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VIII.

Ledon.

Elatéa.

little elevated, towards the *east*, upon the other side of this river. The distance to *Tithorea* is nearly the same; and the tradition of the *Tithoreans*, that this was *Thebes*, and that it was destroyed by an inundation from their torrent *Cachales*, is silly enough; as the inundation, if it ever proved destructive of a city here, must have proceeded from the *CEPHISSUS*. This river, flowing to *Screpú* (*ORCHOMENUS*), is here denominated, by the natives, *Sindaliú*. Possibly the ruins here may have been those of *LEDON*, a city abandoned in the time of *Pausanias*¹; who says, that the people to whom it belonged did not reside among the ruins of their city, but near to them. It has been usual to suppose that *Turco-Chorio* stands upon the site of *ELATÉA*²; to which there seems to be no objection, as it stood in the plain watered by the *Cephissus*, and was near to *AMPHICLEA*, where *Dadi* now stands. The gentle rise of the plain, from the river towards the walls of the city, is moreover distinctly mentioned by *Pausanias*³, and it is a characteristical feature of the

(1) Lib. x. c. 33. p. 881. ed. Kuhnii.

(2) See *D'Anville*, "Antient Geography," vol. I. p. 212. Lond. 1791, &c.

(3) Καὶ αὐτὴ εἰν ἐστὶ πολλὴ ἀνάστυς ἢ ἰσχυρότατος τοῦ Ἐλατιῶνος ἄστεως. *Pausanias Phocica*, cap. 34. p. 885. ed. Kuhnii.

topography of *Turco-Chorio*. *Elatæa* was, next to *Delphi*, the largest city in all *Phocis*. There was another town of this name in *Thessaly*, near to *Gonnus*⁴. It stood within the defile leading to the *Valley of Tempe*. Every degree of certainty with regard to the position of the two cities, ELATÆA and LEDON, must be afforded by others, better provided with facts for ascertaining their real situation; particularly with *inscriptions* found upon the spot. Here the mercury in our thermometer indicated, at noon, 52° of *Fahrenheit*. As the spacious and open plain of *Palæo-Castro* offered a favourable point of observation for determining the situation of many principal objects, and especially of *TITHOREA*, whose relative position respecting those objects it is necessary to ascertain, we noted their bearings by a small pocket compass. Its distance from *Tithorea* and from *Turco-Chorio* has been already given.

TITHOREA—*south-west* and by *south*; situate at the feet of precipices, and upon the *south-south-east* side of a chasm of **PAR-NASSUS**, whence rushes the torrent *Cachales*. Upon the other side of this

Observations by the
Magnetic
Needle.

(4) According to *Livy*.

chasm, there is a way up to the summit of the mountain; being in all probability the road from *Delphi*, as mentioned by *Pausanias*. The highest peak of *PARNASSUS* towers into the clouds above the *chasm* close to which *Tithorea* is placed; and exactly in a line with it; so as to appear immediately over it.

Turco-Chorio, formerly *ELATÉA*, due east, upon the other side of the *Cephissus*, in full view.

THE RIVER *CEPHISSUS*—flowing from north-west to south-east.

THE *CACHALES*—falling into the *Cephissus*, from south-south-east towards north-north-west.

HIGHEST PEAK OF *PARNASSUS*—south-west and by south.

MOUNT *ÆTA*—north-north-east.

Road over MOUNT *ÆTA*, to the STRAITS OF *THERMOPYLÆ*, north-west and by west.

The wall of the *Palæo-Castro* extends from west-north-west to east-south-east; that is to say, from the left to the right of a person who is standing with his back towards *Tithorea* and *PARNASSUS*.

From the *Palæo-Castro* we turned towards

the north-west and by north, passing the *Cachales* by a bridge, and leaving a small village called *Vourna*, of course written *Búrna*, on our right hand. Here PARNASSUS projects into the plain; so that we crossed over this foot of the mountain, and, descending, passed a river called *Karasspotami*, or *Madam's River*, by a bridge. Soon afterwards we entered the town of *Dadi*. Here we found ruins almost as much worth notice as those of *Tithorea*. Upon a hill beyond the town, where there now stands a small church, antient walls may be observed, similar in their architecture to what we have already described at the latter place. They extend all around the hill; and one of the *mural turrets* is yet standing. We know not the antient city to which these ruins belonged. It must have been a place of great consideration; probably it was the AMPHICÆA of *Herodotus*¹, called AMPHICLÉA by *Pausanias*. *Amphiclén.* It was denominated OPHITÉA by the *Amphictyons*, when a decree was passed for the destruction of the towns of PHOCIS². Its inhabitants referred this last appellation,

(1) Καὶ Ἀμφικαῖα, κ. τ. λ. *Herodoti Hist.* lib. viii. cap. 33. p. 469. ed. Gronov. *L. Bat.* 1716. — See also *Stephanus de Urbibus*, p. 78. *Amst.* 1678.

(2) *Pausan.* lib. x. c. 33. p. 884. ed. Kuhn.

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signifying the *City of the Serpent*, to one of those popular tales that were common in Greece. They related, that a wealthy citizen, wishing to conceal his infant heir from the fury of his enemies, hid him within a *vase*¹; where a wolf, attempting to devour the child, was repulsed by a serpent which had coiled itself around the vessel, and guarded the infant. The father coming in search of his child, and perceiving the serpent, hastily threw his dart at it, and killed both the serpent and his son. Overwhelmed with affliction for his loss, which was aggravated upon hearing from some shepherds of the serpent's guardianship of the infant, he caused their two bodies to be consumed upon one pile, and consigned their ashes to the same sepulchre²;—and from that time the city was called OPHITÉA. It was near to the *Cephissus*³, and to MOUNT ŒTA: corresponding therefore, as to its situation, with the position of *Dadi*, pronounced *Thathi*. There was at AMPHICLÉA a *Temple of Bacchus*, wherein persons afflicted with sickness were received, to pass the night.

(1) Ἐξ ἀγγείου. *Pausan.* lib. x. c. 33. p. 884. ed. *Kuhn.*

(2) *Ibid.*

(3) Παρὰ τὴν Κηφιστὸν ποταμὸν. *Herodoti Hist.* lib. viii. c. 33. ed. *Gronov.*

bearing this appellation was so extensive, that it ran through all *Greece*; dividing it into two parts, as the *Apennines* divide *Italy*: only that portion of it being properly called *ÆTA*, which is heaped up into ridges towards the *east*. The highest part of all was called *Callidromos*; accessible, however, to an army,—because *Cato* drove the *Ætolians*, having vanquished them, from this summit³: and there was a valley lying at its foot, only sixty paces wide, through which a road led to the GULPH OF MALIA; answering to that valley wherein *Bodonitza* is situate. There are four towns belonging to this neighbourhood of whose situation we are altogether ignorant; *Cnemis*, *Alpenus*, *Tichius*, and *Rhoduntia*: two of them (the *first* and *last*) being described by *Strabo* as by nature fortified⁴; and *Livy*, relating an attack made upon the *two last* towns, speaks of the difficulty to which *Flaccus* was exposed, in his attempts to storm their citadels⁵. Perhaps, after all that has been urged, it will be plain that *Bodonitza* was

(3) Vid. *Liv.* *ibid.* c. 18. tom. III. p. 270.

