle, because it is attended with the least pain to the animal, and the greatest profit to its possessor. They thrust a sharp-pointed knife into the back part of the head, between the horns; so as to divide the spinal marrow from the brain. The beast instantly drops, and expires without a groan or struggle, as if it fainted. The blood is not suffered to flow; but is collected afterwards into a pail from the stomach, yielding about two gallons: it is then used for food. In this respect the method differs from that of the *Italian* butchers, who open the throat after the beast has fallen, and suffer the blood to flow.

Their mode
of killing
Rein-deer.

CHAP.
IV.

The *Laplander*, as soon as the *rein-deer* falls and appears to be dead, plunges the knife dexterously behind the off-shoulder, into the heart; then opening the animal, its blood is found in the stomach. The skin which is taken from the legs and feet, they prize highly; because they make their shoes of it. The *Laplander* who attended our *rein-deer* begged for this part of the skin, and was very thankful for it when we allowed him to take it.

After our visit to the *Lapps*, we ascended the lofty *Fjal*, upon which they had pitched their camp; and crossed over into the other road; if roads they may be called, which exhibit no other vestige of human labour than, at every quarter of a *Swedish* mile, a tottering pillar of wood, to mark the distances. We passed three of these; the third being the last in *Sweden*. Here we first observed the rivers beginning to take their course towards the *Norwegian* Seas; and a wide *Alpine* prospect before us plainly indicated that we had now attained the highest point of the passage into *Norway*, whence we were to descend into other regions, and visit another people. A feeling of regret was excited at the moment; and we looked back with hearts yearning towards *Sweden*. In the pleasing recollections then suggested, we called to mind

Passage of
the *Norwe-*
gian Alps.

Valedic-
tory Re-
trospect of
the North
of *Sweden*.

the simple and innocent lives of the arctic farmers, fishermen, and hunters; jovial *Finland*—hospitable *Westro-Bothniä*—heartly *Angermannland*—merry *Helsingeland*—sturdy *Herjeådalen*—all, all were gone! Nothing remained to us of SWEDEN, save the athletic natives of *Funnedalen*, who attended as our guides; and a grateful association of ideas made us regard them as our friends.

We descended, a long time, by a doubtful and perilous path (among low birch-trees, hardly rising higher than our heads, and disposed to creep like the *Betula nana*), through bogs, and over slippery rocks. In these bogs we found the *cloudberry*, covering all the surface from the very summit. The jaded horses on which we rode, were almost buried in some of the swamps. Very often, not a trace of any path could be discerned; and, more than once, our guides having lost their way, made us measure back our paces in search of it. Towards the *north-west*, mountains in greater number, and more lofty than any we had yet seen, appeared far beyond us: one in particular, which, if we rightly apprehended our guides, was called *St. Sharven-Fjeld*, of prodigious elevation, and of a conical shape, had for its base a series of other mountains. It resembled one of the *Paps of Caithness* in

Descent
from the
Heights.

Scotland, as seen from the southern coast of the Murray Firth; and, from the truncated appearance



of the upper part of the cone, like that of *Mount Vesuvius* and other volcanic mountains, we suspected that it might have had a volcanic origin; but this was mere conjecture: its distance was much too remote from our route to enable us to satisfy our curiosity in this respect. At length we reached the margin of a small lake, called the *Bolagen Siö*, which discharges itself into the *Oresund*, by a stream called *Borgen*: it is the source of the *GLOMMEN*, one of the largest, if not the most considerable, of the *Norwegian* rivers. Traversing the whole of *Norway*, from north to south, after a course of three degrees, it falls, by several mouths, into the *Northern Ocean*, at *Fredericstad*. In the *Bolagen Siö*, and in the *Oresund* Lake, is found that species of fish which we have so lately mentioned: it is called *Rua*, both by the

Source of
the *Glo-*
mmen River.

Fish called
Rue.

Swedes, and by the *Norwegians*; and this name is written *Röe*.

CHAP.
IV.

The little dog which accompanied us in all our travels, disturbed several *Sno-Ripas*. They were here in great number among the under-wood; and as often as they were disturbed they rose before us, displaying their beautiful plumage, now beginning to assume the whiteness it exhibits during winter, but variegated

Species of
Ptarmigan.

by hues of a bright yellow. The value of our guides was here sufficiently apparent: without them we could not have advanced another step.

Difficulty
of the
Route.

In places where there was not the slightest trace of any path across the numerous bogs that surrounded us, these men led the way; thrusting their poles into the swamps to find a bottom; and if they hit upon it, though at the depth of three or four feet, they boldly ventured on, and bade us follow with the horses. The surface of these bogs vibrated in such a manner to the horses' feet, that the poor animals, taking the alarm, began to snort and hesitate, as if they were aware of the probability of their being buried together with their riders, should the surface give way with their weight. We had sent our waggon by a different route, over *Rhute Fjal*, to *Brakken*, from *Malmagen*: but when our servants arrived, we found that they had encoun-

CHAP.
IV.*Brakken.*Change
observable
in the
habits of
the Na-
tives.

tered greater difficulties; their horses being quite exhausted, their shoes torn off, and expecting at every instant to be compelled to abandon the waggon altogether. It is right to state this, that others may not be induced to attempt this passage with a carriage, which, in the present state of the country, would be impossible; although a little expense and labour would render it as easy a journey as any other part of *Sweden*. The policy of the two nations, at this time, rendered it expedient not to promote an intercourse between the opposite sides of this barrier. After descending these mountains, the first village, and indeed the first place of any habitation in *NORWAY*, is *Brække*¹, or *Brakken*²; pleasingly situate in the midst of meadows, which were now pasturing upwards of fifty cows, besides sheep and goats.

We experienced an agreeable surprise in observing a change for the better, as to accommodations, immediately upon our leaving *Sweden*. The cleanliness of the cottages on the *Norwegian* side of these mountains was very remarkable; and the resemblance to *English* customs and language, which we had remarked in the moun-

(1) According to *Pontoppidan*.(2) According to Baron *Hermelin*.

tainous parts of *Sweden*, was here more striking than ever. Every thing we saw called to mind "the good old times" of *England*. Polished pewter dishes and earthenware plates, set in rows along the walls; rows of brown mugs for beer; burnished kettles and saucepans; bright wooden benches, bedsteads, chairs and tables, bleached with frequent scowering; pails and ladles, white as the milk they were to contain. And besides this, a great improvement in the condition of the natives; better clothes, better bread, and many even of the luxuries of life. The *Swedish* peasants who visit these parts buy of the inhabitants some of the last, such as brandy and tobacco; which, fortunately for the natives of *Herjeådalén*, they have not at home. A striking difference is also discernible between the inhabitants of the two countries. The *Norwegians* are a smaller race of men: the athletic and gigantic stature characteristic of the northern *Swedes* no longer appears. There is also a difference of dress and manner: instead of a hat or scull-cap, the *Norwegian* wears a red or blue woollen night-cap, or else a cap shaped like that of an *English* jockey; and, instead of strings in his shoes, enormous brass buckles, covering almost the whole of the upper part of the foot: instead of open hearths for fire-places, the less

CHAP.
IV.

cheerful and unpleasant stove appears in every chamber: instead of woollen counterpanes, lined with woollen fleece or *rein-deer* skins, the beds in *Norway* are covered with bags stuffed with the down of the *Eyder*-duck.

At *Brække* we killed our *rein-deer*. The *Lapp* who conducted the animal to this place performed the office of butcher, and divided his carcass into quarters, which we afterwards carried with us to *Trönyem*. He remained with us during the night, taking care to intoxicate himself the next morning, when he took his leave. We were sorry to lose him; knowing it would be the last we should see of this extraordinary people in their own country. It was necessary to procure a boat from another village to carry us across the *Oresund* Lake to *Beckåås*; whence it is barely possible to conduct a carriage upon wheels to the *Storvartz* mines; and hence there is an excellent road to the town of *Röråås*, pronounced *Rurose*. Our little waggon was six or seven times overturned, in that short distance. We dined at *Beckåås*, and found the same neat and cleanly accommodations we had met with at *Brække*. In crossing the sands to get into the boat at *Brække*, the boatmen shewed to us the impression of a bear's foot, which had passed to the woods at

Oresund
Lake.

