

A traveller will find much gratification in occasionally dining at the merchants' club, to which strangers are introduced by subscribers; here we found the dinners excellent, and served up in a handsome style at a very moderate expence; the apartments are elegant, consisting of a noble dinner-room, an anti-room, a billiard-room, and a reading-room where the foreign papers are taken in. The view from the rooms over the Mæler, upon the rocky cliffs, crowned with straggling parts of the suburbs, is very beautiful. There is another club superior to this in style and expence, but as the rooms were under repair, its meetings were suspended. One afternoon, as I was quitting the merchants' club to go to the church of Ridderholm, the quay in that quarter presented an uncommonly crowded appearance of gaiety and vivacity; the little canal which runs under the bridge leading to the church was covered with boats filled with garlands and small poles wreathed with flowers; the old and the young, the lame and the vigorous, pressed eagerly forward to purchase these rural decorations, destined to honour the festival of St. John, which was to take place the following day.

The national religion of Sweden is Lutheran, but without jealousy it is pleased with seeing every man worship his God in his own way.

The palace is well worthy of notice: it is built of brick stuc-

coed, and stained of a light yellow, the four sides of which are visible to the different quarters of the city. This very elegant edifice was begun by Charles XI. and finished by Gustavus III.: it is composed of four stories, three large and one small; in the front are twenty-three noble windows; ten Doric columns support a like number of Ionic cariatides, surmounted by ten Corinthian pilasters; the roof is Italian. At either end of the grand entrance, which faces the north suburbs, is a bronze lion; the basement story is of granite, and the arch of the doors towards the quay are composed of rude masses of that rock; on this side there are parterres over two projecting galleries, and a garden; the chapel is very rich, and opposite to it is the hall for the meeting of the Estates, where the seats are amphitheatrically arranged, those of the nobles on the right of the throne, and those of the clergy, the bourgeois, and peasants on the left; there is a gallery round it, and the whole has a grand effect. As only the senators and their ladies have the privilege of entering the grand court in their carriage on court days, those who are not possessed of this rank are as much exposed in bad weather as the English ladies of fashion are when they pay their respects to their Majesties at St. James's, where many a fair one, enveloped in a mighty hoop, is frequently obliged to tack according to the wind. Not many years since, an erect stately duchess dowager, in endeavouring to reach her carriage, right in the wind's eye, was completely blown down.

I considered myself fortunate in seeing the King's museum immediately after the opening of several packages containing five hundred valuable paintings and antique statues from Italy, where they had been purchased about eleven years since, by Gustavus III., but owing to the French revolution and the wars which it engendered, were prevented from reaching the place of their destination before: they lay in great confusion, and some of them were much damaged. Amongst the antique statues were those of Cicero and Caracalla, wonderfully fine. The state rooms are on the third story, to which there is a most tedious ascent, under arcades of porphyry. Prince Charles's apartments, which are the first, are superb: his little drawing-room is well worthy of notice, the seats of which are in the form of a divan: at their back is a vast magnificent horizontal mirror, the frame of which is of yellow and purple-coloured glass, and was presented by the reigning Emperor of Russia. The Queen's apartments are elegant, but the windows are old fashioned, heavy, very large, high from the floor, and look into a quadrangular court; however, if they command no fine scenes in the summer, they are warmer in the winter, a better thing of the two in such a climate. There are several pretty little rooms, called cozing or chit-chat rooms; nothing could be more neat, snug, and comfortable, or better adapted for the enjoyments of unrestrained conversation. The King's apartments are very handsome, some of the rooms are adorned with beautiful Gobeline tapestry from Paris.

The chamber most interesting to us was that in which Gustavus III. expired. We saw the bed on which he lay, from the time that he was brought wounded to the palace from the masquerade at the opera-house, until he breathed his last. In this room it was that the dying prince personally examined his murderer Ankerstroem, when he confessed his guilt, and was immediately ordered to retire. The general circumstances of this melancholy catastrophe are well known; perhaps it may not be as generally so, that Ankerstroem preserved such resolute coolness at the time of the perpetration of the deed, that, in order to make sure of his mark, as the King, who was dressed in a loose domino, and without a mask, was reclining, a little oppressed by the heat, against one of the side scenes, *Ankerstroem placed his hands upon the back of the Sovereign*, who, upon feeling him, turned shortly round, when the regicide fired. The King, who thought that he was a victim to French machinations, as he fell, exclaimed, “My assassin is a Frenchman!” the consolation of the illustrious Duke d’Enghein was denied him. The hero, the friend, and the idol of Sweden, perished by the hands of a Swede. As soon as this outrage was known, the most eminent surgeons flew to his relief. The first words which the King uttered, were to request that they would give him their candid opinion, observing, with great serenity, that if he had only a few hours to live, he would employ them in arranging the affairs of the state, and those of his family; and that, in such an extremity,

it would be unavailing to augment his pains, and consume his time, in dressing his wound. The surgeon having examined it, assured his Majesty that it was not dangerous; in consequence of this opinion he permitted it to be dressed, and was conveyed to the palace. The next day an interesting and affecting scene took place; the Countess Fersen, the Count Bråhé, and the Baron de Geer, who had absented themselves for a long period from court, were the first to enquire after the health of the King, who requested them to enter the room where he was, and received them with the most touching goodness, expressing the cordial delight which he felt in seeing them thus forget their animosities in these memorable words: "My wound is not without a blessing, since it restores to me "my friends." He languished in great torment for eighteen days. It is generally supposed that the malignant spirit of politics had no influence in this horrible outrage, but that he fell the victim of private revenge and fanatical disappointment. Several young men, who thought themselves aggrieved by the neglect of their prince, were concerned in this conspiracy; but it was his dying request, which was observed, that only Ankerstroem should suffer death. Upon the tomb of this brave, eloquent, and magnanimous prince, should be engraved the beautiful and beneficent sentence that appears in the new form of government with which he presented the Swedes at the time of the memorable revolution. "I regard it as the greatest honour to be the first citizen amongst a free people."

It has been asserted, and I believe with truth, that his sensibility towards the female sex was far from being lively : he seldom cohabited with his Queen. Strange to tell, gifted with acute feelings, and a warm and brilliant imagination, this accomplished prince, descending from a race of beautiful women, displayed an example of almost monkish continence. But that love had not wholly renounced his heart, we may infer from an anecdote of a little picture, which adorns one of the apartments of the palace : it is a portrait of a lovely young woman, of whom the King became enamoured during his tour in Italy. Upon hearing of her death, he is said to have shed tears, and displayed all the impassioned indications of an afflicted lover. The royal library is very valuable, containing twenty thousand volumes, and four hundred manuscripts. Amongst the collection are some precious books, particularly one called the *Codex Aureus*, from the great number of gilt letters which it contains. There are also two enormous latin MSS., the vellum leaves of which are made of asses' skins, and are of an amazing size.

The Prince Royal, or heir apparent, a child between six and seven years of age, inhabited a part of this palace, which, instead of presenting the gay bustle of a court, bore all the appearance of neglect and desertion. The mysterious questions of the rustic were explained. The people of Sweden had not been gladdened with the presence of their young Sovereign

and his beautiful Queen, to whom they are devotedly and deservedly attached, for a long space of time, during which the court had been removed to the territory of the Prince of Baden, the father of the Queen of Sweden. The effect of such an absence was felt and deplored every where. No doubt the virtuous suggestions of his own heart will speedily restore the King to his people, and another traveller will have the gratification which was denied me, of seeing him in the bosom of his country, where a Prince always appears to the most advantage. The King is said to possess a very amiable mind, and to regard the memory of his illustrious father with enthusiastic adoration; I contemplated a powerful proof of it in an obelisk of one solid block of porphyry, forty feet high, which is at once a monument of his taste and piety. I should not be doing justice to the King, were I not to mention the abhorrence which he, in common with his subjects, has manifested at the cold-blooded outrage committed against the person of the devoted Duke d'Enghein.

The opera-house, built by Gustavus III., is an elegant square building: upon the architrave is inscribed, "*Patris Musis.*" The front is adorned with Corinthian columns and pilasters: the interior, which is small, and will not contain above nine hundred persons, is in the form of a broken ellipsis; and, even by day-light (for there was no performance during our stay), appeared to be superbly decorated. The

dresses and decorations of the performers, which solely belong to the crown, we were informed, are of great value; and in these respects the Swedish opera is said to surpass every other in Europe. The royal seats are in the pit. Swedish plays are performed here, many of which were composed by the accomplished Gustavus III., whose taste in that species of composition excited the literary jealousy of old Frederic the Great. It was an admirable policy, worthy of such a genius as Gustavus, to attach a nation to its own language, by making it that of the stage; the surest, because the most flattering mode of raising it to its utmost polish. The first Swedish opera ever performed, was *Thetis and Peleus*: the favourite national piece is *Gustavus Vasa*. Upon the death of Gustavus III., the opera lost much of its attraction. When it is considered that, in his time, a ballet occupied ninety personages of the light fantastic toe, and put into activity no less than eighty fancy-dress makers, it was necessary that the pruning-knife should be used, to curtail these luxuriant suckers of the state, the graceful, but too costly growth of a princely and munificent mind. In this building there are some very handsome apartments for the King's private parties. I had much to regret that no plays were performed here during my stay.

