

resemble, externally, a flight of steps. *Linnaeus* has pointed out the mountain *Hunneberg* as one of the places where *trap* is most conspicuous<sup>1</sup>; and *Bergmann* mentions both *Halleberg* and *Hunneberg*, among its natural deposits<sup>2</sup>. The nature of this rock not being well known in *England*, a visit to these mountains had been recommended to us by the *Geological* Professor<sup>3</sup> at *Cambridge*, as the places best calculated for an examination of the stone in its native bed; and he advised us to pay particular attention to the geological features of the neighbouring strata, and to the general local character of the surrounding country; because a due attention to them might tend to illustrate the origin and formation of *basalt*, to which *trap* is so nearly allied. We therefore left *Wenersburg*, in two waggons, to prosecute these inquiries: and we had scarcely quitted the town, before both our waggons broke down, at the same instant: we therefore proceeded on foot. Post-travelling is

(1) "Habitat in monte *Hunneberg*, 'quem ferè totum constituit—in *Drammen* Norvegiæ *Shattungby* Dalecarliæ." *Linnaei System. Natur.*

(2) "Saxi Trapezii textura non in diversis tantùm montibus, verùm etiam passim in eodem monte varia est. In montibus *Kinnakullé* et *Billing* rudior et fibrosa, in montibus *Halleberg* et *Hunneberg* solidior vel granulosa observatur." *Bergmann, de Mont. F. estrogothiis.*

(3) The Rev. *J. Hailstone*, Fellow of *Trinity College, Cambridge*, F.R.S. *Woodwardian* Professor of the University.

particularly bad, during seed-time, in this part of *Sweden*. The poor animals that had survived the dearth of the preceding winter, already weak and exhausted by want of proper food, were also worn by fatigue, and scarcely able to draw the crazy vehicles here used for travelling.

The two mountains of *Halleberg* and *Hunneberg* form together a defile, which begins about three quarters of a *Swedish* mile from the town, and continues nearly the whole way to *Halby*, a small village, distant about a *Swedish* mile and a half from *Wenersburg*. This defile extends *east* and *west*; the mountain *Halleberg* being on the *north-ern*, and *Hunneberg* on the *southern* side of the defile. Independently of its geological phænomena, the mountain *Halleberg* is interesting; having been held sacred by the earliest inhabitants of the country, and preserving some curious memorials of its former sanctity. The view of *Halleberg*, on its north-west side facing the lake, exhibits much of that appearance which is called *basaltic*; but the prismatic form of the rocks on that side does not altogether exhibit that regularity of structure which belongs to *basaltic* pillars. When we entered the defile, and arrived at the foot of the mountain on its southern side, we examined the detached fragments that had fallen from the higher parts, and found them

CHAP.  
IV.

to consist of different materials, some of which resembled the rock commonly considered as *basalt*, especially the *basalt* of the rocks at *Staffa* in the *Hebrides*. Among the stones most conspicuously characterized by a prismatic fracture, there were two varieties. The first of these is of a greenish, grey colour: it has a granular texture, and is extremely difficult of fusion by the blowpipe; but it is ultimately reducible to a black glass. It seems to consist of *feldspar* and *hornblende*, with minute particles of *quartz*. The second variety is darker, and more compact: it is this which resembles the *basalt* of *Staffa*. It also corresponds with a specimen given to us by Professor *Wad* of *Copenhagen*, under the name of genuine *trap*; and both of the varieties were afterwards recognised at *Stockholm*, by the principal chemists and mineralogists of that city, as the mineral known to the *Swedes* under the name of *trap*'. In the dark and compact *trap*, the *hornblende* is in a state of more extreme division; and in this state it is disseminated over the mass. This variety also is fusible before the blowpipe, and more readily converted into a black glass; but the result, in either instance, is

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(1) For the best writer on the subject of *Trap*, the reader may be referred to *Brochant*. See particularly *tom. II. p. 580.* of his *Traité de Mineralogie*, published at *Paris*, in 1808; also all the judicious distinctions made by him respecting this mineral, *tom. I. pp. 283, 286, 430, 440, &c. &c.*

not acted upon by the magnet. The ambiguity which the name of this kind of rock has occasioned in mineralogy will cease at once, if it be only generally understood that under the name of *trap* many different substances have been confounded. It has been the case with *trap* as with *schorl*: almost every mineral regularly crystallized was once called *schorl*; and in *Sweden* and *Denmark*, every rock that exhibits a prismatic configuration by fracture is now called *trap*. A variety of *Basanite*, or *siliceous schistus*, sometimes used as touchstone, has received this appellation. The same thing has happened with respect to *basalt*: once having bestowed this name upon rocks which separate like *starch*, exhibiting an imperfect crystallization, all other rocks having a similarity of structure received the same appellation. Thus we hear of the *basalt* pillars of *Staffa*: of the Isle of *Skie*; of the Isle of *Egg*; and of *Ailsa*: whereas, in every instance, the expression is applied to a different mineral aggregate; exhibiting an interrupted and irregular crystallization.

Having climbed to the bases of those parts of the rock, at *Halleberg*, that bore a rude resemblance to pillars, we loosened a fragment of one of them, which came out in an angular pentagonal form; but the pillar whence this fragment was detached had no appearance of those horizontal



CHAP.  
IV.

joints or fissures which characterize the pillars of *Staffa* in the *Hebrides*, and those of the *Giants' Causeway* in *Ireland*. Neither had the same pillar an equal diameter throughout its shaft: it rather resembled one of the pillars of the Lake of *Bolsenna* in *Italy*, where a series of imperfect vertical shafts, some of four sides, and some of five sides, rest upon others one-third of their diameter. We removed several specimens: all of them exhibited a tendency to exfoliation, as if the parts had been artificially cemented together; the stone being always discoloured where the separation had taken place, owing to the oxidation of the *iron*. The trap of *Halleberg* may, therefore, be considered as an abutment of a *stratum* of *basalt*; although, as a variety of this substance, it differs, in some external characters, from common *basalt*; and its prismatic form is entirely due to the spontaneous decomposition of the stone, in consequence of the attacks of air and moisture. Like all *basalt*, this decomposition only becomes conspicuous in those parts of the *stratum* which have been long exposed to the atmosphere. Where a part of the cliff has recently fallen down, and has thereby disclosed a fresh surface, hardly any such appearance is discernible.

Swedish  
Trap.

Hunneberg.

We afterwards visited *Hunneberg*, upon the south side of the defile. It is principally com-

posed of the same materials; being, in fact, a part of the same *stratum*. The *basaltic* character is less visible here; because the mountain is so thickly covered with fir-trees, that, comparatively, there are few places where the rock is visible'. There is nothing, either in the appearance of these mountains, or in the neighbouring country, to warrant a conclusion that the *basaltic* configuration here is due to any igneous operation. Not a vestige of any extinct volcano can be discerned.

CHAP.  
IV.Basaltic  
Rocks.

Among the woods of *Hunneberg*, and beneath the shade of fir-trees, the author found, in flower, that beautiful plant, the *Pyrola uniflora*, rearing its pale, pendent, and solitary blossoms, near to the base of the mountain. As it was the first time any of us had seen this plant, and as it afforded the first rare specimens for our botanical collection, the sight of it was a gratification to all of us. The flowers were snow-white, and they had the fragrance of the *Lily of the Valley*. Although this species of *Pyrola* has been found in the South of *France*, and in the North of *Italy*, it is so truly an inhabitant of *Alpine* regions, that it was never seen in

*Pyrola*  
*uniflora*.

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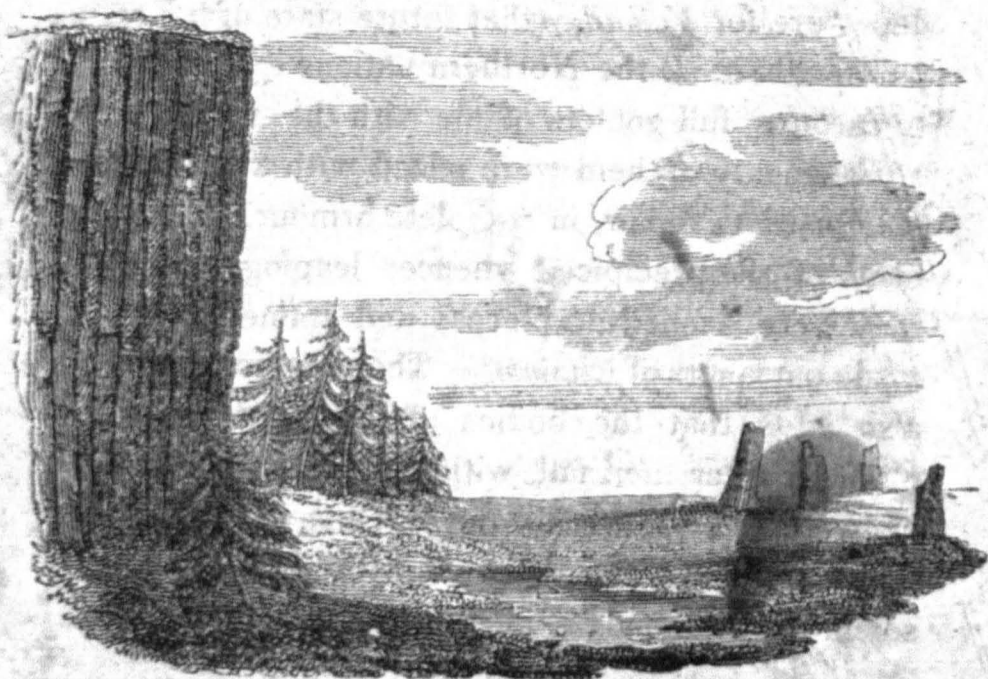
(1) The specimens which we brought from *Halleberg* and *Hunneberg* are now in the *Woodwardian* Collection at *Cambridge*; and there is little perceptible difference between them.