Beckåås.

Storvartz.

the base of the mountains but a few hours before, and had been seen by some of them. Numbers of *Alpine* plants may be collected on the shores of the *Oresund* Lake, and in great perfection; especially the *Alpine* species of *Astragalus*, *Gentiana*, *Lycopodium*, *Pedicularis*, &c. We remained at *Beckåås* during the day; being unable to procure horses before the evening. At that time being ready to start, one of the peasants wanting his comrade, and supposing that he was in the house, opened the door of our apartment, and said, "*Are you here, Christian?*" We have written the words exactly as he pronounced them: of course the spelling would not be the same in the *Norwegian* language; but this will serve to shew that, in many instances, the *Norwegian* language does not differ from our own; and we seldom found it difficult to make ourselves understood by the people of that country. In leaving *Beckåås*, looking back towards the *Alps* over which we had so lately passed, we perceived that they were covered with snow; and this change had been effected during the preceding night. It was almost dark when we arrived at the yawning caverns of *Storvartz*: their appearance, added to heaps of excavated minerals, plainly proved that we were among mines. The moon rose in

CHAP.
IV.Arrival at
Röråås.

great splendour; and gaining the main road, we had no further difficulty, but ran down quickly to RÖRÅÅS. The winter was evidently fast approaching, or the elevation must have been still very considerable; as our clothes and waggon were covered with a hoar-frost when we entered the town.

We were greatly surprised by the appearance of this place; not having any idea that a town of such consequence existed so far to the north. The streets and houses are of considerable magnitude; and were it not for the turf upon all the roofs, it would look more like a town in *Holland* than in this remote part of *Norway*. We were received by an old and intelligent Apothecary, who had attained his eighty-fourth year; a very worthy man, with a young wife, whose house had long afforded accommodations of the very best kind to travellers. We had not been in a more comfortable mansion since we left *England*. In the *Livre des Etrangers* we found, to our great joy, the names of our two friends, *Otter* and *Malthus*, from whom we parted at the *Wener* Lake, upon our first coming into *Sweden*; and received from our host the only intelligence we had since received of their welfare. They had visited a *Lapland* colony in the neighbourhood,

News of
our former
Compa-
nions.

which was the most *northern* point of their journey'. These tidings, and the welcome we experienced from the good old apothecary and his family, made us regard his house as a home; and we determined to remain two or three days in *Röråås*, and make a visit to its famous *Copper-mines*. Every thing afforded a contrast to the objects we had left: on each side of the door of the house, facing the street, was the statue of a Negro as large as life, in the true *Dutch* taste; yet, uncouth as these figures were, they exhibited the dawning of arts characteristic of more civilized life than could be found in the savage scenes of the *Swedish* forests; and we therefore hailed their appearance with joy. After a comfortable supper, we were shewn *up stairs*² to our beds, for the first time since we left *England*; and even this novelty, trivial as it may seem, yet serves to mark a very striking distinction of manners. There was, in this house, an entire library of books condemned to supply waste-

Library of
a learned
English-
man.

(1) Messrs. *Otter* and *Malthus* afterwards returned through *Norway* and *Sweden* to *Stockholm*; and thence, passing through *Finland*, were for some time detained at *Wibourg*, during the tyranny of the Emperor *PAUL*; which place they afterwards quitted for *Petersburg*, where they embarked for *England*.

(2) The beds in *Sweden*, as in almost all parts of the Continent, are upon the same floor as the sitting-room; and generally a single room answers for all the purposes of eating, sleeping, &c.

CHAP.
IV.

paper for the drugs, grocery, &c. sold by the old apothecary: it had been the property of an *English* gentleman of the name of *Hammond*, who died here; but nothing further could we learn of his history. Judging from the selection he had made of authors for his studies, and from some manuscript notes, written by himself in the *Latin* language, in a fair hand, in many of the volumes, it appeared that he was a man of learning, and had been engaged in the most profound theological researches nearly half a century before. The principal part of the library consisted of Commentaries upon the Old and New Testament: among these were the works of *Lightfoot*, in folio, bound in white vellum; *Ainsworth* on the *Pentateuch*, also in folio; the works of *Vorstius*; and a vast heap of philological writings on the *Arabic* and *Æthiopic* languages, and the respective antiquities of *Arabia* and *Æthiopia*. We bought many of these books: they were in excellent condition: it was quite lamentable to see the havoc that was going on, and had for a long time taken place, in this valuable library¹.

(1) In a small Quarto Volume of the *Philologia Sacra* of *Vorstius*, printed at *Frankfort* in 1705, his name appeared with the date in this manner: "*Suis annumerat libris comparatis Hafniæ, V. F. W. Hammond, 1751.*"

The next day (*September 21*) the Director of the mines waited upon us, and very politely offered his services. We begged permission to visit the works, and to purchase minerals upon the spot. This was readily obtained; and having procured horses, and an experienced miner to accompany us, we rode to the mines. They are distant, east of *Röråås*, about five *English* miles towards the *Oresund* Lake, and have long been considered among the most considerable in his *Danish* Majesty's dominions². The Prince Royal visited these mines. They still exhibit an arch in one of them, which was ornamented with 300 lamps when he was there. The road leading from *Röråås* to its mines lies through a dreary stony heath, with a chain of small lakes in a bottom to the right, which form one of the small rivers that fall into the *Glommen*. The cottages are like the little huts of the South of *Scotland*; being built with similar materials, and in the same manner. By the side of this road we found many *Alpine* plants. The *Ranunculus glacialis* was in flower. The *Betula nana* had a smaller leaf than even upon the summits of the *Alps* between *Sweden* and *Norway*. We gathered here the seeds of the *Saxifraga azoïdes*. The

CHAP.
IV.

Visit to
the Copper-
mines.

Röråås.

(2) They belong now to *Sweden*.

CHAP.
IV.

first thing that we were shewn, upon our arrival at the mines, was the dormitory of the workmen, who sleep upon boards, before an enormous fire, with *rein-deer* skins for their pillows. We were struck by the unhealthy appearance of the workmen; almost all the miners being asthmatic. The reason assigned for this by the Director was threefold; first, that they come much too young to work; secondly, that they work by the gross, and often injure their health by the violence of their exertions; and thirdly, that it is a constant practice with all of them to drink large draughts of cold water, when they are very hot. But perhaps the real cause of the prevalence of this disorder may be found in the sulphureous exhalations from the works, which are so powerful in the neighbourhood of *Rörås* as to affect the inhabitants. The great mine, into which we descended, like all the others here, is as easy of access as the interior of a cathedral church. Instead of a descent vertically, the entrance is by a level road into a cavern; whence the declivity is so gradual, that carts, drawn by horses, are conducted into all parts of it; the different chambers being lofty, spacious, and airy; so as to render it more convenient for investigation than perhaps any other mine in *Europe*. The guides,

who accompanied us, carried with them deal splinters, bound into fagots, each bundle being about as thick as a man's arm. These splinters they used as torches; and they answer the purpose of lighting such dark passages much better than the candles used for the same purpose in our *Cornish* mines. The lower chambers of all the *Cornish* mines are very hot: but these of *Röråås* are so cold, that ice appears everywhere in large masses, or in icicles hanging from the roof, and from the ladders fixed in the shafts; the steps of which are covered by ice, in such a manner as to become thereby slippery and dangerous. But hitherto it had been so practicable to remove the ore, by means of carts and horses, that they had scarcely introduced a shaft into the mine. A short time, however, before our coming, they began to find the necessity of opening shafts, and already found the advantage of using them in a few places.