(4) Vide *Strab.* *ibid.* pp. 617, 621.

(5) "Flacco non eadem fortuna ad *Tichiunta* et *Rhoduntiam*, nequequam subire ad ea castella conato, fuerat." *Livio*, *ibid.*

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somely, if not well constructed; and then continued by the side of the river for a short distance, having it upon our right hand. The plain through which this river flows is rich land¹. Soon afterwards we quitted its banks, and, crossing the plain, began to ascend a part of MOUNT ÆTA^2 , which bounds the Plain of *Elatéa* upon its northern side, opposite to PARNASSUS. Here we saw the foundations of ruined walls upon our *left*; and, as we continued to ascend, a ruin upon our *right*; denominated, by the people of the country, *the Church of St. John*. Higher up, we rode by a ruined village, and a mosque built of its materials: the place is called *Mergenary*. Thence, encountering a

(1) It was always celebrated as the best land in all PHOCIS. $\tau\acute{\alpha}\delta\epsilon$ διακινεζιμίνως ἀρίστη τῆς Φωκίδος ἔστιν ἡ παρὰ τὸν Κηφισόν. (Pausan. lib. x. c. 33. p. 883.) Homer extols it in this passage:

Οἳ τ' ἄρα πᾶρ ποταμὸν Κηφισὸν δῖον Ἴναον.

(2) The name of ÆTA was more particularly applied to that part of it which rises immediately over the Straits of *Thermopylae*; but the descriptions given by *Livy* and by *Strabo* of the mountain are so perspicuous, that there can be no difficulty in identifying it with these heights above *Bodonitza*, towards the south-west; for they are a continuation of the same mountainous barrier, separating PHOCIS from the territories of the LOCRI. The passage of *Strabo* is too long for insertion here. It begins, $\tau\acute{\epsilon}\delta\delta\epsilon\sigma\iota\varsigma$ διατίνι ἀπὸ Θερμοπυλῶν καὶ τῆς ἀνατολῆς, κ. τ. λ. (Vid. *Strabon. Geog.* lib. ix. p. 620. ed. Oxon.) *Livy's* description is yet more minute. Vid. *Hist. lib.* xxxvi. c. 15. tom. III. p. 266. ed. *Crevier. Paris*, 1738.

very bad road, and a narrow pass, as we ascended higher up the mountain, our situation being very elevated, we again observed the bearings of the principal objects; and noted them in the following order:

Bearings from the Summit of MOUNT CETA.

- MOUNT PARNES, in ATTICA, now *Noziā*, S. E.
- MOUNT HYMETTUS S. E. and by E.
- The COURSE OF THE CEPHISSUS, from W. N. W. to E. S. E.
- Highest point of PARNASSUS S. and by W.
- The whole range of PARNASSUS, extending from N. W. to S. E.
- Dadi*, upon the base of PARNASSUS . . S. S. W.
- MOUNT HELICON S. S. E.
- MOUNT CITHERON S. E. and by S.
- TITHOREA, upon PARNASSUS S. and by E.
- The COURSE OF THE CACHALES, in its progress to join the *Cephissus*, flowing from *Tithorea* . . from S. and by E. to N. and by W.
- Bodonitza*, looking down on the other side of the mountain, N. E. and by N.
- A very high Mountain, perhaps the top of MOUNT ATHOS, visible across the GULPH OF MALIA . N. N. E.

We were now upon the summit of all this part of CETA: and as the descent begins here to the *Straits of Thermopylæ*, this is perhaps that eminence of the mountain which bore the appellation of CALLIDROMOS, possibly from the astonishing beauty and grandeur of the prospect, visible along this part of the *Via Militaris*. Some have

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considered the heights impending immediately over the site of the hot springs at *Thermopylae* as the *Callidromos*; not considering that *Cato* occupied the summit of that name with a part of the *Roman* army, and that it was in the most eastern part of the chain of *Æta*¹. As soon as we began to descend, we were beyond measure surprised with the immensity and magnificence of the scene that opened all at once upon us. It comprehended the whole of the GULPH OF MALIA, looking like a lake in the vast depth below, commanded by the towers of *Bodonitza*, which appeared enthroned upon a conical and lofty hill among the craggy summits that were heaped close under our view, also overlooking all the plain between *Mount Æta* and the sea. Every part of this fine prospect has been ennobled by the genius of *Sophocles*, who adapted his tragedy of the *Trachiniæ* entirely to the scenery here. He has even enumerated the particular trees found upon this summit of *Æta*, and makes *Hercules* select them for his funeral

Trachiniæ
of SOPHO-
CLES.

(1) "Extremos ad orientem montes *Ætam* vocant: quorum quod altissimum est, *Callidromen* appellatur; in ejus valle," &c. (*Livii Hist. lib. xxxvi. c. 15. tom. III. p. 266. ed. Crevier.*) where there was a valley traversed by the *Military Way*, a description inapplicable to that part of *Æta* which is above the *Thermae*.

pile;—the *oak*, the *wild-olive*, and the *pine-tree*⁴. He also alludes to a species of *bird*, which now inhabits these groves⁵. We were therefore viewing the very objects which inspired the poet with the design of his play⁶. Upon the right, the *Cenæan Promontory*⁷ of EUBŒA projected into the middle of this fine picture⁸, where *Hercules* set up those altars upon which he sacrificed to *Cenæan Jupiter*⁹. Towards the left, extended, in many a wavy line and sinuous projection, the summits and the shores of THESSALY. The sun was setting: and as deeper shadows began to curtain the many tints which enlivened the distant objects, we had the further gratification of seeing the full moon rise in all her splendour, to give new

Cenæan
Promon-
tory.

(2) Vid. ver. 1195. vol. I. p. 272. ed. Bruck.

(3) Ibid. ver. 105.

(4) The fine passage of Milton, "*As the wakeful bird sings darkling*," may therefore be said to have originated here; for it is evidently taken from the οἶα τιν' ἄβλιον ὄρνιν of SOPHOCLES.

(5) Καθ' ὃ καὶ τὸ Κήναιον ἐκ τῆς Εὐβοίας ἀντίκειται, ἄκρα βλίπασσα πρὸς ἑσπέραν καὶ τὸν Μαλίαν κόλπον, πορθμῷ διηρημένῃ σχιδὸν ἵκασαι σταδίων. Strabon. Geog. lib. ix. p. 617. ed. Oxon.

(6) See the Plate facing page 232, Vol. IV. of the Quarto Edition of these Travels.

(7) Ἀπὸ τῆς ἑστ' Εὐβοίης, ἑνθ' ἐρίζεται
βαιμὸς, τελυῖ τ' ἰγκάρτα Κηναίου Διῖ.

Sophoclis Trachiniæ, ver. 237. vol. I. p. 234. ed. Bruck.

