

CHAP.
III.

Indies, were visited by its ships. *Danish* vessels, from twelve to fifteen hundred tons burden, sailed annually for *China*; and within the course of a single year, the number of merchantmen that had entered into the port of *Copenhagen* amounted nearly to four thousand¹; and of those that sailed hence, three thousand eight hundred and seventy.

State of
Literature.

It has been lately said of *Copenhagen*, that there is no want of books; and this is true with respect to its public libraries: but good books are seldom found in any of the booksellers' shops. We spent the remainder of our time in visiting the libraries belonging to the *City* and *University*, and in collecting information from the different *Professors*. There are some valuable collections of books, which were public donations from private individuals; but neither in these, nor in the *University Library*, nor in the library belonging to the *King*, could we find either the original manuscript of the description of *Britain* by *Richard of Cirencester*, or any transcript of it, or even a single printed copy of this work. It has been so commonly affirmed in *England* that the copy of *Richard's* treatise, from which *Stukely* pub-

(1) The authors of the *Voyage au Nord de l'Europe* state the whole amount of the entry, in 1787, at 3970 ships.—See tom. i. p. 256. *Paris*, 1796.

lished his analysis of the work, was made by Professor *Bertram* from the original manuscript in one of the libraries of *Copenhagen*, that we expected to find it without any difficulty. But even the small octavo volume which *Bertram* afterwards printed, containing *Richard's* account of *Britain*, together with the remains of *Gildas* and *Nennius*, was unknown to any of the Professors of this *University*². It is not at all remarkable that a *Dane* should feel less interested in the history of such a relique than a native of *Britain*; but it is somewhat marvellous that no memorial should remain of a work so celebrated³. The Library of the University is in the tower of the *Observatory*: it contains between three and four thousand volumes, and is rich in *Icelandic* Manuscripts, and some curious Deeds written in *Rhunic* characters. This

University
Library.

(2) Ricardi Corinensis Monachi Westmonasteriensis "de Situ Britanniae," Libri duo. E Codice MS. descripsit, Notique et Indice adornavit Carolus Bertram. *Hafniae*, Impensis Editoris, 1757.

(3) The author once procured a manuscript copy of *Richard's* work in *Scotland*, owing to the kindness of the Rev. Mr. *Grant*, Minister of *Elgin*. It was transcribed from the original edition, as published by Professor *Bertram*, in *Copenhagen*, A.D. 1757. Another edition of this work has, however, since appeared in *England*. It was published in *London* in 1809. Speaking of the difficulty of meeting with the original edition, the editor says, "The few copies which were sent to *England* have been long dispersed: and after a fruitless search to procure one in *London*, a similar attempt was made at *Copenhagen*, but with no better success."

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library is open to the public. If we were to judge only from inspecting the libraries of *Copenhagen*, it would ill become such transitory travellers to depreciate the state of literature in *Denmark*, because this in no country can be estimated by the books it may contain. Even the *Russians* have sometimes valuable libraries; and literature is more advanced in *Norway* than in the *Danish* Isles. It is by ascertaining the use made of these libraries, and the taste shewn in forming other literary collections, that we may determine the degree of improvement which has taken place in science. If we review the list of *Danish* Historians', we shall find the number to be very small indeed; but this may be owing to the paucity of events in the annals of *Denmark*, compared with those of other countries. The long commentaries of *Saxo*, the grammarian, contain nothing considerable. The two writers most worthy of note are *Meursius* and *Pontanus*; for *Denmark* had no historian, upon whose writings we may place any reliance, before the *Sixteenth* century.

Danish
Historians.

Among the collections of *Natural History*, the most favourite pursuit of the *Danish* students, those of *mineralogy* and *zoology* take the pre-

(1) See the list of them, as given by *Du Fresnoy*, vol. II. p. 501. *Lond.* 1730.

cedence. But *mineralogy* is not so much cultivated here as in *Germany*; where instances have occurred, like that of a poor cobbler, who, after working the whole day for a couple of shillings, has been known to spend half-a-guinea upon a single specimen. Yet the dealers in *Copenhagen* find their account in visiting remote regions in search of minerals: these men go to *Greenland* and to *Iceland*. We saw one of those dealers, who had lately returned from *Greenland*; and we bought of him some examples of association in minerals, that may tend to throw light upon the natural history of substances whose origin is involved in considerable uncertainty². The

Professors at this time residing in *Copenhagen*, Professors, who possessed cabinets of *Natural History*, were, Messrs. *Holmsziold* (who had a fine collection of *Siberian* minerals), *Abildgård*, *Shumacher*, *Martyn*, *Wad*, and *Becker*. The last was distinguished by a valuable collection of the ores of *silver*: the other Professors are well known to all the Academies of *Europe*. Professor *Wad* had the care of the Cabinet of Minerals

(2) Among these were—

1. *Antler* in *Pit-Coal*, from *Greenland*.

2. *Messotype*, of *Huay*, in *Iceland Spar*.

3. Substances intermediary between *Arragonite* and common *Canon-spar*, &c. &c.

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Mineralogy.

and Natural History belonging to the University, which was in excellent order. The Danish mineralogists set a great value upon what they call *transitions*, or *passages*; such, for example, as the passage of *hornblende* to *feldspar*; of *feldspar* to *quartz*; of *flint* to *limestone*; and so on: all of which supposed appearances, with the notions thereon founded, are so many marks of the abject state of *mineralogy* in *Denmark*. In this way they exhibit what is called a *passage* of *fossil wood* either to *pit-coal* or to *amber*; and from such circumstances of association deduce imaginary proofs of the *vegetable* origin of those minerals. Well might the venerable *Hauy*¹ consider these transitions as "*passages* that lead to nothing." To reason upon the *vegetable* origin of *fossil-coal* from the appearances of mineralized plants in a stratum of that substance, is not less absurd than to ascribe a similar origin to *opal*, in consequence of the frequent instances which occur of *wood-opal*, where the siliceous concretion has mineralized *wood*. With much more probability, might the drops of *water* which are sometimes seen in *amber*, and

(1) "La minéralogie deviendrait une sorte de dédale où l'on ne se reconnoît plus, et où tout seroit plein de passages qui ne meneroient à rien." *Hauy, Traité de Minéralogie, tom. III. p. 242. Paris, 1801.*

more frequently in *coal*, be referred to, as proofs of the agency of that fluid in their formation; because all that is necessary to convert *water* into either of these bodies, is the chemical union of *carbon* with *hydrogen* and *oxygen*. CHAP.
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We visited a Collection of shells, pictures, and minerals, which were the property of a carver in ivory, of the name of *Spengler*. The shells were said to form the largest cabinet in *Europe*. Some of them, owing to their rarity, but without beauty, were valued at enormous prices. One of them, not exceeding an inch in length, was pointed out to us as being worth fifty pounds sterling. Its value appeared to consist in a *lusus naturæ*; the spiral volute turning to the left, instead of to the right. Another shell, the *pulla achatina* of *Linnaeus*, about the size of a large pear, had been stolen from a part of the *East Indies*, where it is said to be so highly valued, that its exportation has been prohibited, under pain of death; possibly owing to some superstitious reverence attached to it. The only duplicate of this kind of shell, known in *Europe*, exists in a Collection at the *Hague*. The minerals belonging to Mr. *Spengler*, were numerous, but badly arranged; and, upon the whole, but indifferent in their kind. We shall, however, mention one specimen, of such ex-

Cabinet of
Shells.

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cessive beauty, that it is not likely to occur elsewhere: this was a crystallization of *mesotype*, in acicular prisms, about two inches in length; each of which was as diaphanous as the finest *rock-crystal*. It was preserved under a glass-case, and might certainly adorn the first cabinet of *minerals* in the world. There were also some pictures; but it generally happens in *Denmark*, that when one is invited to see the pictures of the best masters, they prove, upon examination, to be despicable copies.

Royal Col-
lection of
Pictures.

The same remark may also be applied to the pictures in the Royal Cabinet at *Copenhagen*. This cabinet contains a large collection of *Paintings*, *Natural History*, and *Antiquities*. Of the first, little can be said, if we except a work of *Salvator Rosa*; which merits all the admiration due to the historical works of this great master. The talents of *Salvator* are often estimated from his works in landscape painting; but his landscapes afford very inadequate proofs of his superior merit. His main excellence consisted in the delineation of story. Witness his conspiracy of *Catiline*: witness also this surprising picture belonging to the Royal Gallery of *Denmark*, which represents the Preaching of *Jonah* to the *Ninevites*. It contains sixteen figures, all as large as life; yet they are not in the least

crowded. At first sight, a person might suppose there were not more than half-a-dozen figures in the picture. There is a depth of shadow which amounts to darkness, in the principal effect; but it is a degree of darkness necessary to the terror and the sublimity of such a subject. The prophet stands elevated above all the other figures, before the portico of a Temple. It might be supposed that *Du Fresnoy* had this figure present to his view, in that memorable passage which our poet *Mason* has so happily paraphrased¹:

“ On that high-finished form, let Paint bestow
Her midnight shadow, her meridian glow.”

The dismay of the holy messenger is most strikingly blended with the expression of his prophetic enthusiasm; but, at the same time, he seems full of the confidence inspired by his mission. It is not the dismay of dastardly fear: it is horror mixed with indignation at the contemplation of guilt, accompanied by a deep consciousness of its consequences. His look, his air, his attitude, every feature of his countenance, the expression of his lips, and manner of addressing his hearers—all seem to bespeak

(1) “Luminis umbrarumque gradu sit pietas supremo.”

