

ther of the king, and the favourite son of Juliana Maria, are also much beloved and admired.

The court days in summer are few : in winter there is a levee once a fortnight : on these days there are suppers, when strangers, upon the presumption of their having the rank of Colonels, are invited. At this meeting the number of men and women is equal, and all precedence, except that of the royal family, is determined by drawing lots as at a ball in England. In the winter, when people aggregate from necessity together, the social meetings in Copenhagen are said to be very frequent and delightful, and the ministers are very polite to strangers well introduced.

The action of the 2d of April was of too short a duration to produce any other impression on the country than a temporary irritation, and the event of that day taught her the impolicy and danger of departing from a state of unequivocal neutrality ; at the same time it displayed to the world what never yet was questioned, the valour and enthusiastic patriotism of the Danes. It will be considered, however, as somewhat singular, that for two successive years, they commemorated the return of that day, as a day of victory. A whimsical Dane adopted another mode of softening the affair, by endeavouring to prove, what was his own irremovable conviction, that Lord Nelson was of Danish extraction. They now, however, confine themselves

to the glory of a gallant but unavailing resistance, and in a little lapse of time their love for the English will return to its former channels.

The conduct of England upon this memorable occasion, reminds me of the policy of a certain fashionable school-master who had the care of three pupils of distinction, a duke, a viscount, and a baronet; the boy of the highest rank, who was the oldest and the most mischievous, during the absence of the learned doctor, prevailed upon his comrades to spend an evening at a fashionable bagnio; the doctor unexpectedly returned in the interim, and upon discovering where his pupils had been, felt a reluctance in wounding the high feelings of the duke and viscount, and visited the sins of all three upon the hapless lower seat of honour of the poor little baronet. Thus Russia and Sweden led Denmark into the northern confederacy against the supremacy of the British flag, and Lord Nelson whipped the latter for the presumption of all the parties to the said league. Denmark has reaped the fruits of her neutrality, and without fatiguing the reader by a long string of comparative exports and imports, nothing can be clearer than that her interests have been in a state of progressive amelioration for several years past. The radical emancipation of her peasantry has remunerated her with a merited reward, the love of a free people, and the happy results of unshackled enterprize. This blessing has not only been felt, but expressed.

A few miles from the capital, on one side of the public road, is a plain and simple monument, expressive of the condition of those who raised it : it was erected by the peasants of the late Count Bernstoff, in gratitude for their liberation :

'Tis liberty alone that gives the flow'r
Of fleeting life its lustre and perfume ;
And we are weeds without it.

COWPER.

Curiosity led me one day into the principal court of judicature : it was a handsome large room, in a range of buildings in which the governor of the city resides : the throne was in front ; twelve judges presided attired in rich costume ; there were only two advocates present, who wore embroidered capes and blue silk gowns. The laws of Denmark, with an exception to the forest laws, are simple and wholesome, and are impartially administered, although the king is despotic. Justice does not appear, preceded by Corruption, and followed by Famine. There is one law in Denmark which restrains the tyranny of parents towards their children, that deserves to be particularly mentioned : No parent can, by his own act, disinherit his child : if he thinks that his son will dishonour him, and dissipate his fortune, he cannot change the usual channel of his property, without applying to the sovereign for permission, who, in council, cautiously considers the allegation and answer ; and thus the refusal or permission is the result of a public process. Admirable as the laws of England are, it

would be well if such a law as this, adapted to the genius of the constitution, could be introduced. Alas! in England, how often is the happiness of an excellent child sacrificed to the unnatural caprice or pride of an angry, foolish, mercenary parent!

The mildness of the Danish government is such, that when the king and the subject, as is frequently the case, happen to be engaged in litigation, respecting titles to land, the judges are recommended, if the point be dubious, to decree in favour of the subject. A short time before we arrived, a woman had been found guilty of murder, and she was sentenced only to four years of solitary confinement. The Crown Prince is unwilling to see the sword of justice stained with human blood: he is merciful almost to a fault;

The quality of mercy is not strained;
It droppeth, as the gentle rain from heav'n,
Upon the place beneath. It is twice blessed:
It blesseth him that gives, and him that takes.

The internal taxes are raised or reduced at the discretion of the king, which with the customs and tolls upon exports and imports, the duties paid by foreigners, and his own demesne lands and confiscations, constitute the revenues of the crown. The land tax *ad valorem* is admirably managed in Denmark, by which the soil is charged according to its fertility, which is estimated by the quantity of grain required to sow a certain

quantity of land. This tax is formed into classes: the peasants have no assignable property in the soil, like tenants in England upon long leases; they contract with their lord to cultivate so much land, in the manner prescribed by the ordinances respecting agriculture, and pay their rent either in money or provision. Such is the law now, that they can experience no oppression:

Princes and Lords may flourish or may fade,
A breath can make them as a breath hath made,
But a bold Peasantry, their Country's pride,
When once destroy'd can never be supplied.

The hospitality of the numerous and highly respectable family of the De Conincks, the principal merchants at Copenhagen, would not suffer us to quit the capital, without visiting their beautiful seat called Dronninggaard or Queen's palace. As we reserved Sunday for this little country excursion, we learned, not without some inconvenience, that the Danes are remarkably rigid in their observance of the hours of worship. On that day during divine service no one is permitted to quit or enter the city but at one gate. Immediately after we had passed the wrong draw-bridge, the clock struck eleven, and the gate closed upon all erratic sinners: this unlucky event compelled us to go round the ramparts, and make a deviation of several miles. Thoroughly impressed as I am with the necessity of preserving the sanctity of the Sabbath, I must confess I am at a loss to see the utility of barring gates to keep

religion in. 'This expedient appears to me as useless as that of a burgomaster, who, upon a favourite lady flying to him in tears to tell him that her canary bird had escaped from its cage, ordered the drawbridges of the town to be raised to prevent the elopement of the little fugitive. The gates are shut in summer at twelve, and in winter at seven at night.

Dronningaard is the first private residence in Denmark, lies about sixteen English miles from the city ; the grounds, which are very extensive, and tastefully laid out, slope down to a noble lake, twelve English miles in circumference, and is skirted with fine woods, and romantic country houses. At the end of a beautiful walk I was struck with the appearance of an elegant marble column, on a tablet affixed to which was inscribed :

*"This Monument is erected in gratitude to a mild and
beneficent Government, under whose auspices
I enjoy the blessings that surround me."*

In another part of the grounds, in a spot of deep seclusion, we beheld the ruins of a hermitage, before which was the channel of a little brook, then dried up ; and a little further, in a nook, an open grave and a tomb-stone.

The story of this retired spot deserves to be mentioned. Time has shed many winter snows upon the romantic beau-

ties of Dronningaard, since one who, weary of the pomp of courts and the tumult of camps, in the prime of life, covered with honours and with fortune, sought from its hospitable owner permission to raise a sequestered cell, in which he might pass the remainder of his days in all the austerities and privation of an anchorite. This singular man had long, previous to the revolution in Holland, distinguished himself at the head of his regiment, but in an unhappy moment the love of aggrandizement took possession of his heart, and marrying under its influence, misery followed : and here, in a little wood of tall firs he raised this simple fabric : moss warmed it within, and the bark of the birch defended it without ; a stream of rock water once ran in a bed of pebbles before the door, in which the young willow dipt its leaves ; and at a little distance from a bed of wild roses the labernum gracefully rose and suspended her yellow flowers : he selected an adjoining spot for the depository of his remains when death

—— like a lover's pinch
That hurts, but is desir'd,

should have terminated all his sufferings here. Every day he dug a small portion of his grave until he had finished it : he then composed his epitaph in French, and had it inscribed upon a stone ; the reader I think will be pleased with it in the English dress which it has received from the distinguished pen of William Hayley, Esq. :

THE HERMIT'S EPITAPH.

Here may he rest, who, shunning scenes of strife,
 Enjoy'd at Dronningaard a Hermit's life;
 The faithless splendour of a court he knew,
 And all the ardour of the tented field,
 Soft Passion's idler charm, not less untrue,
 And all that listless Luxury can yield.
 He tasted, tender Love! thy chaster sweet;
 Thy promis'd happiness prov'd mere deceit.
 To Hymen's hallow'd fane by Reason led,
 He deem'd the path he trod, the path of bliss;
 Oh! ever mourn'd mistake! from int'rest bred,
 Its dupe was plung'd in Misery's abyss.
 But Friendship offer'd him, benignant power,
 Her cheering hand, in trouble's darkest hour.
 Beside this shaded stream, her soothing voice
 Bade the disconsolate again rejoice:
 Peace in his heart revives, serenely sweet;
 The calm content so sought for as his choice,
 Quits him no more in this belov'd retreat.

In this singular solitude he passed several years, when the plans of his life became suddenly reversed, by a letter of recal from his prince, which contained the most flattering expressions of regard. The wishes of his sovereign and of his country were imperative, he flew to Holland, and at the head of his regiment fought and fell. The night preceding his departure, he composed a farewell to the enchanting scenery in whose bosom he had found repose, which as an affectionate remembrance of the unfortunate hermit, is inscribed upon a tablet of marble, raised in a little grove not far from the hermitage;

for the following translation I am indebted to the poetic and elegant mind of Leigh Hunt, Esq. :

FAREWELL OF THE HERMIT OF DRONNINGAARD.

Vain would life's pilgrim, ling'ring on his way,
 Snatch the short respite of a summer's day ;
 Pale Sorrow, bending o'er his sad repose,
 Still finds a tear in ev'ry shelt'ring rose:
 Still breaks his dream, and leads th' unwilling slave
 To weep, and wander to a distant grave.
 E'en he, whose steps since life's ungenial morn
 Have found no path unfretted with rude thorn;
 From all he lov'd must turn his looks away,
 Far, far from thee, fair Dronningaard, must stray,
 Must leave the Eden of his fancy's dreams,
 Its twilight groves and long-resounding streams;
 Streams, where the tears of fond regret have ran,
 And back return to sorrow and to man !
 O yet once more, ye groves, your sighs repeat,
 And bid farewell to these reluctant feet :
 Once more arise, thou soft, thou soothing wave,
 In weeping murmurs, ere I seek my grave ;
 Ere yet a thousand social ills I share,
 Consuming war, and more consuming care,
 Pleasures that ill conceal their future pains,
 Virtue in want, blest Liberty in chains,
 Vice, proud and powerful as the winter's wind,
 And all the dire deliriums of mankind.

Yet e'en this heart may hail its rest to come ;
 Sorrow, thy reign is ended in the tomb !
 There close the eyes, that wept their fires away ;
 There drop the hands that clasp'd to mourn and pray ;
 There sleeps the restlessness of aching hearts ;
 There Love, the tyrant, buries all his darts !