CHAP.  
IV.

*Britain* until the year 1783; when it was observed for the first time in *Moray*, and in the remotest western isles of the *Hebrides*. Before it expands its cups, the blossoms are of a globular form, and it always hangs its head like a snow-drop.

*Celtic Antiquities.*

The antiquities of *Halleberg* next claimed our attention: it was once the *Holy Mountain* of *Westro-Gothland*; its remarkable features having



given rise to many superstitious notions concerning it; and a *Celtic* cæmety, close to its base, within the defile between the two mountains, being still considered as the burial-place of giants. A fearful precipice rises perpendicularly behind a thick grove of trees, which

appear to have been self-planted among the broken rocks at its base. There is also a circular range of large upright stones, near to this grove; like what we should call, in *England*, a *Druidical Circle*; and upon the left-hand, facing the precipice, a small circular pool of water. The tradition of the inhabitants concerning this place maintains, that the giants of old, who inhabited this country, when they wished to hasten their departure for *Valhall*, (that future state of happiness where all the Northern nations expected to carouse full goblets of ale with the Gods<sup>1</sup>;) or, when any of them were seized with a *tædium vitæ*, used to repair, in complete armour, to the brink of the precipice, whence, leaping down, they were dashed to pieces, and immediately made partakers of *Elysium*<sup>2</sup>. The same tradition also adds, that the bodies of the giants were washed, after their fall, within the circular pool of water, previously to the ceremony of their funeral, which was conducted with great public solemnity; the body being burned, and the ashes

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(1) *Ale* and *mead* were the only nectar of the Northern nations. See Mallet's *Northern Antiquities*, vol. II. p. 326; *Edinb.* 1809. Also p. 315, *Note*.

(2) The Northern warriors believed that no persons were entitled to *Elysium*, but such as died in battle, or underwent a violent death. *Ibid.* p. 314, *Note*.



CHAP.  
IV.

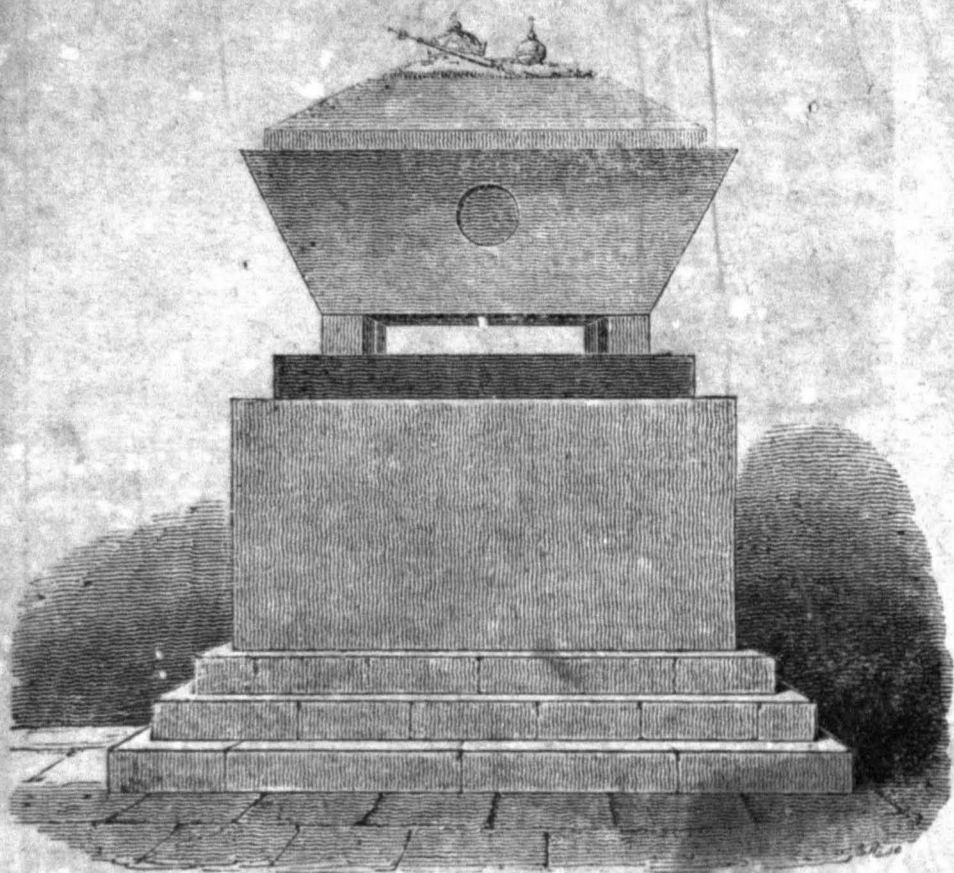
Visit paid  
to the Celtic  
Antiquities  
by a King  
and Queen  
of Sweden.

placed in an urn and buried. At a small distance from the bottom of the precipice, and beyond the pool, is the circular range of monumental stones, consisting of seven upright pillars, that still preserve their natural forms, and were, originally, fragments detached from the mass of *basalt* above. Some of the stones are now wanted, to complete the entire circle; and a most preposterous addition was made to those which remain, by *Adolphus Frederic* and his *Queen*, during a visit they made to the spot, accompanied by the Lord-lieutenant of the province. It consists in a single upright stone, placed in the centre of the circular range; as if the date of its erection had been coeval with the rest; but bearing an inscription in the *Swedish* language, containing names of the King and Queen, and stating the time of their visit to the place. When the late Pope converted the villa of *Mæccenas* into a cannon-foundry, his Holiness did not betray more barbarism than the *Swedish* Monarch who thus violated a *Celtic* cœmety.

Professor  
*Malthus*  
and Mr.  
*Otter* set  
out for  
*Norway*.

Here, upon this spot, just as we had concluded our survey of the curiosities of the place, a melancholy separation took place amongst the members of our party. Professor *Malthus*, and Mr. *Otter*, who had accompanied us to visit *Halleberg* and *Hunneberg*, returned to *Wenersburg*,

to pass the night there, previously to their departure for *Norway*. It was our intention also to visit *Norway*; but having a great desire to witness the remarkable appearance exhibited in the north of *Sweden*, at this season of the year, by the presence of the solstitial sun through the entire night, and to explore the arctic provinces of *Lapland*, and our friends deeming such a project too extensive for the time they had allotted to their journey, we took a contrary road; continuing along the defile, to a little village called *Halby*, distant four miles and a half from the place where we parted from them. Then, for the first time, we seemed to be fully sensible that we were in a foreign land, without friends, and without home. The loss of our companions, by whose observations we had benefitted, and in whose society we had passed so many agreeable hours, depressed our spirits; and we thought only of the probable chances there might be, of our never meeting either of them again. We had countries to traverse which to us were entirely unknown; and the prospect of satisfying our curiosity by a sight of those distant regions, was clouded by the consciousness, that we should no longer share any gratification it might afford with those who had hitherto participated in all our amusements.