The female, who shewed me the building, was much affected when she pointed to the spot where Ankerstroem committed the bloody deed. Alas! how inscrutable are the ways

of Heaven ! When the illustrious victim raised this beautiful fabric from the ground, he little thought of the part which he was to perform in the sanguinary scene of the seventeenth of March, 1792, and that mimic sorrow was to yield to genuine woe. This structure, and the opposite palace of the Princess Sophia Albertina, the King's aunt, which is uniform with the former, form the sides of a handsome square called *la Place du Nord*, and is adorned in the centre with a fine equestrian statue, in bronze, of Gustavus Adolphus, who, excepting his head, which is crowned with laurel, is in complete armour, and in his right hand is an inclined truncheon : the horse has much animation, and the rider great elegance. This colossal statue was cast from the designs of Archeveque, a very distinguished French statuary, who dying before it was finished, left its completion to the masterly hand of Sergell : it was erected in 1790. The latter has introduced the figures of History pointing to an inscription on the pedestal, and of the Chancellor Oxenstiern. The pedestal, which is of granite, is decorated by medallions of the principal favourite generals of Gustavus Adolphus, viz. Torstenson, Baner, James de la Gardie, Horn, and Saxe Weimar ; all by Sergell. The unbounded friendship and confidence which existed between this great Prince and the upright Oxenstiern, form the theme of historic delight ; and the gentle counteraction of their mutual, and rather opposite, characters, rendered each the idol and the benefactor of his country. It is said that Gustavus having,

upon some affair of state, observed to Oxenstiern, that he was cold and phlegmatic, and that he checked him in his career, the Chancellor replied: "Sire, indeed I own that I am "cold; but unless I had occasionally tempered and moderated "your heat, you would have been burnt up long ago." Gustavus Adolphus never engaged in any battle, without first praying at the head of his troops; after which he used to thunder out, in a strong and energetic manner, a German hymn, in which he was joined by his whole army: the effect of thirty or forty thousand people thus singing together was wonderful and terrible. He used to say, that a man made a better soldier in proportion to his being a better christian, and there was no person so happy as those who died in the performance of their duty. Of the death of this great hero, it was said, "that "he died with his sword in his hand, the word of command "in his mouth, and with victory in his imagination." Only the complimentary part of the following witty epigram, which was made upon the equestrian statue of Louis XIII., which formerly stood in the *Place des Victoires* in Paris, with the four cardinal virtues standing round it, would apply to that of Gustavus Adolphus:

O le beau monument ! O le beau p  destal !
Les Vertues sont    pied, et le Vice    cheval.
Oh ! noble statue, noble p  destal !
Vice proudly rides, the Virtues are on foot.

In front of this statue, to the south, the eye with pleasure con-

templates an elegant stone bridge, not quite finished, crossing a rapid stream of the Mæler, at the end of which the palace displays a majestic and highly graceful back scene : this spot presents the finest architecture in the city.

The traveller will be gratified, by noticing the beautiful colonnade of solid porphyry which forms the entrance to the grand stair-case of the Princess Sophia Albertina's palace. A tasteful observer must regret that these exquisite columns are so much concealed. The streets of the Queen and of the Regency, in the north quarter, are by far the most handsome, and form the residence of fashion. The spire and church of Ridderholm, rising from the centre of the principal island, add to the romantic beauties of the surrounding scenery. The interior of this edifice, which is large and heavy, is only worthy of notice, on account of its containing the ashes of such illustrious personages as Gustavus Adolphus, and his equal in bravery, but neither in prudence or justice, Charles XII., who carried the system of daring to pretty nearly its utmost extent, and, in his end, verified the words of the great dramatist :

“ Glory is like a circle in the water
Which never ceaseth to enlarge itself,
Till, by broad spreading, it disperse to nought.”

The tomb of the latter is very simple and characteristic : it is of black marble, upon which are thrown a lion's skin and club,

in bright yellow bronze. In another part of the building are the ashes of a general much more entitled to the admiration of posterity, the illustrious John Baner, who was deservedly the favourite of the great Gustavus Adolphus, and who, after a series of splendid victories, expired on the tenth of May, 1641.

CHAP. VIII.

A VISIT IN THE COUNTRY—OBSERVATORY—DINNER AND FASHIONS
 —BLOOMING GIRLS OF DELECARLIA—DROTTHINGHOLM—QUEEN
 CHRISTINA'S CUNNING—WARDROBE OF CHARLES XII.—BEAUTY—
 CONCEALMENT AND PRUDERY—NATIONAL IMPORTANCE OF A
 BRITISH ADVOCATE—CONTRASTED JUSTICE—HAGA—CAUSE OF
 THE FRIENDSHIP OF GUSTAVUS III. FOR SIR SIDNEY SMITH—A SIN-
 GULAR ANECDOTE—A REVIEW—IRON MINES—LINNÆUS.

AN invitation into the country enabled us to contemplate a little of the rural character of the Swedes. In our way we passed by the observatory, which stands upon an inconsiderable eminence in the north suburbs: its horizon is too circumscribed on account of the rocks which surround it; and as the artificial heat of stoves would cloud the glasses in the winter nights, which are the best for observation, it is of very little utility. Our ride to our friends was occasionally very beautiful, but the funereal heads of our old acquaintances the firs were ever and anon presenting themselves, and shedding melancholy upon us. The chateau to which we were invited was of wood, small, but very tastefully fitted up: the grounds, which were very extensive, were delightfully laid out, and on one side rippled the waters of the Mæler, embellished

by vessels of various sizes gliding upon its tranquil bosom. A short time before dinner was announced, a table was set out with bread, cheese, butter, and liqueurs: all these good things in this hospitable region are considered as mere preparatives for the meal which is to follow; amongst the superior orders this custom is universal. Our dinner was in the following order: pickled fish, meats, soups, fish, pastry, ice, and dried fruits; preserved gooseberries formed the sauce of the mutton, and the fish floated in a new element of honey; by the bye it rather surprises a stranger to meet with so little sea-fish in a country which is washed by so many seas. The herring fishery, which has hitherto been of so much importance to Sweden, has nearly disappeared. To return to our dinner: each dish was carved and handed round, as in Denmark; a regulation truly delightful to one who abhors carving and carves badly.

The spirit of French fashion, but a little disciplined, reigns in Sweden, and gives a lightness and elegance to dress: the table, and the furniture, and even their manners, partake considerably of its gaiety, except that as soon as our amiable and elegant hostess arose, upon our rising at the same time, we stood solemnly gazing upon each other for half a minute, and then exchanged profound bows and curtsies; these being dispatched, each gentleman tripped off with a lady under his arm, to coffee in the drawing-room. Nothing else like formality occurred in the course of the day.

Just as we were quitting this spot of cordial hospitality, we were stopped by the appearance of two fine female peasants from the distant province of Delecarlia: their sisterhood partake very much of the erratic spirit and character of our Welch girls: they had travelled all the way on foot, to offer themselves as hay-makers; their food on the road was black bread and water, and their travelling wardrobe a solitary chemise, which, as cleanliness demanded, they washed in the passing brook, and dried on their healthy and hardy frame, which, however, was elegantly shaped; the glow of Hebe was upon their dimpled cheeks, not a little heightened by the sun, "which had made a golden set upon them;" their eyes were blue, large, sweet, and expressive; their dress was singular, composed of a jacket and short petticoat of various colours; and they were mounted upon wooden shoes with prodigious high heels, shod with iron. There was an air of neatness, innocence, delicacy, and good humour about them, which would have made even a bilious spectator happy to look upon them. Unextinguishable loyalty, great strength of body, content, and sweetness of temper, beauty of face, and symmetry of person, are said to be the characteristics of the Delecarlian mountaineers, a race rendered for ever celebrated in the history of one of the greatest men that ever adorned the historic page of Sweden, Gustavus Vasa. It is thus he describes them, after he has discovered himself to them in the mines, in the beau-

tiful language of the bard, whose dramatic genius has conspired to render his hero immortal :

————— here last I came,
And shut me from the sun, whose hateful beams
Serv'd but to shew the ruins of my country.
When here, my friends, 'twas here at length I found
What I had left to look for, gallant spirits,
In the rough form of untaught peasantry.
Yes, I will take these rustic sons of Liberty
In the first warmth and hurry of their souls ;
And should the tyrant then attempt our heights,
He comes upon his fate.

Led on by Gustavus Vasa, they restored liberty to their country, and expelled the bloody tyrant miscalled *Christian*. These, too, were the peasants who, having heard in the midst of their mines and forests that their sovereign Charles XII. was a prisoner in Turkey, dispatched a deputation to the Regency at Stockholm, and offered to go, at their own expence, to the number of twenty thousand men, to deliver their royal master out of the hands of his enemies. Their sovereigns have ever found them the incorruptible and enthusiastic supporters of the throne. Surrounded with treason and peril, their king has found them faithful amongst the faithless, and never sought their succour in vain. In consequence of the terrible defection which appeared in the Swedish army in the campaign of the year 1788 against the Russians, when, owing to the machinations of the Swedish traitor Sprengporten, who

was in the pay of the Empress Catherine, the Swedish officers, although confident of victory, refused to march, because Gustavus III. had commenced the war without consulting the estates, the King was compelled to retire to Stockholm, where the insolence and intrigues of the nobility threatened the reduction of his regal rights to the mere phantom of sovereignty. Menaced with revolt and assassination, this great prince, attended by a single domestic, in secrecy reached the mountains of Delecarlia, the *immoveable seat of Swedish loyalty*, where, with all that bold, affecting, and irresistible eloquence, for which he was so justly famed, upon the very rock on which, in elder times, their idol Gustavus Vasa had addressed them, he invoked them to rally round the throne, and preserve their Sovereign from the cabals of treason. At the sound of his voice they formed themselves into battalions, with electric celerity, and encreasing as they advanced, proceeded under the command of Baron Armfelt to Drottingholm, where they overawed the factious. At this very period, an unexpected disaster made fresh demands upon the inexhaustible resources of Gustavus's mind, which encreased with his emergencies. The Prince of Hesse, at the head of twelve thousand men, marched from Norway to Gottenborg, at the gates of which, at a late hour, the King, having surmounted great difficulties in his way through Wermlandia, presented himself, and the next morning surprized the Danish herald, by informing him in person from the ramparts, that sooner than surrender the

place, the garrison should be buried under its ruins, and accordingly ordered the bridge over the river Gothael to be burnt. It is well known, that the wise and active mediation of Mr. Elliott, our then minister at Copenhagen, prevailed upon the Prince of Hesse to retire. To return to the Delecarlians : the dress of the men is always of a grey or black coarse cloth, and, on account of the many services which they have rendered to government, and their proved patriotism, they enjoy the flattering and gracious privilege of taking the King's hand wherever they meet him : the pressure must ever be delightful to both parties. From the mountains of health and liberty, Gustavus III. selected the wet-nurse of the present King, that, with her milk, he might imbibe vigour and the love of his country. This woman was the wife of a Delecarlian peasant, lineally descended from the brave and honest Andrew Preston, who preserved Gustavus Vasa from the murderers who were sent in pursuit of him by Christian. The houses of the Delecarlian peasants are as simple as their owners are virtuous : they have but one hole in the roof, exposed to the south, which answers the double purpose of a window and a clock : their meals are regulated by the sun's rays upon a chest, placed beneath this hole on one side ; or upon the stove, with which all the Swedish houses are warmed, standing on the other.