O grant me, heav'n, thus sweetly to repose !
'Tis thus my soul shall triumph o'er its woes ;
Spring from the world, nor drop one painful tear
On all it leaves, on all it treasures here ;
Save once, perhaps, when pensive moonlight gleams
O'er Dronninggaard's meek shades and murmuring streams,
The sacred grief, to dear remembrance true,
O'er her soft flow'rs may shed its gentlest dew,
May once in sounds, that soothe the suff'ring mind,
Breathe its lorn murmurs through the solemn wind ;
Lament, sweet spot, thy charms must wither'd be,
And linger e'en from heav'n to sigh for thee !

The dispatch with which nature pushes on her vegetation in these cold climates is amazing : this delightful spot, which was now in full foliage, presented nothing but naked branches a fortnight before. I quitted Dronninggaard with almost as much regret as did the devoted eremite.

A visit to the Crown-battery was very interesting. A young Danish officer, who was present at the battle of the second of April, pointed out the respective positions of the fleets and block ships, and described with great candour and liberality the particulars of the engagement. This formidable battery is about half an English mile from shore, is square, and the water flows into the middle of it ; it is now very rapidly enlarging, and undergoing such alterations as will make it a place of great strength. It is also in contemplation to raise a fresh battery to the southward in addition to that called the lunette. The harbour is very capacious and safe. The holm or arsenal is not

shewn without the permission of the admiral. The ships in ordinary are finely arranged and make a gallant show : a gallery or narrow bridge, resting upon piles, runs on each side of the line, which is patrolled day and night. The magazines, forges, and workshops are upon an admirable construction : each ship has her different magazine, containing all the materials for her rapid equipment. This depot is furnished with iron from Norway, hemp from Riga, cloth from Russia and Holland, and wood from Pomerania. The rope-walks are each a thousand feet long. As I was enjoying, one fine afternoon, a row in that part of the harbour where the arsenal is, and nothing can be more beautiful or interesting than such an excursion, I observed a man of war lying near the quay of a peculiar construction : she swelled amazingly in the upper sides, forming a considerable portion of a circle, for the purpose of enabling her to bring several of her after guns to act with her bow guns or with her stern chasers : she had a very clumsy appearance, and I was informed that the experiment had not answered the wishes of government. The number of merchant vessels we saw at the quay confirmed the account we received of the magnitude of the Danish commerce. Nature, which has broken the kingdom into islands, has instinctively made the Danes, merchants and sailors : their principal foreign trade is with France, Portugal, and Italy, and the East and West Indies : their principal domestic trade is with Norway, and even with Iceland, which, to all but its patriotic and con-

tented native, is a most deplorable country, the very outskirts of the world. The seamen are registered, and are divided into two classes, the stationary sailors who are always in the employ of the crown; the others are, in times of peace, permitted to enter into merchant ships, subject to recal in case of war, and have a small annual stipend. The academy of marine cadets forms one of the palaces in the Octagon; it was founded by Frederic V. Here, and at an hotel which belongs to it, sixty youths are maintained and instructed in the principles of navigation, at the expence of the crown. There are also several other young gentlemen admitted to the school, but are not maintained there. Every year several of these gallant pupils make a cruise in a brig of war, that they may blend practice with theory. The academy of land cadets is pretty nearly upon the same establishment: fifty boys are maintained and educated for a military life, by the crown, and others are admitted to the school, but maintained at their own expence. The former are well fed, but are never permitted to drink tea. In the academy is a riding house, and in the adjoining stables eight horses are kept for the use of the young pupils in the art of riding.

In the course of my rambles I visited the citadel, which is small and stands at the extremity of the city, and contains two battalions; it has two gates, one towards the city, and the other towards the country; the latter is well fortified by five bastions. Adjoining the chapel is the dungeon in which the

Count Struensee was confined; it is indeed a most dismal hole; it was here that he lightened the weight of his chains and the horrors of imprisonment by his flute, upon which, so little apprehensive was he of his impending fate, that his favourite air was from the *Deserteur*, beginning with *Mourir c'est notre dernier ressort*. Upon quitting this melancholy abode we requested the soldier who conducted us to shew us that of his unhappy fellow-sufferer Brandt; he accordingly led us through a gloomy stone passage, and after unlocking and unbarring a massy door conducted us up a winding stone staircase into the cell, where, to my surprise, a sun-beam slanting through a small grated window, presented to us the figure of a man of respectable appearance, and of about the middle age of life, emaciated by long confinement and bowed down by grief. As we approached him a faint blush partially spread over his sallow cheek, and a tear stood in his eye, which he endeavoured to conceal with his hand, and with a bow of humiliation turned from us to a little bird cage which he was constructing. We apologized for our intrusion, and hastily turning towards the door, we beheld a beautiful boy standing near it, apparently about eight years old; his look at once explained that the prisoner was his father: the face of this little child of sorrow was the most artless and expressive I ever beheld. As we descended he followed, and when at the bottom of the stairs, we asked him why he looked so pale, the little creature replied in French, "Ah, Sir! I look so because I

“ have just recovered from a fever ; I do not always look so : I shall soon be well, but my poor papa never will.” We put money in his hand, and begged him to take it to his father ; this he immediately returned saying, “ No, sir, indeed I must not, my father will be angry with me.” All our efforts were in vain ; it was a scene of affecting mystery. The soldier took up the child and kissed it, and bidding him return to his father, closed the door. He informed us that the prisoner had been convicted of forgery, but stated that there were many strong circumstances in his favour. Oh, how I wished that that merciful prince whose ears are ever more open to the sounds of suffering than of flattery, had heard what we heard ! the looks and language of the little prattler would have pleaded for the wretched prisoner.

The little ancient palace of Rosenberg, said to be built by Inigo Jones, attracted our notice, the gardens belonging to which form the principal town parade of the belles and beaux of Copenhagen. The statues in these gardens are not worthy of notice, although recommended to the notice of travellers by many of the Copenhageners. In the street adjoining are the barracks for the foot guards, and a covered hall for military exercise, of four hundred feet long. This Gothic edifice is principally remarkable for containing the room in which the King holds his annual bed of justice, and for the jewel office : the former is a long low room, the whole length of the build-

ing; before the throne upon the floor stand three lions of massy silver, in different attitudes as large as life, and excite a fine idea of barbarous grandeur: the walls are surrounded with large pieces of ancient tapestry, somewhat the worse for age, representing the exploits of the most military of the Danish monarchs in their wars with the Swedes. In a little room adjoining the hall are several services of plate, vases, wine-glasses, and goblets, in chrystal, which were presented to Frederic IV. by the Venetian States; the collection is very valuable and tastefully arranged. In another small apartment, we saw the saddle of Christian IV. covered with pearls, said to be worth 50,000*l.* which he once used upon a magnificent gala day in Copenhagen. In the cabinet of jewels are the coronation chairs, crowns, and various valuable and curious assortments of jewelry; but I was most gratified by a beautiful service of Danish porcelain, which was made in the new manufactory of china, on which was exquisitely painted the *Flora Danica*, or the indigenous botanical productions of Denmark and Norway. We found it difficult to get a peep at this place, on account, as we were told, of the grand marshal of the court always having the custody of the key. An old officer of the rank of colonel shewed the curiosities, and through the hands of an attendant received a ducat for his trouble.

From the palace I proceeded to the observatory, a noble round tower, one hundred and twenty feet high, in which a spiral road

of brick nearly winds to the top, so that thus far any one might ascend or descend on horseback with perfect ease and safety : at the top is the observatory of the celebrated Tycho Brahe. The instruments are good and in excellent condition ; amongst the telescopes there is one that is twelve Danish feet long, and magnifies eight hundred times, made by Alh of Copenhagen. From this tower a young Dane precipitated himself, a short time before we visited it, and was dashed to pieces : at the school to which he belonged, the master had passed over his merits, as he too rashly thought, to compliment a boy of higher rank, but his inferior in learning. The wounded sensibility of the former drove him to frenzy, and caused the melancholy catastrophe above related. Nor far from the observatory is the university library ; it contains about four thousand volumes, they are chiefly upon theology and jurisprudence ; there are also about two thousand manuscripts, amongst the most rare of the latter is a bible in Runic characters. This library has an annual revenue of eight hundred crowns for the sole purpose of purchasing books, and is open to the public. The school of surgery is a small, neat and handsome modern building : under this roof a singular instance of acute sensibility happened a few years since, which is still much talked of: As Kruger, a celebrated anatomical lecturer, was addressing his pupils, he received a letter announcing the death of a very dear friend at Paris ; he was observed to be much agitated, and exclaimed, " I have received intelligence which I shall never long survive ; I cannot recover the

shock." His scholars, who very much loved him, pressed round, and bore him to his home in their arms, where he expired a few hours after. The hospital for secret lying-in, is a handsome edifice: here pregnant women, who have reasons for seeking concealment, are received upon paying a small stipend; they enter at night in masks, and are never seen but by those who are necessary to their comfort, and their names are never required. This is a noble institution, and is said to have produced a very visible diminution in the crime of infanticide.

At the *tables-d'hote* at Copenhagen, a stranger is at first struck with the appearance of noblemen with stars glittering upon their breast, being seated at the same table with the rest of the company. This seldom occurs but in the summer, when the heads of noble families who pass that season of the year at their chateaus, come occasionally to town, where their houses are generally shut up till the winter. It was at one of these places that I met with an extraordinary instance of the ignorance in which a native of one country may remain of the manners of another. A Danish gentleman, as he was picking his teeth with his *fork*, a *delicate* custom very prevalent upon the continent amongst all classes, observed that he had heard the English women were very pretty, but he was confident that he never could love them: upon being pressed for his reason he replied, because he understood they were never seen without a pipe in their mouths! We told him that it was very

true they had frequently *pipes* in their mouths, and very *sweet* ones too, but that they never smoaked; nay, so much did they abhor it, that they regarded the man with disgust who indulged himself in the habit.

At Copenhagen I had an opportunity of observing, that a Turk in a Lutheran country can get as gloriously drunk as a Christian. At a *table d'hôte* which I frequented, we were occasionally amused by a little fat follower of Mahomet, who had just arrived, with some appearance of consequence, but with a suspicious application to the Danish government: the mussulman very soon forgot or defied the sumptuary provisions of the Alcoran, and became enamoured with some excellent port wine and English bottled porter; his libations, which were pretty copious, were generally followed by dancing and kicking his turban round the room; at length, he was suddenly told to look out for other quarters. A little facetious waiter was asked whether he had removed him, to prevent his further augmenting the anger of the prophet? "I know nothing about his prophet," said he, "all that I know is, that he has got no more money."