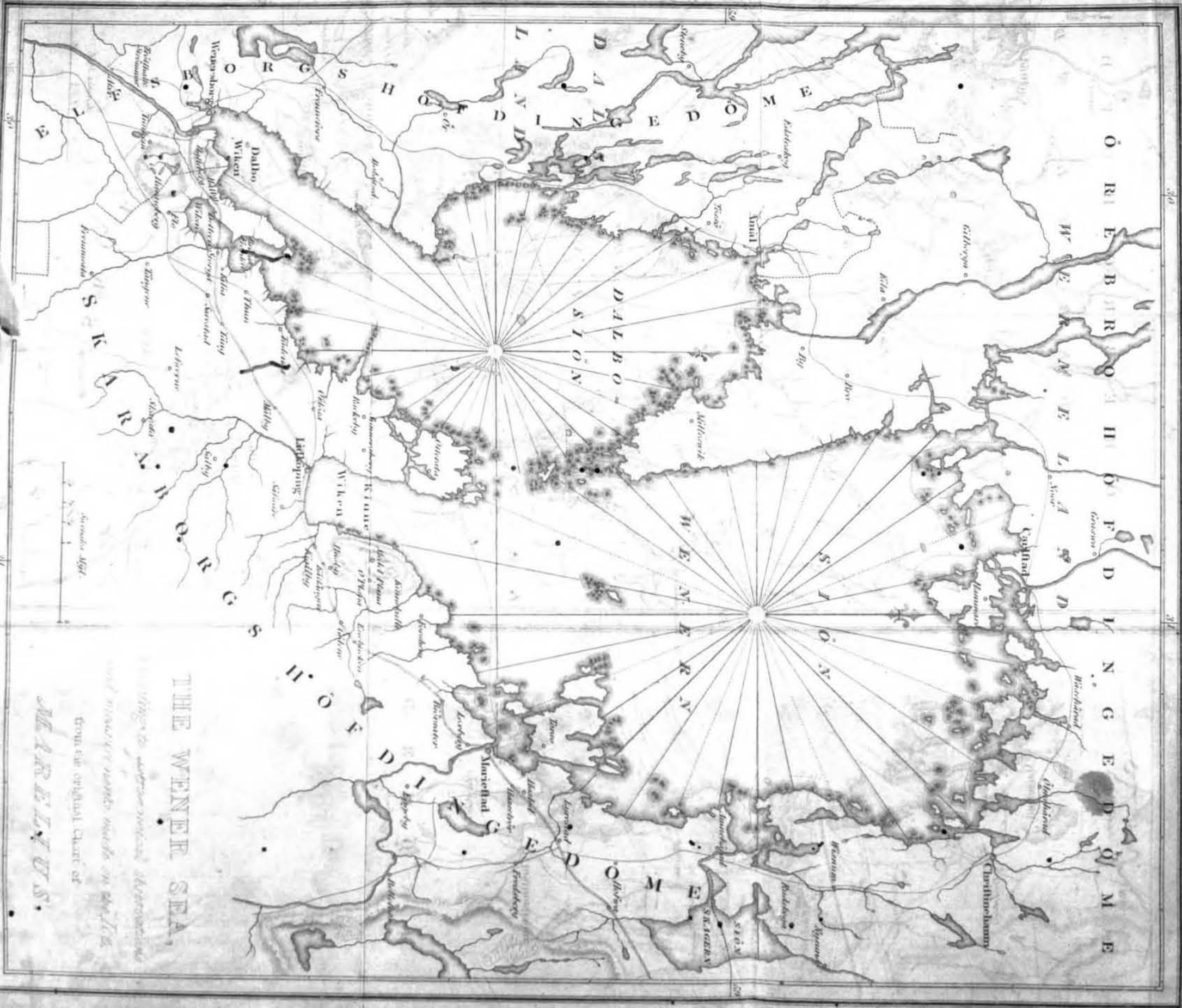
TOMB OF ERIC XIV.

## CHAP. V.

FROM HALBY, ON THE LAKE WENER, TO  
STOCKHOLM.

*Halleberg, as seen from Halby—Condition of the Peasants in  
Westro-Gothland—Extraordinary adventure caused by  
Swedish Hospitality—Sjoryd—Prohibition of Coffee—  
Havamaal of Odin—Effect of a protracted Winter—  
Tång—Malby—Lidköping—Form of the Cottages—  
Cleanly*





THE WENER SEA.  
Being a more correct description  
and more exact map than in the  
former original chart of  
**VÄNNERN.**

Published by J. W. Neander.

1780.



*Cleanly habits of the People—Use of Spirituous Liquors—Beauty of the Scenery—Powerful Twilight—Lake Wener—Mariestadt—Kinnekulle Mountain—Hasselrös—Hofwa—Lakes of Bodarne—Wretstorp—Lake Wiby—Blacksta—Midsummer Festival—Orebro—Alms-boxes—Glanshammar—Excellent state of the Swedish Roads—Mode of building—Arboga—Köping—Kälbäck—Westeros—Cathedral—Lake Møelar—Tomb of Eric XIV.—Nyguarne—Enköping—Lislena—Gran—Tibble—Barkarby—Stockholm—Nordermalm—Architecture of the City—Royal Review—Anecdotes of the King and Queen—Arsenal—Assassination of Gustavus the Third—Ankarström—Opinions prevalent in Sweden concerning the King's Murder—Senate House—Place de Riddarholm—Execution of Ankarström—Academy—Collection of Minerals—Artists—Preparations for a Journey to the Frigid Zone.*

**H**ALBY is situate upon an isthmus of a small peninsula or promontory called *Wener's Nose*, which projects from the north-eastern side of the mountain *Halleberg* into the Lake, between two bays, the *Denner*, or *Detter Wiken*, and the *Dalbo Wiken*<sup>1</sup>. At the southern extremity of the latter, lies the town of *Wenersburg*; the *Denner Wiken*, of the two, being the eastern bay. Viewed from this village, *Halleberg* exhibits a more regular *basaltic* structure, than in those

CHAP.  
V.

(1) See the Map.

CHAP.  
V.

Condition  
of the Pea-  
sants in  
*Westro-  
Gothland.*

parts which we had before examined. The pillars have a more determinate and angular shape. In some parts of this side of the mountain, an irregular horizontal figure might be discerned, as if caused by the partial sinking of the substratum; but we nowhere perceived those horizontal joints in the pillars which so remarkably characterize the *basaltic* columns of the *Giants' Causeway* upon the north coast of *Ireland*. Our route lay along the eastern border of the Lake *Wener*; and a favourable change had been perceived in the houses of the peasants, from the time we entered *Westro-Gothland*. This change became more conspicuous, as we proceeded afterwards in our journey. There was a greater degree of cleanliness among the people altogether, contrasted with the external appearance of the country. The land itself is dreary as far as *Lidköping*; and cultivation seemed here to be neglected. We attributed this, in some degree, to the vicinity of the two great lakes, which provide the means of subsistence for the inhabitants, who are not compelled to have recourse to agricultural labour. At the little village of *Halby*, consisting only of three or four wooden huts, we saw plenty of the finest fishes, which the younger branches of the different families were bringing from the *Wener*.

It was nine o'clock in the evening when we arrived at this village; and owing to our ignorance of the real manners of the people, we could not be prevailed upon to enter one of their little huts; judging, from their external appearance, that we should find the interior of them as filthy as upon any former occasion. We therefore sat without, upon our luggage, waiting for fresh horses. It was so long, however, before any could be procured, that, being hungry, we ventured to ask if any thing might be had to eat. Our surprise was great, upon being immediately conducted into a neat little apartment; the floor of which, as usual, was strewn with *juni-per*; but the table was covered with a white damask linen cloth, besides being provided with clean damask napkins, silver-handled knives and forks, silver spoons, and a pewter tureen, polished as bright as a mirror. In a few minutes, we had boiled fish, fresh from the lake, white soup, veal-cutlets, mutton smoked like ham, omlets, rusks, fresh butter, and many other delicacies. This repast began and ended with a dram of good *French* brandy and spring-water; and for the whole of our fare, our host demanded only a rix-dollar, about equal to four shillings of *English* money; seeming also so grateful for this payment, that, when we left the house, he bowed to the

CHAP.  
V.

ground. The extraordinary cleanliness of this village, and the comfortable state of its tenants, may serve to confirm the remark which the author has elsewhere made, that persons dwelling upon the borders of large lakes are, generally speaking, much more cleanly in their manners, and better provided with the necessaries of life, than their more mediterranean countrymen. The bread of *Sweden* is, for the most part, made of *rye*; and in the rage everywhere prevalent for aniseed, they also mix this ingredient with their flour. Rusks made of wheat-flour are, however, to be had in all the post-houses; the only kind of white bread a traveller will meet with.

As the day had been eventful, in the loss we had sustained of the company of our friends, so the night proved a night of remarkable adventures. We crossed the ferry caused here by the narrow mouth of the *Denner Wiken*, which does not exceed half an *English* mile. It was now near midnight; and we entertained some doubts of the propriety of trusting ourselves to the discretion and guidance of two boys, who came yawning from the ferry-house. Taking our luggage from the carts, they hurried us on board a wretched skiff, about as long, but not so wide, as a *Thames* wherry. The wind was rather tem-



pestuous; and the waves breaking into this narrow channel, like water boiling in a kettle, several times broke into the boat, and threatened to swallow her. Our fears increased, when we found, that, instead of crossing the narrow strait, our juvenile conductors were steering to some distant shore. We could not make them understand a word we said; so we waited the event patiently; while the two boys, evidently unable to manage the boat properly, paddled about, vainly struggling to keep their course. Presently we passed an island, and for some time meditated the probability of our being able to reach it, by swimming, if the boat should be upset. After much tedious anxiety, we at last reached the opposite shore: and here we found the *Swedish* servant whom we had hired as our interpreter, and who had gone before us to order horses, waiting our arrival. He surprised us by delivering a message from the wife of a *Swedish* officer living near the shore, whose husband was absent from home, and who desired that we would pass the rest of the night in her house; saying, that we were not within reach of any inn, and at some distance from the public road. This polite and hospitable invitation, to persons who were perfect strangers, astonished us; but we hesitated not to accept of it; and we after-

Extraordi-  
nary ad-  
venture  
caused by  
*Swedish*  
hospitality.