The *copper* ore of the *Röråås* mines is a *sulphuret* (commonly called *yellow-copper ore*, or *pyritous copper*), often associated with *hornblende*. They have no *grey copper*, in these mines. The ore is also accompanied by the *sulphuret of iron*, crystallized in *cubes* and in *octahedrons*: also by *dodecahedral garnets*; the last being found in

CHAP.
IV.

such abundance, imbedded in *chlorite schistus*, that we found heaps before the entrance of the mine, where the beautiful crystals of *garnet* were so thickly set in their matrix that entire masses seemed to consist of nothing else. The other minerals, for which the *Rörås* mines are remarkable, are, *amianthus*, of such exceeding whiteness, silky lustre, and length of fibre, that we had never seen any to compare with it; and also *quartz*, as highly diaphanous as the most limpid *rock-crystal*. Speaking of the latter mineral, *Engeström* says¹, that it is “*transparent comme le cristal de roche, mais sans figure déterminée* :” but he might have been aware that such transparency in a mineral is in itself an indication of *crystallization*, and cannot exist without it. If he had seen this beautiful *quartz* as it appears *in situ*, he would have observed the planes of dodecahedral crystals; which may be discerned before the miners have broken the surface with their hammers. ‘We descended for a considerable time; the arch of the cavern being high, low, broad, or contracted, according to the extent of the vein when it was worked. When we were at the depth of about fifty *Norway* yards perpendicular, we halted to hear three

(1) *Guide aux Mines, par Engeström, p. 39. Stockholm, 1796.*

reports from the blasting of the ore by gunpowder, which sounded tremendously; and this subterraneous thunder continued to vibrate for a long time upon the ear. We afterwards examined the places where the rocks had been riven for the ore that they were then working. To the eye it appeared very rich, like the *pyritous copper* of the *Paris-mountain* mine in the Isle of *Anglesea*: but this kind of ore is by no means to be compared, in richness, with the *grey sulphuret*; seldom yielding more than twenty or thirty per cent. of *copper*. The most extraordinary thing is the direction of the ore, which occurs here, and in the other mines, stratified in horizontal beds, traversing *mica slate*; or, as the miners upon the spot call it, *Glimmer Shifver*. This explains the facility with which, for so long a time, the ore has been carted and carried out of the mine. It is considered one of the richest deposits of *copper ore* known. *Pontoppidan* says², that since the mine of *Fahlun*, in *Sweden*, is said to be near exhausted, possibly that of *Rörås* is the richest in all *Europe*. It was discovered, in 1644, by *Laurence Lossius*, a refiner at a neighbouring mine. Upon the 9th of *October*, 1744,

(2) "Natural History of Norway," by *Erich Pontoppidan*, Part I. p. 192. Lond. 1755.

CHAP.
IV.

a Jubilee was celebrated by the inhabitants of Röråås, in gratitude for the uninterrupted prosperity of their mine during the course of a hundred years. One of the oldest courses is that of *Storvartz* mine. "These courses of the *copper-veins*," observes *Pontoppidan*, "agree in their direction with those of the other parts, neither ascending nor declining, but, like the other strata, traversing the mountains horizontally, though thinnest towards their centre; like a lump of dough, which, pressed betwixt two stones, is thinnest where the pressure lies greatest¹." The horizontal and expanded direction of the same *copper-veins* are also described in a Memoir read before the Royal Academy of Sciences at *Stockholm*, in 1742, by *Daniel Tilos*, cited by *Pontoppidan*². The vast importance of the discovery, and its consequences, as affecting the happiness and welfare of the people, were simply, but pointedly shewn, in a short passage which the same author also cites from the Sermon preached by *Peter Abildgåård*, at the Jubilee before mentioned. "It is not much above a hundred years," said the Preacher, "since the

only inhabitants of these parts consisted of seven or eight families, making about thirty or forty persons; and these led a savage life, and derived all their support from hunting; whereas now the number of this congregation exceeds two thousand, exclusive of the neighbouring, which contain many more; and all subsist by the working of the mine." At a place called *Tolgen*, near *Röraås*, there were three founderies for smelting the ore, which, in *Pontoppidan's* time, consumed annually between 12 and 15,000 *lasts* of coal, and 5 or 600 fathoms of wood. In the course of eleven years, the *copper-ore* smelted at those founderies had yielded 12,875 *ship-pounds* of pure copper; each *ship-pound* being equal to 320 *pounds* of *Norway*. That we may therefore shew what the state of these mines was at the time of our arrival, we may now add, that the quantity of *copper* raised amounted upon an average, annually, to above double what it had been. In the last three years they had raised 7408 *ship-pounds*. The sum total of the workmen in the *Röraås works* amounted to 650 persons; of whom 430 were employed in the *mines*, and 220 in the *smelting-houses*. The fuel used for these houses was principally *coal*; and of this they consumed annually from 26 to 27,000 *lasts*; each *last* being equal to two *English*

CHAP.
IV.

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(1) "Natural History of Norway," by *Erich Pontoppidan*, Part I. p. 192. *Lond.* 1755.

(2) *Ibid.*

only inhabitants of these parts consisted of seven or eight families, making about thirty or forty persons; and these led a savage life, and derived all their support from hunting; whereas now the number of this congregation exceeds two thousand, exclusive of the neighbouring, which contain many more; and all subsist by the working of the mine." At a place called *Tolgen*, near *Röråås*, there were three founderies for smelting the ore, which, in *Pontoppidan's* time, consumed annually between 12 and 15,000 *lasts* of coal, and 5 or 600 fathoms of wood. In the course of eleven years, the copper-ore smelted at those founderies had yielded 12,875 *ship-pounds* of pure copper; each *ship-pound* being equal to 320 *pounds* of Norway. That we may therefore shew what the state of these mines was at the time of our arrival, we may now add, that the quantity of copper raised amounted upon an average, annually, to above double what it had been. In the last three years they had raised 7408 *ship-pounds*. The sum total of the workmen in the *Röråås works* amounted to 650 persons; of whom 430 were employed in the mines, and 220 in the smelting-houses. The fuel used for these houses was principally coal; and of this they consumed annually, from 26 to 27,000 *lasts*; each *last* being equal to two English

tons. The annual expenses of the works averaged 107,000 to 112,000 rix-dollars. These particulars we had from the director of the mines, Mr. *Knoph*.

‘ We afterwards descended lower; and walked about among different excavations, lighted by the torches of deal splinters held by men black as the eternal night of these caverns. Among the miners who were at work in making holes for the powder, we observed some athletic figures, of stature and appearance fitted to call to mind the poetical descriptions of *Vulcan’s* associates, the *Cyclops*. In boring for the blasts, the holes are made a *Norway* yard (two feet *English*) in depth. Seven ounces of powder are put into each hole, confined with dried clay driven in with much force. From ten A.M. to twelve are the hours of ‘blasting; and those labourers who are not absolutely necessary for this part of the work are allowed to remain above ground during these hours. Before the explosions begin, one of the superintendants examines all the holes; and if they be not a proper depth, they are filled up again, and the man who made them is obliged to bore others. The stated labour of each man is two holes a day; for which, when they have served their apprenticeship of ten years, they receive five

dollars a month. Those who have not worked ten years, receive only four dollars, or four and a half; even though they do exactly the same quantity of work. Besides the stated labour, there are odd jobs by which a man may add to his earnings. The miners work from Monday morning till Friday noon: they remain in a house by the mines during these days, and go home to *Röråås* to their wives and families on the Friday. Sometimes, by working harder, they finish their appointed labour before the time, and are allowed to go home sooner. They generally work from four A.M. till five P.M., except meal-times, and two hours, from ten till twelve. While we remained in the mines, explosions were continually going off; and those at a distance rolled so exactly like thunder, that they were not to be distinguished from it. There are generally 150 explosions during the hours of blasting. The ore is carried in small carts with horses, in the lower parts of the mines, and brought to shafts to be raised. The shaft we saw was only fifty *Norway* yards (100 feet *English*) deep; but there was another about 100 yards perpendicular from the surface. These shafts, as in all mines, serve to give air to the lower chambers; and up these the water is pumped by engines. The greatest depth of

CHAP.
IV.

any part of this mine is 150 *Norway* yards: we were never lower than sixty. The excavations extend in a straight line about 1500 yards; but they are of considerable extent in other directions. The mine is divided into 172 shares. Each share produced last year 400 dollars clear. Formerly, a share produced 500 or 600 dollars. The greatest proprietor possesses eighteen shares. Mr. *Angel*, better known as the great benefactor to the city of *Trønjem*, possessed eighteen shares; and there are now one or two, among the proprietors, who possess more.'