Du Fresnoy, de Arte Graphica, V. 392.

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the mighty oracle: "YET FORTY DAYS, AND NINEVEH SHALL BE OVERTHROWN." Two female figures are represented at his feet: the one, prostrate, exhibits all the softness and grace of a *Madonna* of *Carlo Dolci*; the other, kneeling in the fore-ground of the picture, is delineated with extended arms, and dishevelled hair streaming in the wind, in a white vest, flowing in rich folds, like the draperies of the *Caracci*. This figure has uncommon animation; but that the principal object may possess its due majesty, and all the force requisite to its situation, the artist has cast the profile of this female figure into shadow. The King of *Nineveh*, also, is made to lie prostrate before the Prophet, in the act of reverence and resignation: but his figure is venerable and interesting: he is represented wearing upon his head a crown of the most antient and simple form; and the light, by a dexterous management of the painter, being carried off from the vest of the female figure before mentioned, plays beautifully upon the temples of the aged monarch. The drapery throughout this picture is all of the grandest cast: it is principally of a brown colour, or of a dark shadowy yellow hue; so carefully glazed as to exhibit the utmost mellowness in every tint. If there be a colour more particularly

difficult to introduce than any other into a picture, it is green; the management of which was *Rembrandt's* glory: yet even this colour has been here applied in so admirable a manner, upon the figure of a venerable man, that it adds to the general harmony of this great masterpiece. It is moreover remarkable, that the architecture introduced into this picture is barbarous: possibly the artist took care that a purer taste in architecture should not betray him into an anachronism respecting the history of *Nineveh*. Of the other pictures in this Collection, little needs be said; because so many of them are copies. We observed a genuine work of *Michael Angelo Carravagio*, representing Gamblers: also others, by *Gerrard Honthorst*, commonly called *Gerrardo della notte*; by *Pietro Perugino*; by *Van Steenwyck*, &c. &c. A picture said to be by *Gerrard Dow*, of the Physician regarding a Patient's urine, is a copy; the original is at *Turin*.

In the chambers of *Natural History*, we saw nothing worth notice, excepting the *minerals*; but these were in a wretched state of confusion, ill arranged, and badly preserved. In a corner of the room there stood a mass of *native silver*, near six feet long, and, in one part of it, above eighteen inches in diameter: we noticed, also,

Natural
History.

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III.Antiqui-
ties.

a magnificent piece of *amber* that had been found in *Jutland*, nearly thirty pounds in weight; also a valuable group of *emeralds* in their matrix; ores of *gold* and *silver* in abundance; works executed in *amber*; and, among what are commonly called *petrifications*, a most extraordinary mineralization of *an infant in its mother's womb*. The other curiosities consisted of stuffed animals, in very bad condition; and of *Antiquities*. Among the latter may be mentioned some that bear a peculiar reference to the antient history of the country; such as the golden vessels which, at different times, have been found in *Jutland*. Many authors mention the two drinking-horns of gold, which were discovered, one towards the middle of the seventeenth, and the other of the eighteenth century. They merit all the attention that has been paid to them by antiquaries. The figures on these horns are actually *hieroglyphics*; and some of them exactly resemble the *hieroglyphics* of *Egypt*. Of these it will be sufficient to mention *one*, because it is known to all who are at all versed in *Egyptian* antiquities; namely, the human figure with a dog's head, which is by some supposed to represent *Anubis*, and, by others, the *Hermes* of *Hades*. Connecting, therefore, the testimony afforded by these *Celtic* reliques, with the evident

similarity of structure exhibited in the *Cyclopæan* architecture of the north of *Europe*¹, of the *Morea* of *Caramania*, of *Syria*, and of *Egypt*, it is at least probable that they belong to the same race of *Titan-Celts*²; who were once masters of all the eastern shores of the *Mediterranean*; and who existed in *Greece*, in *Thrace*, and in *Gaul*, before any of the *Gothic* and *Grecian* colonies had found their way to *Europe*. There are in this Collection many other drinking-horns, which afford curious specimens of antique workmanship; also other golden vessels, that were discovered in the antient sepulchres of *Jutland*. The remains of a stag are likewise exhibited, found with a collar of gold about his neck.

We shall close our account of the *regal* curiosities at *Copenhagen* with a brief survey of the *Royal Library*. It contains above a hundred thousand volumes of printed books, and some thousand manuscripts³. Here, as before, we

Royal
Library.

(1) See the *Vignette* to this Chapter, representing one of those Sepulchral *Cyclopæan* structures called *Cromlechs* in *Wales*; as it now exists, near to *Kiel*, upon the borders of *Holstein*, and as it was described in the last Chapter.

(2) "Qui ipsorum lingua CELTÆ, nostra GALLI appellatur." *Cæsar. Comment. lib. i.* See also *Pausanias, lib. i. c. 3.*

(3) According to the *Voyage de Deux Français*, about 130,000 volumes, and 3000 manuscripts. There have been considerable additions,

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inquired for the manuscript of *Richard of Cirencester*, but the librarian knew nothing of it. They shewed to us the manuscript copy of the *Edda*, by *Snorro*, and a printed copy of the same by *Ismund*; also a manuscript collection of histories in the *Icelandic* language, in two folio volumes, called *Codex Flateyensis*. Among the other manuscripts we saw a copy of the *Korān*, in illuminated characters; and a beautiful illuminated manuscript of *Chronicles*, written in the middle of the *fifteenth* century, being a translation from the *Latin* into the *French* language. It was entitled "*Chroniques Martinienes*." The illuminations represented battles, &c. and were marvellous performances for the age in which they were done. Many of them might be considered really as fine paintings. The following short preface of the translator is verbally and literally copied from the original.

"PAR LE VOULOIR DE JESU CRIST, VRAY
DIEU TOUT PUISSANT COURANT L'AN DE SON
INCARNATION M.CCCC.L.VIII. MONSIEUR LOUIS
DE LAVAL, CHEVALIER SEIGNEUR DE CHA-
TILLON ET DE FRIMONDOUR GOUVERNEUR DE
DAUPHIGNY A FAIT TRANSLATER ET METTRE

tions, of late years, to this Collection. Mr. Care makes the number equal to 100,000 volumes, and 7000 manuscripts; besides the books in the King's private library, which amount to 20,000 volumes.

DE LATIN EN FRANÇOIS LES CHRONIQUES
MARTINIENES PAR SON TRES-HUMBLE CLERC
ET SERVITEUR SÉBASTIEN DE MAMEROT DE
VOISSONS."

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We saw also a manuscript of part of *Livy*, written in the *tenth* century, and all the manuscripts which *Niebuhr* collected during his travels. Among the early specimens of typography which adorn this library, there are many of the first editions of the classics; particularly *Cicero de Officiis*, printed at *Mayence*, by *Fust*, in 1465 and 1466; at *Rome*, by *Pet. de Max.* in 1469; at *Venice*, in 1470; also at *Rome*, by *Sweynheym* and *Pannartz*, 1471. We observed, also, the first editions of *Justin*, both without and with a date; the latter being printed at *Rome*, in 1470; an edition of *Livy*, printed at *Rome* in 1468; two of *Virgil*, and one of *Terence*, without date; and several others less rare.

During the evening of *Thursday, June 15*, the Crown Prince reviewed 10,000 *Danish* troops. The weather was unfavourable, but we went to see the sight. The prevailing opinion among intelligent foreigners who were present was, that, notwithstanding the martial spirit of the Prince, and his passion for military affairs, his troops were awkward, and negligent of their duty. Some of the soldiers were eating in the midst of their

Review.

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marching manœuvres; others talking; the consequence of which was, that they were often (to use a technical term) *clubbed*, and in evident confusion. We approached very near to the royal tent, standing close to the entrance, where we had an opportunity of seeing the Royal Family. It was a melancholy sight; the poor King being allowed to walk in and out of the tent, and to exhibit the proofs of his mental derangement to all the bye-standers. A young officer, a sentinel at the door of the tent, with a drawn sword in his hand, attracted the King's notice: going up to him, his majesty made the most hideous grimaces close to his face, and poured forth, at the same time, a torrent of the lowest abuse. The conduct of this young subaltern was very commendable. Orders had been issued, that no notice should ever be taken of what the unfortunate monarch might say; nor any reply whatsoever be made to his questions: consequently, the officer stood fixed and immoveable as a statue; and, during the whole time that the King remained spluttering in his face, not a feature of his countenance was changed, but preserved the utmost firmness and gravity, as if unconscious that any person was addressing him. When the King observed that he could make no impression upon the object

of his rage, his insanity took a different turn ; and beginning to exhibit all sorts of antics before the different Ambassadors and Envoys who were collected before the entrance of the pavilion, he suddenly rushed into the tent. The persons present upon this occasion were, besides the King and the Crown Prince, the King's brother, who was deformed ; the Princess Royal, in a riding-habit ; the King's nephew ; the Ambassadors from France and Spain, the English Minister, their Secretaries, and other Envoys, together with a variety of foreigners of distinction who had been presented at the Danish Court.

On the sixteenth, we left *Copenhagen* for *Helsingor*, or *Elsineur*, travelling through a pleasant country, with the finest paved road we had ever seen. Antient *tumuli* were often visible. A gentleman journeyed with us who had opened one of these sepulchres : he found in it the usual deposit, of an earthen vessel made of the rudest *terra cotta*, which he said was full of bones : and this latter circumstance refers its history to an age when it was customary to burn the dead ; rather than to remoter periods, when it was the practice to bury the bodies of deceased persons entire. At *Hirsholm* we saw the favourite palace of the Queen *Matilda*, consisting of numerous chambers, now in a ruined state, adorned with

Journey to
Helsingor.