CHAP.  
V.

wards found, that such attention to strangers, whenever they have an opportunity of shewing it, is always characteristic of the *Swedish Gentry*.

It will be readily believed, that our surprise was not diminished, when we discovered, upon our arrival at this lady's mansion, that preparation had been already made for our coming. We entered an elegant saloon, and found lights burning before a large mirror, but saw nobody. A table, covered with such luxuries as the country afforded, appeared spread before a large sofa: and because it was known that the guests were *Englishmen*, such articles had been added as it was thought would prove gratifying to *English* palates. Accordingly, we had bottled-beer, wheat-bread, milk, curds, eggs, fish, and confectionary. The whole scene reminded us of a tale often related to children, of a Prince who was served at a banquet by invisible hands; for, excepting our own servants, we saw no one; we heard no one. When supper was ended, an old Duenna made her appearance, and offered to attend us to our rooms. We were conducted to two neat apartments; when, as this respectable-looking dame was about to disappear, and making her curtsy, we expressed a desire to see the lady of the house, to whom we were indebted for the extraordinary hospitality we had received.

Our request was conveyed to her; but she sent her apologies, perhaps in consequence of the absence of her husband. The next morning we were told that he had arrived from a distant journey soon after we retired to rest: we therefore rose to breakfast with him, and to express our acknowledgments. He met us as we were leaving our rooms, gave us a hearty welcome, conducting us to the breakfast-table, and introducing us to his wife, a handsome and pleasing young woman, who invited us to take our seats; while her husband, according to the usual custom of his country, presented to each of us a dram. We then began our breakfast, at which tea was first served: this being removed, a collation followed, consisting of cold pigeons, salted salmon, pancakes, rusks, &c. Our host informed us that he was an officer in the *Swedish* service; but that he had retired, to cultivate an estate of which he became possessed by his marriage with the lady to whom we were now introduced. The name of his little settlement is *Sjoryd*: it is a village<sup>1</sup>, consisting only of his own mansion, and a few cottages belonging to his peasants. His garden, extending in an easy declivity from the front of

*Sjoryd.*(1) See the *Map*.

CHAP.  
V.

his house to the lake, contained an abundance of fruit-trees, which were in full blossom. From his windows he commanded a noble prospect of part of the *Wener*, and the objects surrounding the *Dennér Bay*. He shewed to us a chart of the *Wener*, published by *Mare'ius* of *Stockholm*, in two sheets<sup>1</sup>. His wife was dressed according to the rustic fashion of *Swedish* ladies; wearing her hair parted above the forehead, and falling down on either side, in long straight and loose locks. In this manner, also, the *Swedish* officers generally wear their hair.—At this time the use of *coffee* was prohibited throughout all *Sweden*; and as the *Swedes* are exceedingly fond of it, the privation constituted part of our conversation. A *Jew*, it seems, had offered to supply the whole kingdom with this article at sixteen *Swedish* shillings<sup>2</sup> the pound; whereas the inhabitants, before its prohibition, had been accustomed to pay forty<sup>3</sup>.

Being provided with horses, we bade farewell

Prohibition of  
Coffee.

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(1) This lake is divided, by *Swedish* geographers, into two *seas*, which bear different appellations. The north-eastern part alone is called the *Wener Sea* (*Sjon Wenern*); and this part, by a chain of islands lying between two promontories, is separated from the south-western division of the lake, which bears the name of *Sjon Dalbå* (the *Dalbo Sea*).

(2) Sixteenpence, *English*.

(3) Three shillings and fourpence, *English*.



to this pleasing spot and its worthy inhabitants; but our generous host would not be prevailed upon to leave us, until he had himself attended us, on foot, by the side of our waggon, to the utmost boundary of his estate. We then shook hands and parted. Such strict attention to the rules of hospitality may be considered almost as a religious observance of its duties; and in this country it has been enjoined by precepts which its antient inhabitants considered as the oracles of Heaven. “BE HUMANE AND GENTLE,” says the *Havamaal*, or ‘sublime discourse of Odin,’ “TO THOSE YOU MEET TRAVELLING IN THE MOUNTAINS, OR ON THE SEA.” The same venerable code of morals, the only one of the kind now in the world<sup>4</sup>, also enforces a similar obligation: “TO THE GUEST WHO ENTERS YOUR DWELLING WITH FROZEN KNEES, GIVE THE WARMTH OF YOUR FIRE: HE WHO HATH TRAVELLED OVER THE MOUNTAINS HATH NEED OF FOOD AND WELL-DRIED GARMENTS.” Yet in what other country of the whole world will the houseless stranger meet with a reception like that which we experienced at *Sjoryd*? In the course of the following narration, it will appear that the most liberal hospitality to strangers is the distin-

*Havamaal*  
of Odin.

(4) See Mallet's *Northern Antiquities*, vol. II. p. 154. Edinb. 1809.

CHAP.  
V.

guishing characteristic of the *Swedes*: it is a virtue which they sometimes carry to such an excess, as even to prove troublesome to travellers, from the delay it occasions<sup>1</sup>. But such examples occur only among persons of boorish habits and of low education. The real *Swedish* gentleman is an honour to his country and to mankind. In the very district we were now traversing, circumstances of privation had occurred which might have disposed the inhabitants towards other feelings, and to view the coming of strangers with a very opposite disposition and temper of mind. The winter had been uncommonly severe, and of more than usual duration; and this had caused a general dearth of provisions, both among men and cattle. Many of the houses and barns had been unroofed; the thatch having been torn off, to supply fodder. As we travelled from *Sjoryd* across the country to *Täng*, the bones of famished cattle which had perished during the winter were everywhere visible; and we heard dreadful accounts of the sufferings the late scarcity had occasioned. The country, notwithstanding the losses thereby sustained, began to wear a better aspect; it was

Effect of a  
protracted  
Winter.

*Täng.*

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(1) A remarkable instance of this kind will be mentioned, in a subsequent account of an adventure that befell us in the North of *Sweden*.

everywhere sprinkled with *rye*, *oats*, and *barley*, which seemed to be in a thriving state; the crops, where they occurred, being good of their kind, and the ground kept remarkably clean<sup>2</sup>. There was not a weed to be seen upon the cultivated land. The mode of ploughing is bad; and it is quite surprising to see the awkwardness with which the *Swedish* husbandmen handle the plough, who are in other respects good farmers.

At *Tång*, we regained the public road. Our

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(2) Similar observations were made by Mr. *Blomfield*, travelling in this part of *Sweden*.—"As we proceeded, the country rapidly improved. Agriculture appeared much better understood, and the soil much better adapted to it. Barns of larger size shewed larger crops; but the cattle of all kinds remained unimproved. Large woods of birch skirted little inclosures rescued from the forest. Over an extended champaign, one or two spires reared their heads; and the neatness of the churches gave infallible proof of the prosperity and better fate of the villagers. Still, however, no village had we seen consisting of more than eight or ten timber cottages; the better being tiled with red pantiles, and thinly scattered about. We reached *Malby*, the next stage from *Tång*. A view of the distant mountain *Kinne-kulle*, which borders the Lake *Wener*, opened to us. The whole country lay before us, extended to a great distance. We now began to lose sight of the continual *granite*, and a rich soil covered every thing. One or two good houses appeared amongst oaks and beeches; and in part of a wood through which we passed, as we approached *Lidköping*, the firs were of considerable size. The landscape was now entirely *English*. Thick inclosures, deep ditches, shady groves, and gates, would have made us conceive ourselves near some *English* gentleman's house, had not the recurrence of the little *Swedish* four-wheeled dray, the draught oxen, the antique figures of the sky-blue peasants, and their locks that never knew the touch of steel, undeceived us."

*Blomfield's MS. Journal.*

CHAP.  
V.

route now lay through some fine forests of fir-trees; the country being, as before, quite level.