ἢ Κηναία περὶ τῆς βαιμῶν

ἰερῶν, κ. τ. λ.

Ibid. ver. 993. vol. I. p. 264.

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ance of the
*Sinus Ma-
liacus.*

beauties to this indescribable scene. We remained for some time fixed to the spot, gazing with fresh wonder, at every instant. It possessed more than any effect of transparent painting can possibly represent, because the hues and the lights and the shadows varied at every moment. At last the sea appeared of a rich blue colour, somewhat darker than the sky, which was also blue. The higher mountains of *Thessaly* had the most vivid dyes: upon some of their tops the parting rays of the sun left streaks of an intense colour, and of a dazzling brightness. Presently, all the surface of the gulph shone with the reflected beams of the moon, as if it had been a flood of liquid silver. As soon as this appearance ensued, the lateral features of the mountains began to fade, and to disappear, as their distance from the eye increased; their outline being still preserved, so that the more remote exhibited only masses like waves in the horizon, covered by one uniform pale tint, unvaried by any difference of colour or of shadow. Nearer to the view, the tints were of a deeper cast; investing the sides and declivities of the chasm through which our descent lay, and the towers of *Bodonitza*, with bolder and darker shadows: but even here, in the fore-ground, and over all

the precipices, and broken rocks, which appeared on either side crowned with thick-set forests of oak and pine trees, some parts might be observed less severe; but these transitions were of a grey cast; harmonizing with the shadows among which they appeared.

Hence we descended to *Bodonitza*; and not *Bodonitza.* being permitted to enter the fortress, we passed the night in the village which is below the walls. As we entered, we observed part of an antient paved-way and an aqueduct; but there were no other antiquities about the spot; neither marbles nor inscriptions; nor could we procure a single medal. The poor inhabitants were unaccustomed to the sight of coffee; an article of a traveller's fare almost essential to his existence in *Turkey*, and common enough in all the great towns. Their wine was also bad: so that we fared but ill in this part of our journey. The next morning (*Dec. 19.*) we examined the outside of the citadel; but all the influence of our *Tchohodar* could not procure us admission to the interior. We saw plainly that it had ever been an important bulwark in guarding this passage. There are remains of antient walls below the hill upon which it stands, as of a town below the

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Topogra-
phy of the
*Epicnem-
idian Lo-
cris.*

Thronium.

Acropolis; resembling the works already described at *Tithorea* and *Dadi*. Some have supposed that *Bodonitza* was *Opus*: but this cannot be true, because *Opus*, capital of a southern district of *Locris* bearing its name, could not therefore belong to the *Locri Epicnemidii*. Its situation in the midst of a defile of MOUNT CETA, leading to *Thermopylae*, and not upon the coast, although at no great distance from it, is so remarkable, that in the description given by antient writers of the cities of the *Locri*, something applicable to its characteristic position and appearance might be expected. We have already proved that it could not have been *Opus*; but there is great probability that it was *Thronium*; and the appearance of the citadel will add strength to this opinion. First it should be observed, that *Thronium* is mentioned by *Ptolemy* as having a *mediterranean* situation; and *Strabo* makes the same observation concerning it¹. But it was not far from the coast; because *Polybius*, after speaking of the conference held with *Philip* in *Locris*, upon the

(1) Μιστὰ δὲ εἰκοσι σταδίων ἀπὸ Κηφίδος λιμένος, ὑπὲρ οὗ κίῦναι τὸ Θρόνιον ἐν σταδίοις τοῖς ἑσσι κατὰ τὴν μεσόγειον ἢ τὴν ἰσθμίου πεταμένην ἐκδιδωσιν, ἡ παραρτήριον τὸ Θρόνιον, Μάνης δ' ἐποικιμαζέουσιν αὐτόν· ἵσται δὲ χιμαῖρην, κ. τ. λ. *Strabon. Geog. lib. ix. pp. 617, 618. ed. Oxon.*

coast, near to the town of *Nicæa*, adds, that it was adjourned until the day following, when it was determined that it should be renewed upon the shore towards *Thronium*². This city was also by a river called *Boagrius*, near to its embouchure. *Strabo* calls this river a *torrent*³. *Homer* gives the same description of its situation⁴. The river which flows from *Bodonitza* into the gulph, is now called *Alimána*. This could not have been the position of *Nicæa*; for this city stood by the sea-shore⁵. *Scarphe*, although its situation were elevated⁶, was only a village between *Thronium* and *THERMOPYLÆ*⁷. *Heraclæa*, more antiently *Trachis*, was in the *Trachinian Plain*⁸, upon the northern side of the

(2) Ταῦ δὲ συγχωρήσαντος, ταχέως συμπορεύσθαι πρὸς τὸν κατὰ Θρόνιον αἰγιάλιν, τότε μὲν ἔχωρίσθησαν. *Polybio*, lib. xvii. cap. 9. tom. IV. p. 21. ed. *Schweighæus*. Lips. 1790.

(3) *Strabo* calls it *χίμαρος*. It was dry in certain seasons of the year. Vid. *Strabon*. Geog. lib. ix. loco cit.

(4) — Θρόνιον τι, Βοαγρίου ἀμφὶ ῥέεθρα. *Homeri Iliad*. β. 533.

(5) Νικαία μὲν ἐπὶ θάλασσαν Δαρῶν. *Strabon*. Geog. lib. ix. p. 621. ed. *Oxon*.

(6) Ἡ δὲ Σκάρφη κῆται ἐφ' ὕψους. *Ibid*. p. 618.

(7) Vid. *Livium*, Hist. lib. xxxiii. c. 3. tom. III. p. 99. ed. *Crev*. Paris, 1738.

(8) Ἐν Τραχινίαις. (*Thucydides*, lib. iii. c. 92.) Forty stadia from *Thermopylae*, and twenty from the sea.

defile. Other towns of the *Locri* might be mentioned, whose situation was even more remote; and towards the south, some of them belonging even to the *fétid* inhabitants' of *Locris*, the *Locri Ozolæ* upon the *Gulph of Corinth*. The reason why so little notice has been taken of *Bodonitza*, is, that travellers visiting *Turco-Chorio*, and thence proceeding towards the north, have gone by *Mola* along the coast; although the antient paved causeway leading to *Thermopylæ* from *Elatæa* follow this defile of *Mount Œta*. If we have recourse to *Latin* authors for our information respecting *Bodonitza*, and among these to *Livy*, in the hope that a place so remarkable has not escaped the notice of an historian, who has written an elaborate description of all the country in the neighbourhood of *Thermopylæ*; we shall be far from arriving at any thing decisive. With regard to *Mount Œta*, we are told by him², that the range of mountains

(1) Αὐτοῦ δὲ καὶ ὁ Ταφίαντος λόφος, ἐν ᾧ τὸ τοῦ Νέσσου μνημεῖον καὶ τῶν ἄλλων Κενταύρων ὡς ἀπὸ τῆς σπηιδόνης φασὶ τὸ ὑπὸ τῇ ρίζῃ τοῦ λόφου προσχέμινον δυσώδες, καὶ θερμὸν ἔχειν ὕδωρ ῥιόν. Διὰ δὲ τοῦτο καὶ Ὀζολᾶς καλεῖσθαι τὸ ἔθνος. Strabon. Geog. lib. ix. p. 619. ed. Oxon.