After having perused the description which travellers have given of the grounds and house of Count Bernstoff, I was somewhat disappointed upon visiting them: the former are certainly finely wooded, and command a beautiful view of the

Sound, but they are not laid out with much taste ; the latter is by no means splendid. I was more gratified with the King's park, which is extensive and highly picturesque, as I was with the grounds and gardens of Prince Frederic, the King's brother : this spot is very delightful, and on account of the motley crowds which flock to it, is in miniature (a very small one) at once the Versailles and Greenwich-park of Denmark.

The laws of Denmark prevent the gratifications of shooting : a young Dane, who had been in England, observed to me one day with a most serious countenance, that nothing could exceed the impertinence of the hawks, who, availing themselves of the laws, flew into the room and killed his canary birds.

A gloomy curiosity conducted us to the Rasp-house, where capital offenders are confined for life : the male convicts, some of whom were ironed, rasp and saw Brasil wood and rein-deer's horns ; the latter is used in soup. The females spin. The prisoners are separately confined : the house of correction is on the right : here offenders of both sexes are enclosed in the same room, many of them young and healthy, but strange to relate, I only saw one little child in the apartment : they all looked neat and clean, and are made by their labour to contribute towards their support. It has often surprised me that the latter arrangement has not been adopted in the principal prisons of

England; surely it is a subject well worthy the notice of the statesman. We have hundreds of miserable wretches shut up in confinement after conviction, who, with the exception of picking oakum in some of the correctional houses, and that too in a very desultory and unprofitable manner, do nothing but render their depravity more desperate. Justice demands that their services, if possible, should atone for their crimes; policy, that they should help to maintain themselves; and humanity, that their health should be promoted by their labour.

The Admiralty-hospital, the Citizens-hospital, the Orphans-house, and the hospital of Frederie, are all very humane foundations and well maintained; there is nothing in them worthy of elaborate description. To an Englishman such establishments, and every other institution by which misfortune can be relieved, misery alleviated, and infirmity recovered, are proudly familiar to his eye: they constitute the principal beauty of every town and city in his country. Although the manufactories of the north are much inferior to those of the south, I must not omit to mention the gratification which we derived from visiting the manufactory of china, which is very beautiful, and although in its infancy, is thought to rival those of Saxony, Berlin, and Vienna. This manufactory furnished the beautiful service which we saw in the palace of Rosenberg: it is under the care of directors, who very liberally and politely

shew the whole of this very curious and elegant establishment to strangers.

I did not leave Copenhagen without visiting the Dutch town in the isle of Amak, about two English miles from the capital, which is inhabited by about four thousand people, descendants of a colony from East Friesland, who were invited to reside here, with certain privileges, by one of the ancient kings of Denmark, for the purpose of supplying the city with milk, cheese, butter, and vegetables; the neatness and luxuriance of their little gardens cannot be surpassed: they dress in the Dutch style, and are governed by their own laws. The road from this village to the city is constantly crowded with these indefatigable people, who by their bustle and activity give it the appearance of a great ant-hill. In Denmark no other money is to be seen than the money of the country, the currency of which is penally protected: I must except, however, Dutch ducats, which pass all over Europe, and are very seldom below par. There is here a *plentiful lack* of gold and silver coin, and abundance of copper.

Having seen most of the lions of Copenhagen, we prepared to bid adieu to our friends, and to shape our course towards Sweden: as a necessary preliminary we exchanged our Danish money for Swedish *small* notes: the exchange was

about three per cent. in our favour ; by this precaution we obviated the difficulty of procuring change for *large* Swedish notes in the country, and the inconvenience (and not a small one it is) of carrying its coin. We also procured a servant who spoke Swedish, which was very necessary, and purchased ropes and cross bars to enable us to construct a new harness and tackling in Sweden according to the custom of travelling there. When a man is about to set out on a long journey, it is a fortunate thing for him if some little pleasant or ridiculous event occur to set him off in good humour ; nothing therefore could happen more opportunely than the following circumstance : Just before our departure we had occasion to go to a leather breeches maker, to which we were conducted by our *lacquais de place* : our gentleman, who by the bye was an Italian, and the coolest of his countrymen, with the greatest *sang froid* addressed himself very familiarly to the Baron B——, the Bavarian minister, who was in the shop when we entered, and at last begged to have the honour of introducing him to us. We bowed to each other with a smile of astonishment at the intrepid assurance of our mutual friend. We took the road to Elsinour, attended by several of our Copenhagen friends, who begged to accompany us as far as Fredericksborg, where it was agreed that we should dine and part. Every thing in Denmark is very dear, pretty nearly as much so as in England.

CHAP. V.

FREDERICKSBORG—STORKS—FASTIDIOUS MARES—FOREST LAWS—
 PENALTIES OF TRAVELLING—PRINCE WILLIAM OF GLOUCESTER—
 CONTINENTAL EQUIPAGES—HAMLETS—ORCHARD—CRONBERG
 CASTLE—SOME AFFECTING SCENES WHICH PASSED THERE—THE
 FAREWELL KISS—THE GALLANTRY OF CAPTAIN MACBRIDE—THE
 LITTLE COURT OF ZELL—THE DEATH OF THE QUEEN MATILDA.

THE road from Copenhagen to Fredericksborg, distant about sixteen English miles, is very beautiful, and presents a luxuriant display of lakes, woods, corn-fields, and forests of beech, oak, and fir. Before we reached that town, we passed through a forest of wild horses, some of which we saw; they had a noble, rough appearance, and presented a fine study for such a pencil as Gilpin's. Whilst our dinner was preparing we visited the palace, a heavy and most incongruous massy pile of building, in which black marble contends with red brick, and the simple graces of the Grecian order, with all the minute fretted perplexities of the Gothic; the whole is covered with copper, and was built by Christian IV.: it stands in a lake, and seems to be fit only for the residence of frogs, and I believe,

with the exception of two old house-keepers, it has no other inmates. The Sal de Chevalier is a very long room, crowded with paintings, badly arranged, and perishing with damp and mildew: some of them seemed to deserve a better fate. The pillars which support the cornice of the fire-place in this room were once crowned with silver capitals, which the Swedes carried off in one of their irruptions. In the chapel we saw the throne upon which the kings of Denmark were formerly crowned: the roof is most superbly gilt and decorated, and the walls are covered with the arms of the knights of the first order. As we passed through one of the old galleries, over a moat, a gust of wind shook the crazy casement, and the great clock heavily struck its hour: it was altogether a place well suited for a second edition of the exploits of Sir Bertrand, or would form an appropriate academy for the spectre-loving pupils of the German school.

In the gloomy grounds of this palace we again saw our old friend the stork: this subject of his Danish Majesty generally quits his territories in October, and returns in Spring; and what is singular, he always returns to his own nest.

From this place we walked to the royal stud, about half a mile distant, (the road to which was exquisitely picturesque) where the king has two thousand fine horses, each of which is disfigured, by being marked with a large letter on one side of

the haunch, and the year of his birth on the other. There is here a beautiful and very rare breed of milk-white horses : they always herd together, and the mares will not permit the stallions of any other breed to approach them. I have been informed that there is a similar breed in the island of Ceylon. There is as much good nature as policy in the permission which his Danish Majesty grants to all the farmers, to have their mares covered by his finest stallions gratuitously : hence the fine breed of horses in Denmark, the keep of which happily for that noble animal, is the only cheap thing in the kingdom.

This part of the country is said to abound more in game than any other, but although the forest-laws prevail with all their rigour in Denmark Proper, except that the punishment of death is commuted into perpetual imprisonment, yet there is but little game, and but little increase in the breed of deer. It is a just retribution for the severity of the prohibition. After a glass of excellent Burgundy, which, as it was the signal of departure, seemed to lose half its flavour, we pressed our excellent friends by the hands, and proceeded on the road to Elsineur.

It is one of the penalties of travelling, and a painful one it is, to meet with here and there a being, who delights, attaches, and is gone for ever. It was even so with one from whom I parted on this very spot, in all human probability never more

to meet on this side the grave. He was a youth full of genius, accomplished, diffident, gentle, brave, and generous : he came from the region of mountains and cataracts, from the Swisserland of the north, where the winter snow is seen undisturbed to settle on the naked breast of the hardy and happy peasant. I must again borrow the language of my adored Shakespeare, to paint my noble young Norwegian :

“ His head unmellow’d, but his judgment ripe :
And, in a word (for far behind his worth
Come all the praises that I now bestow),
He was complete in feature and in mind,
With all good grace to grace a gentleman.”

My memory will long dwell with delight upon the name of Knudtzon.

Time would not admit of our seeing Fredericsvaark, which is near this place. The cannon-foundry and manufactories were established by General Claussen, who, by his skill and perseverance, has triumphed over the most formidable difficulties of local situation : the whole is at present under the superintendence of our ingenious countryman, Mr. English. It is said that this establishment can completely equip a fifty gun ship in two months, in all her guns, powder, and stores.

The country houses, many of which we passed, are generally

built of wood, painted red or light yellow: they seldom exceed two stories, frequently containing only a suite of ground floor apartments, and are far more comfortable within, than handsome without. Sometimes they are built of brick, when the frame and timbers are visible, and have a very unpleasant appearance. The gardens are in general formally laid out, and the garden door is remarkable for being formed of a frame covered with fine wire netting, through which the grounds behind appear as through a muslin veil, and the garden railing is almost invariably heavy and tasteless.

Through a forest of fine beech, the sun shining gloriously, and making the trunk of many a tree look like a pillar of gold, and illuminating the casement of many a romantic little cottage, we reached the palace of Fredensborg, or the Mansion of Peace: it stands in a valley, and was the retreat of the remorseless Juliana Maria, after the young Crown Prince had taken possession of the reins of government, which, having stained with blood, she vainly endeavoured to retain. Here in solitude she resigned her breath. No doubt her last moments were agonized by the compunctious visitings of conscience, for the wrongs which she had heaped upon the unfortunate Matilda, and her savage sacrifice of Struensee and Brandt. The grass was growing in the court, and upon the steps. The building is a large square front, surmounted with a dome, and

extensive crescent wings; the whole is of brick, stuccoed white. The window-shutters were closed, and the glass in several places broken; all looked dreary and desolate: after thundering at the door with a stick, we at length gained admittance. The apartments were handsome, and contained several good Flemish paintings. The domestic shewed us, with great exultation, the hall in which the Crown Prince entertained Prince William of Gloucester with a grand dinner about two years before. The Danes always mentioned this Prince with expressions of regard and admiration, that shewed how favourable were the impressions created by his amiable deportment and engaging manners during his visit to Denmark. The gardens and woods are very beautiful, but neglected, and gently slope down to the extensive lake of Esserom. As we roved along, the birds, with plaintive melodies, hailed the moist approach of evening, and our time just admitted of our visiting, which we did with real satisfaction, a vast number of statues, which are circularly ranged in an open space surrounded by shrubs, representing the various costumes of the Norwegian peasantry: some of them appeared to be admirably chiseled.