The prodigious benefit which has resulted from working these mines is not felt only in *Röråås*. The prosperity and flourishing state of all the north of *Norway*, especially of the city of *Trønjem*, improperly written *Drontheim*, are mainly due to its *copper-mines*. The country near *Röråås* contains a store of wealth for many generations: the only evil to be apprehended is a want of fuel, the neighbouring woods being already consumed, which occasions the *coal* to be brought from some distance, and consequently raises its price. "This," says *Pontoppidan*¹, "should incite those, of whom it is the more

(1) "Natural History of *Norway*," by *Erich Pontoppidan*, Part I. p. 195. Lond. 1755.

immediate concern, to promote the growth of young woods, and to restrain the keeping of goats, which do so much damage among the saplings; for how many thousand *lasts* of coal, beside stacks of wood, this copper-work requires, may, in some measure, be conceived only from this circumstance, that only the calcination of the ore requires a fresh fire, six, seven, or eight times."—"At the four different furnaces of *Röråås*, *Tolgen*, *Dragåas*, and *Feminds mitter*, between 12,500 and 13,000 tons of copper are annually smelted.'

CHAP.
IV.

The prospect of the *Norwegian Alps* towards *Sweden*, over which we had passed, was very fine. We had here our last view of them: they were now quite covered with snow. The situation, too, of *Röråås*, which we observed in returning, we had not before remarked; owing to the lateness of the hour when we arrived. The town covers the side of a hill, in the midst of mountains: it stands close to the junction of two small rivers² with the *Glommen*, immediately after it issues from the *Oresund Lake*. Close to the town are the *smelting-houses*: above it appear heaps of roasting ore, which yields a great quantity of the finest *sulphur*; but the pro-

Situation
of *Röråås*.

Effect of
sulphure-
ous exhalations.

(2) The *Han*, and the *Hitter*.

CHAP.
IV.Exporta-
tion of
Metal.

prietors of the works are not careful to collect it: the *sulphur* is seen covering all the smoking heaps; and its vapours, frequently descending, fill all the streets of the town, so as often to affect the respiration of the inhabitants. As we rode by some of those heaps, the suffocating fumes from them were almost as powerful as those which fill the crater of *Vesuvius* after an eruption. A Physician belonging to the place told us, that these sulphureous vapours produced the most pernicious effects. The Director of the mines assigned, as a reason for not saving the *sulphur*, that the expense of so doing would exceed any profit that might be derived from it. They would be under the necessity of sending it, by land, to *Trönnjem* for exportation; there being little or no demand for it in *Norway*, owing to the want of powder-mills. All the *copper* of the *Rörås* mines is sent to *Holland*, and to the *Rhine*. The *Danish East-India Company* wished to purchase it, for exportation to *China*; but it was found that *English copper* sold at a lower price in *Copenhagen* than the *Rörås copper* could be afforded, when carried thither. The principal mines are three in number: the first is called the *King's Mine*; the second, *Klinken's Mine*; the third, *Mug's Mine*. One tenth of all the ore raised belongs to the

Crown; but the *mines* are, all of them, the property of private individuals. A very remarkable kind of *breccia* or *pudding-stone*, containing a variety of substances, occurs in and near the road leading to the mines: it resembles the aggregate of which the rocks are composed near *Oban* in *Scotland*. *Pot-stone* is also found here. The number of houses in *Röråås* amounted to 325; and of the inhabitants, about 1700 persons. The interior of an apothecary's house afforded us, of course, some little insight into the state of Medicine in this remote corner of *Norway*: it was not at so low an ebb as we had generally found it. *Opium* was little used, because the inhabitants are strongly prejudiced against it: they have excellent *bark* from *Amsterdam*, of which they make an essence. The common drink of the people is beer: it is almost always sour. By way of sauce for their food, they eat, as in *Sweden*, the different species of *Vaccinium* and *Rubus*, the *whortleberry*, the *cranberry*, and the *cloudberry*. In this manner, the flesh of young *rein-deer* was served at our table. We thought it like *veal*, but had a better flavour.

State of
Medicine.

Upon the next day (*Sunday*), the *miners* having received a month's pay, there was a good deal of rejoicing, and a miners' ball in the evening.

CHAP.
IV.National
Dances.

We attended the latter. The national dances of *Norway* differ from those of *Sweden*. The most common are, the *Halling* and the *Polsh* dances. We saw both of these at *Röråås*. The first is, undoubtedly, the dance of *Hippoclidus* the *Athenian*, when contending with other rivals for the daughter of *Clisthenes*; namely, a dance in which the performer, standing upon his head, kicks his heels about in the air as his hands¹. The other, that is to say, the *Polsh*, answers the account which *Herodotus* gives of the *Attic* dance performed to the *Emmeleia*, which, by its indecency, offended *Clisthenes*². When we reached the room, in which the *miners* with their *lasses* were assembled, they were beginning the *Polsh*. In this dance a circle is formed, and two begin, turning each other something after the manner of a *waltz*. Presently the male dancer throws up his feet nearly as high as his head, squeaks, falls on his knees; and in this posture, leaning back till his head touches the ground, he beats the floor with his knuckles, and practises every possible grimace, look, and attitude, that may

(1) See the *Fignette* to this Chapter. Τὸ τρίτον δὲ, τὴν κεφαλὴν ἱστῶντες ἐπὶ τὴν τράπεζαν, ταῖσι σκέλαισι ἐχυρύνοντες. *Herodot. Hist. vi. tom. 3. p. 132.* Edit. *Schweighæuseri*, 1816.

(2) *Ibid.*

express lasciviousness; then rising, without the assistance of his hands, he dodges his head this way and that, and at length catching his partner in his arms, more waltzing takes place, and the dance concludes. When they all dance the *Polish* together, the different couples move round to tunes resembling our *English* hornpipes; each man, as he comes opposite to the spot where the fiddler stands, for this is the signal, throwing up his heels in the manner before mentioned; squeaking, and exhibiting his amorous propensities as was described. During these movements the tune often changes, as in the *waltz*. Being provided with partners, we joined in the dance, at which they were all much delighted. It was quite surprising to observe with what agility, in the midst of all this leaping and turning in a small room, they managed to keep clear of each other. A tread from one of their feet, which descended upon the floor with shocks like so many paving-hammers, would have crushed the toes of the women, had it not been for this circumstance. The men universally wore red woollen night-caps; the women short jackets; each of them, in the dance, holding a handkerchief in her right-hand. The *Halling* is considered in the country as the older dance of the two: it is frequently performed by men

CHAP.
IV.Price of
Commo-
dities.

only; and sometimes both the *Polsh* and the *Halling* are performed to the same tune¹.