(2) "Id jugum, sicut Apennini dorso Italia dividitur, ita mediam Græciam dirimit. Extremos ad orientem montes ŒTAM vocant: quorum quod altissimum est, *Callidromon* appellatur; in cujus valle ad Maliacum sinum vergente iter est non latius quàm sexaginta passus. Hæc una militaris via est," &c. Livio, Hist. lib. xxxvi. c. 15. tom. III. p. 266. ed. Crevier.

bearing this appellation was so extensive, that it ran through all *Greece*; dividing it into two parts, as the *Apennines* divide *Italy*: only that portion of it being properly called *ŒTA*, which is heaped up into ridges towards the *east*. The highest part of all was called *Callidromos*; accessible, however, to an army,—because *Cato* drove the *Ætolians*, having vanquished them, from this summit³: and there was a valley lying at its foot, only sixty paces wide, through which a road led to the GULPH OF MALIA; answering to that valley wherein *Bodonitza* is situate. There are four towns belonging to this neighbourhood of whose situation we are altogether ignorant; *Cnemis*, *Alpenus*, *Tichius*, and *Rhoduntia*: two of them (the *first* and *last*) being described by *Strabo* as by nature fortified⁴; and *Livy*, relating an attack made upon the *two last* towns, speaks of the difficulty to which *Flaccus* was exposed, in his attempts to storm their citadels⁵. Perhaps, after all that has been urged, it will be plain that *Bodonitza* was

(3) Vid. *Liv. ibid.* c. 18. tom. III. p. 270.

(4) Vide *Strab. ibid.* pp. 617, 621.

(5) "Flacco non eadem fortuna ad *Tichiunta* et *Rhoduntiam*, nequicquam subire ad ea castella conato, fuerat." *Livio, ibid.*

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THRONIUM. At the same time, something should be said of *Cnemis*; for the mountain of this name, whence the *Locri Epicnemidii* received their peculiar appellation, was contiguous to *Mount Œta*, and to the *Gulph of Malia*; and the characteristic description given of the town of *Cnemis* in two words (*χωρίον ἐρυμνόν*) by *Strabo* may be considered as applicable to the situation of the present citadel; but the position of *Bodonitza*, respecting the *XEIMAPPOS* flowing by it to the gulph, added to the correspondence of its appearance with the evident etymology of *THRONIUM*, and the difficulty of assigning to the latter any other situation, afford strong presumption for believing that it stood here. It must however be confessed, that this is not the spot where *Thronium* is placed, according to the observations of *Melétius*, in his *Geography*'. He would infer, from an *inscription* found at a place called *Palæo-castro*, that the site of *THRONIUM* was elsewhere. The references we have already made to *Ptolemy* and *Strabo* decidedly prove that it was not upon the shore; but the latter mentions a *port*, distant twenty *stadia* from

(1) Θρόνιον, τοῦ ὀπτιοῦ ὁ τόπος καλεῖται κοινῶς Παλαιόκαстро εἰς τὸ Μάρμαρα. *Melétius* says he saw there this inscription:

ΤΑΙΒΟΥΛΑΙΚΑΙΤΩΙΔΑΜΩΙΘΡΟΝΙΕΩΝ.

Cnemis, above which, at an equal distance of twenty stadia (κατὰ τὴν μεσόγαιαν), THRONIUM was situate; and there may have been the inscription to which *Melétius* alludes².

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We now set out upon the most interesting part of all our travels, — an expedition to the STRAITS OF THERMOPYLÆ: and we began the day's journey with increased satisfaction, because we had already observed, that, in quitting the usual track of travellers by the coast, we were actually following the antient *military way*, mentioned by *Livy*, as it was prepared and paved by the States of GREECE for the passage of their armies; and, consequently, that we were now treading in the footsteps of those *Spartans* who with *Leonidas* guarded this defile at the invasion of *Xerxes*. The remains of the old paved road will long continue; because it is the common practice of passengers to avoid this pavement; preferring an easier path, by the side of it. Although the whole of this road be a descent from *Bodonitza*, we nevertheless continued to proceed at a considerable height

(2) Vid. *Strabon.* Geog. lib. ix. pp. 617, 618. ed. Oxon. See also for *Thronium*, what *Pausanias* says in his *Eliacs*, cap. 22. p. 435. ed. *Kuhnii*.

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above the level of the marshy plain of *Mola* and the sea. The hills around us were covered with trees; and we found some rare plants growing beneath them, both among the rocks, and over the rest of this narrow valley'. We

(1) The following *Note* contains the Plants we collected in the *Defile of Thermopylæ*:

Common Phillyrea—*Phillyrea media*, Linn.

Scarlet Oak—*Quercus coccifera*, Linn.

Rough Bindweed—*Smilax aspera*, Linn.

Common Rue—*Ruta graveolens*, Linn.

Ground Germander—*Teucrium Chamadrys*, Linn.

Common Chick-Pea—*Cicer arietinum*, Linn.

Grass-leaved Iris—*Iris graminea*, Linn.

Common Olive—*Olea Europæa*, Linn.

Heath-leaved St. John's Wort, supposed to be the *Képis* of Dioscorides—*Hypericum Coris*, Linn.

Some of these plants were gathered at the *Hot Springs* in the narrowest part of the *Pass*, close to the *Via Militaris*.

Here we also found a very aromatic little shrub, branching almost from the ground, the younger branches quadrangular, and rough, with short hairs pointing downwards; the leaves linear, very blunt, a little channelled above, closely pierced on both sides with little concave dots, and ciliated with a few strong bristles at the edges, and disposed close to each other in four rows on the small branches, the large ones being always leafless: as the leaves grow older, many of their ciliae fall off, and they appear nearly naked. The inflorescence is terminal in a kind of spike an inch and a half long, and composed of about five whorls of flowers, the uppermost of which are so close as to touch each other, but the undermost gradually a little more distant: the bracts are lanceolate and ciliated at the edges, and extend beyond the whorls, but fall off soon after the season of flowering: the calyx is bilabiate, and a little compressed, with two prominent ciliated edges, and sparkles with numerous little fiery-coloured dots; the mouth bilabiate, ciliated, and thickly set with long white hairs; the upper lip divided to the base, into two very narrow segments; the upper lip tridentate; the seeds

four,

had journeyed in this manner for about an hour, when, having passed several *stadia* of the antient pavement, we suddenly found ourselves in a small plain surrounded by mountains, just before the descent to the narrowest part of the *Straits* falls off abruptly, by a steep and uninterrupted declivity. Here we observed, close to the *antient way*, upon our right, an antient TUMULUS, upon which the broken remains of a massive pedestal, as a foundation for some monument, were yet conspicuous. In its present state, it is sufficiently entire to prove that the form of this pedestal was square, and that it covered the top of a conical mound of earth;