*Malby.* Passing through the village of *Malby*, we came

*Lidköping.* to *Lidköping*. The form of the cottages, antient

Form of the Cottages. and simple as their style of structure is, might

be adopted as a model of a pure and refined taste. They resemble, in their shape, the oldest

*Grecian* temples; the sides of the roof being inclined at a very obtuse angle, extended over

the walls so as to leave a shed all round, and being neither so high nor so narrow as in our

country. The cottages of the *Swiss* peasants have the same elegant extension of the roof;

but their buildings have greater magnitude; the barn, &c. as in *Holstein*, being beneath the same

roof as the dwelling. Some of the *Swedish* cottages are so small, that it is quite marvellous

how they can be made to contain a family. A single chimney, which is always whitewashed

with great care, one small window, and a door, is all that appear externally. On entering one

of these cottages, the interior denotes a much more cleanly people than the inhabitants of the

more southern provinces: the furniture is not only scoured, but polished until it shines; and

more of the genuine *Swedish* character and manners are conspicuous. We saw a female peasant

standing with a pail upon the top of the roof of

Cleanly  
Habits of  
the People.



her cottage, white-washing her chimney.—  
*Lidköping* is the country of the credulous historian *Olaus Magnus*. Several towns have the same termination in *köping*; signifying merely the places where the *market* is held. In *Lidköping*, many of the houses appeared to have been newly erected, and many more were building. They are painted externally. This town contains a square, and seems to be a place of some consequence: it is situate at the southern extremity of a bay, or *wiken*, as it is called in the *Swedish* language, belonging to the *Wener*, and extending duly north and south, which is called *Kinne Wiken*. We found the heat of the day excessive, owing to the time which the sun remains above the *horizon*; but the mercury in *Fahrenheit's* thermometer was not higher than 68°, or 69°, at noon. During the short nights, we suffered from an opposite degree of temperature, and shivered with coldness. It is owing to these vicissitudes, that *English* travellers in *Sweden* are liable to disorders caused by obstructed perspiration, being frequently attacked with sore throats, fevers, rheumatism, &c. The blood, which almost boils during the day, becomes suddenly chilled after sun-set. If you ask the inhabitants, whose diet consists principally of salted provisions, how they escape these disorders; they will answer,

CHAP.  
V.Use of  
Spiritous  
Liquors.

“ that they preserve their health by drinking brandy, morning and evening.” That even the most temperate adhere to this practice of dram-drinking, is strictly true; but however genial such a beverage may be to their constitutions, we were soon convinced it would not agree with our own.

Beauty of  
the scenery.

After leaving *Lidköping*, the appearance of the country was extremely beautiful. The finest roads in the world, winding in a serpentine manner through prodigious forests of fir-trees, presented us with scenery altogether new to our eyes. It was midnight before we arrived at *Mariestadt*, but we had no darkness. The midnight light was, to the full, as powerful as any we enjoy in *England*, during noon-day, in the month of *December*. Just before we entered *Mariestadt*,

Powerful  
Twilight.

Lake *Wener*. we had a noble prospect of the *Wener*. The shores of this part of the lake are bold, and richly mantled with wood. Vessels were stationed in great number before the town: some of them were large ships with two masts, and of a magnitude that we never expected to see in such water. There had been a fair at *Mariestadt*, and the place was crowded; but we procured tolerable accommodations; and being extremely weary, any place of rest would have been a welcome luxury. The convenience, however, of

being provided, each of us, with a leather sheet, and with our own linen sheets, began now to be felt, in its full force. In our journey from *Lidköping* to *Mariestadt*, we had a view of the Mountain *Kinne-külle*, almost the whole of the way. This mountain is mentioned by *Linnaeus* and by other authors, as one of the most remarkable in all *Sweden* for exhibiting the *trap* formation. It consists of strata lying one above another, in a regular series of decreasing ranges, from the base to the summit, appearing to the eye like a flight of steps. According to the vague reports we heard of its vegetation, apple and pear trees grow wild upon this mountain. The land upon it is said to be divided into three parts, which are called the middle plain, the eastern plain, and the western plain.

*Mariestadt.*  
*Kinne-külle*  
Mountain.

Upon the morning of *June* 23, we rose early, and left *Mariestadt*; seeing, for the last time, the *Lake Wener*<sup>1</sup>. We quitted with some degree of

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(1) "Near *Ystadt*, a Canal was beginning to be formed, to unite the *Wener* Lake with the *Wettern*. By the side of the road, about a quarter of a mile had been executed, and hundreds of the peasants were employed in advancing the work. Immediately above it, was a vast ridge of *granite*, clothed with firs; the commencement of a forest of twenty miles, through which we had to pass, where other peasants were occupied in shaping huge blocks, to form a bridge over the intended canal. We now began to ascend into the forest. For eight or nine miles the road lay through an unbroken wilderness of lofty firs; in

CHAP.  
V.

Hasselrör.

regret the borders of this noble piece of water, the little ocean of the antient *Goths*, and afterwards changed horses at *Hasselrör*. The price of posting is eightpence *English* each horse, for one *Swedish* mile; and even this is double what it used to be: but the being compelled to supply horses for the post is considered as a great

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in some places so thick and tangled, that it seemed inaccessible to human foot: in others, lakes and smaller marshes reflected gleams of light. *Juniper* was constantly the underwood; and where the rock rose above the rough soil, a profusion of *strawberries* flourished in the interstices of the stone. Now and then, where the trees were less crowded, attempts had been made to clear the ground, but with little success. Sometimes a little *rye* grew near a solitary cabin; and a small piece of verdure, fenced with broken branches, was variegated with the burnt stumps of the trees which once had covered it. *Bears* and *wolves* are the only possessors of these wild scenes in winter. In summer, they retreat into the more uninhabited parts of *Sweden*. We observed numerous ant-hills, in height from three to four feet, and formed of old fir-leaves and minute pieces of bark mixed with earth. Changed horses at *Hofwa*, distinguished by little else than by a church, very neat, and in better style than any we had seen. We met the Clergyman as we were leaving it, dressed in a straw hat, grey coat, black silk waistcoat and breeches, black stockings, and *Swedish* exorbitant buckles. His grey hair and venerable simplicity brought to our minds the antient character, of an *English* Pastor. Almost universally we were given to understand that the *Swedish* Country Clergy maintain their primitive manners; and from the natural poverty of the country, it is not likely that an increase of riches and luxury should corrupt them."

*Blomfield's MS. Journal.*

(1) When Mr. *Blomfield* travelled this route in 1813, the price of posting was at the rate of only a halfpenny *English*, for each horse, for one *English* mile: "the expense of four horses, for six miles (one *Swedish* mile), being one shilling *English*."—*Ibid*.



hardship by the farmers, in seed-time. During the rest of the year, they are glad to earn this payment with their horses. It is usual to give the drivers two-pence *English* for each stage, let the distance be what it may. The difference, therefore, between the expense of posting in *England* and in *Sweden* is very great. After leaving *Hasselrör*, we came to *Hofwa*, and thence to *Bodarne*, where we dined. A small lake, with islands, lay extended before the windows of the post-house. It was a scene of great beauty, the islands being covered with thick embowering trees: and although such a lake be but an insignificant object, when compared with the grander features of the same kind which occur in this route, it would attract universal curiosity and admiration if it were situate in any part of *England*. The little Lake of *Bodarne* is one of the sources of a river which connects other lakes with each other and with the *Baltic Sea*. It falls into the Lake *Hielmar* at *Orebro*; and afterwards into the *Mœlar*, at *Torshalla*. From *Bodarne*, we journeyed to *Wretstorp*. Opposite to this place there is another small but beautiful lake, like that of *Bodarne*: it is called the *Wiby*, from a village of this name upon its northern shore. About an *English* mile and a half before we arrived at *Wretstorp*, close to the road, we

*Hofwa.*Lake of  
*Bodarne.**Wretstorp.*Lake *Wiby.*

CHAP.  
V.

saw an *iron mine*, which had been opened only in the preceding year, and promised to be a very profitable undertaking.

*Blacksta.*

From *Wretstorp* we came to *Blacksta*. After leaving *Wretstorp*, the country seemed less beautiful, to our eyes; the forest scenery having disappeared. It was, however, more cultivated, being open land, with fields of *rye* and *barley*<sup>1</sup>. The cottages had an appearance of neatness, both externally and internally. Just before we reached *Blacksta*, we passed through a small village, in which we found the peasants assembled in their best dresses. All the women had their heads covered with white handkerchiefs; and a crowd of these females, seen at a distance, exhibited a scene in which one might have imagined a throng of antient Priestesses assembled at a sacrifice. It was the *Eve of St. John's Day*; and the *festival* which had convened this multitude, one of the most antient in the world, is held with great solemnity and rejoicing throughout all *Sweden*<sup>2</sup>. Trees, stripped of their bark,

*Midsummer festival.*

(1) "The grain in the country from *Gothenburg* to *Stockholm*, and, as I was informed, throughout almost all *Sweden*, is *rye*, *oats*, *peas*, *beans*, and some *barley*. There is some *wheat* in *Scania*, and in the environs of *Upsala*."—*Acerbi's Travels through Sweden*, vol. I. p. 29.