Hirsholm.

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tapestry, gilding, and inlaid work of mother-of-pearl. This palace, in its original state of magnificence, exhibited no marks of a good taste; and in its present condition it contains nothing that is worth seeing. In our way from *Copenhagen* to *Hirsholm*, we saw, on our right, a plain marble monument, which had been erected by the peasants in honour of their benefactor, the celebrated Count *Bernstorff*, Prime Minister of *Denmark*, who set the first example of emancipating his tenants from a system of feudal bondage. Until this emancipation took place, the farmers were slaves: it was followed by the liberation of the Crown peasants¹. The chaste and simple ornaments of this elegant monument consist of nothing more than a *scythe* and a *wheat-sheaf*; symbolical of the agricultural labours, which are best encouraged, in every country, by the freedom of the inhabitants².

(1) Count *Bernstorff* was a native of *Hanover*. He was born on the 28th of August 1735. This nobleman liberated his peasants, after the death of *Frederic V.* in the year 1767. In 1786, soon after the *Prince Royal* assumed the reins of government, there was also an emancipation of the *Crown* peasants. The system of feudal bondage was not, however, entirely abolished when we were in *Denmark*.

(2) Mr. *Coxe's* description of this monument differs in some respects from that which is here given. The reader will also find, in Mr. *Coxe's* work, a copy of the *Latin* inscription upon it; by which it appears to have been erected in 1783. See *Trav. into Poland, &c.* vol. V. p. 31. *Lond.* 1791.

From *Hirsholm* we proceeded, over excellent roads, to *Helsingor*; and upon Saturday, June 17th, we visited the Castle of *Cronberg*, the bulwark of the *Sound*, begun by *Frederic the Second*, in 1577, and finished in 1585. The *Danish* writers speak in high terms of the excellence of its structure, and of its security and beauty: it is described as surpassing all the other citadels of *Denmark*⁴. In this fortress the Queen *Matilda* was confined⁵. We saw the rooms in which she had resided: they are not otherwise worth notice. A few years before our coming, the King had visited these apartments, and he inquired of his attendants whether his wife had been confined within these rooms. Upon receiving an affirmative answer, he drew his sword, and would have put to death some of the bye-standers, if they had not succeeded in wresting the weapon from his hands. During

(4) "*Cronburgum*, arx Regalis, et freti Danici custos, *Helsingoræ* urbe proximâ superior, cui non ornamento tantum est summo, sed etiam præsidio firmissimo, ut *Pontanus* ait. Nam omnibus aliis *Daniæ* arcibus non modo operum, sed etiam naturalis situs firmitudine præfertur." *Amœnitates Regnorum Daniæ, Norvegiæ, &c.* tom. II. p. 623. *L. Bat.* 1706.

(5) There is a beautiful and correct view of this Castle, and of the opposite coast of *Sweden*, in *Porter's "Travelling Sketches,"* (facing p. 4. vol. I. *Lond.* 1809.) a work containing more accurate representations, of the scenery and costumes it professes to exhibit, than have yet appeared in any book of Travels.

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Anecdote
of the
Master of
an *English*
Merchant-
man.

the time that *Matilda* was a prisoner here, the Captain of an *English* merchantman in the *Sound*, hearing of her captivity, and supposing that imprisonment and starvation were synonymous terms, determined to mitigate the Queen's sufferings by sending her a leg of mutton and some potatoes. Mrs. *Fenwick*, wife of the Consul of this name, herself conveyed the present to the Queen; who being passionately fond of the *English*, and always affected by every thing that brought them to her recollection, received the gift very graciously, and presented the honest Captain with a gold chain, in token of her acknowledgment. With respect to *Matilda's* history, we shall by no means attempt to revive the controversy, as to her innocence or guilt. The circumstances of her marriage must always plead in her behalf; and while advocates are found for such a woman as was *Catherine the Second* of *Russia*, surely the enemies of *Matilda* ought not to load her memory with indiscriminating obloquy. In conversing with those to whom the events of her life were familiar, we often bore testimony to her popularity, even in *Denmark*. The *English* Minister was said to have been bribed; and his conduct, in shutting his eyes to the transactions against the Queen, was mentioned to us in terms of the utmost repre-

hension. Mr. *Fennick*, the Consul, whose name we before mentioned, was very kind to her. The *English* Court sent to offer him the honour of knighthood; but this he declined, saying, he had only done his duty: in the mean time, the *English* Minister told his tale so artfully, and hatched up such a representation as to his superior management in *Matilda's* affairs, that he was made a Baronet. When she was liberated from her imprisonment, and the vessel came which was to conduct her to *Zell*, the *Danish* flag was spread for her to walk upon: but she refused, with indignation, to walk upon *Danish* colours; in consequence of which, an *English* flag was substituted, and placed beneath her feet.

That the old feudal system is not abolished in *Denmark*, might be made evident, simply by stating the persons who were confined in this citadel. In a prison adjoining the Castle, we saw several *slaves*, who were imprisoned for theft or for other crimes. *Helsingor*, sometimes *Helsingor*. called *Elsineur*, and also *Elsinoor*, is a neat town, and it is the residence of many considerable families: the houses are well built, and contain many elegant apartments; but the custom which prevails here, of glazing the windows without sashes, very much diminishes their ex-

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ternal grandeur. At a small distance from the Castle of *Cronberg*, a spot was pointed out to us which still bears the name of *Hamlet's Garden*. A tradition maintains that this was the spot where the murder of his father was perpetrated.

Passage of
the Sound.

The passage hence to the opposite coast of *Sweden* is usually performed in half an hour, with a favourable wind. We were only twenty-five minutes in making it: and we landed at *Helsingborg*; feeling considerable exultation in visiting a country which we had been accustomed to consider as more remote from observation than almost any other in *Europe*. A perceptible difference in every object was immediately noticed by the whole of our party. Our first remarks, after landing, were, that the *Swedes* are not so cleanly as the *Danes*; and subsequent experience proved that this early impression was not erroneous with respect to the inhabitants of the south of *Sweden*. In many good qualities, however, they are much their superiors. During our passage across the *Sound*, we saw the little island of *Huen*, celebrated as the birth-place and residence of 'the famous *Tycho Brahe*, the great *Danish astronomer*'. The town of

Isle of
Huen.

(1) See Mr. Coxe's *Biographical Memoirs of Tycho Brahe*. Trav. into Poland, &c. vol. V. chap. 5. p. 70. Lond. 1791.

Uranienborg, so called in honour of him, was very visible upon the highest point of the island. *English frigates*, and other shipping, formed a pleasing sight off the coast. Some of our party went to pay a visit to the *British* naval officers whom we met in *Copenhagen*; and among others, to Captain *White*, who had discovered a method of solving all propositions in Spherical Trigonometry by a piece of mechanism. As the author sat waiting their return in the little inn at *Helsingborg*, some fir-trees of an astonishing length were conducted, by wheel-axles, to the water side. A separate vehicle was employed for each tree; being drawn by horses which were driven by women. These long, white, and taper shafts of deal timber, divested of their bark, afforded the first specimens of the produce of those boundless forests, of which we had then formed no conception. That the reader may, therefore, be better prepared than we were for the tract of country we are now to survey, it may be proper to state, in the way of anticipation, that if he cast his eyes upon the map of *Sweden*, and imagine the *Gulph of Bothnia* to be surrounded by one contiguous unbroken forest, as antient as the world, consisting principally of *pine-trees*, with a few mingling *birch* and *juniper* trees, he will have a general, and tolerably correct notion of the

General
aspect of
all *Sweden*.

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real appearance of the country. If the Sovereigns of *Europe* were to be designated each by some title characteristic of the nature of their dominions, we might call the *Swedish* monarch, *Lord of the Woods*; because, in surveying his territories, he might travel over a great part of his kingdom from sun-rise until sun-set, and find no other subjects than the trees of his forests. The *population* is everywhere small¹, because the whole country is covered with wood: yet, in the nonsense that has been written about the *Northern hive*, whose swarms spread such consternation in the second century before Christ, it has been usual to maintain, that vast armies issued from this land. The only region with which *Sweden* can properly be compared, is *North America*; a land of wood and iron, with very few inhabitants, "and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass:" but, like *America*, it is also, as to society, in a state of infancy. It has produced a *Linnaeus*, because *natural history* is almost the only study to which the visible objects of such a region can be referred: and almost all

(1) The population of all *Sweden* in the year 1776 amounted only to two millions and a half; (*Mémoires du Royaume de Suède, par Cantslaer, ch. vi. p. 184. 4to. 1776.*) not more than double the population of *London*.

its men of letters are still *natural historians* or *chemists*. Centuries may elapse before Sweden will produce a *Locke*, or a *Montesquieu*, or a *Paley*, or a *Dugald Stewart*; although it may be never without a *Wallerius*, a *Hasselquist*, a *Thunberg*, or a *Berzelius*.

Helsingborg contains about twelve hundred inhabitants, who are supported by fishing, and by the traffic necessarily attendant upon the passage between the two kingdoms. It has more the appearance of a large village than of a town. In its neighbourhood there are some chalybeate springs, to which the *Swedish* nobles resort during summer; and this is of considerable advantage to the place. There are some distilleries in *Helsingborg* for making ardent spirits, particularly brandy, of which a considerable quantity is here made and sold. To give it flavour, they mix aniseed with it, the taste of which is much admired by the *Swedes*; but to us it was extremely disagreeable, as it is to most foreigners: perhaps it may contain other impurities; because, when mixed with water, it loses its transparency, becomes white, and has a sweet taste. Those, however, who wish to conform in their habits to the customs of the country, must learn to drink it without water: as it is universally the practice, throughout all

*Helsing-
borg.*

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III.