We were much gratified with the palace of Drottingholm :

a pleasant drive of about ten miles brought us to the island on which it stands in the lake Mæler; the road to it lay through rocks covered with firs, and over two large floating bridges; the building is large but light, and is of brick stuccoed white; the hall and stair-case are in bad taste; their ornaments are white upon a dark brown ground, resembling sugar plumbs upon gingerbread. The state rooms are very rich and elegant, and an Englishman is much gratified to find in the library a very large and choice collection of English authors. There is a beautiful picture here of a weeping Ariadne, by Wertmüller, a Swedish artist, who, unfortunately for his country, has for ever left it, and settled in America.

Whenever I reflect upon a neglected artist of merit, a delightful little anecdote, which is related of Francis I. always occurs to me: that sovereign having received a picture of St. Michael from the hand of Raphael d'Urbino, which he much coveted, he remunerated Raphael far beyond what his modesty conceived he ought to receive: the generous artist, however, made him a present of a Holy Family, painted by himself, which the courteous monarch received, saying, that persons famous in the arts partake of the immortality of princes, and are upon a footing with them.

In this palace there is the head of a Persian Sybil, in mosaic, exquisitely beautiful, and two costly and elegant presents from

the late Empress Catharine II. of tables of lapis lazuli and Siberian agate. There are also some exquisite statues in alabaster and marble, and Etruscan vases, purchased in Italy by Gustavus III. during his southern tour. The Etruscan vases are very beautiful; but in tone of colour, classical richness, elegance and variety of shape, not equal to those which I had previously seen in England at Gillwell Lodge, the seat of William Chinnery, Esq., who unquestionably has the finest private collection of this kind in England, perhaps in Europe.

There is here a portrait of that eccentric personage, Queen Christina, who abdicated the throne of Sweden in 1660, and left to her successor, Charles X., the costly discovery that, amidst all her whimsical caprices, she had taken good care to clear most of the palaces of their rarest furniture previous to her retiring to Rome: picking out even the jewels of the crown before she resigned it. So completely had she secured every thing that was valuable, that Charles X. was obliged to borrow several necessary utensils for his coronation. This loss, for I suppose it must not be called a depredation, has been amply restored by the taste and munificence of Gustavus III. In the state sleeping-chamber, the royal banner of light blue and silver was fixed at the foot of the bed, and had a very chivalrous appearance. In the garden there is a theatre, which is large and handsome; but since the death of Gustavus III., who was much attached to this place, and made it the seat of

his brilliant festivities, it has been little used. In the gardens there is a range of small houses in the Chinese taste, but neither the former nor the latter are worthy of much notice.

After our return from Drottingholm we gained admission, but with much difficulty, to the arsenal. This depot of military triumphs is a brick-building, consisting of a ground floor, with lofty windows down to the ground, stands at the end of the King's gardens, the only mall of Stockholm, and has all the appearance of a large green-house. The artillery, which is planted before it, has the ridiculous effect of being placed there to defend the most precious of exotic trees within from all external enemies, who either move in air or pace the earth. The contents, alas ! are such fruits "as the tree of war bears," and well deserve the attention of the traveller and antiquary. Here is an immense collection of trophies and standards taken from the enemies of Sweden, and a long line of stuffed kings, in the actual armour which they wore, mounted upon wooden horses, painted to resemble, and as large as life, chronologically arranged. I was particularly struck with the clothes of Charles XII. which he wore when he was killed at the siege of Frederickshall, and very proudly put them on, viz. a long shabby blue frock of common cloth, with large flaps and brass buttons, a little greasy low cocked hat, a handsome pair of gloves, fit to have touched the delicate hands of the Countess of Koningsmarck, a pair of stiff high-heeled military boots,

perhaps it was one of those which he threatened to send to the senate at Stockholm, to which they were to apply for orders until his return, when they were impatient at his absence during his mad freaks in Turkey. As it is natural to think that great souls generally inhabit large bodies, my surprise was excited by finding that when I had completely buttoned the frock of this mighty madman upon my greyhound figure, my lungs gave sensible tokens of an unusual pressure from without. I must be indulged in giving the following extract from an account of this marvellous madcap, which was given by a person who had seen him, and who thus speaks of him : “ His coat is plain cloth, with ordinary brass buttons, the skirts “ pinned up behind and before, which shews his Majesty’s “ old leather waistcoat and breeches, which they tell me are “ sometimes so greasy that they may be fried. But when I “ saw him they were almost new ; for he had been a gallant “ a little before, and had been to see King Augustus’s Queen “ upon her return from Leipsic, and, to be fine, he put on “ those new leather breeches, spoke not above three words to “ her, but talked to a foolish dwarf she had about a quarter “ of an hour, and then left her. His hair is light brown, very “ greasy, and very short, *never combed but with his fingers.* “ At dinner he eats a piece of bread and butter, which he “ spreads with his thumbs.”

Think of all this as applied to “ the most powerful among

“ the kings that worship Jesus ; redresser of wrongs and injuries, and protector of right in the ports and republics of south and north ; *shining in majesty*, love of honour and glory, and of our sublime Porte—Charles, King of Sweden, “ whose enterprizes may God crown with success.”

The said blood-besprinkled gloves, and bullet-pierced hat, have furnished abundant and fatiguing sources of vague and violent disputation : pages, nay volumes, have been written, to ascertain whether the death of Charles was fair or foul : a fact to be found only in the records of Heaven, and of small import to be known here. Let the blow have been given from whatever hand it may, Sweden had good reason to bless it, and happy are those who live in times which furnish but little of such materials for the page of history as Charles supplied.

Though Charles was said to possess a great coldness of character, the following anecdote will shew that he was susceptible of flattery : Whilst the batteries of the citadel of Frederickshall were firing heavily at the enemy's trenches, a young woman who was looking at the King from an adjoining house, dropped her ring into the street : Charles observing her said, “ Madam, do the guns of this place always make such an uproar ? ” “ Only when we have such illustrious visitors as your majesty,” replied the girl. The King was much pleased, and ordered one of his soldiers to return the ring. This ex-

traordinary being must have sometimes excited the smiles, as he often did the tears of mankind. After the Turks, irritated by his refusal to depart, were obliged to burn his house over his head, and by main force send him to Bender, Charles XII. a fugitive, attended only by a few wretched followers, ruined, and his coffers completely exhausted, wrote to his envoy at the court of Louis XIV. to send him the exact ceremonials of that brilliant and magnificent court, that he might immediately adopt them.

Hurried away by kings, palaces, and statues, I have to my shame, (my cheek reddens whilst I write) staid thus long in Stockholm ere I noticed those, without whom a crown is unenviable, the most magnificent abode cheerless, and of whom the most graceful images of art are but imperfect imitations. The Swedish ladies are in general remarkably well shaped, *en bon point*, and have a fair transparent delicacy of complexion, yet though the favourites of bountiful nature, strange to relate, they are more disposed to conceal than display those charms, which in other countries, with every possible assistance, the fair possessor presents to the enraptured eye to the best advantage. A long gloomy black cloak covers the beautiful Swede when she walks, confounding all the distinctions of symmetry and deformity; and even her pretty feet, which are as neat and as well turned as those of a fine Frenchwoman, are seldom seen without the aid of a favouring

breeze. Even the sultry summer has no influence in withdrawing this melancholy drapery, but I am informed that it is less worn now than formerly: often have I wished that the silk-worm had refused his contribution towards this tantalizing concealment: occasionally the streets of Stockholm displayed some bewitching seceders from the abominable habit. This custom arises from the sumptuary laws which forbid the use of coloured silks.

The Swedish ladies are generally highly accomplished, and speak with fluency English, French, and German, and their tenderness and sensibility by no means partake of the severity of their northern latitude; yet they exhibit two striking characteristics of whimsical prudery: in passing the streets a Swedish lady never looks behind her, nor does she ever welcome the approach or cheer the departure of a visitor by permitting him to touch the cherry of her lips; the ardent admirer of beauty must be content to see that

Welcome ever smiles,
And farewell goes out sighing.

This chilling custom is somewhat singular, when it is considered that the salutation of kissing, even between man and man, hateful as it is to an untravelled Englishman, prevails almost in every part of the continent.

I was very desirous of attending the courts of justice, or as they are called the *kæmners-rätter*, of which there are four in Stockholin, but I found they were all close, and only the judges and parties and necessary officers permitted to enter. What a contrast to the unreserved openness with which the laws in England are administered ! By unfolding the gates of justice, and displaying her in all her awful majesty, her ordinances become widely promulgated, and the respect paid to her decrees augmented by the reverence which is excited by her presence ; her seat is not only the depository of the law, but of all descriptions of legislation, and is a school of eloquence in which the language of the country receives its highest polish. Of what national importance the powers of an illustrious advocate may become, let those say, who have witnessed the brilliant genius, exalted persuasion and profound knowledge of an Erskine, and can trace their consequences to a country which knows how to appreciate them. The laws of Sweden are considered to be simple, mild, clear, and just, and since the labours of Gustavus III. to render them so, have been impartially administered. In civil causes each party pays his own costs ; this must frequently be unjust ; but whilst Sweden, however, may learn something from the manner in which the laws are dispensed in England, she presents to our admiration a spirit which we should do well to imitate : the prosecutor sustains no share whatever of the expences of prosecuting a criminal.