(2) Some travellers have supposed that it corresponds with the *Floralia* of the *Romans*: but it is among the festivals of *Greece*, rather than

but retaining their green boughs, had been planted by the road side and before the houses. The porticoes and doors of all the dwellings, even of the cottages, were decorated with pendent garlands; and upright poles, like our *May-poles*, covered with flowers and green boughs, and set off with painted egg-shells and ribbands, were visible in every place through which we passed. The dress of the male peasants in *Sweden* has always great uniformity; because the inhabitants of the same district always wear suits of one colour; and being restricted to the use only of three colours, *blue*, *grey*, and *black*, there is not the smallest diversity in their appearance. In some of the provinces, where they all wear *black* clothes, the effect produced by a mob of the peasantry is very remarkable. Their diet is, principally, *salted fish*, *eggs*, and *milk*. We rarely saw butcher's meat, during this or any subsequent part of our journey.

As we drew near to *Orebro*, the throng of the peasants was increased: they were hastening in *Orebro*.

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than those of *Rome*, that we should seek for a counterpart of the *Swedish* solemnity; and we shall find it in the *THARGELIA*, or *Athenian* festival in honour of the *SUN* and his attendants the *Hours*; celebrated upon the sixth and seventh days of the month *Thargelion*. In accommodating an *Heathen* Festival to a *Christian* Ritual, the *Swedes* have fixed the observance of their *Midsummer* festival upon the day of *St. John's* Nativity.

CHAP.  
V.

multitudes to celebrate the same great festival, at a little watering-place hard by the town, where there are some mineral springs. The road was crowded, as before, with women in their best attire, all noisy and joyous, who hailed us with great glee as we passed. A description of the dress of one of these women will apply equally to all of them : it consisted of a white handkerchief on the head, a parti-coloured jacket, short black or blue petticoats, and red stockings with gaudy embroidered clocks. It was now within half-an-hour of midnight ; and they were all leaving the town for the meadows, to begin their Midsummer dances. Nothing, however, but the hour would have convinced us that it was *night*. We were able to read books printed in the smallest types by the mere twilight, which at this hour shone with a gleaming radiance upon the roofs and chimneys of all the houses in *Orebro*<sup>1</sup>.

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(1) "*Orebro* is a town of considerable size, bearing the characteristic marks of the *Swedish* towns,—straight streets, spacious market-place, and perfect regularity of wooden and plaster houses. In this town the *Diet* of the different Orders in *Sweden* was held, on the vacancy caused by the death of the *Crown Prince* (of *Augustenburg*), who had been elected on the deposition of *Gustavus the Fourth*, when *Bernadotte* was chosen. The church is a large structure of brick and granite, neither curious nor ornamental, with plain buttresses and walls. The windows appear to have been *Gothic*, but are now of no order whatsoever.



This town is situate at the *western* extremity of the Lake, *Hielmar*, called, in the *Swedish* language, *Hegelmaren*, which extends from *east* to *west*. It consists of one street, almost a mile in length. Several of the better houses, and almost all the others, are covered with *turf*; which grows to such height, that it appears fit for mowing, and presents the extraordinary sight of sloping meadows, sheltering the inhabitants of a whole town beneath their verdure.

With the exception of post-horses and servants, we found every thing as dear in this part of *Sweden* as in *England*: but we had hired a

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ever. The two doors are good specimens of the slender *Gothic*, highly ornamented; but this extends no further. The inside is more worthy of observation. The ceiling is of stone, groined both in the centre and side aisles, but perfectly plain. The altar is truly Roman-Catholic. The cloth of the table is of silver, embroidered richly in faded gold. The carvings above the altar are decorated with little coloured images and paintings of the Last Supper. Escutcheons, magnificently carved, painted with vermilion, ultramarine, and gilt ensigns, suspended on antique tilting-spears, fill the walls and space about the altar. The pulpit, like those in *France*, is large enough for a room, white, carved, and superb with gold: it stands just before the altar, unconnected with the walls: above it is suspended a rich canopy of carved work, gilded. On the side stand four hour-glasses. The organ is richly adorned, opposite the pulpit. It was market-day, and the square was crowded with people and carts. The only provisions I could discover were *butter*, *dried fish*, *eels*, and *perch*. There was not a joint of *meat* to be seen. In a shop, I observed some packets of *tobacco*, which they wished to sell as coming from *England*: and therefore engraved on the paper, "LONDON, AT THE FABRIC OF TOBACCO OF J. WOTTON."

*Blomfield's MS. Journal.*

CHAP.  
V.

*Swedish* interpreter who had seen a good deal of the world ; and, like all persons of this description, when entrusted with the power of making bargains and payments, perhaps he rendered every article more expensive, by exacting charges as his share of the profits. The country after leaving *Orebro* was more than usually wild : the cottages resembled the huts which are seen in the lowlands of *Scotland*. On all sides we observed enormous unshapen masses of stone ; which seemed to have been brought together, into a thousand different positions, by some great convulsion of nature, such as an earthquake, or the sudden discharge of a vast body of water. There was nothing grand in the aspect of these masses ; but they appeared to have been placed upon each other by some supernatural cause. We saw a small lake towards our right. Near the road, there commonly occurred upright posts, supporting boxes for receiving charitable donations : these had generally a small shed placed over the box ; and beneath the shed there was sometimes a picture representing the figure of a mendicant in the attitude of supplicating alms. We could but consider these little depôts as so many monuments of the honesty of the people : there is not any part of our own country, where, if alms were thus collected, the boxes for

Alms-  
boxes.

containing them would remain safe from violation in the public highways during a single night. Another proof, whether of good government or of great virtue, in *Sweden*, is, that highway robberies are unheard of. No one thinks of guarding against an evil which is never experienced; therefore the traveller proceeds on his journey unarmed, and in perfect safety, at all hours of the day and night: neither is his property liable to the attacks of pilferers, in places where he may happen to rest: not an article would be stolen from his carriage, if left in the public street or road; whereas in *Russia*, every bit of the harness and tackle would be carried off, every moveable thing purloined, and bolts and bars be found insufficient to protect whatever effects he may have carefully locked within his trunks'. From *Orebro*, our journey led us to *Glanshammar* and to *Fellingsbro*. In all his travels, the author had never seen any thing which might be compared with the scenery he

*Glanshammar.*

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(1) At the same time, it should be observed, that this character of honesty among the *Suedes* more especially applies to the inhabitants of the provinces lying to the North of *Stockholm*. In Mr. *Blomfield's MS. Journal*, an account is given both of robbery and murder upon this route; perhaps the only instance that had occurred in the memory of man. It took place in a forest between *Arboga* and *Köping*. A heap of stones marked the spot; and the bodies of two criminals, by whom the deed was committed, were exposed upon wheels near the road; each cut into four quarters.

CHAP.  
V.

Excellent  
state of the  
Swedish  
Roads.

Mode of  
Building.

passed through to *Fellingsbro*; because it was of a peculiar character. If the reader were to imagine one of the finest parks in *England*, extending over an undulating district of abrupt hills and dales, through which a road passes to the residence of some wealthy nobleman, as perfect in its nature, and made of as fine materials as the walks of *Vauxhall* Gardens, upon which the most delicate female, dressed for Court, might walk without injury to her satin shoes, and by the side of which the noblest forest-trees flourish to a prodigious height and in the greatest luxuriance; he will have some idea of this part of our journey. The forests are composed of *birch*, and *juniper* and *fir trees*: the last, perhaps, in no other country of the world attain to such height and size. In all this route, whenever any houses are seen, at this season of the year, they have the singular appearance before described; owing to the green meadows, fit for mowing, which cover all their tops. These houses are built of whole trunks of trees, placed horizontally one above another, with oakum and moss between them to keep out the wind and rain; their extremities projecting in the corners of each building, where they are made to intersect at right angles. The outside is afterwards daubed over with red ochre and tar,



which gives them a gay frontage, and preserves the wood from rotting. We passed through *Arboga* to *Köping*, upon the western extremity of the Lake *Mœlar*; and through *Kälbbäck*, to *Westeros*. At *Kälbbäck* we saw a *Swedish* dance: it consisted of several couple, placed as in our common country-dance, swinging each other round as fast as possible, and marking the time by stamping with their feet, but never quitting the spot on which the whirl began. Like all national dances, this was grossly licentious. Such dances were sometimes represented by old *Brueghel*, in his pictures.

CHAP.  
V.