Upon returning to the carriage, the images of what I had just seen produced the following lines:

FREDENSBORG,

THE DESERTED PALACE OF THE LATE QUEEN DOWAGER JULIANA MARIA.

Blest are the steps of Virtue's queen !
Where'er she moves fresh roses bloom,
And when she droops, kind Nature pours
Her genuine tears in gentle show'rs,
That love to dew the willow green
That over-canopies her tomb.

But ah ! no willing mourner here
Attends to tell the tale of woe :
Why is yon statue prostrate thrown,
Why has the grass green'd o'er the stone,
Why 'gainst the spider'd casement drear
So sullen seems the wind to blow ?

*How mournful was the lonely bird,
Within yon dark neglected grove !
Say, was it fancy ? From its throat
Issu'd a strange and cheerless note ;
'Twas not so sad as grief I heard,
Nor yet so wildly sweet as love.*

In the deep gloom of yonder dell,
Ambition's blood-stain'd victims sighed :
While time beholds, without a tear,
Fell Desolation hovering near,
Whose angry blushes seem to tell,
Here Juliana shudd'ring died.

As we descended to Elsinour, the town, the Sound, enlivened by shipping at anchor and under sail, and the shores of Sweden, presented an enchanting prospect, which the brilliancy

of the sky at this season of the year, in these northern climates, enabled me to contemplate till midnight. The next morning, as I was quitting my hotel to take another ramble, the Governor of Copenhagen, Prince W., and his Princess and suite, who had been spending the preceding day at Elsinour, were setting off for the capital: they were all crammed into a shabby coach, drawn by six horses in rope harness. It is astonishing how little a handsome travelling equipage is understood upon the continent. The town, which is principally built of brick, is large, and has a very respectable appearance.

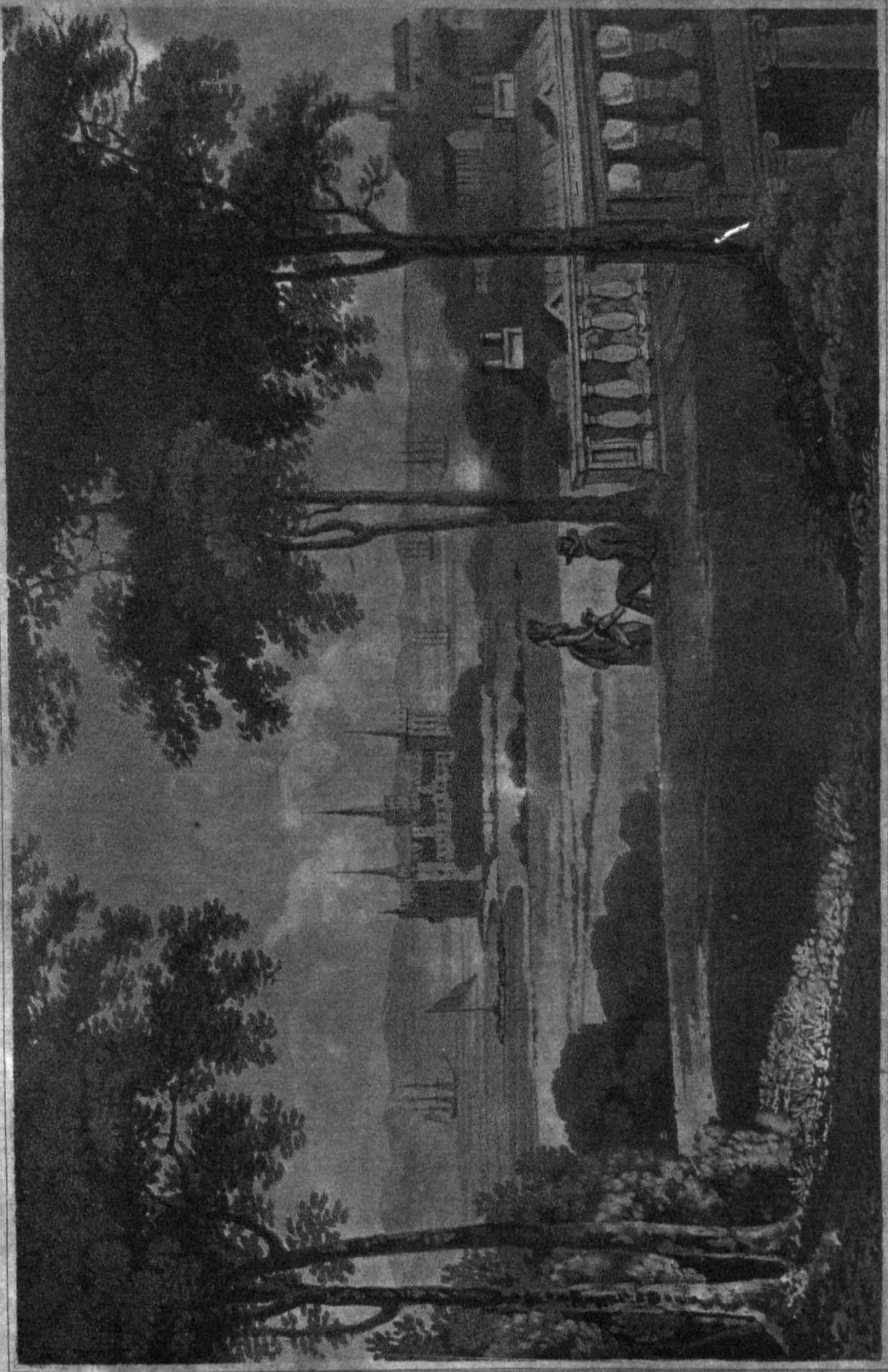
The gardens of Marie Lyst, or Maria's Delight, which are within half an English mile of Elsinour, cannot fail to prove very interesting to every admirer of our immortal Shakespeare. I here trod upon the very spot, where, with all the uncertainty of antiquity, tradition asserts that the Father of Hamlet was murdered: that affecting drama is doubly dear to me. Its beauties are above all eulogium; and I well remember, the desire of seeing a ghost occasioned its being the first I ever beheld. As I stood under the shade of a spreading beech, the "Majesty of buried Denmark" seemed to say to the afflicted prince:

————— *Sleeping within my orchard,*
My custom always in the afternoon,

Upon my secure hour thine uncle stole,
With juice of cursed heberon in a vial,
And in the porches of mine ears did pour
The leperous distilment——
Thus was I sleeping, by a brother's hand
Of life, of crown, of queen, at once dispatch'd.
Cut off, e'en in the blossoms of my sin,
Unhousell'd, unappointed, unancl'd,
No reckoning made, but sent to my account
With all my imperfections on my head.

A more beautiful spot for such a frightful conference could not have been selected. The walks from this celebrated scene, to the tower which overhangs the cliff, and from whence there is a fine view of Cronberg Castle, are enchanting. There is a little chateau near Hamlet's Orchard belonging to the Crown Prince, who permits one of his chamberlains, called a *kammerherr* (a nobleman) to reside here: the symbol of his distinction is a singular one; a golden key, fastened by a blue ribband to the back part of the body of his coat.

The spires of the fortress of Cronberg, which appeared immediately below me, and the battlements upon which the hapless Matilda was permitted to walk during her confinement in that castle, excited an irresistible wish to lay before my reader a few of the most affecting circumstances, which passed under its gloomy roof during her captivity.



Drawn by J. G. Kay

Engraved by W. H. Sturt

Cranbury Castle & Environs from Hawks Garden

It is well known what neglect and suffering the Queen, in the bloom of youth and beauty, endured, from the fatal imbecility of the King's mind, and the hatred and jealousy of Sophia Magdalen, the grandmother, and Juliana Maria, the step-mother, of his Majesty; and that the anger of the latter was increased by Matilda's producing a prince, an event which annihilated the hopes that Juliana cherished of seeing the elevation of her favourite son Prince Frederick, to the throne. The Queen, about this period, 1769, was saved from ruin, only by attaching to her confidence the Count Struensee, who, sagacious, penetrating, bold, enterprising, and handsome, without the pretensions of birth, had ascended to an unlimited power over the will of the sovereign, had obtained the reins of government, and had far advanced with almost unexampled celerity and unshaken firmness in reforming the mighty abuses which encumbered and distorted the finance, the laws, the administration of justice, the police, the marine, the army, and the exchequer, and in short every department of government. Struensee restored the Queen to the bosom of her sovereign, and with the assistance of Count Brandt, the friend of Struensee, environed the King, and made him inaccessible to every other person. His Majesty's great delight at this period arose from the society of a negro boy, and a little girl about ten years of age, who used to amuse him by breaking the windows of the palace, soiling and tearing the furniture, and throw-

ing dung and turf at the statues in the garden. Struensee experienced the usual fate of reformers, the abhorrence of those whom he corrected, and the suspicions or indifference of the people whom he served. He dislodged a nest of hornets: Juliana, with the keen unwearied vigilance of the tyger-cat, watched her victims from the gloomy shades of Fredensborg; where herself and her party, consisting of Counts Ranzau, Köller, and others, fixed on the 17th of January, 1772, to close the career of their hated rivals: their savage resolve was facilitated by the last fatal and infatuated measures of Struensee, who beheld too late the phrenzy of precipitate systems of reform: he prevailed upon the King to issue an edict empowering every creditor to arrest his debtor without reference to birth or rank; the nobility flew to their estates in all directions, with revenge in their hearts; he terrified and grievously offended the mild and rigid citizens of Copenhagen, by assimilating its police to that of Paris, and by disbanding the royal foot-guards, composed of Norwegians, for the purpose of drafting them into other regiments. His days, his hours, were now numbered: on the night of the 16th of January, a magnificent *bal paré* was given at the great palace, since, as I have related, burned. The young Queen never looked more lovely, she was the very soul of this scene of festive grandeur:

Grace was in every step, heaven in her eye.