Rein-deer skins were so cheap in *Röråås*, that a very good pelisse, made of these skins, might be purchased for three dollars. Other things sold at low prices. We bought fine old hock, in pint-bottles, at eighteen-pence *English* the pint: it is much dearer even in *Hamburgh*. The Director of the mines called to take his leave, and gave us letters of recommendation to the Director of the silver-mines at *Kongsberg*. He told us, that the population of *Röråås* was between 1750 and 1800, which agrees with what we have before stated. The latitude 62°. 34'. 40".

Departure
from
Röråås.

We left *Röråås* this morning (*Sept.* 23), at eleven o'clock A.M.; a light snow falling; the first we had seen, excepting upon the distant mountains. We ascended a bleak and barren tract of hills towards the sources of the *Gual* River, by the side of which our course to *Trönjém* was directed. When we had gained the heights, the range of landscape below us was like that which is seen in the passes of the *Apennines*; but as we advanced, it soon changed, and

(1) See the *Fignette* to this Chapter.

assumed the wildest aspect of bold and sublime scenery. We could not call it *Alpine* (although it had a great resemblance to some of the finest parts of *Switzerland*), because it possessed something of richness and beauty belonging to no other *Alpine* country: in fact, it was *Norwegian*; and it is the peculiar characteristic of the *Norwegian* mountains, to combine the grandeur of *Alpine* scenery, with the dark solemnity of the groves of *Sweden*, and the luxuriant softness of the vales of *Italy*². The condition of the poor in *Norway*, and the state of morality among the lower orders, will not bear a comparison with *Sweden*. We have before remarked, that we saw not in all *Sweden* a single instance of persons begging upon the highway or in the towns. When we descended upon the village of *Hoff*, we were teased by importunate mendicants, and revolting objects, such as one sees in *Ireland*, making the most painful and disgusting exhibition to extort charity. The manners of the people differ, exceedingly, in *Sweden* and *Norway*. In the former country, we were welcome everywhere to what we had; no demand of payment

Manners of
the People
as opposed
to the
Suedes.

(2) "The verdure in the *Norway* valleys is peculiarly soft, the foliage of the trees luxuriant, and in summer no traces appear of a Northern climate."—*Malthus on the Principle of Population*, p. 198 (note), Lond. 1803.

CHAP.
IV.

was ever made; and the little we gave at parting always afforded an ample satisfaction. Here we began to observe the first symptoms of a difference, which was afterwards more strikingly manifested. Our hostess was covetous and imposing; and as we proceeded, we found it difficult to satisfy avarice, by paying whatever they asked. The cause of this may easily be explained: the country is more inhabited and more wealthy, and, the means of subsistence being more easily attained, the stimulants to active industry are less severe. Intoxication, rare among the *Swedes*, is common in *Norway*. The *Norwegians* are a less virtuous, but they are a more lively people, and possess many amiable and valuable qualifications. Hospitality is not rendered oppressive, as is often the case in *Sweden*; but among the higher order of *Norwegians*, it is most liberally bestowed: there cannot be found upon earth a more generous or disinterested race of men¹. In the post-book at *Hoff*, we again saw the names of our two friends, with the date of their visit, *July 23*. One of them had been collecting, in this, as in

Hoff.

(1) There may be some appearance of anticipation, in making these remarks; but upon entering the country, the author wished to prepare the reader for the observations that follow.

other parts of *Norway*, facts, to elucidate a work°, which, after the opposition it experienced from half-witted writers, has at length classed him in that degree of eminence as a philosopher, to which, by his great abilities, he is so justly entitled.

CHAP.
IV.

Leaving *Hoff*, the grandeur of the scenery increases at every step. We arrived at some *smelting-houses*, situate in a profound abyss, surrounded by cataracts, and in the midst of the roaring waters. The *mine*, whence the ore here smelted is taken, lies in a neighbouring mountain. This ore differs from that of *Röråås*, in being a purer *sulphuret of copper*, and in having a richer aspect. The diaphanous *quartz*, for which the *Röråås* mine has been celebrated, is also obtained here, and in finer specimens: also, very brilliant and beautiful cubic crystals of the *sulphuret of iron*. There are masses full of these crystals, possessing a high degree of lustre, and of the size of dice. A continuation of the same grand *Alpine* scenery delighted us the whole way to *Soknæs*. The road following the course

Soknæs.

(2) "An Essay on the Principle of Population;" or a view of its past and present effects on human happiness, &c. by T. R. Malthus, A.M. late Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge, and Professor of History and Political Economy in the East-India College, Hertfordshire.

CHAP.
IV.Farms
above the
clouds.

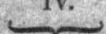
of the *Guul*, was generally in the depth of profound valleys; but sometimes, traversing the side of a mountain, we overlooked the river from a lofty precipice, and saw flocks and herds grazing over all the pastures near it, and up the sides of the mountains to their very summits. One of the most remarkable sights is here afforded by the *farm-houses*, which seem to hang upon cultivated spots, one above another, until they reach the clouds. We often saw clouds skirting the side of a mountain, with the prospect of a rich harvest standing far above them; cattle, corn-sheaves, and labourers, in places apparently inaccessible. The fact is, that a preference is often given to such an elevated situation; for the higher the land is, the more sun it gets. A fine evening-sun shone warmly on the fields, where harvest was collecting towards the tops of the mountains, when all below was dark or shadowy: between *Sindsåus* and *Soknæs*, this kind of scenery is particularly striking. We observed, before and after our arrival at *Bogen*, high perpendicular naked rocks, with woods and farms upon their summits. We passed a very remarkable mountain: its form was perfectly conical; but it was very lofty, and covered with trees. We observed great cleanliness in the habits of the

people throughout this route, excepting in the inn at *Soknæs*, which was more dirty. Here we gained the high road leading from *Christiania* to *Tröñjem*, which we were very eager to reach. The son of the owner of the poor inn had a genius for painting, and delineated the costumes of the country with humour and accuracy. His chief employment consisted in painting sledges, trunks, and the walls of his father's house.

The next morning (*Sept. 25*) we set out for *Tröñjem*, and crossed the *Guul* by a ferry: its waters, limpid as the purest crystal, ran rapidly at the feet of mountains, presenting, towards the river, precipices of many hundred feet of naked rock, tinted with vivid colours. Tempted by the delightful appearance of this river, the author was induced to bathe: when he plunged into it, the temperature of the water was nearly that of ice, and he felt the effects of his folly a long time afterwards. The chill that it gave to his blood was such as he never felt by cold-bathing, during the hardest winter in *England*; yet the climate here cannot be very severe. Hazel-trees, bending with nuts, grow plentifully by the side of the road; and other trees appeared in much greater variety and luxuriance than in *Sweden*. The landscape now became bolder and more open; the corn still standing; the

CHAP.

IV.



Resem-
blance to
English
Customs.

road broad and excellent. Farms in great number appeared on all sides, affording, by the variety and singularities of their situation, the most beautiful objects. We passed many elegant country-seats. The outsides of all of them were painted red; they had sashed windows, and the frames of the windows were painted green. The form and neatness of these rural retreats shewed their owners to possess a good deal of taste: they were generally oblong buildings, consisting of one floor. But the farm-houses afforded the most interesting sight, to us. If any one wishes to see what *English* farmers once were, and how they fared, he should visit *Norway*;—immense families all sitting down together at one table, from the highest to the lowest. If but a bit of butter be called for, in one of these houses, a mass is brought forth weighing six^c or eight pounds; and so highly ornamented, being turned out of moulds, with the shape of cathedrals set off with *Gothic* spires, and various other devices, that, according to the language of our *English* farmers' wives, we should deem it "almost a pity to cut it." Throughout this part of *Norway*, the family plate of *butter* seemed to be the state-dish of the house. Wherever we sat down to make a meal, this offering was first made, as in the

tents of the primeval *Arabs*, when *Jael*, the wife of *Heber* the *Kenite*, “brought forth butter in a lordly dish.” But every thing is much dearer than in *Sweden*; and what is worse, when it has been dearly paid for, the traveller has not the satisfaction which is enjoyed throughout *Sweden*, of leaving behind him countenances of cheerfulness and gratitude. These remarks, of course, are only applicable to the *inns* of the country. Possibly, in many of the *farm-houses*, a traveller would find as hospitable a reception as in the cottages of the *Swedish* fishermen and hunters in *Herjeådalén*, where *inns* can hardly be said to exist. We entered one of the largest farm-houses. Here we found twenty persons, all members of one family, assembled at the same table, eating their favourite harvest-pudding, out of large wooden bowls. This pudding is made of barley, and served hot. Into this mess, which resembles what is called hasty-pudding in our farm-houses, they dip their spoons: the spoon, being half filled with it, is afterwards dipped in milk, and with this sauce they eat it. At the head of the table sate the grey-headed patriarch of this numerous family, surrounded by his children and his children’s children; for among the healthy and handsome young persons present, there were his sons and their wives, his daughters and their husbands;

Description of the
Interior of
a Farm-
house.