four, naked in the bottom of the calyx, but one of them only appears to come to maturity, which is of an inversely ovate form. Unfortunately, all the flowers had fallen, before we saw it. It will however appear, from the above description, that the plant (with the exception of the corolla, which is yet unknown) hath the essential character both of THYMUS and THYMBRA; and even when the blossom is discovered, unless it shall prove different from that of either of the above *genera*, must still remain *ambiguous*. As the compressed sharp edges of the calyx, however, are certainly a more decided character than the hairs at the mouth, which we have observed in plants of this order, otherwise very different both in character and habit; and as the habit of our plant approaches considerably to that of THYMBRA; that the knowledge of it may not entirely be lost, suffice it at present to describe it as a dubious species of that *Genus*, by the name of THYMBRA? AMBIGUA.—THYMBRA? *floribus verticillatis spicatis, spicis elongatis, foliis quadrifariam imbricatis, linearibus, ciliatis, utrinque punctatis obtusissimis; bracteis lanceolatis flores excedentibus.*

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which is the shape common not only to antient sepulchres in general, but in particular to those of GREECE; as appears in the examples already adduced of the *Tomb of the Athenians* in the Plain of MARATHON, and the *Tomb of the Thebans* in the Plain of CHÆRONÆA. It consisted of large square blocks of a red marble *breccia*, some of which remained as they were originally placed : others, dislocated and broken, were lying by, with a considerable fragment of one of the wrought corners of the pedestal. The surface of this red marble *breccia* was entirely encrusted with a brown lichen ; and the stone itself, by weathering, was so far decomposed upon its surface, that it resembled common grey limestone ; thereby proving the great length of time it has thus remained exposed to the action of the atmosphere¹. It is hardly necessary to allege any additional facts to shew to whom this *tomb* belonged. Being the only one that occurs in the whole of this *defile* ; and corresponding precisely, as to its situation by the side of the *military way*, with the accounts given of it by

(1) It is however susceptible of a very high polish ; and then it appears of a brownish red, spotted and streaked with white. We have preserved specimens of the stone.

antient authors, there can be no doubt that this was the place of burial alluded to by *Herodotus*², where those heroes were interred who fell in the action of THERMOPYLÆ; and that the *Tumulus* itself is the POLYANDRIUM mentioned by *Strabo*, whereon were placed the five STELÆ; one of which contained that *thrilling* Epitaph³, still speaking to the hearts of all who love their country.

*Polyan-
drium of
the Greeks
who fell at
THERMO-
PYLÆ.*

ΩΣΕΝΑΠΑΓΓΕΙΛΟΝΛΑΚΕΔΑΙΜΟΝΙΟΙΣΟΤΙΤΗΙΔΕ
ΚΕΙΜΕΘΑΤΟΙΣΚΕΙΝΩΝΗΙΕΙΘΟΜΕΝΟΙΝΟΜΙΜΟΙΣ

It may be thus rendered into *English* metre, without altering the sense of the original:—

TO LACEDÆMON'S SONS, O STRANGER, TELL,
THAT HERE, OBEDIENT TO THEIR LAWS, WE FELL!

The same appellation of POLYANDRIUM, as applied to a sepulchre, occurs in *Pausanias*, with

(2) Θαφθῆναι δὲ εἰς αὐτὸν τάφον τῆς αἰτίας, καὶ τοῖσι πρότερον τιμωθῆναι, α. τ. λ. *Herodoti Polymnia*, lib. vii. cap. 228. p. 455. ed. Gronovii. *L. Bat.* 1715.

(3) This epitaph is here given from *Strabo*, (lib. ix. p. 622. ed. Oron. It was composed by *Simonides of Ceos*. It occurs, with some variation, in *Herodotus*, (*ibid.*) The words there are:

ὦ ξένε, ἄγγυλον Λακεδαιμονίους ὅτι ἐνδὶ
Κείμεθα, τοῖς κείνων ῥήμασι τιθόμενοι.

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reference to the *Tomb of the Thebans* near CHÆRONÆA¹: and the only difference between the two is, that the *Chæronæan tumulus* is larger than this: they are both alike in shape. We have not thought it right, in relating our discovery of this *tomb*, to introduce any remarks that were made afterwards; but the reader, wishing to have its history yet further ascertained, will find additional testimony concerning it in the account which follows. The description of its exact situation, with regard to the scene of those events which have consecrated to perpetual memory the narrow passage of *Thermopylæ*, will serve to strengthen the opinion here maintained with regard to the *tomb* itself; for it is placed upon the top of the very eminence, within the *defile*, to which all the *Greeks* retired, excepting only the *Thebans*: "AND THERE," says *Herodotus*², "IS THE TUMULUS, AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE DEFILE, WHERE NOW STANDS THE STONE LION TO LEONIDAS." They retired to this spot, answering also to the situation of their camp; for this was within *the wall* that closed the passage; there being a little

Situation
of the
Spartan
advanced
guard.

(1) Πρεσβύτεροι δὲ τῇ πόλει, ΠΟΛΥΤΑΝΔΡΙΟΝ ΘΗΒΑΙΩΝ ἴσταν, κ. τ. λ. *Pausan. Bæot. c. 40. p. 795. ed. Kuhnii.*

(2) Ὁ δὲ καλὸν ἐστὶ ἴσταν ἐν τῇ ἰσθμῷ, ἔκον τῶν δὲ λείων λίον ἴσταν ἐπὶ Αἰωνίδῃ. *Herodot. Hist. lib. vii. cap. 225. p. 455. ed. Gronovii.*

plain here, extending along the valley towards *Bodonitza*: and there is no other place "*within the wall*," where their camp could have been situate, as will presently appear. In the description of the position held by the *Greeks* at THERMOPYLÆ, *Leonidas* is represented as not being within sight of the *Persian* army³; which would have been the case if he had been anywhere further advanced towards the north. When the *Spartans* composed the advanced guard, during the day upon which a person was sent by *Xerxes* to reconnoitre, they had descended from their camp, and were seen at the entry of the defile, *without the wall*⁴, a little removed from the south-east side of the small bridge where the *Turkish dervêne* now is, upon the outside of the old wall:—for these Straits are still guarded as a frontier pass; and they are as much the *Gates*⁵ of GREECE as they were when *Xerxes* invaded the country; neither is there any reason to doubt, that, with respect to

(3) Vid. *Herodot. Polymn.* c. 208. p. 449.

(4) *Ibid.* loco cit.