*Arboga.*

*Köping.*

*Kälbbäck.*

*Westeros.*

We were amused at *Westeros*, by a sight of the *Cathedral*. The views from the tower, and steeple, which are the highest in *Sweden*, of the Lake *Mœlar*, are uncommonly fine. This lake may almost admit of a comparison with that of *Locarno* in *Italy*. Its beautiful islands, covered with woods, produce the most pleasing effect possible. The steeple of this cathedral, and a principal part of the roof, are covered with copper. Here, as at *Copenhagen*, a man is stationed every night, who sounds a trumpet, and sings the time of the night, every quarter of an hour; proclaiming peace and security to all parts of the city. Within the cathedral we saw several old paintings. A custom is observed,

Lake  
*Mœlar.*

CHAP.  
V.Tomb of  
Eric XIV.

which we also noticed in some of the churches in *Denmark*, of placing a deceased person's portrait over his tomb. Some of those portraits are well executed, for the age in which they were painted. Curious old sculpture in wood is also exhibited; such as we had seen in the cathedral at *Roskild*, representing the history of our Saviour, from his birth to his crucifixion. But that which gave us the most interest, was the *Tomb of Eric XIV.* Instead of being of plain stone, as it is described by Mr. *Coxe*<sup>1</sup>, we found a superb and costly monument, constructed of different-coloured marbles; the work being otherwise executed with simplicity, after a model rather of a *Grecian* than of a *Gothic* place of interment<sup>2</sup>.

The base of it is a double cube of red *lumachella* (resembling *rosso antico*), raised upon three steps, and surmounted by a slab of common grey marble: upon this stands a *soros*, said to contain the remains of *Eric*, constructed of marble, like the marble called *Africano* by *Italian* lapidaries. The work, according to its present state of restoration, had only been executed a year and a half: indeed, it could hardly be said to be yet

(1) It has been altered since Mr. *Coxe* saw it. See *Coxe's Travels into Poland, Russia, Sweden, & Denmark*, vol. II. p. 477. Lond. 1784.

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

finished, for we observed a circular cavity in front, seemingly intended for an inscribed tablet, or for some piece of sculpture which had not been yet added. Upon the *operculum* of the *soros* is placed a cushion, supporting a gilded crown, globe, and sceptre. It was at this time destitute of any other ornament, and without an inscription. The *Latin* text of *Eric's* funeral sermon<sup>3</sup>, as mentioned by *Mr. Coxe*, is opposite this tomb, upon one of the pillars of the cathedral. We shall hereafter have occasion to notice the ruins of *Castleholm*, in one of the *Åland* Isles, where the unfortunate prince was confined, in 1570. The history of this monarch, and of the cruelties practised upon him by his brother, after he had succeeded in deposing him, are well known<sup>4</sup>. His intended marriage with our Queen *Elizabeth*, and afterwards with *Mary* Queen of *Scots*, and the probable consequences of his union with either of them, afforded a

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(3) "*Translatum est regnum,*" &c.—"The kingdom is turned about, and become my brother's; for it was his from the Lord." *Coxe's Travels*, vol. II. p. 447.

(4) See *Coxe's Travels*, and the Authors therein cited: *Histoire d'Eric XIV. par Celsius*, lib. xi. & xii.; *Dahlin's Geschichte von Sweden*, vol. III. p. 538 to p. 551; & vol. IV. pp. 66 to 68. Also *Histoire de Suède par Puffendorf*, tom. II. Amsterdam, 1743. *Eric* died of poison, on the 25th of February 1578, in the 45th year of his age. Authors differ as to the day and year: *Mr. Coxe* says, Feb. 26, 1577. The statement here given is from *Puffendorf*, tom. II. p. 36.

CHAP.  
V.

subject for various reflections, during a visit to his tomb; but this visit would have been rendered much more interesting, if we could have seen it before it was altered. The author made a sketch of it, as it now appears: the workmanship is beautiful, and the *marbles* are highly polished; but it is not possible to admire the metamorphosis that has here taken place. The "*raised monument of plain stone*," mentioned by Mr. *Coxe*, was probably the original tomb; and if left in its pristine state, it would have been therefore better than in its *Grecian* dress:

"—— Nec ingenuum violarent marmora tophum."

*Westeros* appears, in the *Scondia Illustrata* of *Messenius*, under the appellation of *Arosia*. By the name it now bears of *Westeros*, or *Western Arosia*, it was distinguished from the antient name of *Upsala*, which was called *Eastern* or *Ostra Arosia*. It carries on a considerable trade with *Stockholm*, by means of its situation upon the *Mœlar*; transporting annually to the capital the productions of all the neighbouring mines; especially *iron*, *copper*, and *brass*<sup>1</sup>. It has several manufactures. There was once a *Library* here, which was removed to *Mayence*

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(1) Guide aux Mines, par *Engeström*, p. 42. *Stockholm*, 1796.



in 1635<sup>2</sup>. The *Swedish Annals* contain a record of some costly repairs which took place in the restoration of the *Cathedral* so long back as the year 1469<sup>3</sup>. There was also a *Mint* here in 1285<sup>4</sup>.

CHAP.  
V.

We left *Westeros* upon the twenty-fifth of *June*, and travelled through a heavy dreary country to *Nyguarne*. After quitting this place, we saw a fine *tumulus* upon our right, perfect in its form, and covered by verdant turf. The fields

*Nyguarne.*

of *rye* near the road appeared clean, and in good order. We entered *Upland* by a double bridge: that which belonged to the *Upland* side was built of stone; the other consisted only of deal timber, and it was undergoing repair when we passed. Afterwards, we arrived at *Enköping*.

*Enköping.*

The towns of *Orebro*, *Arboga*, *Köping*, *Westeros*, and *Enköping*, are all exactly alike; they consist each of one long street, with *timber* dwellings or *log-houses*, roofed with turf. Before laying on the turf, they place the bark of young birch-trees, in form of scales or plates, one over the other, like weather-tiles, which carry off the water, even if it should penetrate the turf coat-

(2) *Guide aux Mines*, *ibid.*

(3) *Epitome Chronologiæ Scandiana*, tom. XV.—*Scand. Illust. Messenii*, p. 154. *Stockholm*, 1703.

(4) *Scand. Illust. Messenii*, tom. XII. p. 138.

CHAP.  
V.

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*Lislēna.*

*Gran.*

*Tibble.*

*Barkarby.*

ing. This sort of roofing is very durable: with very little repair, it will last as long as the house itself. We next passed through *Lislēna*, to *Gran*, distant twenty *English* miles from *Enköping*. At *Gran*, the forest scenery began again, and we were gratified by its appearance. Soon afterwards, a partial opening to the left enabled us to discern a fine *lake*, situate in a deep glen, thickly overshadowed with lofty pine-trees. Fourteen *English* miles beyond *Gran* we came to *Tibble*: and from this place to *Barkarby*, the views were remarkably grand; the pine-trees growing among immense rocks, and such delightful prospects afforded by the Lake *Mælar* and its Isles, that it may be said of the scenery here, nothing can equal it in *Europe*, excepting only that of Lake *Locarno* in *Italy*; nothing surpass it, excepting that of *Loch Lomond* in *Scotland*. •During this day's journey, we passed a palace, once belonging to the Kings of *Denmark*, and now the residence of a *Scotch* gentleman of the name of *Seaton*. His predecessor purchased it of the Royal Family of *Sweden*; and paid an 'extravagant price for it. The grounds about it are very noble, and Mr. *Seaton's* territories are altogether very extensive. We overtook him upon the road, just as we arrived at one of the barriers; and we profited

by the instructions he politely gave us respecting our subsequent journey in *Sweden*.

From *Barkarby* we had only a short stage of ten *English* miles and a half to *Stockholm*. The approach to this city has nothing in it that affords the smallest idea of the vicinity of a metropolis. You actually enter the town without having had any view of it'. A favourite residence

Approach  
to *Stock-*  
*holm*.

(1) "*Barkarby* was the last stage before we arrived at *Stockholm*, and only ten *English* miles distant. The approach to the metropolis of a kingdom, through which we had travelled for a week without encountering one being who appeared civilized, one place which could remind us of the character of an ingenious and intelligent people, was the source of considerable curiosity. As we drew nearer, the country became more romantic, and yet not the less cultivated, in parts where cultivation was possible. The *Mælar* made its appearance more frequently; and lofty rocks, covered with pine, interrupted the straight course of our road. There were, however, no symptoms of that luxury and wealth which, in the neighbourhood of a metropolis, decorate the country around with villas, seats, and lodges; and convert the real enjoyments of rural retirement into the frippery and affectation of town rurality. As in other districts through which we had passed, a solitary cabin stood on the edge of a forest; a village spire enlivened the deep green of the firs; and a cart occasionally proved the existence of something like traffic. Within two miles, as we had calculated, of *Stockholm*, a long fence and a gravel-walk here and there, in a wood, gave tokens of a country-seat in the *English* taste. This we afterwards learnt was the Royal seat of the *Haga*. Whilst we were wondering at our miscalculation of the distance of the long-expected *Stockholm*, we were stopped at a wooden building, and an ill-dressed man demanded to search our boxes. We delivered up our keys; and, to our extreme astonishment, found that this was the entrance to the renowned city of *Charles the Twelfth*. Beyond, was a narrow street, if street it might be called, formed by red wooden pales on the one side, and a row of red wooden houses on the other. Trees in regular disposition, of the height of ten feet, the circumference of whose branches might be about four feet shaded, on one side, the long avenue before