In England there is a highly important society, first established by the celebrated Sir John Fielding, the objects of which are actively and ably conducted by its solicitor and secretary, S. S. Hunt, Esq. for prosecuting felons. These objects are to prevent the impunity which too frequently follows depredation, from the heavy *extra* expences which often attend the discovery, apprehension, and trial, of delinquents, by raising a yearly subscription fund to indemnify the suffering individual who prosecutes in the name of the Crown. How a foreigner who takes a keen and close peep at us, must be surprised to observe an institution, which, whilst it exhibits the patriotic spirit of individuals, reflects with not a little justified severity, upon the absence of a legislative provision, which is of so much consequence to the country. It may be said, that there are a certain description of these expences which a judge in his discretion may allow *upon application*. The natural pride of a respectable British subject, to whom such expences may prove an object, ought not, in the performance of a great public duty, in which the repose of the nation is concerned, and the King in consequence the avowed and recorded prosecutor, to be put to the blush by asking for it in *forma pauperis*. This most just indemnity ought to form a part of the law of the land. By another admirable provision Sweden is enabled to ascertain the state of her population every third year, and which is effected by the periodical returns from the clergymen and magistrates, of the births, deaths, marriages,

and the number of inhabitants that are living in their several districts, a measure highly worthy of adoption in England.

The laws of Sweden, the most novel to an Englishman, are those by which primogeniture is disrobed of those exclusive rights which attach to it in other countries : all the male children of a nobleman are equally noble, but to prevent the confusion of numbers, the eldest only, upon the decease of the father, represents the family at the Diet, and all inheritances are equally divided, but created property is subject to the will of the father.

The punishments in Sweden are beheading, hanging, whipping, and imprisonment : the three former are inflicted in the market-place ; the instrument of flagellation is a rod of tough birch twigs. There is a horrid custom in Sweden, as odious as our hanging malefactors in chains, of exposing the naked bodies of delinquents who have suffered death, extended by their limbs to trees until they rot. Two or three of these shocking objects occur in terrorem upon the road from Gotheberg to Stockholm, on account of its being a greater thoroughfare, and more robberies having been committed there. The criminal laws of Sweden may be considered as mild, and the punishment of death is rarely inflicted.

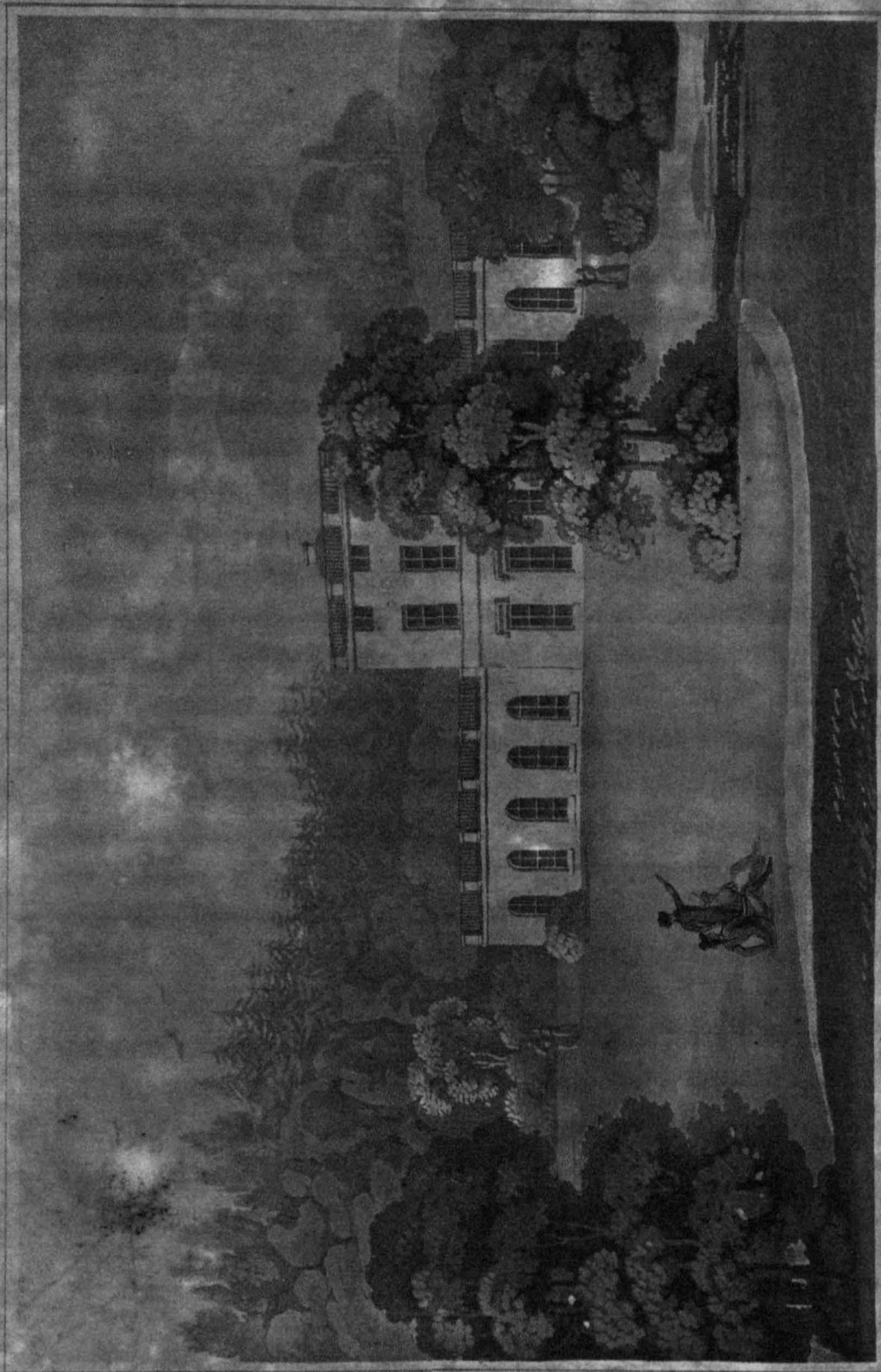
I was rather disappointed upon seeing the House of Nobles ;

it contains the hall and room which are reserved for that branch of the Diet, and which, as it is now convened at the will of the sovereign, may be considered as a mere phantom of power. If the authority of the states were any thing better than nominal, the country gentlemen would have some cause to complain, as they are wholly excluded from any legislative participation, this shadowy representation being confined, and it was even so when the Diet was in its plenitude of power, and held the Sovereign dependant, to the nobles, clergy, citizens, and peasants. The exterior of the building is simple but handsome. In the square before the House of Nobles is the pedestrian statue of Gustavus Vasa, by Meyer, erected by the nobles at a great expence, but in my humble opinion unworthy of the immortal man whose memory it is intended to perpetuate.

A delightful morning attracted me to Haga, which is at the short distance of a mile and a half English from the north gate of the city. As this little palace and gardens were built and disposed after the design of the graceful Gustavus III. with the assistance of Masrelier, and were the favourite retreat of the former, my gratification was certain. The approach to the villa is through a winding walk of luxuriant shrubs, the most flourishing and beautiful of any that I saw in the north: at a ~~very~~ distance there is a line of picturesque rocks,

crowned with firs; and at the bottom of a rich meadow, by the side of the Mæler, presenting a noble sheet of water, surrounded with forests of fir, stands the chateau, built of wood, and painted to resemble stone, containing a small front of three stories and two long gallery wings. The grounds and ornamental buildings reminded me of the *Petit Trianon* of the unfortunate Queen of France at Versailles. The rooms are small, but elegantly fitted up. Gustavus spent much of his time here; it is said that this spot was particularly endeared to him, on account of his having secretly consulted with his friends, in the recesses of the rocks which constitute one of the great beauties of the scenery, upon the revolution of 1772. This circumstance induced him, when he travelled, to assume the title of count Haga. Adjoining, upon an eminence, is the foundation of a vast palace, which Gustavus III. commenced in the year 1791, but which has never advanced since his death. The undertaking was too vast and expensive for the country, and is very judiciously laid aside by the reigning sovereign.

In the library I was gratified by seeing several drawings and architectural designs of its accomplished founder, which displayed much taste and genius. The friendship and confidence with which this prince honoured the heroic Sir Sidney Smith is well known; the King first conceived an attachment



Designed by J. C. Smith

Engraved by J. C. Smith

for him from the resemblance which he thought, and which he frequently was heard to observe, existed between the face of the hero of Acre and Charles XII.

As Sir Sidney is one of my favourite heroes, I will run the hazard of being blamed for deviating from my narrative a little, and for detaining the reader an extra moment to relate a singular prepossession he felt, when a youth, of his fame, and the theatre of his future glory, which has just occurred to my memory. Being sent, some years since, on shore upon the Irish coast with a brother officer, who is now holding a deservedly high situation in the service, to look for some deserters from their ship, after a long, fatiguing, and fruitless pursuit, they halted at a little inn to refresh themselves; having dined, Sir Sidney on a sudden became silent, and seemed lost in meditation: "My dirk for your thoughts," exclaimed his friend, gently tapping him on the shoulder; "what project, Sidney, has got possession of you now?" "My good fellow," replied the young warrior, his expressive countenance brightening as he spoke, "you will no doubt suppose me a little disordered in my mind, but I have been thinking that, before twelve years shall have rolled over my head, I shall make the British arms triumphant in Holy Land." We need not knock at the cabinet door of St. Cloud to know how splendidly this prediction was verified.