(5) Τὴν μὲν εὖν πέρασιν, Πύλας καλοῦσι, καὶ στενὰ, καὶ Θερμοπύλας· ἔστι γὰρ καὶ Θερμὰ πλεονὺς ὕδατα τιμώμενα ὡς Ἡρακλῆος ἱερὰ. (*Strab. Geog.* lib. ix. p. 621. ed. *Oron.*) *Livy* mentions this *Pass* nearly in the same manner: "Ideo PYLÆ, et ab aliis, quia calidæ aquæ in ipsis faucibus sunt, THERMOPYLÆ locus appellatur." *Livy Hist. lib. xxxvi.* c. 15. p. 266. tom. III. ed. *Crevier.*

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so narrow a passage, any remarkable circumstance related formerly should be irreconcilable with its present appearance. Indeed, some of the most trivial facts, casually dropped by historians, guide us to particular parts of the *defile* where the events took place. For example, it is mentioned by *Herodotus*, that the *Spartan* soldiers, upon the occasion alluded to, were found "*combing their hair*¹." Whoever has seen the inhabitants of the country thus occupied, must have observed that this operation of cleansing the hair is also accompanied by ablution, and that it takes place, of course, by the side of some *fountain*. The mere circumstance of being stationed near to a *fountain*, often suggests to the persons so situate the propriety of this duty. Observing therefore the little change that has taken place in *Greece*, in any of the customs among its inhabitants, relating to their way of life, it might be expected that a *fountain* still exists, denoting the spot where the *Spartans* were seen upon this occasion. Whether the probability be admitted or not, the sequel will shew that this is really the truth.

(1) Τοὺς δὲ τὰς κόμης κτενίζοντας. *Herodoti Hist.* lib. vii. c. 208. p. 449. ed. Gronov.

Hence the descent becomes rapid towards the narrowest part of the Straits; and the *military way* leading through thick woods which cover the declivity, is in many places broken up by torrents, as it is described by *Strabo*. In about three quarters of an hour from the POLYANDRIUM, we arrived at the WALL mentioned by *Herodotus*². The remains of it are still very considerable; insomuch that it has been traced the whole way from the *Gulph of Malia* to the *Gulph of Corinth*, a distance of twenty-four leagues; extending along the mountainous chain of ÆTA from sea to sea, and forming a barrier towards the north of GREECE, which excludes the whole of *Ætolia* and *Thessaly*. In this respect it resembles the wall of *Antoninus*, in the north of BRITAIN. It may be supposed that we did not follow it beyond the immediate vicinity of the *Straits of Thermopylæ*, where it begins; but this fact, as to its great length, was communicated to us by our guides; and it was afterwards confirmed by the positive assurance of our Consul at *Zeitún*. It is built with large and rudely-shaped stones, which have been put together with cement; and in many places the work is now almost concealed by the woods and thickets that have grown over it.

Great
Northern
Wall.

(2) *Herodot. ibid.*

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VIII.*Platanus
Orientalis.*

Immediately after passing this *wall*, upon the outside of it, and upon the left hand, is seen the *fountain* before alluded to; precisely in the situation that must have been occupied by the *Spartans*, when reconnoitred by command of *Xerxes*.

It is shaded by an enormous Plane-tree (*Platanus Orientalis*) of unknown antiquity, self-sown in its origin, and one of many that may have flourished upon the spot ever since the *Lacedæmonian* soldiers were seen at this *fountain*, combing their hair, and amusing themselves with gymnastic exercises¹. Indeed, if the stories related by antient authors of the great age of the *Oriental Plane-tree*, in certain instances, were to be admitted as true, the present example might only be considered as an immediate offspring of some venerable plant found here upon that occasion; for the *battle of Thermopylæ* was fought only four hundred and eighty-one years before the Christian æra², and *Pausanias* tells of a plane-tree in *Arcadia* supposed to have been planted by *Menelaus*; so that the age of the tree, when he saw it, must have been thirteen hundred years. It is well known that the seeds of the *Platanus Orientalis* remain

(1) *Herodoti Polymnia*, c. 208.

(2) Vid. *Chronicon ex Marmor. Arundel*. Ll. 66, 67.

upon the tree, in little balls, until the spring; as they do not ripen early in the autumn. We found many of the seed-vessels in a mature state, hanging from the branches: and being desirous of bearing away a living memorial from a spot so celebrated, we gathered many of them^s. Thence, leaving the *fountain*, we entered the extensive bog, or fen, through which a narrow paved causeway offers the only approach to all the southern parts of GREECE. This causeway has, upon either side of it, a deep and impassable morass; and it is further bounded by the sea towards the *east*, and the precipices of *Mount Æta* towards the *west*. Here is situate the *Turkish dervéne*, or barrier, upon a

(3) The seeds of this tree were afterwards sown by the author in a garden belonging to the Fellows of *Jesus College, Cambridge*, where they sprang up; and there is one tree now standing in that garden, which has been thus raised. It is in a flourishing state; but its height at present does not exceed eleven feet, and its girth is only seven inches in circumference. The *Oriental Plane-tree* is not a plant of very quick growth; but in warm latitudes, especially if it be near to water, it attains a most astonishing size. *Ælian* relates the adoration that was paid by *Xerxes* to a tree of this sort in *PHRYGIA*. The marvellous *Plane-tree* of the Island of *Cos* has been described in a former Part of these Travels. *Pliny* mentions a *Plane-tree* in *LYCIA* that had mouldered away into an immense cave, eighty feet in circumference. The Governor of the province, with eighteen others, dined commodiously upon benches of *pumice* placed around it. *Cassius* had a tree of the same kind, at his villa: the hollow of it held fifteen persons at dinner, with all their attendants.

CHAP.
VIII.Of the
Pylæ and
Thermæ.

small narrow stone bridge, which marks the most important point of the whole passage; because it is still occupied by sentinels, as in antient times; and is therefore, even now, considered as the ΠΥΛΑΙ of the southern provinces. The *Thermæ*, or *hot springs*, whence this defile received the appellation of THERMOPYLÆ, are at a short distance from this bridge, a little farther on, towards the *north*¹: the old paved causeway leads to those springs, immediately after passing the bridge. They issue principally from two mouths at the foot of the limestone precipices of ÆΤΑ, upon the left of the causeway, which here passes close under the mountain, and on this part of it scarcely admits two horsemen abreast of each other; the morass upon the right, between the causeway and the sea, being so dangerous, that we were near being buried with our horses, by our imprudence in venturing a few paces into it from the paved road. These springs, formerly sacred to *Hercules*², are still called THERMÆ. They are half way between *Bodonitza* and *Zeitún*. We

(1) "In ipsis faucibus." *Livius*.