Sweden, Norway, and Russia, whether in the houses of high or low, to drink a dram before meals.

Scania.

As soon as the party were again assembled, we began our journey in SWEDEN ; traversing that part of the province of *Skåne*, or *Scania*, which intervenes in the road leading to *Göthenburg*. This province is subdivided into the two counties of *Malmöhus* and *Christianstadt*. The only

*Swedish
Horses.*

mode of travelling post, for those who are not provided with their own carriages, is in little low waggons, which are drawn by small, but very beautiful horses, remarkable for their speed and spirit. We were told an instance of their speed, which may, or may not, be credited. Four little *Swedish* horses* belonging to a nobleman of *Stockholm* trotted with a *traineau*, or sledge, four *Danish* (twenty *English*) miles within the hour.

*Dress of
the Female
Peasants.*

The roads are the finest in the world. The dress of the women is gaudy ; it resembles the *costume* of the female peasants in some parts of *Italy* ; consisting of a scarlet jacket placed over a sort of variegated waistcoat, short blue petticoats not reaching lower than the knees, the feet being bare, and a white handkerchief bound loosely and elegantly over the head, covering a part of the face. Sometimes they appear without the jacket ; and then have only shift-sleeves over their arms, buttoned a little above the wrist.



The men are tall and strong; but they are not so stout as the *Danes*. The same characteristic features seemed to be everywhere prevalent; a long and somewhat pale face, with grey eyes, good teeth, and an expression of mildness in the countenance.

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III.

It was night when we reached *Engelholm*. *Engelholm*. The country appeared to be flat, wild, and desolate. We had a distant view of some high mountains near to the coast, called *Cullen*, or, as the *Swedes* write it, *Kullen*. A similar name is given to the highest mountains of the Isle of *Skie*, in the *Hebrides*; which, though written *Cuchullin*, is pronounced by the Islanders, *Cullien*, or *Cullen*. Those mountains were said to be upon an island; but according to *Marelius* his map of the South of *Sweden*, there is a promontory bearing this name upon the southern side of a bay near *Engelholm*. The inn here was small, but we had cleanly accommodations. On the following morning, *June* 18, we rose at five o'clock, and continued our journey. The cottages and all the houses in the villages are constructed of wood, as in *Switzerland*; but in this part of *Sweden*, they are generally dirty. The neglected state of agriculture may be considered as the cause of this: the country still appeared uncultivated. We passed extensive tracts covered with

CHAP.
III.Forest
Scenery.

heath, exhibiting a rough and barren soil, where every thing was bleak and wretched. Afterwards, having changed horses at a small village, we entered a beautiful forest, resembling some of those fine woods in *Germany*, where, as there is no underwood, the eye is enabled to pénétrate into the depth of shade¹; and the uncertainty of objects increasing by distance amidst the stems of the trees, strange forms seem to be visible, of a nature so doubtful, that, not knowing what they are, a rude and unenlightened people might easily believe them to be supernatural appearances; either monstrous beasts, or men of gigantic stature¹; or ghosts and dæmons, dimly passing in the thickest gloom of the wilderness. Hence, perhaps, originated, among the *Antients*, a belief in *Sylvani*, and in all the *Fauns* and *Satyrs* with which they peopled their unbroken forests. A curious circumstance is, however, mentioned by *Plutarch*, in his life of *Sylla*, which yet remains unexplained; although *Plutarch*, like his successor *Lucian*, was too much of a compiler, to require that an implicit confidence should be paid

(1) How beautifully has *Bewicke* availed himself of the appearances so exhibited, in one of his wood-cuts; where a benighted traveller is represented as horror-struck by the monstrous shapes which, in the gloomy obscurity of a wood, seem to be present to his view!

to his narrative. He relates, that the *Roman* General, being upon his return from *Greece* to *Italy*, was at *Apollonia*, near to *Dyrrachium*, when a *Satyr*, which had been caught sleeping, was brought to him, and exhibited as a curiosity. There must have been something resembling the human form in its appearance, because *Sylla* caused it to be addressed by several interpreters²: but from *Plutarch's* description of the cries of the animal, it is probable that the supposed monster was nothing more than a large ape, although no such creature be now found in any part of *Albania*. As we have compared this part of *Sweden*, in respect to its forests, with *Germany*, we may also add, that the comparison ends here. The roads are so much superior in *Sweden*, that there is nothing like them in any other country; and certainly throughout the whole of *Germany*, not excepting even the fine roads of the *Tirol*, there is no instance of such perfection in the public ways: and this perfection is not confined to a particular province of *Sweden*; it exists in every part of the country; some of the most beautiful roads lying towards the remoter parts of the *Swedish* dominions, in *Westro-Bothniä*

Public
Roads.

(2) 'Αχθίντα δὲ ὡς Σύλλα, ἱερῶσθαι δὲ ἱερυνίων πολλῶν ὅστις εἶη. *Plutarchi Sylla*, tom. I. p. 468. *Francof.* 1599.

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III.

and *Ostro-Bothniå*. For the convenience of travelling, the best method that *English* gentlemen can adopt, in visiting this country, is to purchase in *Stockholm*, or to convey with them from *England*, some light open carriage, such as a low phaëton, or a little waggon with or without springs, which may always be drawn by a pair of horses, and may contain three or four persons, besides all the necessary articles of baggage. We shall have occasion, hereafter, to mention a vehicle of this kind, which we obtained new, in the capital, for a sum of money that in *England* would scarcely pay the price of a common hand-cart. It is necessary to send forward a peasant, or other messenger, as in many countries, to order horses; or the traveller will be detained, sometimes for three hours, at a wretched post-house.

Karup.

After descending, from the forest now mentioned, we entered an extensive valley, partly surrounded by mountains towards the south and east, but open towards the north, and having the sea towards the west. Upon the northern side of those mountains, and near to their bases, stands the village of *Karup*; which, on whatever side it is approached, exhibits a picturesque and pleasing appearance. Here we changed horses again; it being usual to meet

with relays every six or seven *English* miles. Finding that we should be obliged to wait a considerable time for horses at *Karup*, the author proceeded on foot, with the intention to provide horses at the next post-house in *Laholm*, before the rest of the party should arrive. In doing this, he missed the road; and taking one at right angles to that which led to *Laholm*, walked along the base of the range of mountains, to the sea. Presently he arrived at a gentleman's country-seat, situate upon the banks of a fine river. Having crossed the bridge, and followed the road through his farm-yard, it suddenly opened upon a wide heath. Here he continued to proceed; and at length reached a town called *Boorstad*, situate about half way up the side of the hills, upon the western extremity of the chain where it terminates in the sea. Finding the sea to be upon his right hand, instead of lying towards the left, he became first convinced of the mistake he had made; and perceiving, at a great distance, a woman and a boy, who were going to *kirch*, he called out to them, when they both took to their heels, and ran as fast as they could. At last, having outstripped them in speed, and coming nearer, he prevailed upon them to halt; and making them comprehend that he had lost his way, the boy

Boorstad.

CHAP.
III.

was permitted to conduct him, across the country, into the road to *Laholm*, where he arrived just as the rest of his party were about to leave that place; having walked about sixteen miles.

Laholm.
Nuptial
Festivities.

At *Laholm* we saw garlands suspended upon upright poles, adorned like our May-poles. There was also an arch made of the stems and branches of green birch-trees. Around the poles, and through this arch, a new married couple, followed by the bride-maids and friends of the bridegroom, had been dancing. A prodigious concourse of people attended this wedding, and joined in the festivities for its celebration.—There are few remains of *Heathen* customs which have a higher claim to antiquity than this of the *garlanded May-pole* and its festive choir; and to these *nuptial dances*, as they were celebrated by the *Athenians* and by other collateral branches of the original family whence the *Goths* and *Greeks* were severally deduced, we find allusions in *Horner*¹ and in *Theocritus*²;

- (1) Κοῦροι δ' ἱερηστῆρες ἰδίνιον, ἐν δ' ἄρα τοῖσιν
 Αὐλοὶ, φόρμιγγές τε βοὴν ἔχον· αἱ δὲ γυναῖκες
 Ἰστάμεναι θαύμαζον ἐπὶ προθύροισιν ἐκαστή.

Iliad. Σ. v. 494.

- (2) "Αἰδοὶ δ' ἄρα πᾶσαι ἐς ἐν μίλος ἱγκροτόισαι
 Ποσὶ περιπλίκτοις, περὶ δ' ἱαχε δῶμ' ὑμναίῃ.

THEOCRIT. Epithal. Helen.

but it is only in the *rural* sports of such countries as *Denmark*, *Norway*, and *Sweden*, and perhaps in a few provinces of *England* and *Germany*, where old customs have not been superseded by later refinements, that some of the popular ceremonies alluded to by those antient poets may now be observed.