It was the collected brilliancy of the expiring flame. At three

o'clock a dead silence reigned throughout the palace : the conspirators, with several guards, passed the bridge over the canal, and surrounded the avenues. Juliana, Prince Frederick, and Ranzau, went to the door of the King's apartment, which at first the fidelity of a page in waiting refused to unlock ; they terrified the monarch by their representations of an impending plot, and thrust into his hands for signature, the orders for seizing the Queen, Struensee, and Brandt. Upon seeing the name of Matilda upon the order, love and reason for a moment took possession of the King's mind, and he threw the paper from him, but upon being ardently pressed, he signed it, put his head upon his pillow, pulled the bed-cloaths over him, and in a short time forgot what he had done. Köller proceeded to Struensee's room, and being a powerful man, seized the latter by the throat, and with some assistance sent him and Brandt in a close carriage, strongly guarded, to the citadel. Ranzau and Colonel Eickstädt opened the door of the Queen's chamber, and awoke her from profound sleep to unexpected horror. These savage intruders are said upon her resisting to have struck her : the indecency and indignity of the scene can scarcely be imagined ; after the Queen had hurried on her cloaths, she was forced into a carriage, attended by a squadron of dragoons, and sent off to the fortress of Cronberg ; upon her arrival, she was supported to her bed-chamber, a cold, damp, stone room : upon observing

the bed she exclaimed, "Take me away ! take me away ! rest " is not for the miserable, there is no rest for me." After some violent convulsions of nature, tears came to her relief : " Thank " God," said the wretched Queen, " for this blessing, my enemies cannot rob me of it." Upon hearing the voice of her infant the Princess Louisa, who had been sent after her in another carriage, she pressed her to her bosom, kissed her with the most impassioned affection, and bathed her with tears. " Ah ! art thou here ?" said she, " poor unfortunate innocent ; this is indeed some balm to thy wretched mother." In the capital a scene of terror, tumult, and forced festivity followed : at twelve o'clock the next day, Juliana and her son paraded the King in his state coach, arrayed in his regalia, through the principal streets, but only here and there a solitary shout of joy was heard. For three days the imprisoned queen refused to take any food, and

" Three times she crossed the shade of sleepless night."

It is said that the King never once enquired for her, and now became the sole property of the infamous Juliana, who guarded her treasure with the eye of a basilisk. The court of Great Britain made a mild but firm communication upon the subject of the personal safety of the Queen : nine commissioners were appointed to examine the prisoners : the following were the principal charges against Struensee.

1. A horrid design against the life of his sacred Majesty.
2. An attempt to oblige the King to resign the crown.
3. A criminal connection with the Queen.
4. The improper manner in which he had educated the Prince Royal.
5. The great power and decisive influence he had acquired in the government of the state.
6. The manner in which he used this power and influence in the administration of affairs.

Amongst the charges preferred against the Count Brandt was the following ridiculous one :

“ While the King was playing in his *usual manner* with “ Count Brandt, the Count bit his Majesty’s finger.”

Four commissioners proceeded to examine the Queen, who, with the wretched Constance, might have exclaimed

——— Here I and Sorrow sit,
Here is my throne, let kings come bow to it.

Her answers were pointed, luminous and dignified : she denied most solemnly any criminal intercourse with Struensee. S——, a counsellor of state, abruptly informed the Queen, that Struensee had already signed a confession in the highest degree disgraceful to the honour and dignity of her Majesty. “ Impossible !” exclaimed the astonished Queen, “ Struensee never could make such a confession : and if he did, I here call

“heaven to witness, that what he said was false.” The artful S—— played off a master-piece of subtilty, which would have done honour to a demon: “Well then,” said he, “as your Majesty has protested against the truth of his confession, he deserves to die for having so traitorously defiled the sacred character of the Queen of Denmark.” This remark struck the wretched Princess senseless in her chair: after a terrible conflict between honour and humanity, pale and trembling, in a faltering voice she said, “And if I confess what Struensee has said to be true, may he hope for mercy?” which words she pronounced with the most affecting voice, and with all the captivations of youth, beauty, and majesty, in distress: S—— nodded, as if to assure her of Struensee’s safety upon those terms, and immediately drew up her confession to that effect, and presented it to her to sign; upon this her frame became agitated with the most violent emotions; she took up the pen and began to write her name, and proceeded as far as Carol—, when observing the malicious joy which sparkled in the eyes of S——, she became convinced that the whole was a base stratagem, and, throwing away the pen, exclaimed, “I am deceived, Struensee never accused me, I know him too well; he never could have been guilty of so great a crime.” She endeavoured to rise, but her strength failed her, she sunk down, fainted, and fell back into her chair. In this state, the barbarous and audacious S—— put the pen between her fingers, which he held and guided, and before the unfortunate Princess

could recover, the letters —*ina Matilda*, were added. The commissioners immediately departed, and left her alone : upon her recovering and finding them gone, she conjectured the full horror of her situation.

To afford some colouring to the mock trial which followed, the advocate Uhldal was appointed her defender : his speech on behalf of the Queen, was in the highest degree able, pathetic, and convincing. Uhldal discharged such duties, as in a few years afterwards devolved upon the eloquent Malsherbes, and with equal effect : the illustrious clients of both were prejudged : it was the show of justice, not to investigate, but to give a spurious *eclat* to their fate. How opposite was this tribunal to that which Sheridan, in a blaze of eloquence, apostrophized upon the trial of Warren Hastings, Esq. ! “ From such “ a base caricature of justice,” exclaimed the orator, “ I turn “ my eyes with horror. I turn them here to this dignified and “ high tribunal, where the Majesty of real Justice sits enthroned. Here I perceive her in her proper robes of truth “ and mercy, chaste and simple, accessible and patient, awful “ without severity, inquisitive without meanness, her loveliest “ attribute appears in stooping to raise the oppressed, and to “ bind up the wounds of the afflicted.”

~~The~~ and tribunal divorced the Queen, and separated her

for ever from the King, and proposed to blemish the birth of the Princess Louisa, by their decree, and reduce the little innocent to that orphanage "which springs not from the grave, "that falls not from the hand of Providence, or the stroke of "death;" but the cruel design was never executed. Uhldal also exerted all the powers of his eloquence for the two unfortunate Counts. Humanity revolts at their sentence, which the unhappy King, it is said, signed with thoughtless gaiety : they had been confined from the seventeenth of January, and on the twenty-eighth of March, at eleven o'clock, were drawn out to execution in two separate carriages, in a field near the east gate of the town : Brandt ascended the scaffold first, and displayed the most undaunted intrepidity. After his sentence was read, and his coat of arms torn, he calmly prayed a few minutes, and then spoke with great mildness to the people. Upon the executioner endeavouring to assist him in taking off his pelisse, he said, "Stand off, do not presume to touch me : " he then stretched out his hand, which, without shrinking from the blow, was struck off, and almost at the same moment his head was severed from his body. Struensee, during this bloody scene, stood at the bottom of the scaffold in trembling agony, and became so faint when his friend's blood gushed through the boards, and trickled down the steps, that he was obliged to be supported as he ascended them : here his courage wholly forsook him ; he several times drew back his hand, which was

dreadfully maimed before it was cut off, and at length he was obliged to be held down before the executioner could perform his last office. Copenhagen was unpeopled on the day of this savage sacrifice ; but although the feelings of the vast crowd which surrounded the scaffold, had been artfully wrought upon by Juliana and her partizans, they beheld the scene of butchery with horror, and retired to their homes in sullen silence. Nothing but the spirited conduct of our then ambassador, Sir Robert Keith, prevented the Queen from being immolated at the same time.

On the 27th of May, a squadron of two British frigates and a cutter, under the command of the gallant Captain Macbride, cast anchor off Helsingfors, and on the 30th every thing was finally arranged for the removal of the Queen : upon the barge being announced, she clasped her infant daughter to her breast, and shed upon her a shower of tears. The Queen then sunk into an apparent stupor ; upon recovering, she prepared to tear herself away, but the voice, the smiles, and endearing motions of the babe chained her to the spot ; at last, summoning up all her resolution, she once more took it to her arms, and in all the ardour and agony of distracted love, imprinted upon its lips the farewell kiss, and returning it to the attendant, exclaimed, “ Away ! away ! I now possess nothing here,” and was supported to the barge in a state of agony which baffles descrip-

tion. Upon the Queen approaching the frigate, the squadron saluted her as the sister of his Britannic Majesty, and when she came on board, Captain Macbride hoisted the Danish colours, and insisted upon the fortress of Cronberg saluting her as Queen of Denmark, which salute was returned with two guns less. The squadron then set sail for Stade, in the Hanoverian dominions, but, owing to contrary winds, was detained within sight of the castle the whole day, and in the early part of the following morning its spires were still faintly visible, and until they completely faded in the mist of distance, the Queen sat upon the deck, her eyes rivetted upon them, and her hands clasped in silent agony. Shall we follow the wretched Matilda a little farther? The path is solitary, very short, and at the end of it is her tomb. Upon her landing at Stade she proceeded to a little remote hunting seat upon the borders of the Elbe, where she remained a few months, until the castle of Zell, destined for her future residence, was prepared for her : she removed to it in the autumn ; here her little court was remarked for its elegance and accomplishments, for its bounty to the peasantry, and the cheerful serenity which reigned throughout. The Queen spent much of her time alone, and having obtained the portraits of her children from Denmark, she placed them in a retired apartment, and frequently addressed them in the most affecting manner as if present.

So passed away the time of this beautiful and accomplished exile, until the eleventh of May, 1775, when a rapid inflammatory fever put a period to her afflictions in the twenty-fourth year of her age. Her coffin is next to that of the dukes of Zell. Farewell poor Queen !

“ Ah ! while we sigh we sink, and are what we deplore.”

CHAP. VI.

CROSS THE SOUND—SWEDEN—CINDERELLA'S MICE—RAPID TRAVEL-
LING—STRANGE QUESTION—ROOF-GRAZING—MISLED BY THE
LIGHT—A DISCOVERY—A CAUTION—A FRENCH HOTEL.

THE traveller will do right to obtain letters of introduction to Mr. Fenwick, our consul at Elsineur : they will be the means of making him acquainted with an amiable and highly respectable family, whose manners, information, and hospitality, must afford gratification. In the evening we procured a boat, embarked ourselves and baggage, and, by the assistance of a gentle breeze that just curled the water, we crossed the Sound, about four English miles in breadth, and in three quarters of an hour found ourselves in Sweden. We passed close by Cronberg Castle, which stands upon a peninsular point the nearest to Sweden. I was again forcibly struck with the abbey-like appearance of this building : it now forms the residence of the Governor of Elsineur. It mounts three hundred and sixty-five pieces of cannon, and its subterranean apartments will hold more than a regiment of men. Fame, at one period, assigned to it the character of the impregnable and impassable fortress. On the celebrated second of April, Ad-

mirals Parker and Nelson passed it with perfect security, and disdained to return a shot. Two British seventy-fours judiciously moored, and well served, would, in a short time, blow all its boasted bastions and intrenchments at the moon. No visitor, without special permission from the governor (seldom granted), is allowed to put his foot upon the draw-bridge: why all this caution is used, I know not; perhaps to keep up the mystery of invincibility. For my part, I am so well assured that the policy of power is unostentatiously to shew itself, that could I have discharged a paper bullet from my little boat into this redoubted castle, I would have enclosed in it this sentence: "Where there is concealment there is apprehension." This place was open to every one, until the wand of Fatima was broken on the second of April. The Crown battery is a place of real force, and even Englishmen are permitted to see it without the least difficulty.