In the afternoon, after our return from Haga, we went on the Baltic to the park, situate on the east side of the city, three English miles distant, to see a review and sham fight of about four thousand troops, encamped there. The park is a place of great resort in fine weather, like our Hyde-park. Our water excursion was delightful. The manœuvres commenced at five o'clock in the evening, upon the arrival of the Prince Royal, a little sickly child about six years old, who on this occasion represented his father. He passed the line in an open carriage drawn by six horses, attended by some military officers and two pages of his household, followed by an escort of body guards. After the pages, who wore a Spanish costume, consisting of a jacket of stone-coloured cloth, with slashed sleeves and a short robe, had seated their little charge upon a rock, jutting out of a rising ground, the regiments were put in motion, and displayed a strong, martial, and well disciplined body of men. When the bloodless battle was concluded, the regiments passed in open order before the Prince, who with great docility held his little hat in his hand during the ceremony, then remounted his carriage and returned to his nursery. The costume of the two pages was the only relic, I met with, of the fantastic change which Gustavus III. produced in the dress of his subjects; the difficulty and danger of which, it is said, was artfully suggested by Catherine II. when he visited her at Petersburg, in order to induce his pride and spirit more ardently to attempt the change by

which she secretly hoped that he would disgust the Swedes, and thereby induce them to attempt the restoration of the fallen privileges of the states, overturned by the celebrated revolution, which he effected by his fortitude, consummate address, and eloquence. It was one of the distinguishing marks of the policy of the modern Semiramis of the north, to embroil her royal neighbours in perpetual conflict with each other, or with their own subjects. The Swedes were too loyal, too good tempered, and too wise to quarrel with their Prince, and such a Prince as Gustavus III. about the cut of a coat; but they reluctantly adopted a fashion which had no similitude in the north, and assimilated them in appearance with a people who bear no analogy to them but in national honour, the subjects of his Castilian Majesty. Before we left the camp, we presented a fine little peasant boy, who was playing near us, with some fruit; his mother sent him to thank us, which he did by kissing our hands: a token of gratitude all over the north.

The military force of Sweden is divided into regular or garrison regiments, and *national militia*: only the latter will require some explanation. The levies for this establishment are made from the lands belonging to the crown, the holders of which ~~contribute~~ contribute not only to the support of the troops, but of the clergy and civil officers. The estates are called *Hemmans*, and divided into *rottes*; each *rotte* is charged in a settled

proportion ; the most valuable with the support of cavalry, the others with that of infantry. The men, thus selected from the very heart of the peasantry, are almost always healthy, stout, and well proportioned. In war and in peace, the crown land-holders are compellable gratuitously to transport these levies and their baggage to their respective regiments, and to allot a cottage and barn, a small portion of ground, and to cultivate it during the absence of the soldier upon the service of government, for the support of his family, and also to supply him with a coarse suit of clothes, two pair of shoes, and a small yearly stipend. In peace, where the districts adjoin, the soldiers assemble by companies every Sunday after divine worship, to be exercised by their officers and serjeants. Before and after harvest, the regiment is drawn out and encamped in its district for three weeks. In every third or fourth year, encampments of several regiments together are formed in some province, which is generally the centre of many districts ; and, during the rest of their time, these *martial husbandmen*, who are enrolled for life, are permitted to work as labourers for the landholder, at the usual price of labour. Such is a brief abstract of the manner in which this great constitutional force, “ this cheap defence of nations,” is organised.

Upon our return from the review, we were much gratified with seeing the gun-boats from the Admiralty Isle manœuvre. These vessels are used upon the lake Mæler, amongst the

rocks, and on the coast of Finland; but are incapable of weathering high seas or strong winds: some of them are of forty-four oars, and carry twenty-four pounders in their bow.

Although it was the twenty-eighth of June, it was so chilly, that I began to give credit to a remark that the north has two winters, a *white* and a *green* one. We now prepared to make a little excursion to Upsala, and the mines of Danmora, distant about eighty-five English miles: for this expedition we hired a little light phaeton for one plote and sixteen skillings per day: this vehicle required only two horses, and was well adapted to the cross roads. The prevailing carriage, used by the respectable part of the inhabitants, is a gig, with a small seat behind for a servant, who at a distance appears to be holding by the queue of his master, and has altogether a very whimsical effect.

The traveller, whose time is not limited, would do well to visit the founderies of Sahlahutta, the silver mines of Sahlberg and of Herstenbotten; Afvestad, where the copper is refined; Norberg, remarkable for its very curious mineral productions; Fahlun, the capital of the heroic Dalecarlians, the famous silver mines of Kopparberg, the cataracts of Elfscarleby, Mr. Grill's anchor-forge at Suderfors; at all which places, as well as at Danmora, the natural treasure and phenomena of Sweden are displayed in the most interesting and sublime manner.

To secure admission to most of these places, it will be advisable to procure letters of introduction to the proprietors or inspectors. Pressed, as I have before stated myself to have been for time, my election fell upon the mines of Danmora, and a visit to Upsala.

The country through which we passed, with our accustomed celerity, was rather rich and picturesque, and in many parts abounded with corn fields; but as we approached Upsala, and afterwards Danmora, the scenery became bleak and dreary. The first evening we slept at Upsala, and very early the next morning proceeded to Danmora, where we arrived in time to hear the blowing of the rock, which commences every day at twelve o'clock precisely. As we were looking down the principal mouth of the mine, which presented a vast and frightful gulf, closing in impenetrable darkness, our ears were assailed by the deep-toned thunder of the explosion below, which rolled through the vast and gloomy caverns of this profound abyss in sounds the most awful and sublime: frequently large masses of rock are thrown out by the violence of the discharge. In these mighty excavations, the hand of man has toiled for three centuries. These mines produce a vast quantity of ore of a superior quality, much used in the British steel manufactories. Feeling an invincible disinclination to descend the principal pit in a bucket, we reached the bottom of another abyss, about four hundred feet deep, by crazy lad-

ders placed almost perpendicularly, a mode which was attended with much trouble and considerable peril: we found the bottom covered with indissoluble ice. Our curiosity was speedily satisfied, and we gladly regained the summit. Mark the force of habit! Two elderly miners stepped from the firm earth upon the rim of a bucket, which hung over this dizzy depth, and, holding the cord, descended; one singing, and the other taking snuff. The hydraulic machinery by which the mines are kept dry, move a chain of six thousand feet, which, after drawing the water from the mine, forces it through an aqueduct of five thousand feet: this mine is called the Peru of Sweden. From the mines we proceeded to Mr. Tanner's forges at Osterby, about one English mile off, where one thousand persons are employed:

——Bath'd in the laborious drop
Of painful industry.——

The ore, as it comes from the mine, is piled upon layers of fir, and partially melted: it is then pounded by vast hammers moved by water, afterwards liquefied in a furnace of charcoal, whence it runs into a long mould of sand, where, as soon as it hardens, it is drawn out and laid in piles in the open air. These enormous rough pieces are again melted, and beaten into bars for exportation.

See, pale and hollow-eyed, in his blue shirt,
Before the scorching furnace, reeking stands
The weary smith! a thundering water-wheel
Alternately uplifts his cumbrous pair
Of roaring bellows——

The town of Österby is small, but neat, and principally inhabited by persons who have concerns with the mines. At the inn, which is very pretty and romantic, we fared sumptuously upon strömlins and a cock of the woods, that had been preserved in butter; and, after a hearty repast, returned to Upsala. This town, which is an archiepiscopal see, and one of the most antient christian establishments in Sweden, stands in a vast plain, in which the general character of barrenness is occasionally relieved by some few corn-fields and partial spots of meadow. Some of the private dwellings and the colleges are handsome, and are generally stuccoed and stained of a yellow colour; but the majority of houses are composed of wood, painted red, and have behind them little gardens filled with apple and other fruit trees. The river Sala, which communicates with the Mæler, divides the town. I never saw the grass so high and so green upon the roofs of the houses as here.

Upon looking from my bed-room window at the inn, I could not distinguish several of them from the green hill on whose summit the antient palace stands. Upon entering the court gate of this edifice, which is of brick, and has at one angle a large round tower, with a copper cupola, a number of baggage carriages were preparing to follow the Duke of Sudermania (the King's uncle, and, during his minority, the Regent of Sweden), who had left the apartments which he has here the day before, to join his regiment.



This Prince possesses considerable talents: unfortunately there is at present a coolness between his Royal Highness and his august nephew. Part of the palace only remains, the rest having been consumed by fire. From the height upon which it stands, the site of the antient town of Upsala, formerly the capital of Sweden, and the residence of the high-priest of Oden, are discernible. Our time would not admit of our seeing the celebrated Morasteen, or stone of Mora, on which the antient sovereigns of Sweden were crowned; the last in 1512: it is preserved, with other curious stones, in a shed about seven miles from Upsala. Under a heap of rubbish, which formerly composed a part of the palace, we were informed are the remains of some state dungeons, in one of which the following affecting scene occurred:

In the year 1567, Eric IV., the most bloody tyrant ever seated upon the throne of Sweden, seized upon the illustrious family of the Stures, who were the objects of his jealousy, and, in a moment of anger, descended the dungeon in which Count Sture was confined, and stabbed him in the arm: the young captive fell upon his knees, implored his clemency, and drawing the dagger from the wound, kissed it, and presented it to his enraged and remorseless sovereign, who caused him to be immediately dispatched. It would form a fine subject for the pencil.

The cathedral is a prodigious unwieldy pile of brick, with

two square towers at the west end, in the gothic style, which have been recently decorated with a doric architrave, and surmounted by two cupolas of copper, supported by doric pillars of iron. In contemplating such a heterogeneous mixture of architecture, in a spot dedicated to the sciences, I could scarcely give credit to the evidence of my eyes; but the worst wine is always drunk in the vineyard. The present cathedral is erected upon the scite of the antient one, which was burnt down about one hundred and fifty years since. The interior is handsome, and is adorned with a magnificent organ, which was playing when we entered, and poured forth some of the most powerful tones I ever heard. As I was looking upon the ground, I found that I was standing upon the slab that covered the ashes of the immortal Linnæus, and his son, as appeared by the following simple and very inadequate inscription:

Ossa

CAROLI A LINNE

equitis ausati

marito optimo

filio unico

CAROLO A LINNE

patris successori

et

sibi

SARA ELIZABETA MORÆA.

The affectionate reverence of the pupils of this distinguished expounder of nature, and the powers of his celebrated friend, Sergell, have endeavoured to supply the humility of the preceding tribute, by raising, in a little recess, a monument of Swedish porphyry, supporting a large medallion of the head of the illustrious naturalist, which is said to be an admirable likeness of him; under it is the following plain inscription:

CAROLO A LINNE
Botanicorum
principi
Amici et discipuli,
1798.