From *Laholm* we came to *Halmstad*, a neat *Halmstad.* town on the mouth of a river, where a Franciscan Convent was founded by *John the Second of Denmark*, in 1512, immediately preceding the year in which he died³. The houses here, although principally built of wood, have a similitude to those of the *Italian* towns situate upon the *Adriatic*; and the country itself, soon after leaving *Halmstad*, wore a new and more beautiful aspect, somewhat resembling scenes in the *Apennines*; the road winding among cliffs, and woods, and rocks. This appearance, however, as we proceeded, was of short duration. The nights being now nearly as clear as the day, owing to the twilight, the author continued his journey; the rest of the party halting for repose at *Falconberg*: and he found the country, as *Falconberg.*

(3) "Sed Johannes sub hoc gratissimo sibi pacis ocio, ad opera versus pietatis, diversoria Monachis apparat Franciscanis, Koegia, Malmogia, ac *Halmstadii*, perillustria." *Messenii Scandia Illustrata*, tom. IV. p. 71. *Stockholm*. 1700.

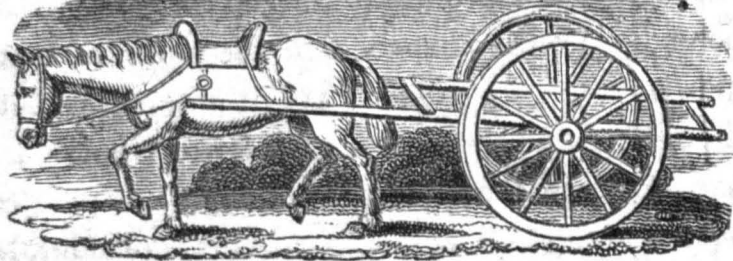
CHAP.
III.

is common in maritime districts, flat, barren, and covered by alluvial remains, beach, and sand. Of the interior he could only form an opinion by transient views towards the east, where the occasional prospect of some distant hills seemed to denote a more uneven district.

Warberg. At six A.M. he arrived at *Warberg*, whence he proceeded to *Kongsbacka*. Here the country was less sterile, bolder, and its outlines more broken by rocks. It began to resemble, but upon a smaller scale, the hills and valleys of Greece; consisting of a series of circular plains, surrounded by rugged eminences. After leaving one of these craters, the traveller enters another, passing through defiles leading from

Kongsbacka. one to the other. *Kongsbacka* is a small town, situate in one of these vales. It is built entirely of wood. The cottages of the peasants were as rude and wretched as the huts upon the moors of Scotland; but after leaving *Kongsbacka*, they were better, and had an external appearance of neatness. Some faint indications of agriculture were visible near these little tenements: but industry is more discouraged than promoted by the conduct of the Lords, who appropriate to themselves whatever becomes worth seizing from the peasants, without making them the smallest compensation for their labour; and if

a little farm grow large enough to excite their cupidity, its owner is driven from it, to begin again the cultivation of some other barren spot. The same sort of country continued all the way to *Karra*; where the rest of the party having arrived, we procured fresh horses, and proceeded towards *Gothenburg*. The approach to this city is on the western side of a small river: opposite to it, upon the other side, are some *mountainets*, similar to those before mentioned. About two *English* miles before we reached *Gothenburg*, we came to the *Aqueduct* by which the inhabitants are supplied with spring-water from the opposite mountains. The extent of the suburbs, the public walks, the number of vehicles moving to and fro, announce to the traveller, as he enters the town, a place of considerable importance.



CHAP. IV.

GOTHENBURG, TO HALBY, ON THE WENER LAKE.

Commerce of Gotheborg, or Gothenburg—Herring Fishery—Population—Diet of the Inhabitants—Exports—Hospital—Amusements—Rock Moss—Journey to Edet—Mode of Travelling—Trollhætta—Anecdote of the young King of Sweden—Canal—Sawing Mills—Climate—Custom illustrating a passage in Scripture—Condition of the Peasants—Custom of using Aniseed—Passage by water—Carlsgraf—Canal—Wenersburg—Lake Wetter—Lake Wener—Swedish Trap—Mountains Halleberg and Hunneberg—Basaltic Rocks—Pyrola uniflora—Celtic Antiquities—Visit paid to them by the King and Queen—Professor Malthus and Mr. Otter set out for Norway.

CHAP. IV.

Commerce
of Gothen-
burg.

THE commerce of Gothenburg is of high importance to Sweden; and there is, perhaps, no place in Europe where the benefits to be derived from

commerce are more eagerly sought for, than among the inhabitants of this city. Every other consideration is absorbed in the pursuit; commerce alone engrossing all the employment, thoughts, and hopes of each individual. *Iron* and *fish* are the principal *exports*. Among the *imports*, *English porter* is a very considerable article; and the privilege of importing it is extended to no other town in *Sweden*. The consumption of *porter* here is very great, owing to the number of workmen employed in the fishery, oil-trade, &c. The foundation of *Gothenburg*, now second only to *Stockholm*, did not take place until the beginning of the seventeenth century, under *Charles the Ninth*¹. The name of the place is evidently derived from the river *Gotha*, upon which it stands. This river, flowing from the Lake *Wener*, divides itself into two branches at *Bohus*; forming an island, called *Bohus*, before it reaches *Gothenburg*; a little to the south-west of which city, the southern branch falls into the sea². By *Messenius*, and the *Swedish* authors

(1) *Scandia Illustrata*, tom. VIII. p. 106; tom. XV. p. 155. *Stockholm*, 1703.

(2) Of the approach to *GOTHENBURG*, by sea, a spirited description is contained in Mr. E. V. *BLONFIELD*'s MS. *Journal*.

"At nine P.M. we were running eight knots an hour. The sun set in splendour, and left, for two hours afterwards, bright traces of his path.

who have written in *Latin*, this city is called GOTEBURGUS, and by the natives it is pronounced *Goteborg*. It is still fortified; the streets are broad; and the buildings have a handsome appearance. A view of its interior reminds the traveller, who has visited *Holland*, of the towns in that country; excepting that the houses are made of wood, instead of

path. At half past ten, the air was pure and serene; very different from our dense and foggy atmosphere. It was so light, that we were able (*June 13, 1813*) distinctly to read a small print on deck. We went in high spirits to our birth; desiring to be called, on the first appearance of Swedish ground. The freshness of the gale during the night prevented our sleeping; and, at three in the morning, we were called up to witness our passing the *Scaw Point*. At eight we reached *Wingo Sound*, and soon after entered the harbour of *Gothenburg*. It is difficult to describe the effect of the scene upon us. The islands of barren *granite*, which intercepted the free passage; the distant rocks which formed the outlets of the harbour; the little red-fir houses interspersed among them; formed a picture, which nothing we had ever seen before gave us any idea of. As we drew nearer to *Marstüket*, or the Old Town, the port seemed choked up with vessels; and amongst them we distinguished, with something of exultation, numerous *British* flags. About a mile below the New Town, we cast anchor; and it was six hours before the Custom-house officers condescended to permit us to enter the town. The river around us was bounded by promontories of *granite*, thinly scattered with strips of brilliant green; and, on the most verdant parts, were trees, or rather shrubs, of scanty growth. Every thing that art had provided seemed to be of fir; the houses, churches, wharfs, and merchandize. At five P.M. we landed at the New Town; passing up a canal, under a drawbridge connecting the Governor's house with the town. From the entrance of this canal, at right angles with the river, rose, in the distance, an amphitheatre of *granite* mountains, of many miles' extent; presenting the same unbending sterility as the sides of the harbour higher up, but borrowing beauty from the rich purple tints which mingle with their native colour."—*Blomfield's MS. Journal*.

bricks or stone. It also resembles *Hamburgh*; being intersected by a canal from the *Gotha*, which divides the town into two parts, and the banks of which are adorned with trees. The number of *herrings* taken in the fishery here amounts sometimes to the astonishing quantity of two millions of barrels in a single season; each barrel containing from twelve to thirteen hundred *herrings*. Formerly, there were instances of the sale of *herrings* at so low a rate as twopence the barrel: consequently, they might have been used as a cheap article of manure for land; and in this way they are often used in the western parts of *Scotland*, owing to want of salt for preserving them. In the *Gothenburg* fishery they have been known to take, in one night, six thousand barrels. Two thousand barrels are not sufficient to keep the works going half a day. The *herrings* are either dried in smoke, or they are consumed in making oil. Fifteen barrels of *herrings* yield one barrel of oil. The merchants told us that the *Yarmouth herrings* were held in very high estimation. The *Gothenburg herrings* are sent to the ports of the *Baltic*, and to the *Mediterranean*. The great annual procession of the *herring* surely affords one of the most wonderful subjects of natural history. Every year, a living tide, formed by

Herring
Fishery.

CHAP.
IV.

these animals, begins to flow from the shores of *Spitsbergen*, towards the south, in one vast torrent of moving myriads; which being intercepted in its progress by the Island of *Great Britain*, separates into two great branches. One of these branches takes its course along all our *western shores*: the other, steering down the *German Ocean*, visits with its teeming flood all the *eastern* side of our island, and all the *western* shores of *Norway*, *Sweden*, *Denmark*, &c.; bearing, wheresoever they go, and with the certainty of a returning season, the means of subsistence and employment for a very considerable portion of the human race. The fishermen of *Gothenburg* do not take them, as it is usual in most other countries, by bringing their nets to land: such is the prodigious multitude¹ of the *herrings*, that having surrounded a shoal, they content themselves with dragging them near to the shore; where, contracting their nets, so as to get them into as small a space as possible, the *herrings* are baled out with scoops. A more stupendous gift of Providence, to supply the wants of its creatures, is hardly offered to our consideration, in the history of mankind. Their coming may

(1) According to Mr. *Pennant*, the word *Herring* is derived from the word *Heer*, an *army*, to express their numbers. "They begin," says he, "to appear off the *Shetland Isles* in *April* and *May*: these are

be almost compared to that of the fowls of the heaven, which fed six hundred thousand Israelites², when "THERE WENT FORTH A WIND FROM THE LORD, AND BROUGHT QUAILS FROM THE SEA, AND LET THEM FALL TWO CUBITS HIGH UPON THE FACE OF THE EARTH."