We disembarked under the steep and rocky shores of Helsingborg, a small town upon a long pier, where the carriage was landed with considerable risk and difficulty; and I warn those who travel with one, to take good care that they cross the Sound in calm weather, as it is obliged to be lifted out of the boat by mere manual strength. On landing, a Swedish hussar, a fine-looking fellow, in blue loose trowsers and jacket, with his two side-locks plaited, and fastened at the end by little

weights of lead, demanded very civilly our passports; and, whilst he went to the commander with them, we paid our robust boatmen in Danish money :

			Dollars	Marks	Skillings
For the boat	-	-	3	0	0
Carriage	-	-	2	0	0
Drink money	-	-	0	3	0

We now settled all our accounts with Denmark, and proceeded to a very neat little inn, not far from the shore, where we found comfortable accommodations, which I suppose are improved by the neighbourhood of Ramlos, where the nobility of this province assemble every season to drink the waters. Having refreshed ourselves with some excellent coffee, we hastened to the duties of the evening, which proved a very busy one, for we intended to start direct for Stockholm, at five o'clock in the morning, and our impatience cost our *pride* nothing less than figuring away a few days afterwards in the Stockholm Gazette as a couple of couriers just landed. The reader who never means to make a nearer approach to Sweden, than from his fire-side to his library, may as well pass over the following dull but necessary detail of money matters :

SWEDISH MONEY.

SILVER.

12 Runstycks make 1 skilling.

48 Skillings — 1 silver dollar or Banco dollar.

1 Silver dollar is worth at par five shillings English.

PAPER.

The notes of Government are in plotes, Ricksgalds, and Banco dollars.

A *plote* is equal to 16 skillings, or one third of a silver dollar, or 1*s.* 8*d.* English. This small paper is very useful to travellers.

A *Ricksgalds dollar* carries an agio of 50 per cent. so that one silver dollar is equal to one and a half of a Ricksgalds dollar.

A *Banco dollar* is worth at par 5*s.* English, the same as the silver dollar.

N. B. Banco money is both coin and paper.

To the Swedish collector of the customs we paid

			Drs.	Marks.	Sk.
For tax and wharfage	-	-	2	12	0
Porterage	-	-	1	12	0

We paid also a little sum to the custom-house officer for a slight search.

Whilst we were settling these little matters, a young fellow, from whose face the picture of honesty might have been penciled, with the additional recommendation of a military hat, cockade and feather, such as might belong to the rank of a serjeant, made a low bow, and an application, which will be more clearly understood when the reader is informed that in Sweden, the traveller who is not willing to wait an hour and a half for his horses at the end of a post, will take special care to dispatch some hours before he sets off, an *avante courier*, called a *vorbode*, who will proceed to the end of the journey for a mere trifle per mile Swedish, which is equal to six miles and three quarters English, and will order horses to be ready at the proper post houses, at the hours which are mentioned in his instructions.

The peasants are obliged by law, to furnish the adjoining post-houses with a certain number of horses, according to the value of their farms, and are under the controul of the post-master. The horses are obliged to remain twenty-four hours at the post-house : their owners are paid for their time and trouble, if a traveller arrives; if not, they lose both. This regulation must be oppressive to the peasant, and injurious to agriculture, and calls loudly for amelioration. The price of posting is twelve skillings, or eight pence English, for a horse, per Swedish mile. When the post-house happens to be

in a town the price is doubled. The object of our visitor was to state that he was going to Feltza, (a great part of the way to Stockholm) and if we would pay for the hire of a little cart and horse he would act as our vorbode, and carry some of the luggage : to these terms we soon acceded, and he retired to rest in order to start at two o'clock in the morning, which he did in a little carriage, somewhat of the size and shape of that which in London I have seen drawn by a large mastiff, and filled with dogs' meat. Our servant, who had been in Sweden before, and knew its characteristic honesty, entrusted him with his trunk, to which we added another. Our next care was to prepare our rope harness, as our tackling was to be entirely of a new construction, and to lay in provision for the journey, the most valuable part of which was some ribs of roasted mutton, cooked after our own fashion ; but lo ! and behold ! when we rose in the morning, our basket in which it had been most carefully deposited, had been rifled by some vile dog, and only a mangled and indented wreck remained. The unprovided traveller may vainly expect to find any thing which he can eat on the road ; even eggs in this part of the country are a rarity.

As I had it in contemplation to spend the winter at Venice or Rome, I was obliged with regret to proceed direct to Stockholm, instead of visiting Carlscrona, the celebrated Swedish arsenal, the town of which we understood was much improved

since its revival after the dreadful conflagration of 1790, and that the new docks, hewn out of rocks of granite, as far as they are advanced, are marvellous monuments of labour and enterprise. For the same reason also I was obliged to relinquish the gratification of seeing Gotheborg, the second city of Sweden, and the stupendous falls and works of Trolhætta. In these routes I am informed that provisions and accommodations are better. A lucky discovery made by our good-humoured host in his pantry, supplied the melancholy emptiness of our basket, with an admirable piece of cold stewed beef, and thus provided we commenced our journey. Our servant drove us, attended by two peasants, to whom the horses belonged; one of them was seated on the box, and the other stood behind the carriage, yet with such a weight our four little horses conveyed us with the most surprising velocity. The animals looked as if Cinderella's protective Genius had waved her wand over them, and had raised them from mice to the rank of tiny horses: they started in full gallop, and scarcely ever slackened their pace, until they had reached the end of their post. The peasants drive very skilfully, and it is not unusual to see a blooming damsel assume the reins. The roads, which are of rock, thinly covered with gravel and earth, are said to be, and I believe with truth, the finest in the world. We accomplished several stages at the rate of thirteen and even fourteen English miles an hour. At the end of each stage the

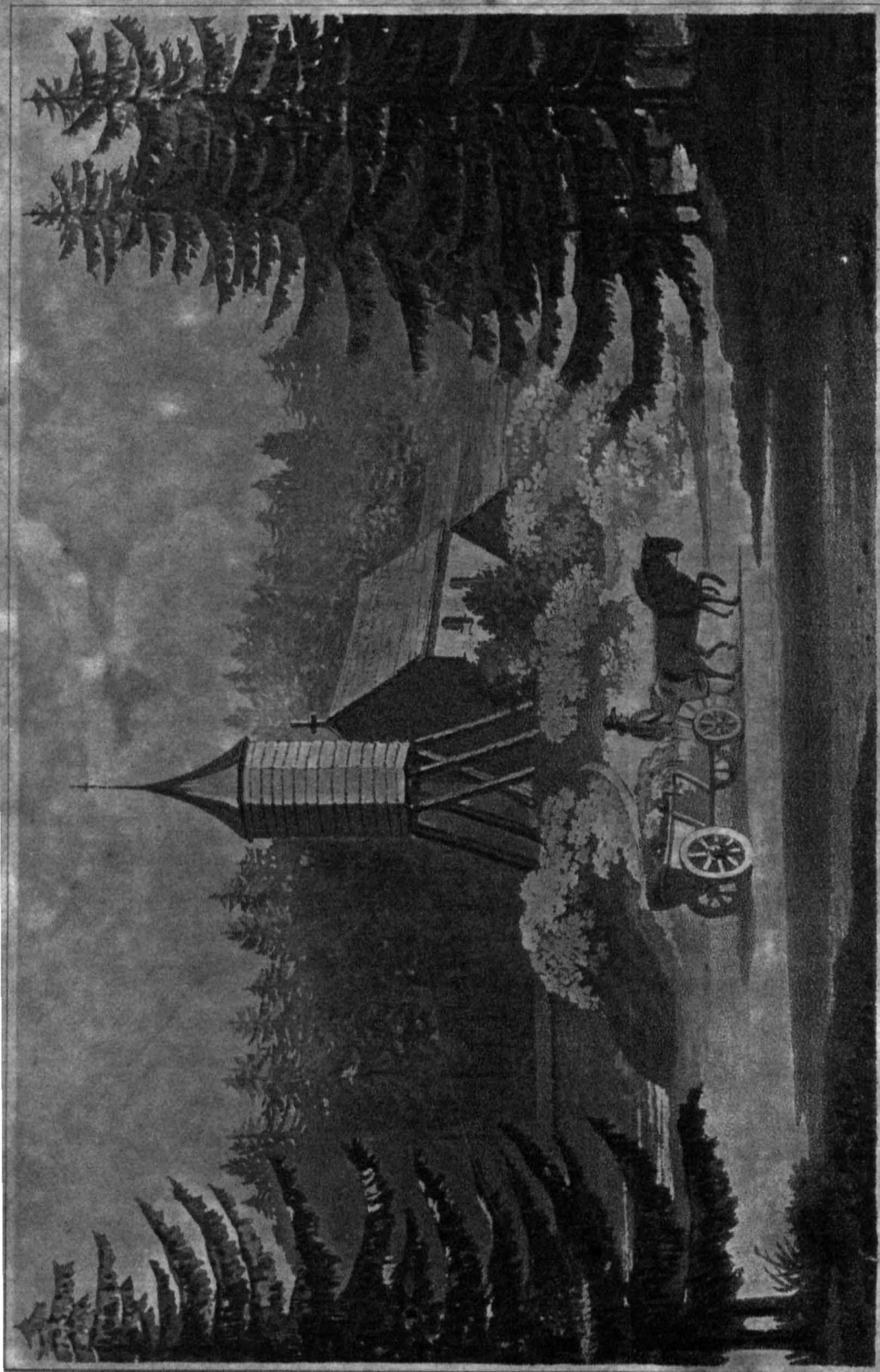
traveller is presented with a book called a dagbok, to enter his name, his age, whence he came, whither he is going, the number of horses, and whether he is satisfied with his postilion.

The spring here is scarcely perceived; and although it was the seventeenth of June, the morning air was very cold and nipping. Our road lay through Scone or Scania, said to be one of the finest provinces of Sweden. The nightingale has seldom been known to extend her northern visit beyond this province, and even here she but feebly pours "her amorous descant." Farther northward, only magpies, woodpeckers, crows, and birds of the rock, are to be found. We passed through forests of beech and fir; many of the latter were blasted, and had a very picturesque appearance. The first stage was sixteen English miles, during which the only animated creatures we saw, were a group of dancing goats, and a boy with a flageolet, going to the fair. Between Astrop and Lynngby is one of the most convenient ferries on which I ever floated: we drove upon it without any difficulty, and were immediately conveyed to the other side. At the first post-house where we stopped, my astonishment was not a little excited, by the peasants, whimsically enough as I then thought, asking us to tell them where their beloved king was.