CHAP.
IV.*Melhuus.**Oust.*

and many of his grand-children ran towards him, clinging to his knees, as being alarmed at our intrusion : but we soon became better friends with these little ones, who began romping with us, while one of the old man's sons saddled a couple of horses. We had walked before the carriage, which, being detained for horses, did not arrive. Two of the young men accompanied us to *Melhuus*, the next post-house : where we beheld a very different groupe, in a party of dragoons round a table at cards, drunk, turbulent, and fighting with each other. In *Norway*, if the traveller do not use the precaution of previously ordering horses at the different relays, before he begins his journey, he will sometimes have to wait for them two or three hours upon the road. And when horses have been ordered, if he be not punctual to the time fixed, he will be compelled to pay double the hire of them for the next stage ; but if, on the other hand, the horses be not ready when he arrives, a fine is levied upon the postmaster, and the amount of it given to the poor. Our next stage was to *Oust* ; whence, not finding horses ready, we set out on foot, determined to walk to *Trönyem*, the distance being only one *Norwegian* mile and a quarter'.

(1) The *Danish*, or *Norwegian* mile, contains 8223 *English* yards.

CHAP.
IV.

Appearance of the
Country
towards
Trönyem.

As we drew near to *Trönyem*, the country appeared less woody, because more cultivated. Gentlemen's country-seats, in great number, fill the prospect in every direction. The gardens belonging to these villas are in the *Dutch* taste, being ornamented with clipped hedges, box-enclosed borders, tulip beds, leaden mercuries, wooden cherubs, and spouting swans: and this formal arrangement, in a country where Nature herself assumes everywhere else a savage aspect, has by no means an unpleasing appearance. In *England*, where almost every acre shews the triumph of cultivation, the novelty of wild scenery has introduced a taste for restoring pleasure-grounds as nearly as possible to their natural state: but in a wilderness, we gladly dispense with a little of irregularity, and, especially under a *Polar* climate, hail the formality of a flower-border, and the stiff neatness of straight garden-walks, as so many symptoms of civilization. Perhaps to similar causes may be attributed the taste which prevailed among the *Romans* for this style of gardening. To them, *England*, and many other countries, were originally indebted for the old-fashioned shapes of birds and beasts, into which *box* and *yew* trees were formerly clipped, and for the regular parterres into which their flower-gardens were dis-

CHAP.
IV.

Prospect of
the City.

tributed'. Notwithstanding these little ornamented patches, there was still enough to denote our vicinity to *Arctic* regions; the *Betula nana* and the *Rubus Chamæmorus* still covered all the bogs; and the *Field Gentian* bedecked the hills. We began to grow tired of our walk, when, having ascended a steep eminence, and turning suddenly round the corner of a rock, the glorious prospect of the City of *Trönjem*, covering a peninsula in the finest bay the eye ever beheld, appeared far below us. Its rising spires and white glittering edifices immediately reminded the author of the city and beautiful Bay of *Naples*, to which it is somewhat similar. In the latter, the grandeur of *Vesuvius*, the cliffs and hanging vineyards of *Sorrento*, the shining heights and shores of *Capri*, with all the orange-groves of *Baia*, the rocks and caverns of *Posilipo*, possess, besides their natural beauties, a variety of local attractions, which, for the delights they afford, place them above every thing else in *Europe*: but, considered only in point of picturesque beauty, the Bay of *Trönjem* does not yield to the Bay of *Naples*. It is everywhere land-locked by mountains, which resemble, as

(1) "Alibi ipsa buxus intervenit in formas mille descripta." *Plin. Epist. lib. v. Ep. 6. p. 349. Amst. 1734.*

to their height and distance from the eye, those which surround the Bay of *Naples*; *Vesuvius* alone excepted. The *Castel del Uovo*, so distinguished a feature of the *Neapolitan* Bay, is eclipsed by the appearance of the isle and fortress of *Munkholm*, opposite to the town of *Tröndem*. Up and down, in every direction near the town, appear the villas of the merchants; and riding at anchor in the bay, ships of all burden, and boats passing and repassing. Among these, the boats of the natives are distinguished by the peculiarity of their construction, because they are always rigged with a large square sail, and have a single mast: in these vessels they venture to any part of the coast. The town itself is fortified, and the works are in the best condition; the ramparts and fosse being covered with a smooth green turf, kept in the finest order.

CHAP.
IV.

Arrival at
Tröndem.

This city, once the capital of *Norway*, and residence of her Kings, by no means corresponds, in its actual appearance, with the accounts published of its diminished state and ruinous appearance². Although the last town towards the

(2) "NIDROSIA Civitas olim potentia, et sede Regia et Archiepiscopali eminentissima, totiusque Norvegiæ caput, et arca Regionum monumentorum Norvagicorum, ut *Pontan. lib. 5. p. 77.* loquitur. Appellationem Latinam deduxit à fluvio *Nidero*, cujus ostium obsidet. Mercaturæ et

CHAP.
IV.

Pole, the traveller viewing it sees nothing but what may remind him of the cities of the south. It is of very considerable size: its streets are wide, well paved, and filled with regular well-built-houses, generally plastered and white-washed. There is no part of *Copenhagen* better built, or neater in its aspect, than the streets of *Trönjem*. Its market is held in a square formed by the meeting of four principal streets. In the centre of the square is an excellent conduit, supplying the inhabitants constantly with the purest limpid water. Upon the north side of this square stands the finest wooden house in all *Norway*; a magnificent building, the residence of the General *Commandant*. Beyond this building, the view is terminated by the sea, by *Munkholm*, or *Monk Island*¹, and by the mountains on the northern side of a beautiful bay. Looking down the street, which extends *westward*, the prospect of the town is more suddenly intercepted by the

negotiationis causâ ab exteris æquè ac inquilinis frequentata. Celebritatis famâ aliquâ gaudet, quamvis nec vallo, nec fossis septa, sed ubique aperta, pagi potius, quam oppidi speciem præ se ferat. * * * Antiquo more ædificia constructa sunt, palatiumque Regium magis ac magis collabitur. Nam anno 1522 ipso S. Johannis Baptistæ festo die incensionem tam vehementem passa est, ut usque ad Præfecti domicilium conflagraverit. Ab eo tempore pristini splendoris recuperandi occasio nunquam hactenus se ipsi obtulit." *Deliciæ sive Amœnitates Regnorum Daniæ, &c.* p. 1225. *L. Bat.* 1706.