The population of *Gothenburg* does not exceed 15,000 souls. The *Exchange* is situate in a small square, near to the principal hotel. It is a usual custom among the merchants to dine at two o'clock: immediately after, the business at the Exchange is ended. Before sitting down to this meal, the universal practice of the North enjoins that every person present should eat a small piece of bread, or bread and butter, and drink a dram of brandy, as a whet for the appetite. This habit is so general, that the offer of brandy before dinner is as much a characteristic of a *Scandinavian*, or of a *Russian*, as the ceremonious gifts of the *tobacco* and *coffee* among the *Turks* and *Arabs*. Being seated at table, there

Popula-
tion.

Diet of
the Inha-
bitants.

are only forerunners of the grand shoal, which comes in *June*; and their appearance is marked by certain signs, by the number of birds, such as *Gannets* and others, which follow to prey on them. But when the main body approaches, its breadth and depth is such as to alter the very appearance of the ocean. It is divided into distinct columns, of five or six miles in length, and three or four in breadth; and they drive the water before them with a kind of rippling." *Shaw's Zoology*, vol. V. part I. p. 160. *Lond.* 1804.

(2) *Exodus* xiii. 13. *Numbers* xi. 31.

CHAP.
IV.

is also a sort of herald of the other eatables, in the appearance of a dish containing what is called *Salmagundi*; without which a *Gothenburg* merchant would think his table altogether unprovided. The *salmagundi* is as much a favourite article of food here, as the *macaroni* at *Naples*; and generally disappears with equal velocity. It consists of a minced mixture of salted *herrings*, hard *eggs*, and other ingredients; being seasoned with pepper, and dosed with oil and vinegar by way of sauce. At these dinners, a stranger is welcomed with great hospitality, and finds the inhabitants very communicative. *Literature*, of course, is not to be expected in the midst of a *herring* mart; nor are the merchants otherwise addicted to *politics*, in their conversation, than as they affect their commercial speculations. A subjoined List of the Exports, for a single year¹, was given to us by Messrs.

Exports.

| | | |
|---|---------|------------|
| (1) Bar Iron, in time of War | 78,000 | Schipunds. |
| The same article, in time of Peace | 100,000 | Ditto. |
| Steel | 900 | Ditto. |
| Seasoned Planks of Timber | 25,000 | Dozen. |
| Salted Herrings | 230,000 | Barrels. |
| Oil of Herrings | 35,000 | Ditto. |
| Tar | 5,200 | Ditto. |
| Pitch and Tar, mixed, (<i>Brai</i>) | 415 | Ditto. |
| Smoked Herrings | 5,400 | Ditto. |
| Juniper Berries | 350 | Ditto. |
| Sail Cloth | 29,000 | Ells. |

The

Grill and Peterson, to whom, and to Messrs. *Low and Smith*, we were much indebted for the civilities we experienced during our stay in *Gothenburg*.

CHAP.
IV.

The *Hospital of Gothenburg* is all that remains worthy of notice. It was founded by a merchant of the name of *Sahlgren*, and is an honour to the place. The invalids are allowed separate beds; and the establishment, which is supported by an annual revenue of about 1500 rix-dollars, is maintained in cleanliness and order. There are accommodations, in a state of constant readiness, for lying-in women; and so humane are the regulations concerning those who stand in need of such accommodations, that a pregnant female presenting herself for relief, night or day, is admitted, free of all expense, without further inquiry. The number of children born in this hospital is said to average about forty annually.

Hospital.

A small *Theatre* is open here during the win-

Amuse-
ments.

The ships belonging to the different merchants amounts to 163, of 10,350 Lasts' burden.

The Number of *Foreign Ships* which had entered the Port, during a single year preceding our arrival, was . . . 652

Ditto of *Swedish Vessels* 588

Ditto of Vessels cleared out for *Foreign ports* . . . 680

Ditto for *Swedish ports* 611

East-India goods, such as tea, *Nantkin* cloth, and other articles of merchandize, are annually imported, to the amount in value of 490,000 rix-dollars.

CHAP.
IV.

ter; and for summer amusement, the inhabitants have a sort of *Vauxhall*, which is situate between the *fauxbourg* and the town. Without the walls there was, at this time, a camp of artillery, containing about five hundred men. Much was said, at the time we were here, of a species of *Rock Moss*. *Lichen*, called *Rock Moss*, as an article of commerce, found on some of the rocks to the north of *Gothenburg*, for dyeing scarlet; perhaps the *Lichen Roccella*. It formerly sold at 3*l.* English per ton, and had now risen to 25*l.* The merchants sent persons in search of it, all round the shores of *Norway* and *Sweden*; but they did not find enough to make it a staple article of their commerce. We were afterwards shewn a species of *Lichen*, bearing the same name, upon the rocks near *Trollhætta*, and it is common on the sea-coast of *Sweden*. In *Wales*, and the *Orkney Isles*, the inhabitants use, for making a fine scarlet dye, the *Lichen calcareus*; so called from the rocks whereon it vegetates: possibly, therefore, the *Rock Moss* may rather belong to this species.

Journey to
Edet.

On leaving *Gothenburg*, we continued along the eastern bank of the *Gotha*. After the second stage, we entered a beautiful defile, covered with lofty pines. It called to our mind the scenery between *Basle* and *Berne*, in *Switzerland*.

The defile terminated in a descent which conducted us down to *Edet*. Here they made us pay four shillings each for a little cold meat: and, in fact, we had found nothing cheaper in this part of *Sweden* than in *England*, excepting the post-horses. Our travelling expenses were not less than 10*l.* a week for each person, using as much economy as was consistent with the objects of our journey. The roads were always excellent; but the *post-waggons* execrable, as travelling vehicles. An *English* butcher's-cart would be a stately carriage, compared with the *waggons* we were forced to use. They consisted literally of nothing more than a pair of wheels with two shafts resting upon the axle¹. Upon the shafts were lashed our trunks and other effects, affording the only place for the traveller to sit upon. Three persons, stationed one behind the other, upon the baggage, and clinging fast together, were deemed a sufficient burden for one of these jolting machines; the foremost person, of the three, holding the ropes which are used as reins, and driving a single horse. Yet we proceeded in this manner with great expedition; and, to shew how use may, at last, reconcile us to inconveniences, we have

Mode of
Travelling.

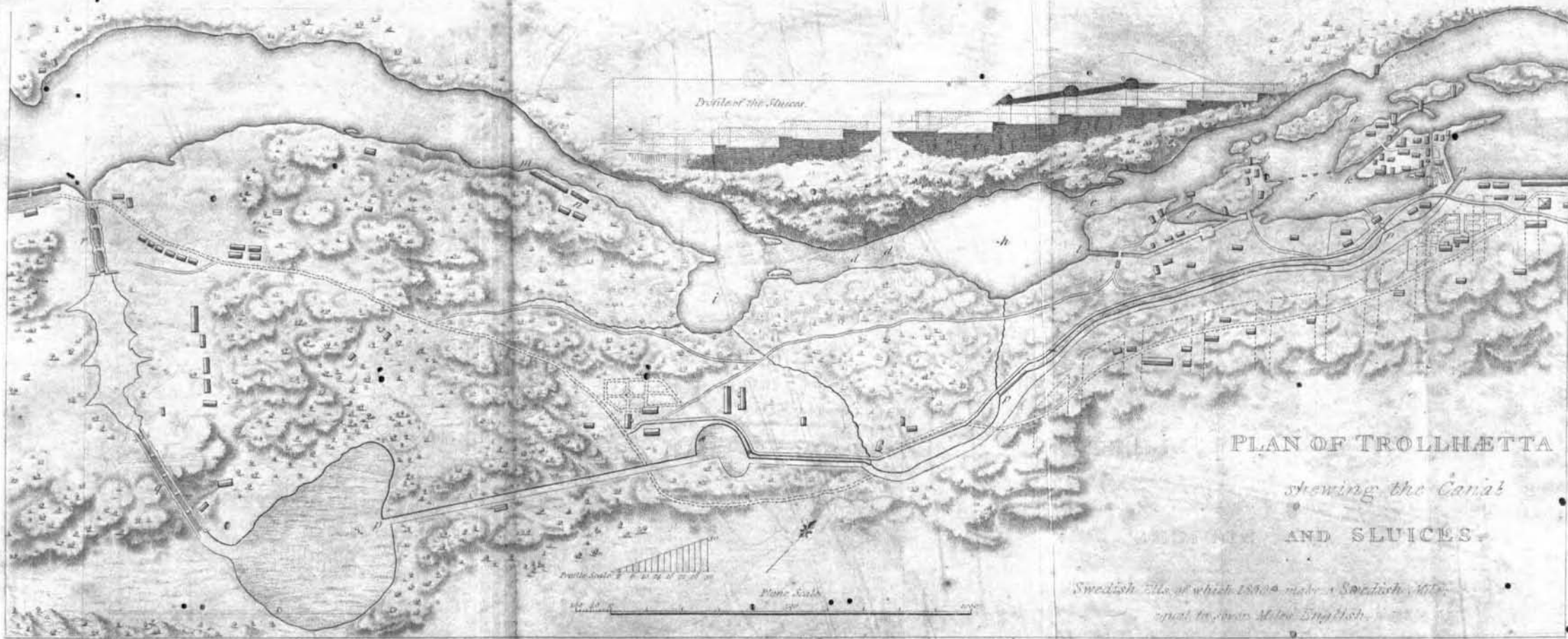
(1) See the *Vignette* to this Chapter.