The first day we dined at Orke Ginga under the porch of a little cottage: the scenery about us was very desolate and

dreary. As we skirted some of the lakes, which abound in Sweden, we saw the peasant women, half-knee deep in water, washing their linen : they looked hardy and happy. The architect must ever be governed by nature in the size, shape, and materials of his building. Sweden is one continued rock of granite, covered with fir : hence the cottages, which are only one story high, and many of the superior houses, are constructed of wood, the planks of which are let into each other in a layer of moss, and the outside is painted of a red colour ; the roof is formed with the bark of the birch, and covered with turf, which generally presents a bed of grass sufficiently high for the scythe of the mower. The floors of the rooms are strewn with the slips of young fir, which give them the appearance of litter and disorder, and the smell is far from being pleasant. Nothing can be more dreary than winding through the forests, which every now and then present to the weary eye little patches of cleared ground, where firs had been felled by fire, the stumps of which, to a considerable height, were left in the ground, and, at a distance, resembled so many large stones. Inexhaustible abundance of wood induces the peasant to think it labour lost to root them up, and they remain to augment the general dreariness of the scenery.

The population in both the provinces of Scania and Småland is very thinly diffused : except in the very few towns between Flensburg and Stockholm, the abode of man but rarely



Printed by J. J. Johnson

Designed by J. J. Johnson

A Swedish Village Church

refreshes the eye of the weary traveller. At dawn of day, and all day long, he moves in a forest, and at night he sleeps in one. The only birds we saw were woodpeckers. The peasantry are poorly housed and clad; yet, amidst such discouraging appearances, their cheek boasts the bloom of health and the smile of content. Their clothes and stockings are generally of light cloth; their hats raised in the crown, pointed at top, with large broad rim, and round their waist they frequently wear a leathern girdle, to which are fastened two knives in a leather case. The country in these provinces appeared to be very sterile; only small portions of its rocky surface were covered with a sprinkling of vegetable mould.

One day, wearied by the eternal repetition of firs, we were, without the least preparation, suddenly enlivened by the sounds of a military band, and an abrupt opening in the forest displayed, as by enchantment, an encampment of a fine regiment of the Lindkoping, or, as it is pronounced, Lindchipping infantry: their uniform, which is national, is blue faced with yellow. The instantaneous transition from the silence and gloom of woods, to the gaiety and bustle of the camp, was very pleasing.

At the next post from this sprightly spot, whilst we were changing horses, our servant was again addressed by a re-
peasant, who with a serious face, asked him, as he

was a foreigner, to be good enough to tell him in what part of the world his beloved king was. Heavens! thought I, how strange it is that these virtuous people, who are so much attached to their sovereign, should not know where he is; and how happy must that prince be who is enquired after with so much affection and solicitude!

We dined at Johnkopping, or, as the Swedes call it, Johanchippig: it is a well-built town of wooden houses, situated on the extremity of the lake Wattern, which is about one hundred English miles long. At dinner, here, and every where in Sweden, we found that the bread and cheese had in them an immense number of carroway seeds, by which they were not improved.

In our road to Grenna we passed by the base of vast impending rocks, and commanding a fine view of this lake, upon which we saw an island about twelve miles long. The Weller lake, which lies further to the north-west, has, I am informed, two hundred trading vessels upon its bosom, many of which are ships of considerable tonnage, and its shores are so wide, that ships are frequently out of sight of them.

I mentioned that sometimes the grass grew very high upon the houses; a singular instance of this occurred just before we reached Nordkoping, or Nordchipping. We saw a sheep

grazing upon the side of a smith's house, which was low; an adjoining pigstye had afforded the poor animal an easy ascent, and he appeared to enjoy himself as comfortably as if he had been in a rich well-watered meadow.

Nordkoping is in East Gothland, is a large and handsome town, and ranks next to the capital; but the appearance of so many houses covered with high grass, excites an impression of poverty and wretchedness which their interior immediately dispels. The principal beauty of this place is produced by the waters of the river Motala, which, at that part where the principal manufactories are, descends in broken masses with uncommon violence, and presents the appearance of a fine cascade. The town has a high mercantile character: its principal manufactories consist of brass, cloth, paper, and guns. We made a curious mistake here. On the evening of our arrival, after tea, as we strolled in the streets, we were surprised to find them so silent and apparently deserted, for we only saw very few persons who were slowly moving homewards: at length eleven distinct strokes of the church clock satisfied us that sleep had hushed the population of the town. At this time the light was equal to that of a fine day in London, which, united to our ignorance of the time, and to our having just drunk tea when we ought to have supped, produced our error. We were pressed the next day to spend it with a very respectable inhabitant; but were obliged to de-

cline his civilities, alledging that our horses were ordered. As the little compliment which he paid us is characteristic of the hospitable urbanity of the well-bred people of this country, I must be permitted to state that our amiable friend replied—
“ It is the first time that a Swede ever doubted an English-
“ man; but I must attend you to the inn to see if your rea-
“ son be a sincere one, that I may reclaim you if it is not; and
“ if it is, that I may see the last of you.”

As we ascended the hills which surround Nordkoping, the scenery below was highly picturesque and beautiful, and is said to resemble that of Swisserland, consisting of vast rocks, lakes, forests of fir, and scattered hamlets: This was by far the finest prospect which I beheld in Sweden. It is singular that Sweden should abound with lakes and rivers, whilst Denmark, an adjoining country, should be so destitute of both. Whilst our horses were changing at the next post, I walked forward, and was much enchanted with the romantic scenery which surrounded a neat little peasant's cottage. Out flew my sketch-book and my pencil, but the latter would do nothing but write verses.

A SWEDISH COTTAGE.

Here, far from all the pomp ambition seeks,
Much sought, but only whilst untasted prais'd;
Content and Innocence, with rosy cheeks,
Enjoy the simple shed their hands have rais'd.

On a grey rock it stands, whose fretted base
The distant cat'ract's murm'ring waters lave ;
Whilst o'er its grassy roof, with varying grace,
The slender branches of the white birch wave.

Behind the forest fir is heard to sigh,
On which the pensive ear delights to dwell ;
And, as the gazing stranger passes by,
The grazing goat looks up and rings his bell.

Oh ! in my native land, ere life's decline,
May such a spot, so wild, so sweet, be mine.

Fortunate would it be for the peasantry, as well as the traveller, if I could present this cottage as a representation of all the cottages in Sweden. In the interior of these abodes of simplicity, a stranger is struck with the pastoral appearance of lines of large round cakes of bread, made of rye and oats, as broad as a common plate, and about the thickness of a finger, with a hole in the middle, through which a string or stick is passed, and suspended from the ceilings: this bread is very hard, but sweet. The peasants bake only once, at most twice, in the year: in times of scarcity they add the bark of the birch well pounded, the hard consistency of which requires the jaws of a stone-eater to penetrate. The family presents a perpetual scene of industry in weaving coarse cloths, spinning thread, or carding flax. They drink a poor wretched beer; but, in most of their post-houses, a traveller is sure to find excellent coffee and sugar. Amongst the peasantry we saw several Swedish women with black crape veils: in the winter they

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afford protection to the eye against the glare of the snow; and, in the summer, against the fierce and sparkling reflection of the sun upon the rocks. We were surprised to find that almost the only currency of the country was paper. I never saw, although I understood the coin had been much improved, but one bit of silver, from our entering until we quitted Sweden.

Upon our arrival at Feltja, the last post to the capital, our *vorbode* took leave of us, and expressed very affectionately his regret that he could not proceed with our luggage further. We were much pleased with his civility on the road; for he halted every evening at the same inn with us, and started three or four hours before us every morning, to have our horses ready at the different posts, and indeed I never saw a more frank, honest looking fellow.

We entered the suburbs of Stockholm over a long floating bridge under a gate, and, at the custom-house which adjoins it, we underwent a rigorous examination, which we could neither mitigate by money nor persuasion: it was the delay only that we dreaded. The search, however, introduced us to a very interesting secret. Just as I had finished, in my careless way, sitting upon one of the trunks which had been strapped, a little eulogium in my memorandum book upon the simple fidelity of our young Swede, we discovered the

cause of his having so tenderly regretted that he could proceed no further with us than Feltja. His *vorbodeship* had, during his custody of our trunks, picked their locks, and made free with a great coat, nankeen breeches, some shirts and handkerchiefs; but what our poor servant, who partook of the loss, regretted most, although I never witnessed greater philosophy in grief, was a golden locket, given to him by some cherry-lip'd princess or another, to prevent the usual effects of time and distance on roving lovers. Some wanderers, like Voltaire's traveller, who observing that the host of the first inn he entered had carrotty locks, made a memorandum that all the men of that country were red haired, would, from this unexpected development, have protested against the honesty of all Sweden. Heavens! what a fool should I have been, had I permitted the felonious treachery of this fellow to make me think unworthily of a race of men through ages so justly renowned for their valour and their virtue: perhaps Sweden never enrolled this man amongst her children. The forbidden fruit too, was placed close to his lips, and all suspicion and vigilance withdrawn; and forlorn indeed would be the condition of society, if property had no other protection than an appeal to the virtues of mankind. Our misfortune, however, was a feather, compared to that which befel an English merchant on this very spot a few days before, who was proceeding to Petersburg; and, as it may operate as a servicable caution, I shall mention it. In his packages were some English bon-

nets, gloves, and shoes, presents to some beloved sisters: the rude talons of the law pounced upon the whole collection, and condemned their unfortunate bearer to the penalty of 130*l*. Having replaced our goods and chattels, we proceeded, passing through a suburban part of more than an English mile long, terribly paved with large unwieldy and unequal stones, and entered the city which promised us great gratification. We drove to the *Hotel Français*, so called perchance, because not a soul in the house could speak a word of French. Like Bottom's idea, in the *Midsummer Night's Dream*, "I will get Peter Quince to write a ballad of this dream: it shall be called *Bottom's Dream*, because it hath *no bottom*." After groping up a dark winding stone stair-case, we were, with much difficulty, shewn into a comfortable suite of apartments. It is surprising that the hotels in Stockholm are so few and so bad.