Although this monument is more worthy of him, yet it is far below what a traveller would have expected to find in the northern seat of learning, and in the place which gave Linnæus birth. His spirit still seems to pervade and consecrate this celebrated spot. The traveller hears every remark enriched with the name of Linnæus. “There,” said a Swede, with a smile of national pride and an eye of delight, “is the
“house in which he lived, and there the garden and bower
“in which he studied; over these fields he used to fly, when
“the sun refreshed them with his earliest beam, attended by a
“numerous body of affectionate students, to explore the beau-
“ties, and unfold, with the eye of a subordinate Providence,

“ the secrets of nature; there, if in their rambles any one
“ discovered a curious plant or insect, the sound of a French-
“ horn collected the herborizing party, who assembled round
“ their chief, to listen to the wisdom that fell from his tongue.”

In a private chapel in this cathedral is the tomb of the glorious Gustavus Vasa, whose effigy is placed between that of his two wives, Catherine and Margaret; and in another, that of the Stures, whom I have before mentioned; the latin inscription upon this monument thus affectingly concludes: “ All that was noble and magnanimous could not soften the
“ iron heart of their sovereign! Reader, if thou art not as
“ unfeeling, lament the undeserved fate of such virtue.” In one of the recesses we saw a small recumbent statue of John III. which experienced a similar fate; the ship that was conveying it to Sweden from Italy, where it was made, sunk near Dantzic, and the statue remained under water for one hundred and fifty years, when it was fished up, and presented by the burghers of Dantzic to Eric, and was deposited in the old cathedral. Here repose also the remains of the celebrated chancellor Oxenstiern. It is surprising that neither this great man, nor Christian IV. of Denmark, the two great ornaments and benefactors of their countries, have any monuments raised to their memories.

The reader may be pleased with the following account

of the Chancellor from the pen of the eccentric Christina, queen of Sweden, who was placed, during her minority, under the guardianship of Oxenstiern. “ This extraordinary
“ man had amassed a great deal of learning, having been a
“ hard student in his youth : he read even in the midst of his
“ important occupations. He had a great knowledge of the
“ affairs, and of the interests of mankind : he knew the forte
“ and the foible of all the states of Europe : he was master
“ of great talents, a consummate prudence, a vast capacity,
“ and a noble soul : he was indefatigable : he possessed a
“ most incredible assiduity and application to business ; he
“ made it his pleasure and his only occupation : he was as
“ sober as any person could be, in a country and in an age
“ when that virtue was unknown. He was a sound sleeper,
“ and used to say, that nothing had either prevented his
“ sleeping, or awakened him out of his sleep, during the
“ whole course of his life, except the death of my father
“ Gustavus, and the loss of the battle of Nordingue. He
“ has often told me that, when he went to bed, he put off
“ his cares with his clothes, and let them both go to rest till
“ the next morning. In other respects, he was ambitious but
“ honest, incorruptible, and a little too slow and phlegmatic.”

As we proceeded to the College of Botany and its gardens, it was singular to see the professors of philosophy *booted*. Every thing in Sweden is performed in boots : as soon as a

child can walk he is booted ; perhaps the cheapness of leather may be the cause of this. The college was erected under the auspices of the late king, with his accustomed taste and magnificence. Monsieur Aftzelius, professor of chemistry, and who presides over the cabinet of mineralogies, attended us with great politeness. This gentleman has lately returned to Sweden from a very interesting, and perilous investigation of the natural history of the interior of Africa, and has enriched the department over which he ably presides, with several rare and precious objects, which he brought from that country. His mineral collection is much esteemed, but I confess my inability to describe it.

Amongst other matters, the conversation turned upon the authenticity of many of Mungo Parke's marvellous stories, upon which the Professor assured us, that he believed his relation to be perfectly true, and declared, that in that distant and unfrequented region he had himself met with many extraordinary objects and occurrences, which it required great courage to relate. I have, since my return to England, seen some beautiful drawings made upon the spot, descriptive of the manners, and particularly of the rural economy of the interior Africans, by a highly ingenious and enterprising artist, Samuel Daniell, Esq. which fully confirm the observation of the learned Professor, and might, from their concurring and convincing testimony, abate the force of his apprehensions. Upon

the subject of abolishing the slave-trade, the Professor made a remark, which, flowing from local knowledge and long intercourse, strongly impressed my mind : he deprecated any other than a gradual abolition, for which the minds of the negroes should be prepared ; and declared, in a very emphatic manner his perfect conviction that a *violent emancipation* would only shock and endanger this great cause of humanity.

Although unacquainted with botany, I was much gratified by seeing one of the rooms, in which there were some beautiful and flourishing date and plane trees, bedded in fine mould, and several rare plants from the South Sea islands, growing against a green treillage that ran on all sides of the apartment, which was formed into walks, and had a very agreeable effect.

Amongst the curiosities in this room, I did not fail to pay my respects to a venerable parrot, which we were assured had exceeded his hundredth year : he displayed the marks of great antiquity, part of his plumage was entirely gone, and there was a very visible appearance of feebleness both in his eyes and in his beak ; but he is still likely to see several years more roll over his tufted head. The warmth of the room affords the temperature of native climate to the plants ; it was gratifying to see art thus supporting nature in a bleak and hostile climate.

The hot-house, which is just finished, is a magnificent hall, supported by doric pillars, and which, when finished, will be warmed by fourteen stoves and nine flues, concealed in the columns. There were no plants here at this time. The room for the museum is also not yet completed, the design is excellent. The lecture-room is very capacious and handsome, and opens into that part of the garden which is finished and ready for the students, under a portico of pæstum columns. The plants in this garden are arranged agreeable to the plan and classification of Linnæus, and afford no doubt a rich mental banquet for the crude herbalist. The library of the university is not now thought deserving of the high reputation which was once affixed to it: it is divided into three apartments, the first is dedicated to belles-lettres, history, and natural history; the second is miscellaneous, and was presented to the university by the late King; and the third is confined to theology, jurisprudence, and medicine. This library has been augmented at various times by the literary collections of those countries which have bowed to the Swedish sword. The librarian, who had lived some years with Sir Joseph Banks in that capacity, shewed us a very precious manuscript of a Gothic translation of the four gospels, supposed to have been made in the fourth century, upon vellum, richly illuminated with large silver and some golden letters, which have been made by the brush: the former are faded, but the latter are in excellent preservation. This book formed a part of the lite-

rary pillage of Prague, in 1648, and was sent to Christina by Count Konigsmark; from that princess it was pillered by a Dutchman, upon whose death it was purchased for 250*l.* by some good patriotic Swede, and presented to the university.

We were shewn some curiosities, which, in justice to the university of Upsala, I must acknowledge that even those who displayed them were ashamed of, and were better calculated to augment the cabinet of some little, capricious, spoiled, princess, who was just capable of running alone, than that of a grave and learned body, viz. the slippers of the Virgin Mary, Judas's purse, &c.

In a small room in the library we saw a large chest, about the size of a bureau bedstead, doubled locked and sealed, containing the manuscripts of the late King, which he directed should not be opened till fifty years after his decease. Conjecture and expectation frequently hover over this case, which will, no doubt, one day unfold to Sweden much interesting memoir, and literary treasure. Here we were shewn some Icelandic manuscripts, said to be upwards of eight hundred years old, and several Lapland tracts. How wonderful, that literature should have lived, and even smiled, in regions which the sun rarely warms!

In one of the mineralogical collections, separate from that

of M. Aftzelius, we were much gratified by seeing some transparent agates containing flies, elastic sand-stones, incombustible purses of asbestos, a mineral found in the iron mines of Danemora, some beautiful chrystals and many other rarities, which were displayed and explained with the greatest perspicuity and urbanity. The students amount to about one thousand, lodge, and board themselves according to their finances and inclinations in the town: in general they wear a black gown without sleeves.

By an unaccountable mistake we omitted to bring with us some letters of introduction to the university, which were offered to us at Stockholm, but upon a professor, who happened to be in the cathedral at the same time with ourselves, observing that we were Englishmen, he, in the politest manner, enabled us to see what was most worthy of our attention. Our omission, and Professor Aftzelius's imperfect knowledge of the English language, produced a momentary embarrassment: "How *dare* you," said he, making a *low bow*, "come here without letters of introduction?" What he meant is obvious, from the politeness with which he received us. The Professor will not be angry, I am sure, and the following whimsical error will completely keep him in countenance; it was related by the brave and venerable Prince de Ligne, whom I had the pleasure of meeting at Mr. Jackson's, our ambassador at Berlin, of an Englishman who had been introduced to him, and

who was vehemently anxious to make himself master of the French language. It was the custom with this gentleman, for the purpose of restraining as much as possible the blunders which he was perpetually committing, always in conversation to speak each sentence in English first, and then to translate it into French. One day he called upon the Prince, who is a very active man, although far advanced in years, and finding him on his couch, and wishing to rally him on the occasion, thus began: "My prince, *Mon prince*—I am glad to see you, *je suis charmé de vous voir*—On your couch, *dans votre accouchement*—that is, instead of 'on your sofa,' 'in your lying in."

The revenues of this university, the first in the north of Europe, are rather narrow; fortunate would it be for this learned institution if it were more the fashion to commit the sons of gentlemen and noblemen to its care; nothing but such patronage is wanting to expand its energies, genius and learning having made this spot their favourite residence. The attentions that we received there, and which our own forgetfulness rendered *accidental*, have left a lasting impression upon my mind of the respect which is paid to Englishmen.

It is by quitting it that we are able best to appreciate the value of our country; every Englishman who leaves it from honourable motives, becomes a subordinate representative of

it, and ought to revolt at tarnishing a name which is every where honoured.

The population of Sweden, including Finland, is rapidly increasing ; it is at present ascertained to exceed three millions. The revenues of Sweden arise from the poll-tax, about one shilling and three pence each person, with certain exceptions ; royal demesnes, windows, horses, equipages, supernumerary servants, watches, tobacco, snuff, duties on exports and imports and distilled spirits, on mines and forges, part of the great tythes, deductions from salaries, pensions and places, and monopoly of salt-petre. The herring fishery is said to be much on the decline. We found every thing, except cloth, very cheap in Sweden.

CHAP. IX.