CHAP.
IV.

sometimes fallen asleep in the midst of such violent jolting, that, when we first experienced it, we thought it very doubtful whether it would be possible to maintain a seat amidst so much concussion. Beyond *Edet* we found a more open country, with here and there a cultivated tract; but, generally, it was bleak and barren. We changed horses twice after leaving *Edet*, before we arrived at *Trollhætta*.

Trollhætta.

This place lies about two or three *English* miles out of the principal route. Its appearance is altogether *Swedish*, and therefore novel to *English* eyes. The houses, all made of deal planks, look like so many deal-boxes, huddled up and down, in the most confused and promiscuous disorder; standing in all directions, by the sides of the several torrents issuing from the main bed of the *Gotha*, the vapour of which rises like smoke amongst the little buildings. The Cataracts, or cascades, of *Trollhætta* by no means answered the expectations excited by the different descriptions of them already published. The greatest perpendicular fall does not exceed thirty feet: and even this is not a natural waterfall; it is an artificial shoot of the water, made by a channel cut in the rocks. The largest body of water, and the finest cascade, does not fall more than twenty feet: it rushes



The Letters a b c d e mark the different catarnets;
f g h i pools of still water;
k l m n sluices which have not answered;

p p p p the new Canal
q five sluices with a fall of 36 Swedish Ells
r three sluices with a fall of 20 Swedish Ells

clamorously down a steep of rocks. But there is nothing very grand or striking in any of these falls; they have more of the character of mill-
 orces, than of the hurling impetuosity of natural cataracts: and this may be made evident, by relating a circumstance which happened when the young King of *Sweden* visited *Trollhætta*, about six years before our arrival. To gratify his Majesty's curiosity, and by his order, two pigs, a house, and two geese, were sent down the principal fall. The pigs had the precedence upon this occasion: after a headlong roll, they were landed very safely, and proceeded quietly back to their sty. The floating house followed next; it was dashed to pieces. The geese came afterwards, and shared the same fate. The original possessor of the pigs had previously sold them to his Majesty; but he disposed of them afterwards again, at a very advanced price, because they had been down a cascade.

Anecdote
 of the
 young
 King of
Sweden.

It was about this time that the new Cut, and the only one likely to succeed, of all the works devised or executed towards effecting a navigation between the *Baltic* and the *Kattegat*, was begun, according to a plan proposed by the late King, *Gustavus the Third*. We saw this work going on with energy; and the workmen talked

Canal.

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of being able to complete it in a twelvemonth. It consisted in the section of a rock of micaceous quartz, extending about three-eighths of a *Swedish* mile, with a view of avoiding all the cataracts. This work was performed almost entirely by means of gunpowder. The depth of the water will be never less than seven feet, and its highest point ten feet. This undertaking is spoken of, in *Sweden*, as a wonderful work; and, when its importance is considered, so it certainly is: but a view of the mere fissure to be completed at *Trollhætta* does not impress one with any great ideas of the magnitude of the enterprise. Its principal celebrity arises out of the disappointment which the failure of so many preceding efforts had occasioned; and although, as a public work, aided by all the power and patronage of the Monarch, it cannot enter into a comparison with many other national labours which have been similarly effected, yet if it be estimated according to its probable future advantages to the people engaged in its prosecution, there have been few public undertakings more honourable to any Sovereign, in any period of history.

Sawing-
Mills.

Here we had the first opportunity of seeing the *sawing-mills*, which are common in many parts of the country. They are worked by overshot-wheels. The timber is placed in sliding cradles,

which have a slow horizontal motion. The saws are ranged vertically and parallel to each other; and are so contrived in the machine, that planks of any and of different thickness may be cut, at the same time, from the same tree. In one machine, of which there are many in each mill, we saw ten saws acting at once. Old men, and even girls, are employed to guide and to guard these works, which are carried on with admirable facility.

The heat of the sun begins to be very powerful in *Sweden* with the earliest appearance of summer, and there is no spring. Upon the last day that we were in *Gothenburg*, being *June 18th*, the inhabitants said they had experienced but fifteen days of summer, the ice having thawed only on the *third*; and the mercury, in *Fahrenheit's* thermometer, in a north aspect, and in the shade, stood on that day at 74° . Upon the *nineteenth*, we came to *Trollhætta*; and upon the *twentieth*, were occupied in visiting the works now described. The descent of timber down the Falls is one of the sights to which the inhabitants call the attention of strangers. Loose floating trees, detached from the rafts higher up the river, and brought down by the current, are continually falling. But lest no appearance of this kind should take place at the

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precise moment when travellers come to the spot, the labourers collect several trees, and push them with long poles to the brink of the cataract.

There is a very neat inn at *Trollhætta*; and the cleanliness, if not the elegance of the accommodations, would sufficiently shew that there is a great resort of strangers to this place, if there were no such proof of it as that which is afforded by the *Livre des Etrangers*: this book is brought to all comers, that they may inscribe their names: it contained the names of visitants of many nations, and in a great variety of languages. There is a custom, all over this country, of strewing the floors of their apartments with sprigs of *juniper*; and upon this strew is often scattered a considerable quantity of sand—a practice once common in the presence-chambers of Sovereigns. It is a practice that conduces much to uncleanness; and the reek of dying vegetables in close rooms is not wholesome. A more permanent verdure covers the roofs of their houses, especially of those belonging to the peasants. After the wooden planks have been laid upon these dwellings, they cover them with a quantity of fresh turf, from which grass springs; so that the cottages appear, in the summer, covered like the surface of a meadow. It appears

probable, from a passage in *Isaiah*¹, that this custom is of very antient date, and that it also existed among the *Assyrians*. The Prophet, speaking of the punishments that had been inflicted upon a guilty people, says; "THEY WERE AS THE GRASS OF THE FIELD, AND AS THE GREEN HERB, AS THE GRASS ON THE HOUSE-TOPS²." In the description which *Homer* has given of the tent of *Achilles*, it is related³, that "they placed a mossy covering above the tent, having mown it in the meadows." This turf coating preserves the interior from the penetrating moisture of melting snow, which will force its way through almost every other sort of shed. We examined the interior of many of the cottages of the poor; but in this part of *Sweden* we never had the satisfaction to observe any thing like comfort or cleanliness. In this respect they are certainly inferior to the *Danes*. A close and

Condition
of the Pea-
sants.

(1) *Isaiah* xxxvii. 27.

(2) Χλόη δαμάτων of the Septuagint Version, in Βασ. Δ. xix. 26. *Oxon.* 1805.

(3) - - - ἀτὰρ καθύπερθεν ἔρεψαν

Λαχύνειντ' ἄροφον, λειμωνόθεν ἀμύσαντες.

Il. Ω. 450. *Oxon.* 1758.

But ἄροφος, by some, is rendered "a reed."—"Tugurium stipitibus abiegnis exstructum, quales esse narrantur casæ Septentrionalium populorum. . . . Tectum et ipsum viminibus et juncis constipatum." Some place a comma after ἔρεψαν, and thus render the last line, "Mowing the downy or mossy covering in the meadow." Perhaps the description of the roof of a *Swedish* house may render the passage clear.

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filthy room, crowded with pale, swarthy, wretched-looking children, sprawling upon a dirty floor, in the midst of the most powerful stench, were the usual objects that presented themselves to our notice. It is therefore marvellous that, in spite of all these obstacles, the *Swedish* peasants afterwards attain to a healthy maturity, and appear characterized by a sturdiness of form, and the most athletic stature. Many of them seem to belong to a race of giants, with nerves of iron. But something similar may be observed among the *Irish*; and it may, perhaps, be attributed, among the *Swedes*, to their extreme temperance. There is a cast of countenance so universally prevalent, that it may be called *family likeness*. It was alluded to before. The men have a long and pale face, rather bony, with a high forehead and long chin, and an expression which is the very opposite to ferocity in their eyes; and stout muscular limbs. The women, although there be some exceptions, are generally not handsome. Upon the whole, they compose a hardy, active people, hitherto undebilitated by any refinement or luxury. The period may arrive, when these Northern nations, who have never yet witnessed the decline or downfall of an empire, by an increase of population, will begin to make their

weight more sensibly felt than it is at present; and the *Swedes* will then act a distinguishing part in the great events that must ensue. Two of the most important articles in their diet, bread and brandy, are made very unpalatable to strangers, by the quantity of *aniseed* with which they are flavoured, and to which flavour the *Swedes* are as partial as the *Chinese*, who use the *Illicium anisatum* for seasoning dishes. In *Japan*, they place bundles and garlands of the *aniseed-tree* in their temples, before their idols, and on the tombs of their friends. They also use the powdered bark, as incense to their idols. Indeed, *Linnæus* himself, as a native of *Sweden*, has left a curious memorial of his national taste in this respect, by naming this genus, *Illicium*, signifying an “allurement.”

Custom of
using Ani-
seed.