(1) So called from a monastery formerly situate upon this small island.

summit of a bold and lofty mountain, towering high above the tops of all the buildings: the road from *Christiania* traverses, and descends a part of this mountain, as it approaches nearer to the city. Casting the eye *eastward*, another mountain also appears, less lofty, and covered with cultivated fields, in which a rich harvest at this time was displayed above the tall masts of the shipping lying in the river *Nid*. From this river the city had its antient name of *NIDROSIA*⁽²⁾: after surrounding the town upon its *southern* and *eastern* side, it falls into the bay. Again surveying the city from the central square along the street which extends *southward*, the land here gradually rises: passing the Academy and Public Library, on the right, it is afterwards terminated by the venerable remains of the old *Cathedral*, a *Gothic* structure of exquisite pristine beauty, although now disfigured by modern repairs: it was built so early as the *eleventh* century. In the street which extends *eastward* from the square, is the principal inn; a large mansion, with a small garden in front, surrounded by painted rails, and full of dwarf cherry-trees: at the time of our arrival, their branches were laden with fruit, adding a very unexpected

(2) Vide *Amant. Regn. Danicæ*, &c. in loco citato.

CHAP.
IV.

ornament to the street of a city in such a latitude¹.
 Opposite to this house is a Church; a large modern edifice, containing nothing, excepting its organ, worthy of notice. There is also an organ in the Cathedral, and another in a church belonging to the Hospital. In describing the appearance of the central square and the streets leading into it, we have given the main plan of *Trönijem*; but, parallel to the four principal streets, there are others, little if at all inferior, either in beauty or magnitude.

Reception
of Stran-
gers.

The accommodations here are of the best kind; and a traveller finds himself, upon his first coming, as well provided for as if he were in the Capital of *Denmark*. It is expected that a stranger, upon his arrival, should leave his card with the *General Commandant*, and with the principal people. If he bring with him letters of recommendation, the persons to whom they are addressed conduct him round, to call upon the other families: after this ceremony, invitations pour in from all quarters, and in much greater number than it is possible for him to comply with. The inhabitants are not less distinguished by their politeness than by their hospitality. Their houses are thrown open to

(1) 63°.24'. of north latitude.

strangers in the most generous manner; but upon entering them, a degree of elegance is apparent, both in their furniture, and in the form and disposition of their apartments, not seen in any of the *Swedish* towns, excepting *Stockholm*.

CHAP.
IV.

Their customs are, to rise with the sun, when they take a small breakfast; and at nine they have a kind of luncheon, which they call *Duel*.

Manners of
the Inhabi-
tants.

At twelve or one, they dine: the dinner is followed by coffee: and in the evening they drink tea and play at cards; when punch is always served. About ten they usually sup, but do not go early to bed. The lower order of people, in summer, sit up the whole night, and take no sleep for a considerable length of time. Sunday is, in fact, their sleeping day: if they do not go to church, they spend the greater part of the sabbath in sleep; and in winter they amply repay themselves for any privation of their hours of repose during summer. The young men of the best families, in *Trönjem*, possess a thirst for literature, and are as desirous of a University as their fellow-countrymen of *Bergen* and *Christiania*: but this was denied to them by the policy of the *Danish* Government; it being the wish of the Court that the *Norwegians*, resorting for their education to *Copenhagen*, should spend their money in the capital, where their morals become vitiated, and their manners softened and de-

CHAP.
IV.National
Song of
the Nor-
wegians.

praved by luxury. The two countries of *Denmark* and *Norway*, although united, were held together by no common tie;—almost as much hatred existing between a *Dane* and a *Norwegian*, as between a *Norwegian* and a *Swede*. Their national Song¹, so expressive of patriotic

(1) Nothing can give to a stranger, in *Norway*, a more powerful claim upon the affections and friendship of the people, than repeating a verse of this Song, or even quoting the two first lines of it, in convivial company, as a toast. We shall, therefore, insert the original in the *Norwegian* language; together with a free translation of it made by Miss *Parsons*, preserving, with the tenor of the original, much of its spirit and character, and being adapted to the same air.

For Norge, Kiempers Føde-land,
Vi denne Skaal udtømme,
Og, naar vi først faae Blod paa Tand,
Vi sødt om Frihed drømme;
Dog vaagne vi vel op engang,
Og bryde Lanker, Baand og Twang.

CHORUS.

For Norge, Kiempers Føde-land,
Vi denne Skaal udtømme, &c.

En Skaal for Dig, min kiække Ven,
Og for de Norske Piger,
Og har Du en, da Skaal for den,
Og Skam faae den, som sviger,
Og Skam faae den, som elsker Tvang,
Som hader Piger, Viin og Sang.

CHORUS.

En Skaal for Dig min kiække Ven,
Og for de Norske Piger, &c.

Og nok en Skaal for Norske Field,
For Klipper, Sne og Bakker,
Og Dovres Echo raaber Held,
For Skaalen tre Gang takker,
Ja tre Gang tre skal alle Field
For Norges Sønner brumme Held,

CHORUS.

Og nok en Skaal for Norske Field,
For Klipper, Sne og Bakker, &c.

feeling, and of the longing which all the *Norwegians* entertain of an emancipation, was heard CHAP.
IV.

The Same, translated, and adapted to the same Air, by Miss PARSONS.

To Norway, Valour's native sphere,
We drink with boundless pleasure;
O'er wine, we dream of freedom near;
In fancy grasp the treasure:
Yet shall we at some period wake,
And bonds compulsive nobly break *.

CHORUS.

To Norway, Valour's native sphere,
We drink with boundless pleasure, &c.

One glass to Friendship's shrine is due,
One to Norwegian beauty;
Some Nymph, my friend, may claim for you
From us this welcome duty!
Curse on that slave, who hugs his chains,
And woman, wine, and song disdains!

CHORUS.

One glass, &c. &c. &c.

Now, Norway, we thy mountains boast,
Snow, rocks, and countless wonders;
Lo! Dovre's† echo hails the toast,
And thrice 'rapt plaudits thunders:
Yes, three times three, the hills around
Shall "Health to Norway's Sons!" resound.

CHORUS.

Now, Norway, &c. &c. &c.

* It is almost impossible to translate the two lines of the original as they occur here: they contain an antient figurative expression, which literally might be thus rendered:

When we "first see the blood upon our teeth,"
We shall have sweet dreams of liberty.

By which is meant, "*When we cut our teeth*," i.e. When we emerge from the infant state of knowledge in which our country is involved, or when we become more enlightened;—the sanguinary spirit it seems to breathe being wholly inconsistent with the disposition of the *Norwegians* of the present day.

† The mountain called *Dovrefield*.

CHAP.
IV.

Clubs.

with rapture, and resounded in every society, from one extremity of the country to the other; being the oftener sung, because it had been prohibited by the Court of *Denmark*. In the room under the apartments in which we lodged, an evening club was regularly held; where a large party being always assembled, we used to hear this national air chaunted with a degree of enthusiasm, emphasis, and passion, greater than we ever remembered to have been called forth by the national songs of any country, if we except our sacred anthem, "*God save the King.*" A great number of the inhabitants speak the *English* language; and, as it is so nearly allied to their own, they learn it with ease and expedition; many words, and even whole sentences, being the same in both. Clubs are common here. The principal people have a large house in which they assemble every evening: it contains rooms for billiards, cards, and supper. Every member is balloted for, before he is admitted. If a stranger arrive, his name, together with the name of the person by whom he is proposed, are placed upon a paper in the club-room; as he cannot be admitted, until a ballot has taken place, and he becomes a member. The games usually played in these club-houses are, whist, ombre, piquet, chess, and

billiards: the stake is always low, and there is not the smallest tendency to gambling at any of them. It was owing to these clubs that the Emperor *Paul* of *Russia* prohibited all commerce with *Trönjem*; being under a false persuasion that they were of a political nature, and founded upon *French* principles of democracy. He would not suffer a *Norwegian* vessel to enter into any of the ports of his Empire. He was, therefore, almost as much detested by the people of this country as by his own subjects; and his name was never mentioned, but in terms of indignation and ridicule.