POOR POST-HORSES—LANGUAGE—MERRY CRIMINAL—PRISONS—
 PSALM-SINGING WATCHMEN—WASHERWOMEN—FRENCH COMEDY
 —PASSPORTS—INDECORUM OF A LITTLE DOG—SET SAIL FOR
 SWEDISH FINLAND—BEGGING ON A NEW ELEMENT—ISLANDS
 UPON ISLANDS—A MASSACRE—THE ARTS—ABO—FLIES—FORESTS
 ON FIRE—RUSSIA—FREDERICKSHAM—RUSSIAN COINS.

THE Swedish peasantry are certainly not so merciful to their horses as their neighbours the Danes : but provident and generous Nature, who, foreseeing the cruelty of man towards the poor ass, armed his sides with the toughest hide, made his temper patient, and taught him to feed contentedly upon the thistle, seems to have fortified the Swedish post-horse against hardships and neglect. I have frequently seen this poor animal, after he has brought us to the end of a long station, left to stand in the road, refreshed only now and then by some little bits of hard bread, broken from a circle which the driver generally wears slung over his shoulders. During this excursion, as well as on our first progress through the country, my ear was frequently delighted by the strong resemblance be-

tween, and even identity of the Swedish and English languages, as in the following words: god dag, good day; farvel, farewell; efter, after; go, go; vel, well; hott, hat; long, long; eta, eat; fisk, fish; peppar, pepper; salt, salt; vinn, wine; liten, little; tvo, two; go out, go out; streum, river; rod, red, &c. &c.

'The Swedish language, which is derived from the Gothic, has two different pronunciations; one in which every letter in a word is heard just as it is written, such as it is used in the various branches of oratory; the other, established by custom for common use, has many abbreviations, and, in many instances, I was informed by an intelligent Swede, deviates from the rules of grammar. The language is very sonorous: it places, as does the Danish, the article at the end of the nouns, as in the most antient languages, contrary to the English and German, as *the man*, der man; Swedish, *mannen*.

Some of the national songs are said to be very sweet, and to breathe the true spirit of poetry. Amongst their modern poets, they speak with great rapture of Dalin; and amongst their antient of Stiernhielm, who flourished in the reign of Gustavus Adolphus, and, wonderful to relate, was the greatest *mathematician* and *poet* of his age. Perhaps it was the life of that singular man that suggested that whimsical satirical poem, "the Loves of the Triangles."

The higher orders of the Swedes are highly cultivated, well informed, and accomplished. In consequence of every parish having a public school, almost every peasant can read, and many of the sons of the peasants are sent from these schools to the colleges at Upsala.

As I was strolling through the streets of Stockholm, just after our return from Upsala, I met with an occurrence which clearly established that an innate sentiment of submission to the laws will better ensure the safe custody of their violator than guards and gaolers; and it is admitted, that the Swedes are more under the influence of such an impulse than any other people. Turning a corner, I was overtaken by a raw flaxen-headed countryman, who, as it afterwards proved, had never been in the city before, driving, in a little country cart, a very robust merry looking fellow, whose hands were fastened by a large clumsy pair of handcuffs, and one leg chained to some little slips of wood which composed part of the body of the vehicle. Both driver and culprit had, it appeared, indulged themselves with a few snaps on the road, and were neither of them very sober nor sorrowful. The prisoner, who, from his superior size and strength, might, I am satisfied, have easily knocked down the rustic with the iron round his hands, if he had been so disposed, and effected his escape with little or no difficulty, sat at his ease, amusing himself with now and then pinching his conductor, which was always followed by a

joke, and a mutual hearty laugh. In this way they jogged on through the city, the thief shewing his driver the road to the gaol, as merrily as if he had been going to the house of festivity. I saw several prisoners passed from one town to another, under similar circumstances of apparent insecurity. They all appeared to be too unconcerned, if not cheerful, to be secured by the trammels of conscience, which is said to be sometimes capable of holding a ruffian by a hair.

Upon visiting the principal prison, the rooms appeared to me to be too small and close, were much too crowded with prisoners, and the healthy and the sick were confined together. The prisoners were not compelled to work as in Copenhagen, to which circumstance, and the preceding causes, their sallow looks may be attributable: they are permitted to take the air only for a short time in the court-yard twice in the day. I was shocked to see a bar of iron, as long and as thick as a great kitchen poker, rivetted to each man's leg, and which, to enable him to move, he was obliged to preserve in a horizontal position, by a cord fastened to the end of it, and suspended from his waist. To load a prisoner with irons of any other weight or shape than what are necessary for security, is a reflection upon the justice, humanity, and policy of the government that permits it. The women were confined in a separate division of the building: they were not ironed, but their cells were too close and crowded; and they were also permitted to live in

indolence. I must confess, when I reflected upon the enlightened benevolence of the Swedish nation, I was surprised to see how little this place appeared to have shared in its solicitude, and most cordially do I hope that the time is not distant, when these miserable wretches will be rendered more comfortable, and less burthensome to the state.

The watchmen of Stockholm, like their brethren of Copenhagen, cry the hour most lustily, and sing anthems almost all night, to the no little annoyance of foreigners who have been accustomed to confine their devotions to the day. These important personages of the night perambulate the town with a curious weapon like a pitch-fork, each side of the fork having a spring barb, used in securing a running thief by the leg. The use of it requires some skill and practice, and constitutes no inconsiderable part of the valuable art and mystery of thief-catching.

Before I quit this charming city, I cannot help paying a compliment to a deserving and meritorious part of its female inhabitants, I mean the washerwomen, which I am sure all lovers of clean linen will re-echo. It is refreshing to see them enter one's room with the greatest *propreté*, with their baskets filled with linen as white as the driven snows of Lapland, and lay it out upon the table with that look and movement of conscious, but decent pride, which every creature feels who has

reason to be in good humour with her own works : their bills are surprisingly moderate. Perhaps when the merits of these ladies are more widely known, luxury delighting in whatever is foreign, may seek their aid, and the winds of heaven may waft into Swedish harbours vessels freighted with *foul linen* from English shores.

We found the French comedy tolerably well attended : the interior of the theatre is small, and of an oblong shape, meanly decorated, and badly lighted : the royal-box is in the centre of the front, the whole of which it occupies. The performers were respectable, and receive very liberal encouragement from the public : the scenery was tolerable. The embellishments of this theatre suffer from the prodigal bounty which has been lavished upon the opera.

As the time fixed for our departure was rapidly advancing, to enable us to pass through Russia, we were obliged to furnish ourselves with a passport from the Governor of Stockholm, for which we paid eight rix-dollars and a half, and another passport from the Russian minister, resident at the Swedish court, which cost two rix-dollars ; and as it is attended with the least trouble and expence to cross the gulf of Bothnia to Abo, by proceeding from Stockholm up the Baltic, we hired half a packet, the other half being engaged, for fifteen rix-dollars. The distance from Stockholm to Abo is about three

hundred and fifteen English miles. The vessels, which are hired upon these occasions, are single-masted, and resemble a shallop with a raised deck, and a pink or sharp stern, which is much lower than the fore part, and is frequently under water : they cannot live long in rough weather.

On the day of our departure we dined with one of the most amiable and hospitable men in Stockholm. Few respectable Englishmen can pass through this capital, without knowing and consequently esteeming him ; I allude to M. Winnerquist the banker. From his house I once more ran up to the church of St. Catherine, at the top of Mount Moses, to take my last farewell of this enchanting city, which, warmed by a brilliant sun-tint, lay beautifully expanded below me.

Having laid in our provisions,—and let me recommend the traveller to secure a good quantity of bread, for none can be procured till he reaches Abo,—we proceeded to the quay, where our vessel lay in front of the palace : here, whilst I was waiting on shore the operation of hoisting the mainsail, a little trait of national character occurred, which did not fail to set me off in good humour. The walls of the casement story of the royal castle, and of the garden on this side, are of granite, vast, enormously thick and long, and cannot be taken by sap. A tradesman passed with a little dog trudging after him : the animal, it is to be presumed, had not had experience enough

to know that, in the north, the very stones which form the royal pile are held even penally sacred against defilement of every sort, for, irresistibly impelled, he raised one of his hinder feet against this said royal wall; a sentinel, who had a little whip in his hand, I suppose for this special purpose, sent this fourfooted disloyal violator of decorum howling, with many a backward look of reproach, after his master, whom he vehemently scolded, for not having taken care to prevent such disrespectful behaviour towards the seat of majesty.

At five o'clock in the evening of the sixth of July, with very little wind, we slowly withdrew from Stockholm. Before night we were completely becalmed; our captain rowed us up to a rock, and throwing out a gang board, tied the vessel to a fir-tree for the night. Here we landed, and ascended the rocks, which, sparingly clothed with grey moss, rose from the water's edge in the most grand, romantic, and picturesque disorder. Before us the rich crimson suffusion of the sun, just sunk behind a dark undulating line of fir forests, gave at once tranquillity and tone to the lake-appearance of this arm of the Baltic, which was enlivened by the white-lagging sails of a few boats, that on the opposite side softly and slowly crept through the deep shadows of the shores, crowned with the woods of Liston-cottage; whilst in the south, the tower of St. Catherine's, mounted upon her airy summit, the houses, the palace, and the spires, seemed composed of light

cloud and mist. The silence of this delicious repose of nature was only faintly broken by the dashing of the oar, and the carol of the distant boatmen; in the language of the divine Milton :

“ Now came still evening on, and twilight gray
 Had in her sober livery all things clad :
 Silence accompanied; for beast and bird,
 They to their grassy couch, these to their nests,
 Were slunk—————
 ————— now glowed the firmament
 With living saphirs.”

Seated upon a rock, we for a long time contemplated this exquisite scene, till at length the calls of sleep induced us to descend into our cabin, where our accommodations were very comfortable. With the sun, which was an early riser, we unmoored, and advanced but very slowly; as we proceeded, misery in a new shape presented itself. From a wretched hovel, upon one of the islands which began to appear in clusters, hanging over the edge of the water, and ready to drop into it, an old man in rags, and nearly blind, put off in a little crazy boat, and rowing towards us implored our charity in the most touching manner, and seemed very grateful for the trifle we gave him.