In the description we have given of the Falls of the *Gotha* (which are considered by the *Swedes*, and even by many foreigners, as equal to the Cascade of the *Rhine* at *Schaffhausen*), some may think that we have not done justice to the scene they exhibit. The impression made by viewing them, upon the minds of others, has been different; and, in every spectacle of this nature, much depends upon the season when

(1) *Thunberg. Flora Japonica. Lips. 1784.*

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the visit is made. The *Manuscript Journal* of a succeeding accurate Traveller, already cited in our account of *Gothenburg*, contains a much more glowing picture of the same Cataracts. We shall therefore subjoin, in a Note¹, all that he

(1) "The next morning, when we had risen from our little cabin, a Conductor or Guide to the Falls made his appearance. We soon found he could speak *German*; and little as I could avail myself of this mode of communication, I was delighted to perceive something like a rational being, and endeavoured to obtain from him as much information as possible. I soon recognised the Schoolmaster of the Village, whom *Baron Rutzen* had mentioned to me: and, as the character of a village pedagogue is, in *England*, at this time nearly unknown, it may be well to commemorate him. The person now before us was exactly of the same description as *Partridge*, without the peculiar features of that good gentleman, but of about the same education. He told us he had studied Theology, Mathematics, Greek and Latin, and Philosophy, at *Greiswalde*; in *Holland*, three years; at *Upsal*, two years, where he had held two public disputations 'upon the nature of the soul.' At the latter place he had crowned his Academic honours with the degree of Master of Arts. All this, delivered with the utmost solemnity, proceeded from a person strongly resembling a Parish Clerk, with an old but clean grey coat, blue and grey striped breeches, black stockings, and huge buckles. He furthermore assured me, that he was master of Greek, although not able to speak it; and that he had a Greek Testament at home. R . . . , in my absence, addressed him in Latin, and was answered without much hesitation, receiving an account of the Schools and Universities of *Sweden*. In each of the twenty-four bishoprics there are '*Gymnasia*' or great Schools: preparatory to these are '*Scholæ majores*' or '*triviales*.' In towns, institutions only of the latter order, '*Scholæ minores*.' To these last, boys go at sixteen, and are taught Latin, writing, and arithmetic. To the '*Scholæ majores*' they go at eighteen, and are advanced in these, and in the Elements of Greek. To the '*Gymnasia*' they proceed at twenty, and are instructed in Latin, Greek, and Philosophy. To the four Universities, *Upsal*, *Åbo*, *Greiswalde*, and *Lund*, they go at twenty-five, and are permitted to take degrees. The Masters are Professors in the Universities, Doctors in the '*Gymnasia*,' and Rectors in the '*Scholæ*.'

"Conducted

has written respecting his visit to these Falls, and to the works connected with them.

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Finding that we might proceed by water from *Trollhætta* to the *Wener Lake*, we hired small boats to take us to *Wenersburg*, paying thirty-

Passage by
Water.

“Conducted by this person, we set forth. The approach to the river was strewed with saw-dust, and railings had been newly erected; all in honour of the Crown Prince, who had visited the spot about a month back. A winding path over the rock led us down to a station on the precipice, from whence we looked down upon a tremendous confusion of roaring water. It is impossible to describe the astonishment which the sight caused in us all. A vast and rapid river rolled along in successive Cataracts, for the length of 500 yards. Above us, the volume of water, contracted into a narrow space by a rock island, burst down with a mighty force amongst the stones below. The spray rose in clouds of mist, upwards of eighty feet, and formed in the rays of the sun a brilliant rainbow. The perpendicular height of the descent was twenty-eight feet: the length considerable. Below our feet, the river, still descending with dreadful velocity, formed another Fall, contracted by an island; the descent, forty-four feet. This was the spot which caused the greatest sensation of horror. The darkness and horrible rapidity of such a body of water; the thunder from the other Falls, above and below; almost took away one's reason: and the first impulse was, to rush into the abyss, as a danger from which no power could save us. We were glad to leave it. Still lower down, the current becomes extended, and is about 200 feet broad, but still appears to lose but little velocity. The next Fall is about twenty feet; the fourth, thirty-two feet. Below these, the water reposes, after two more Cataracts, in an immense bason. The effect of the whole is, beyond expression, tremendous. The largest river in *Sweden*, rushing down in Cataracts 120 feet, for a great length; the majestic and savage scenery which surrounds it; are objects which none could view without awe. It is allowed to be the first Fall in *Europe*. The celebrated one of the *Rhine*, at *Schaffhausen* in *Switzerland*, although, perhaps, a greater body of water, is yet broken into various streams, and so subdivided as to weaken the grandeur of it. Here the whole river rushes impetuously at once. From these scenes of Nature we proceeded to those of Art.

“From

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two *Swedish* shillings¹, or about 2*s.* 8*d.* *English*, for each person. For the first two or three miles of our voyage, we thought there was a resemblance between the scenery of the *Gotha*, and those parts of the *Rhine* between *Cologne* and *Bonn* where the views are open, and before the grander features of the *Rhine* begin to appear, in sailing up the river. After proceeding about four miles, we left the main stream, which here ceased to be navigable; and entered

“From the higher level of the river, where the Fall begins, to the vast basin below, *Charles the Twelfth*, in 1715, conceived the design of cutting a navigable Canal. The perpendicular descent is 120 feet; the distance, 600 Swedish ells. A passage was begun, through the solid granite. The patient labour of the *Swedes* effected wonders: but either science was deficient, or the execution impossible; for when it was believed to be nearly completed, the weight of water burst its artificial boundaries, and the labour of years was destroyed in an instant. After many attempts and failures, in 1794 a new Canal, taking a wider range, was begun; and it was completed in 1800. Through solid granite, a channel was blown by gunpowder, 10,400 feet long, 22 feet broad, 20 feet below the surface, of which eight feet are water. At the end of this level are eight locks, communicating with the river 120 feet below: of these, five are close together, and 150 feet from the bottom to the top of the excavated rock. Several vessels of considerable burden were passing up, at the time we were there. The annual tolls arising from the Canal are 28,000 dollars *banco*. It was most desirable to effect this Canal, as it unites the interior with the *German Ocean*, preventing the necessity of navigating the lower part of the *Baltic*. The whole of this wonderful scene of Nature and Art is situate in the midst of a forest of pines. On the side of the natural Falls, there are fulling-mills, and mills for grinding stone to powder, for the glass-manufactories.”

Blomfield's MS. Journal.

(1) The *shilling* here, as in *Denmark* and at *Hamburgh*, is only equivalent to an *English penny*.

the *Carlsgraf* Canal upon our left, a work both of nature and art. It was a small stream, augmented for the purpose of navigation, and communicating from the *Gotha* to the *Wener* Lake by a cut towards the north. We passed two considerable locks; after which the sides of the stream were less artificial; and exhibited a rocky, pleasing appearance, covered with trees. Presently we quitted the Canal; and entered the *Wener*; one of the largest lakes in *Europe*. It is fourteen *Swedish* miles in its greatest length, and there are parts of it eight *Swedish* miles broad²; making it ninety-eight *English* miles in length, and fifty-six in breadth; in all respects an inland sea; and there are many islands near its shores. It extends, in an oblong form, from north-east to south-west; the river *Gotha* flowing from it into the *Kattegat*. At its southern extremity, is situate the town of *Wenersburg*, where we landed. Towards its eastern side, it comes so near to its sister lake, the *Wetter*, that, in their contiguous bays, they are only separated by a space equal to seven *English* miles³. A singular circumstance is related of

(2) According to the *Charta öfver Sion Wenern*, published by *Marelius*, at *Stockholm*, in 1773; whence these measures are deduced.

(3) See also the *Charta öf de Sjöar och Strömmar*, &c. by *Nils Marelius*; published at *Stockholm*, in 1774.

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the *Wetter* Lake, by an author whose accuracy has not been disputed; namely, that its depth, in some places, equals three hundred fathoms; although the depth of the *Baltic* Sea never exceeds fifty¹.

*Weners-
burg.*

Wenersburg is a small town; but the houses are neat and better built than any, excepting *Gothenburg*, on this side of the country. It has one considerable square. The Governor's house in this square is the principal object to a person entering the town from the lake. The shores of the lake are bold, but they have no very grand or striking features. We had previously, however, entertained an erroneous notion of the *Wener*; namely, that its margin would be flat and marshy, and that the effect produced by so large a sheet of still water would be insignificant: but it is surrounded by rocks; and the water being clear as crystal, it forms altogether a noble object. We enjoyed the pleasure of bathing twice in its limpid waves, and amused ourselves by swimming to one of the little islands that lie near to the shore. Ships of very considerable burden were stationed at the quay, from different parts of this immense lake. Such frequent change of air, and con-

(1) *An Account of Sweden as it was in the Year 1688*, p. 260. *London*, 1738.

tinual exercise, had given us keen appetites: but we were not satisfied with our fare at *Wenersburg*, owing to the sugar mixed with our food; the *Swedes* being so fond of sweet sauces, here and elsewhere, that even *Rhenish* wine is not drunk by them without sugar. We, therefore, would fain have had something cooked a little more consistently with our national habits: but, upon inquiry, we found that *beef* is never killed in the place; and the *sheep* are so lean, that even a little mutton-suet for making an *English* pudding could not be obtained at any price.

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The mountains of *Halleberg* and *Hunneberg* are in the vicinity of *Wenersburg*. The first is situate near to the shore of the lake, a little eastward of the town. It had been described as consisting of *basaltic* pillars. We had also heard, before we left *England*, that not only *Halleberg* but also *Hunneberg* exhibited an abutment of that species of *basaltes* to which the *Swedish* mineralogists have given the name of *Trap*; called *Saxum Trapezium* by *Linnaeus*, from a word in the *Swedish* language, signifying a ladder or staircase; because this kind of rock has a constant tendency to separate into rhomboïdal or prismatic fragments; and the configuration consequent upon this decomposition causes it to