(2) All *hot springs* and *warm baths* were sacred to *Hercules*; but those of the *Pass of Thermopylæ* were especially consecrated to him; and all the surrounding country was rendered illustrious by his history. This appears particularly from the *Trachinæ* of SOPHOCLES; references to which have been already made.

dismounted, to examine their temperature: and, as it was now noon, we first estimated the temperature of the external air; it equalled 51° of *Fahrenheit*. The temperature of the water, within the mouth of the springs, amounted to 111° ; being 31° lower than the temperature of the hot springs at *Lydia Hamam* near *Alexandria Troas*; which are nearly at the same height from the level of the sea³. Yet the water appeared very hot when we placed our hands in it; and smoke ascended from it continually. The water is impregnated with *carbonic acid*, *lime*, *muriate of soda*, and *sulphur*. It is very transparent, but it deposits a calcareous incrustation upon the substances in its neighbourhood. The ground about the springs yields a hollow sound, like that within the crater of the *Solfatara* near *Naples*. In some places, near to the springs, we observed cracks and fissures filled with stagnant water, through which a gaseous fluid was rising in large bubbles to the surface. The fetid smell of this gas

(3) See a former Part of these Travels, Vol. III. Chap. VI. pp. 189, 90. Octavo Edit. Dr. *Holland* says, he "found the temperature to be pretty uniformly 103° , or 104° , of *Fahrenheit*;" which is even less than our statement: but perhaps Dr. *H.* did not place his thermometer quite so far within the mouth of these springs; for this would cause a difference equal to seven or eight degrees of *Fahrenheit*.—See *Travels*, &c. by *Henry Holland*, M. D. p. 382. Lond. 1815.

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Fetid
gaseous
exhalation:
alluded to
by SOPHO-
CLES.

powerfully bespeaks its nature; for it is sulphuretted hydrogen. Having before alluded to the accuracy with which SOPHOCLES adapted the scenery of the *Trachiniæ* to real appearances around the *Sinus Maliacus*, it may be worthy of remark, that even this trivial circumstance, of the gaseous ebullition through crevices of the earth at *Thermopylæ*, did not escape his observation. He makes a curious use of it, in the scene between *Dejanira* and the *Chorus*; when he causes the former to relate, that some of the wool stained with the blood of the Centaur *Nessus*, falling upon the *Trachinian Plain*, in a place where the sun's rays were the most fierce, there boiled up from the earth¹ *frothy bubbles*. The audience who were present during its representation, and who were well acquainted with all that was worthy of observation in the *Plain of Trachinia*, must have regarded with a high degree of satisfaction the appropriation of its physical phænomena to an interesting story; because it was interweaving facts, whereof many of them had been witnesses, with the machinery of a fable, which, as a popular superstition, was of course listened to by them

(1)

—'Εκ δὲ γῆς ἴδμεν

ἀεὶ βῆσαι ἀνὰ ζώνῃσι θερμὰς ἀφροί.

Sophoclis Trachiniæ, ver. 761. vol. I. p. 252. ed. Brunch.

with all the attention due to the most solemn truths. And, at this distance of time, a new interest is given to the most beautiful productions of the *Grecian* drama, when we know that the Poet, in his descriptions, did not merely delineate an ideal picture, but that he adapted the mythological tales of his country to the actual features of its geography, and to its existing characteristic phenomena. We have before shewn that the antiquities of *Mycenæ* were made subservient to his plan of the *Electra*; and perhaps it will hereafter appear, as GREECE becomes better known, that the observations we have now made, respecting the *Trachinæ*, may be extended to all the other productions of his Muse.

The nature of this narrow pass at THERMOPYLÆ has been sufficiently explained: it is owing entirely to the marshy plain which lies at the foot of a precipitous part of *Mount Œta*, between the base of the mountain and the sea. This marsh never having been drained, is, for the most part, one entire bog; and there is no possibility of obtaining a passage by land along the shore, from south to north, or rather from south-east to north-west, excepting over the paved causeway here described. The most critical part of the Pass is at the hot springs, or at the bridge

Nature of
the Pass of
THERMO-
PYLÆ.

CHAP.
VIII.Path over
Mount
Eta.

where the *Turkish dervene* is placed. At the former, the traveller has the mountain close to him on one side, and a deep bog on the other. A handful of brave troops might therefore intercept the passage of the mightiest army that the *Persian* or any other *Eastern* empire ever mustered: and this we find they did; until a *path* was pointed out for the troops of *Xerxes*, which conducted his soldiers, by a circuitous route over the mountain, to the rear of the *Grecian* camp. The same *path* was also pointed out to us¹: it is beyond the *hot springs*, towards the north; and it is still used by the inhabitants of the country, in their journeys to *Salona*, the antient *Amphissa*. After following this *path* to a certain distance, another road branches from it towards the south-east, according to the route pursued by the *Persians* upon that occasion.

The *defile*, or *strait*, continues to a certain distance beyond the *hot springs*; and then the road bears off, all at once, across the plain, towards *Zeitún*. It is still paved in many places;

(1) "The *Persians*, says *Procopius*, found only one path over the mountains: now there are many; and large enough to admit a cart or chariot;—ἀμὰζερῶν ἐχίδν τε ὁδῶν. (*De Œdip. lib. iv.*)" *Waleole's MS. Journal.*

and it thereby marks exactly the line of march observed by *Leonidas* and the *Greeks*, in their daring attack upon the *Persian* camp, in the night before their defeat, when they ventured out of the *defile*. But we found it impossible to ascertain precisely where *Heraclæa* stood, distinctly as it is mentioned by *Livy*², or to mark the course of the *Asopus* river. Several streams may irrigate this plain; which, at the time of our passing, were all combined into one flood, by the inundation of the *Sperchius* towards its mouth. This last is the main river, and indeed the only one to be noticed: it comes from a plain which extends round *Mount Ceta* towards the *west*. It was upon our left as we passed from the *hot springs* to go to *Zeitún*; and it joins the marshy plain of *THERMOPYLÆ* towards the *Sinus Maliacus*. We looked back towards the whole of this *defile* with regret; marvelling, at the same time, that we should quit with reluctance a place, which, without the interest thrown over it by antient history, would be one of the most disagreeable upon earth. Unwholesome air, mephitic exhalations bursting

(2) "Sita est *Heraclæa* in radicibus *CETÆ* MONTIS: ipsa in campo, arcem imminentem loco alto et undique præcipiti habet." *Livii Hist. lib. xxxvi. c. 22. tom. III. p. 273. Crevier.*

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through the rifted and rotten surface of a corrupted soil, as if all the land around were diseased; a filthy and fetid quagmire; "a heaven fat with fogs;" stagnant, but reeking pools; hot and sulphureous springs; in short, such a scene of morbid nature, as suggested to the fertile imagination of antient Poets their ideas of a land poisoned by the "*blood of Nessus*," and which calls to mind their descriptions of *Tartarus*, can only become delightful from the most powerful circumstances of association that ever were produced by causes diametrically opposite;—an association combining, in the mere mention of the place, all that is great, and good, and honourable; all that has been embalmed as most dear in the minds of a grateful posterity. In the overwhelming recollection of the sacrifice that was here offered, every other consideration is forgotten; the *Pass of Thermopylæ* becomes consecrated; it is made a source of the best feelings of the human heart; and it "shall be had in everlasting remembrance'."

-
- (1) "There Honour comes, a pilgrim gray,
To bless the turf that wraps their clay;
And Freedom shall a while repair,
To dwell a weeping hermit there."

Collins.