CHAP.
IV.

Within the last ten years, population and agriculture had wonderfully increased. Formerly, the inhabitants imported corn from other countries, in exchange for the product of their fisheries: now they had almost a sufficiency of corn of their own; and luxuries, rather than food, were becoming articles of importation. The population of the Province of *Trönjem* was estimated at the average of forty-two persons for each square mile. The province is divided into eight districts, as follow:

Population
and Agri-
culture.

Province of *Trönjem*.

Districts.	Number of Persons.	Square Miles.	Persons on each Mile.
Nordmöer . .	15,087 . .	105 . .	144
Romsdale . .	10,295 . .	88 . .	117

CHAP.
IV.

Districts.	Number of Persons.	Square Miles.	Persons on each Mile.
Fossen . . .	11,106 . . .	61 . . .	182
Dalerne . . .	26,138 . . .	221 . . .	119
Nummesdale . . .	8,114 . . .	95 . . .	85
Inherred . . .	25,162 . . .	497 . . .	51
Nordland . . .	53,500 . . .	2,082 . . .	26
Finmark . . .	5,984 . . .	1,244 . . .	5

and this estimate proves the average to be accurate, of forty-two persons for each square mile, for the whole province.

In the year 1785, the various towns in the Province of *Trönjem* contained a population amounting to 9336 persons, and the exclusive territory 154,986. According to accurate observations made in the same year, the population of all the provinces of NORWAY was thus computed:

Province of	Extent in Square Miles.	Number of Persons on each.
Trönjem	4,385	42
Bergen	669	228
Aggerhuus, or Christiania,	1,798	197
Christiansands	698	192

By a retrospective view of the state of *Norway* towards the middle of the last century, it appears that the aggregate of *births*, from the year 1743 to 1756, exceeded the aggregate of *deaths* by 64,003. From 1769 to 1785, the

increase in the aggregate of *births* amounted to 81,610. In the year 1769, the population of all CHAP.
IV. *Norway* was thus estimated :

Province of	Number of Persons.
Trönyem	170,722
Bergen	135,352
Aggerhuus . . .	325,043
Christiansands . .	117,024
Total	748,141

In the year 1785, there was found to be an increase, as before stated, of 81,610. The statement then made was as follows :

Province of	Number of Persons.
Trönyem	186,995
Bergen	152,599
Aggerhuus . . .	355,848
Christiansands . .	134,309
Total	829,751

In the same year¹, the following estimate was made of the population in the towns of *Norway*: the number of inhabitants in *Iceland* being, at

(1) A French writer, Monsieur Catteau, has given an account of the population of some of the towns of *Norway*, as it stood in 1769, and by mistake inserted the numbers according to the estimate made in 1785.

According

CHAP. the same time, 46,201; and in the *Feroe Isles*,
IV. 4754.

Towns.	Number of Persons.
Bergen	13,735
Brugner	2,405
Brevig	195
Christiania	7,496
Christiansaunf	1,151
Christiansand	3,034
Fridrichshald	3,834
Fredericstad	1,375
Holmstrand	688
Kongsberg	8,068
Krageroe	941
Langsund	58

According to the same writer, the following was the state of the population in 1799, in the towns here mentioned.

Towns.	Persons.
Bergen	16,000
Kongsberg	unknown.
Christiania	10,000
Trönjefu, or Drontheim	8,000
Fridrichshald	5,000
Christiansand	3,600
Laurvig	3,000
Bragnæs	2,600
Skeen	2,000
Fredericstad	1,500
Moss	1,200
Christiansaun	3,000

This estimate, as it is evident, is too much in round numbers, to be accurate. He has stated the population of *Christiania*, in 1769, as only equal to 1,496, which may be an error of the press.—Voy. "*Tableau des Etats Danois*," par Jean-Pierre Catteau, tom. II. p. 109. Paris, 1802.

Towns.	Number of Persons.
Laurgrig	2,424
Molde	707
Porgrund	192
Skeen	1,809
Stavanger	2,154
Stromroe	2,034
Tonsberg	1,281
Trönjem	7,478
Oster Risóer	931
Moss	1,196
Mandahl	900
Total	64,086
Iceland	46,201
Feroe Isles	4,754
Total	115,041

DENMARK supplies *Iceland* with corn, and in return receives wool and fish. We visited a *Dutch* frigate, which at this time was lying at anchor off *Trönjem*, having lately returned from *Iceland*. The account given to us of the island, by the officers on board, was, that there are several small towns upon the coast, but that the country is wretchedly poor. The peasants, they said, speak and write *Latin* with fluency. They saw a curious *Icelandic* Manuscript in the hands of a Priest, who refused to sell it.

Mr. *Thomas Angel*, a merchant of *Trönjem*, died in 1765, and, by his will, proved the

CHAP.
IV.Funds for
Public In-
stitutions.

greatest benefactor the city has yet known. He bequeathed the sum of 300,000 rix-dollars to be appropriated to public works, according to the discretion of the inhabitants. This sum has since been considerably increased, by voluntary contributions. Part of it has been used in erecting a School for the *Latin* and *Greek* languages; in defraying the expenses of forming public conduits; in building an Asylum for the Widows of Merchants and other inhabitants; in making improvements in the Asylum for Orphans, and in the public institutions for the poor. 'There is an Hospital for the Old and Infirm; and a House of Industry, where any person may find employment, and receive an adequate price for his labour. In the House of Industry, also, a certain number of young persons are instructed in weaving and in making stockings, and are paid a dollar a week. The House of Industry costs annually about 800 or 1000 dollars. No persons are admitted into the Hospital for the Old and Infirm until they have worked, or at least tried to work, in the House of Industry for two years. All whom we saw in the latter were employed in spinning, weaving, and making stockings; and most of the old women in the Hospital were spinning. The number of poor in *Trönjem* has, however,

greatly increased, in consequence of these benevolent establishments; although they be well inspected, and great care has been taken not to admit any but real objects of charity into the Hospital. The population of *Trönijem* now amounted to ten thousand persons; and of this number, twelve hundred received assistance from the charitable funds. The dress of the poor in the Hospital was neater than in our *English* poor-houses. We saw also a kind of House of Correction, where persons who had committed small offences were confined, and compelled to labour. This house had been only established half-a-year; and it was not expected to answer, as the inmates, being crowded together in the same room, corrupted one another. It was in agitation to adopt some better plan. The prison at *Philadelphia* was mentioned as an excellent institution. In all the parishes, voluntary contributions are made for the maintenance of the poor: every person declares what sum he is willing to contribute yearly; and the funds are managed by persons expressly nominated for the purpose, something after the plan adopted for the management of the poor in *Scotland*.

‘ Within the last ten years, the common people have made great use of potatoes: many

CHAP.
IV.

grounds about the town are planted with them, and with the *cabbage turnip*, which here attains unusual size and perfection. Wheat is never sown, nor much rye; but barley and oats thrive very well. Grass is cut for hay in the middle of *July*: the environs of *Trönjém* produce very fine crops, and, at the same time, the barley is in full ear. Rye is the chief corn imported; but the most common article of food among the peasants is the oaten cake. Enough is generally grown in the country for its consumption; and, as was before stated, it is seldom necessary to import much, either of barley or oats. The barley, when imported, comes from *England* and *Scotland*: the rye, from the *Baltic*. When there is a plentiful year in *Scotland*, much oatmeal is imported, which is highly valued, and bought up with avidity. Apples ripen here; but not apricots, which succeed tolerably well at *Christiania*. Upon the whole, there is not that difference of climate which might be expected between the two places; perhaps owing to the greater proximity of *Trönjém* to the sea. The bay of *Trönjém* never freezes. The cold is not nearly so great here as at *Röråås*, which lies more to the south. It should have been before stated, that during the last winter at *Röråås*, the mercury in the thermometer and barometer froze