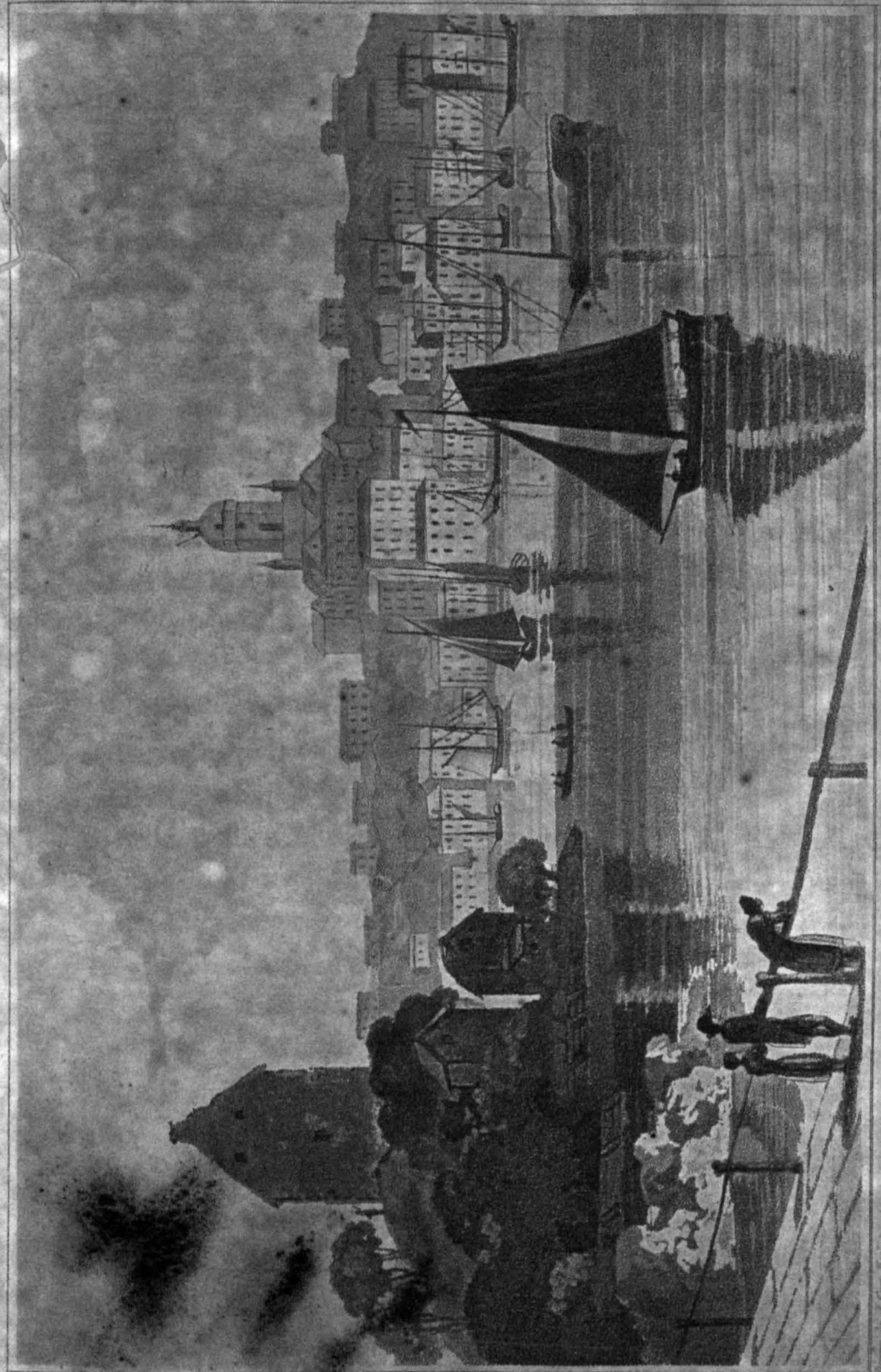
CHAP. VII.

NATIONAL WELCOME—BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF STOCKHOLM—A GREAT
 GENIUS IN DECLINE—PAINTING—SHORT SKETCH OF GUSTAVUS III.
 —FEMALE STRATAGEM—THE PALACE—THE STATE BED—THE
 OPERA HOUSE—ASSASSINATION—FORGIVENESS—A HINT NOT IN-
 TENDED TO OFFEND.

IN the morning our slumbers were gently dispelled by music, which “came o’er our ears like the sweet south.” According to the custom of the country several musicians, I believe belonging to the military band, serenaded us at our chamber door, with some exquisite soft national airs, which induced us to rise. After breakfast we ascended an eminence of rock called Mount Moses, in the south suburb, from whence we beheld in a bird’s eye view this singular and beautiful city, which appears to be a little larger than Bristol, is situated in 59° 20′, of northern latitude, and stands upon a small portion of two peninsulas and seven islands of grey granite, washed by a branch of the Baltic, the lake Mæler and the streams that flow from it. The palace, a large quadrangular building, uniting elegance to grandeur, rises from the centre of the city,

which it commands in all directions. It will be more particularly described afterwards. The merchants' houses, which are in the south suburb, run parallel with the spacious quay, and front the ships which are moored close to it, are lofty, and in a graceful style of Italian architecture. Most of the buildings, rising amphitheatrically one above another, are either stone or brick stuccoed, of a white or light yellow colour, and the roofs are covered with dark or light brown tiles, and presents with the surrounding scenery of scattered half-covered rock, thin forests of fir, the lake, and the windings of the Baltic, a most romantic and enchanting prospect. The streets are very badly paved.

The reputation of Sergell the statuary speedily attracted us to his house, where we beheld his beautiful Cupid and Psyche, which he has determined shall not be sold, until that event shall have happened which stops and sanctifies the works of genius. These figures display the finest conceptions of feeling, grace, and elegance, and heartily did I rejoice to find it in that country, which I trust will never permit it to be removed. In a temporary building, we had also the gratification of seeing the colossal pedestrian statue of the late Gustavus III. in bronze, which had just been cast, and was then polishing: it is a present from the citizens of Stockholm, and will cost 40,000*l.* and is intended to commemorate the victory, obtained by that illustrious prince over the Russians.



Engraved by J. M. W. Turner

St. Paul's Church

1790. The King, with a mild but intrepid countenance, which I was informed is a most faithful likeness of him, is represented holding a rudder in one hand, and extending an olive branch with the other: he is attired in the very graceful costume which he introduced, resembling that of the old Spanish, and the feet are sandaled. It is a noble work of art, and may, in all human probability, be considered as the last effort of its distinguished author: a pedestal of one solid block of porphyry is already raised near the palace to receive it upon the quay, which in that part is formed into a crescent.

Sergell, so long and so justly celebrated, is rapidly descending into the vale of years, and although honoured and enriched, a morbid melancholy, such as might arise from neglect and poverty, disrobes his graceful occupation of her attractions, and renders him disgusted with himself and with the world. It has been said, and very justly, that only extreme mental wretchedness can make a man indifferent to the applauses of his fellow-creatures: such is the forlorn case of the great but hapless Sergell; the friends of his youth have no charm for him, the admiration of his countrymen and of foreigners no exhilaration. Visible only to his workmen, and that reluctantly, the illustrious artist is sinking into the melancholy misanthrope; but when his hand shall no longer display its skill, taste will worship, and wealth will covet, the marble which it has touched, and time will enrol his name amongst the most favoured sons of Genius.

In painting, the two Martins, who are brothers, may be considered as reflecting considerable honour upon their country ; one of them, I believe the youngest, has painted and engraved a series of views of Stockholm with great fidelity and beauty.

In the academy of sculpture and painting, raised by Adolphus Frederick, are some fine casts, said to be the first impressions of the only moulds ever permitted to be taken from the antiques at Rome : they were given to Charles XI. by Louis XIV. There are also some casts from the bas-reliefs of Trajan's column. The children of tradesmen are gratuitously taught to draw in this institution, that their minds may be furnished with impressions of taste in those trades which are susceptible of them. All the pupils furnish their own crayons and paper : out of the funds of the academy, a certain number are sent into foreign countries to improve themselves. The funds, unaided, would be inadequate to the object, but the munificence of public spirited individuals, which throughout Sweden is very great, has hitherto supplied the deficiency.

The academy of sciences was founded in 1739, and consists of one hundred members and foreign associates. Their researches, reputed to possess considerable learning and ability, are published every three months in the Swedish language. The cabinet of natural history is enriched with several rare

collections, particularly with subjects which occurred in one of Captain Cook's circumnavigations, deposited in the academy by Mr. Sparmann.

Most of the living artists of Sweden owe their elevation and consequent fame to the protective hand of the late king, Gustavus III., a prince, who, to the energies and capacities of an illustrious warrior, united all the refined elegances of the most accomplished gentleman : his active spirit knew no repose ; at one time the world beheld him amidst the most formidable difficulties and dangers, leading his fleets to glory in the boisterous billows of the Baltic ; at another time it marked him amidst the ruins of Italy, collecting with a sagacious eye and profuse hand, the rich materials for ameliorating the taste and genius of his own country. What Frederic the Great was to Berlin, Gustavus the Third was to Stockholm : almost every object which embellishes this beautiful city arose from his patronage, frequently from his own designs, and will be durable monuments of that capacious and graceful mind, which, had not death arrested, would, in the profusion of its munificence, have impoverished the country which it adorned. This prince derived what hereditary talent he possessed from his mother Ulrica, who, by a capacious and highly cultivated mind, displayed that she was worthy of being the sister of Frederick the Great. Her marriage with Adolphus Frederick was the fruit

of her own unassisted address, which, as it has some novelty, I shall relate : The court and senate of Sweden sent an ambassador *incognito* to Berlin, to watch and report upon the characters and dispositions of Frederick's two unmarried sisters, Ulrica and Amelia, the former of whom had the reputation of being very haughty, crafty, satirical and capricious; and the Swedish court had already pretty nearly determined in favour of Amelia, who was remarkable for the attraction of her person and the sweetness of her mind. The mission of the ambassador was soon buzzed abroad, and Amelia was overwhelmed with misery, on account of her insuperable objection to renounce the tenets of Calvin for those of Luther : in this state of wretchedness she implored the assistance of her sister's counsels to prevent an union so repugnant to her happiness. The wary Ulrica advised her to assume the most insolent and repulsive deportment to every one, in the presence of the Swedish ambassador, which advice she followed, whilst Ulrica put on all those amiable qualities which her sister had provisionally laid aside : every one, ignorant of the cause, was astonished at the change ; the ambassador informed his court, that fame had completely mistaken the two sisters, and had actually reversed their reciprocal good and bad qualities. Ulrica was consequently preferred, and mounted the throne of Sweden, to the no little mortification of Amelia, who too late discovered the stratagem of her sister and her adviser.