of the late king, *Gustavus the Third*, occurred upon the left, before we reached the city. This

before us. As we proceeded, houses of plaster enlivened the long-continued red hue of the buildings, and here and there a broken window varied the uniformity. In a short time, the grand street, called, by way of eminence, *Drötnings Gatan*, or Queen Street, burst upon us. The difference between this street and those seen at *Gothenburg* was nothing: the same regularity of the façades, the same appearance of poverty and want of cleanliness, characterized them both. The houses were lofty; the windows flat, and even with the walls, opening like casements: no shop-windows exposing to view the goods within: no appearance of trade; no crowd in the streets. An awkward carriage or two, like an old-fashioned *English* whiskey on four wheels, conveyed a few ill-dressed females to pay their morning visits. Foot-passengers, in default of foot-pavement, were hurrying in all directions, to avoid the unbending course of the coachman; and military men, in huge round hats, towered above the rest, with feathers of portentous size. Such was our entrance into *Stockholm*. For about three-quarters of a mile, the same sort of view was presented. On a sudden the scene changed, and we found ourselves in a spacious square, surrounded on all sides by buildings of a most magnificent description. On our right rose, above a large and rapid stream, a superb pile of architecture, connected with the square by a broad bridge of granite, and commanding at one view the innumerable buildings, streets, and avenues below it. In the centre of the square stood an equestrian colossal statue of bronze, upon a pedestal of polished granite. On each side, lofty palaces corresponded to each other; and between these and the first vast Building the winding of the lake admitted an extensive view of the city, rising like an amphitheatre, and the rocks still farther in the distance. The whole *coup-d'œil* was enchantment. Nothing we had ever read or seen could give an idea of the singular magnificence of such a prospect. . . . We proceeded over the bridge, and passed at the foot of the Palace. On turning to the right, the view of innumerable shipping, and a fine broad quay, increased our admiration. On the opposite side of the water, lofty houses rose one above another; the dome of a church above them; seeming to look down upon the water and city below. It is impossible to describe the effect of the whole, at first sight;—the most romantic country imaginable, surrounding a populous city, rising amidst rocks and forests."

*Blomfield's MS. Journal.*



palace was intended to have been made an edifice of uncommon magnificence; but the plans for that purpose were never carried into execution.

Owing to the desire we had of reaching the *Arctic* regions before the season should be too far advanced for witnessing a *midnight sun*, we made our residence at *Stockholm*, during our first visit, as short as possible. We shall, therefore, defer the principal part of our account of this city until our return to it, at the end of *autumn*. But, as first impressions, and early observations, are sometimes worth a reader's notice, we shall rapidly relate what we saw, heard, and did, during two days after our coming; by transcribing, literally, a few notes, as we find them written in our journal.—We procured lodgings in a very clean and respectable hotel, called *La Maison de France*, in a street named *The Regency*.

*June 26th.*—We wrote to the *English* Minister, to inform him of our arrival; having recommendatory letters to him from the Secretary of State. We then hired the sort of servant known all over the Continent, under the title of "*Laquais de louage*," whose daily wages are the same in all the towns of *Europe*, i. e. a sum equivalent to an *English half-crown*. This person was a *Frenchman*, of the name of *Chantillon*. Generally, such

## CHAP.

## V.



Norder-  
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servants are spies of the Police; and about this time they were not unfrequently minor agents of the Ministers of *France*. Went to the shops for maps of *Norway* and *Sweden*. Could not obtain a copy of *Pontoppidan's Map of Norway* in all *Stockholm*. Bought the two first volumes of *Winkelmann's* valuable work<sup>1</sup>, for twelve dollars. Found a better stock of literature, in the warehouses of the dealers, than in *Copenhagen*. Collected *Hermelin's* splendid Maps of *Sweden*, and put them into a tin roll for our journey. Walked about the city. The street in which we lodged was close to the great square, called the *Nordermalm*, or *North Place*; the stately magnificence of which, at first sight, is very imposing. One entire side of it is adorned by the *Royal Palace*, and a bridge in front of it, built of *granite*: another is occupied by the *Opera House*, where *Gustavus the Third* was assassinated<sup>2</sup>. Opposite to the *Opera House* is the *Palace of the Princess Royal*. In the centre of this area, opposite to the bridge which conducts to the *Royal Palace*, is an equestrian statue of *Gustavus Adolphus*, in gilded

(1) *Histoire de l'Art chez les Anciens*, traduite de l'*Allemand* à *Paris*, An 2. de la République.

(2) See the building in the *Plate*. A figure is seen entering the building, with a violoncello upon his shoulders.

bronze : this faces the royal structure, and has an air of great grandeur. This *square* may be considered as affording a concentration of almost every thing worth seeing in *Stockholm*; and, if we were to judge from external appearance only, we should say, that there are few things in *Europe* to vie with the colossal greatness which it exhibits : but when we found, upon a closer examination, that, as at *Petersburg*, the semblances and show of architecture consisted, for the most part, of white-washed edifices, built either of bricks, or, what is worse, of lath and plaster, not having half the durability even of Bernasconi's cement ; mere wood and mortar, tricked out to look like *Corinthian* pillars and stone walls ; we could but consider such pageantry as only one degree removed from the pasteboard and painted scenery of a common playhouse. With due allowance made for these deficiencies, the streets of *Stockholm* might remind a traveller of the streets of *Rome*; excepting that the windows are without balconies. In the evening of this day, we went to see the young king, *Gustavus the Fourth*, review his troops. • They were to remain a month encamped near the city. We visited the camp. Here the King slept every night, in his tent. We saw both the King and Queen : the latter appeared to be a very beautiful woman,

Architec-  
ture of the  
City.

Royal  
Review.

Anecdotes  
of the  
King and  
Queen.

but looked much dejected. In the King's countenance, there is some resemblance, such as we should call a family likeness, to our Royal Family. He is not unlike the present *Duke of Gloucester*: the *Swedes* fancied that they could discern in his countenance some traces of the features of *Charles the Twelfth*. He affected very much the manners of *Charles*, in the simplicity of his dress, the meanness of his equipage, and in attending more to the dictates of his own judgment than to the opinions of his Ministers. The Queen was at this time seated in a chair, in front of the royal tent: behind her majesty sat an elderly lady, who was called the Queen's Governess. The Queen Dowager has a governess also. Some Maids of Honour were standing near the Queen: they were all very handsome women. Within the tent sat the Baron *Hamilton*, an *English* officer in the *Swedish* service. The eyes of all this party were directed towards the King, who was on horseback, reviewing his troops. The Ladies of the Court, and most of the male attendants, were in the *Dröttningholm* uniform: this consisted of a plain but elegant dress, which, for the females, resembled that worn by Quakers: but that of the men was what painters would call a *Vandyke* dress: it consisted of a jacket of grey silk, co-



vered by a short cloak of the same colour, hanging from the shoulder ; black breeches, stockings, and shoes tied with roses ; a blue silk sash, and a white dress sword, with a hilt of polished steel. The King had not this habit: he wore the common military blue uniform. The Queen afterwards, quitting her seat, went about in an old open barouche, drawn by four horses ; an equipage fitter for a private tradesman of *Stockholm*, than for the Royal Family of *Sweden*. We entered into conversation with those of the spectators whom we accidentally met ; and, of course, the result of such conference is not more worth the reader's attention, than the sort of talk he might himself hear at a review upon *Wimbledon Common*. Some of the spectators said, "The Queen Dowager appears in greater state when she is seen in public ; because she is a *Dane*, and preserves her national love of parade." When we noticed her dejected countenance, we were told that her husband had lately rebuked her, for giving way to her natural high spirits, by indulging in playful familiarities with her Maids of Honour : and they related an anecdote of her frolicsome disposition, which much amused us ; namely, that one of the old Courtiers approaching her, and rather overacting the ludicrous etiquette and reverential obeisance

CHAP.  
V.

enjoined by the rules of the *Swedish Court*, her Majesty snatched off his wig, and buffeted his bald pate with it.

After the review ended, public prayers were offered by all the troops, before their tents; every soldier joining in the evening hymn, which afforded a solemn and affecting sight. The King and the Royal Family then sat down to supper. About ten o'clock, the night being as light as the day, the troops were again under arms, and commenced a sham attack upon a citadel, prepared, with regular fortifications and mines, for the occasion. We were never more surprised than upon being told this citadel was a mere painted pageant. It had all the appearance of a regular fortress, built substantially, with regular ramparts, bastions, and outworks. For some time, the supposed garrison defended it, springing two mines upon the besiegers; the last of which took place after the citadel itself was on fire, and had a fine effect; the vast cloud of smোক from the explosion being tinged with the glowing brightness of the flames behind.

A spot railed in for the Royal Family, to view the sight, was prepared upon an eminence. We placed ourselves in front of this railing, and as near to the King as possible, that we might have a perfect knowledge of his person; as, at this