In the evening, having made but little way, the master again moored the vessel to another island for the night; as I

found was the custom, on account of the danger and difficulty of the navigation. This island was indeed a most enchanting scene; upon its romantic summit of grey rock we found a little cottage, embowered in trees of fir, ash, and elder, that might well be called "*the peasant's nest.*" A fisherman, his aged mother, his wife and his children, formed the population of this beautiful spot. A little field of grass, in which a cow was grazing, another of corn, a garden, and the waters of the Baltic, which again resembled a lake, supplied them with all their wants, and all their riches. Here it seemed as if the heart could no longer ache, as if ambition might wish to be what he beheld, and that love might ponder on the past without a pang. The inside of the cottage was neat and cheerful; the good old lady, with the children in their shirts playing round her, sat knitting by the light of a sprightly fire, and under locks of snow presented a face at peace with all the world. Upon hearing that we wished to have some supper, the fisherman, with a countenance of health and gaiety, descended into a little creek, where his boats were moored, for some perch, confined in a wicker well in the water, whilst his young wife, who had a pair of very sweet expressive eyes, laid the cloth in a detached room facing the cottage. Whilst supper was preparing I rambled over this little paradise. Night came on, and all the beauties of the preceding evening, with some variety of new forms, returned; the same bright bespangled heaven!

the same serenity; the same silence! yielding only to the unceasing rippling of a little stream of rock water, to which, as it gushed from a bed of long moss, and as our fair hostess presented her pitcher, thriftily fenced with wicker, might be applied the beautiful inscription of Bosquillon, on the fountain in the street of Notre Dame des Victoires in Paris:

“ La nymphe qui donne de cette eau
Au plus creux de rocher se cache :
Suivez un exemple si beau ;
Donnez sans vouloir qu'on le sache.”

Or thus in English :

“ Prompt to relieve, tho' *viewless* wrapp'd in stone,
The nymph of waters pours her generous stream :
Go, gentle reader, do as she has done ;
See while you bless, but *blessing be unseen*.”

J. C.

It was just such a spot as the poetical spirit of Cowper would have coveted: his eye would have penetrated, and his pen could alone have painted every beauty.

On the third day of this voyage of islands, we touched at another, and procured a noble pike, fresh from the net, and some eggs. Our skipper very ingeniously kindled a fire and cooked it in his little canoe, which was towing astern, by placing upon the bottom of it a large stone, upon which he

set fire to some chips and pieces of fir, and suspended over it, from an oar laid across the sides of the boat, an iron pot containing the fish; our eggs formed the sauce, and with a broken saucer for a plate, we made an excellent Robinson Crusoe repast.

One morning as I was looking over the deck from the stern, I beheld an operation somewhat ridiculous; but as it originated in rude notions of cleanliness, and moreover is one of the domestic customs of the country, I shall relate it. Our skipper was lying at the feet of a good-natured brawny girl, who was a passenger; his head was on her lap, just as Goliath some time since rested his in that of Delilah; but the fingers of our fair companion were more kindly employed than were those of the woman of the valley of Sorek: the skipper had no comb, perhaps never heard of such a thing, and this kind-hearted creature was sedulously consigning with a humane, because an instantaneous destruction of sensation in every vital part by an equal and forcible pressure, every restless disturber of his peace in that region, which most assuredly must be, though doctors may dispute the point, the seat of reason; the cabin-boy succeeded his master, and in return, with the keen eye and nimble finger of a monkey, gratefully repaid the obligation upon the head of his benefactress. In Italy, these engaging *little offices of kindness* constitute the principal delights of courtship.

The islands, after we had passed Aland, and as we approached the Gulf, ceased to present any picturesque object; they appeared but a little above the water, and were scantily covered with slender weak firs, whose naked branches were whitened over with hoary moss, and at length, from their number and similarity, became very tedious, and as dull as the melancholy forests through which our road lay on shore.

In the midst of the heavy *ennui* inseparable from such a situation, by good fortune upon rummaging my portmantua I found a catalogue of the year's exhibition; with this precious prize in my hand, I jumped into the little canoe astern, and defied the gloom of the rocks and firs; with fresh vigour my memory revisited that splendid gallery of the British arts. The genius of West, of Westall, and of Smirke, in history; of the Daniells, and of Turner, in landscape; and Lawrence, in portrait painting, again filled my mind with the proudest sensations of delight. During these meditations I had prevailed upon the president and council to confine the admission of portraits to a certain number, that the public eye might no longer be confused and disgusted by a *mob of faces*, in which nature had done nothing for the originals, or the painter but little for nature. With a thrifty use of my treasure, it lasted till the tenth, when, as I was gazing in my mind's eye, with silent rapture, upon the bust of the lovely Lady

Ribblesdale, by Bacon, the fairy fabric of my reveries was in a moment destroyed by a cry of "there is Abo, there is Abo."

About two English miles before we reached the town, we entered a very narrow channel, not above forty feet wide, which was marked out by piles, not wide enough to admit of large vessels, which are obliged to moor a little before the entrance of it. On the left we passed by the castle, built of brick stuccoed: it is very antient, and has a very picturesque appearance, and was once the prison of the bloody Eric IV. but is now a garrison. A little further on the same side is the house of the gallant Admiral Steddynk, who in the last reign displayed distinguished skill and bravery in several engagements with the Russians, and who has the command of the gun-boats, which are ranged in a long line of boat-houses near his residence. It is a matter worthy of observation, particularly at this period, that the gun-boats used in the naval conflicts between Russia and Sweden with so much effect, originally suggested to France the idea of using them against this country. In the seven years war they were recommended to the Duc de Choiseul, the minister of Louis XV. by Captain Kergvagin, of the Swedish navy, and in the late revolution by Captain Muskein, who was also a lieutenant in the same service: this small craft is

capable of acting in the Baltic, where no tides ever interfere with manœuvres; but it has excited astonishment, not only in Sweden but in every other part of the Continent which I visited (and I mention it with more shame than reluctance, because with the millions of England, I believed at the time in the romantic practicability of the long, very long threatened, invasion), that any reflecting Englishman could believe in the possibility of a flotilla of gun-boats crossing such an expanse of water as divides the Isle of Wight from Boulogne, subject to the tides, currents, and winds, which are with more or less certainty felt there, omitting the proud and confident reflections which our gallant cruisers and channel fleet naturally suggest. We well know, that in the year 1791 Muskein, without having much to dread from the natural difficulties before enumerated, on account of the shortness of the distance, attacked that dot in the channel, the island of St. Marcou, with fifty of his redoubted gun-boats; that the battery of the little wave-girt fortress blew her rash and presuming enemies to atoms; and that their commander with difficulty escaped only to be disgraced by the Directory. In mere patriotic ardour and enthusiasm, independent of tides, currents, winds, cruisers, and fleets, the French, if they reflect at all, will regard St. Marcon as a miniature of a greater island.

Beyond the boat-houses is the custom-house, from whence an officer came on board, and proceeded up the river with

us to the town, which, with the cathedral, now presented the appearance of a large and populous city. We soon reached the quay, and very gladly landed in the capital of Swedish Finland.

In our inn yard I beheld the first indication of our being in the neighbourhood of Russia, in a clumsy kibitka, the ordinary carriage of that country, and which was here exposed for sale. It is a small cart, very much resembling a cradle, round at the bottom, about five feet long, and in which two persons can sit or lie, the latter is the usual posture, and who are protected from the weather by a semicircular tilt, open in front, made of broad laths interwoven, and covered with birch or beech bark; it has no iron in it, but is fastened to the body of the carriage without springs, by wooden pins and ropes: the driver sits upon the front of it, close to the horses' tails. At dinner we had some delicious wild strawberries, the first fruit that we had tasted for the year.

Abo is situated upon a point of land where the gulfs of Finland and Bothnia unite, is a large town, and carries on a tolerable commerce. Many of the houses are handsome: they are mostly built of wood, but some are of brick stuccoed, and the inhabitants are said to exceed ten thousand. The fir of Finland is superior to that of any other part of Sweden, and particularly preferred for building: great quantities of it

are annually sent from Abo to Stockholm. The cathedral is a very antient massy pile of brick, displaying no attractions to the eye; and the gloom of the interior is augmented by a barbarous representation of drapery in blue, upon a leaden-coloured ground: it contains the tombs of many illustrious families. Christina, who with all her levities was a learned woman, and the munificent friend of learning, endowed an university here, which has a library containing ten thousand indifferent volumes: the former is not in a flourishing condition, and the latter worthy of little notice. We ascended the craggy rocks impending over one side of the town, which, with the windings of the Aura, and occasional glimpses of the gulf of Finland, shining through the openings of those dark forests that cover its shores on this side, presented a somewhat interesting, but sombre prospect.

In the course of my northern excursion, it was generally my fate, when we passed a night in a town, to have a ball or a public coffee room for my chamber, which, on account of their size, are generally the most comfortless apartments that a man can attempt to close his eyes in. At Abo, my bed was made up in an appendage to the ball-room, and had much of Finnish decoration to recommend it. The walls were laboriously painted in glowing colours, with flaming swords, fiddles, and flutes, and seraphim's heads, which were saved from the voracious and expanded beaks of griffins, by the tender inter-

position of baskets of flowers, and over the whole there was a pretty sprinkling of sphinxes and the royal arms of Sweden. Here we provided ourselves with a stock of provisions for our journey, and early the morning after our arrival bade adieu to Abo. The regulation of the post and the coin are the same here as in the other parts of Sweden.

As we proceeded the face of the country began to undulate; we observed that the houses were constructed of fir trees rudely squared by the axe, and laid, with a little moss between, upon each other, the ends of which, instead of being cut off, are generally left projecting beyond the sides of the building, and have a most savage and slovenly appearance. The roof is also of fir, sometimes stained red; the windows are frequently cut with the axe after the sides of the house are raised. Such of these as were well finished had a good appearance, and are very warm and comfortable within. Our servant, who was well acquainted with the Swedish language, began to find himself, every mile we advanced, more and more puzzled. The *patois* of this province is a barbarous and unintelligible mixture of Swedish and Russ. The summer, now the eleventh July, *burst* upon us with *fiery fury*, with no other precursors than grass and green leaves. On a sudden the flies, which experience a longer date of existence in the north than in the milder regions of Europe, on account of the stoves used in the former, awoke from the tor-