Hence we passed over the swampy *Plain of Trachinia*, in the midst of the worst air of all *Greece*, overgrown with tall reeds, and inhabited by buffaloes; animals, almost amphibious, delighting in stagnant pools and watery plains, and always seeming to thrive the best where the human race thrives the worst. The marshes of *Terracina* in *Italy* are full of them; and the lands of *Lower Egypt*, inundated by the *Nile*. We crossed the river *Sperchius*, by means of a stone bridge: it was at this time overflowing its banks, flooding all the land near to it; and rolling, like the *Nile*, in many a muddy vortex. Upon the stone bridge the *Turks* established a *dervéne*, as a barrier, upon this side of the defile; which may be considered as the *Gate of Phthiotis and THESSALY*. It is held by *Albanians*, who collect a tribute from passengers for the privilege of passing. Soon after crossing this bridge, the ground gradually rises, towards the *north*, from the flooded and marshy land. We saw a large *tumulus* in the plain; and immediately afterwards arrived at the town of *Zeitún*, distant three hours' journey from the *hot springs* of THERMOPYLÆ.

CHAP.
VIII.Plain of
Trachinia.*Turkish*
Dervéne.*Zeitún*.

Zeitún may be described as a miniature mode of *ATHENS*. The town had suffered grievously

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VIII.

by fire three months before. It has been believed that *Zeitún* was the antient *LAMIA*; and we were of this opinion: but *Meletius*, the archbishop of *Joannina*, entertained different sentiments. We found his work upon Geography in the Consul's house, and it was the first time that we had seen it. The name of this place has been written *Zeituni* and *Zituni*, but its inhabitants write it *Zeitún*. One argument which may be urged against this position of *Lamia* is, that there are no antiquities upon the spot. We could find nothing as a trace of the former existence of any Grecian city. The town is governed by a *Wainvode*, a *Disdar*, and a *Cadi*; but all these together, with several *Bey*s who reside here, are under the dominion of *Ali Pasha*, and they tremble at the sound of his name. There are from eight hundred to a thousand houses in *Zeitún*, and about a thousand shops. The inhabitants are *Turks* and *Greeks*. Their commerce is altogether ruined: it consisted in the exportation of silk, cotton, and corn. We could not avoid remarking a very great resemblance between the *Albanian women* of *Zeitún*, and those of *India* whom we had seen with our army in *Egypt*: they resemble that *Indo-European* tribe called *Gipsies* in England, whose characteristic physiognomy has

*Albanese
Women.*

a degree of permanence that no change of climate seems to affect.

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VIII.

On Sunday, *December the twentieth*, we left *Zeitún*, about half after eight A.M.; and began to ascend the mountains of *THESSALY*; leaving towards our left the mountain *OTHRYs*, now called *Kata V'Othry*. The weather was delightful, but the mountains very generally covered with snow. As we left *Zeitún*, we saw, near to the town, a tomb constructed in the old *Cyclopéan* style: it was what is called a *Cromlech* in *Wales*, consisting of two uprights, with a large slab laid across: near to it there was a cistern, probably a *Soros*. There is a paved road, or antient *military way*, over this mountain. The rocks of the mountains have here an ochreous appearance. After riding to the top of a very steep and high mountainous ridge, north of the town, we halted to make observations by the magnetic needle.

*Bearings noted upon the Summit of a Mountain north
of ZEITUN.*

STRAITS OF THERMOPYLÆ S. S. E.

MOUNT PARNASSUS, indistinctly seen . . s. and by E.

COURSE OF THE SPERCHIUS down the valley between
the mountainous chain of CETA and that of OTHRYS,
from N. W. to S. E.This river is here called *Carpeniche*.

MOUNT OTHRYS, high, steep, and snowy . . s. w.

High Mountain of *Salona* (AMPHISSA) appearing be-
tween CETA and OTHRYS s. and by w.

MOUNT CETA s. and by E.

An exceeding high sugar-loaf Mountain, with a flat top,
covered with snow, and lying towards the right,
beyond *Mount Othrys* w. and by N.

This mountain stands in the same line of direction as the Plain of the *Sperchius*, and the course of that river; that is to say, N. W. and S. E. and at the end of the visible part of the plain, as if it terminated there. The peasants who were our guides, told us that the *Sperchius* and many other streams flow from that mountain. It is called *Veluchia*, or *Velúkia*, by the natives; and they say it stands in *Agráfa*. On its top there is a plain; and in winter, they say, a lake. It should also be observed, that OTHRYS is still called *Kata V'Othry*; and it is not situate as laid down in maps, to the north of the river *Sperchius*, but, as before stated, to the south-west.

Thence descending towards the north, at the distance of three hours and a half from *Zeitún*,

we passed a *Turkish dervéne*, and again paid tribute. Afterwards we crossed a very extensive plain of good and rich land, but entirely uncultivated, and covered over with brushwood and with dwarf oaks. At the distance of an hour and a half from the *dervéne*, we saw upon our left, in a cultivated spot, the remains of some antient buildings, and two *tumuli*; one on either side of the old *military way*. The prospect in other respects was that of a bleak and desolated region. This plain is called *Dowclu*. At its extremity, we passed a river by a bridge. We saw, towards our left, a large lake among some mountains: our guides called it *Limne Dowclu*. Here we observed that the faithful little dog, which had accompanied us in all our travels, was missing: and he was become so great a favourite with all our party, owing to his odd appearance and uncommon sagacity, that even the *Tchohodar* vowed he would not proceed without him;—a singular instance, in a *Turk*, of attachment to a dog. The consequence was, that one half of the party measured back their steps all the way to the *dervéne*, while the rest waited at the bridge with the baggage. At the *dervéne* they heard the cries of the little animal; who had posted himself upon the top of a very lofty hill,

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that he might survey the country, and, if possible, discover our route; and was uttering his distress most lamentably, in consequence of the approach of some one, who was also heard calling to him. As soon as he saw Mr. *Cripps*, he ran to him as if shot from a gun; and leaping upon his horse, remained seated behind his saddle until he arrived once more at the bridge. By this time, evening was coming on; and we were overtaken by a *Tahtar* Courier from *Tripolizza* in the *Morea*; who pretended that he had been only one day upon his journey, and that he expected to arrive at *Constantinople* in six days. This appeared to us to be impossible. Afterwards, our journey was continued through woods; and we often observed the remains of a paved road. The guides frustrated our plan of seeing *THAUMACIA*, now called *Thaumaco*, by going a shorter road to *PHARSALIA*, and leaving it upon our *left*; thereby shortening the distance at least three hours. *THAUMACIA* contains the remains of antient walls, and it ought to be visited. It is situate upon the top of a hill. We were surprised, soon afterwards, to find that the plain over which we had been travelling was very highly elevated: after ascending a gentle slope, upon leaving the woods, there was suddenly exposed

to our view one of the most extensive prospects in all Greece. To the north-east we surveyed the immense Plain of *Crocus*; and, looking down, beheld summits of many mountains far below us. The *antient paved-way*, by which we descended, bore off in that direction. We asked the guides whither the other road conducted; and they said, to *Valos*; shewing that the antient name of *ALOS* is still preserved;—for ALOS. throughout *Thessaly* they have a practice of prefixing a β before the original name, which is pronounced *V*; as β '*Othry*, for *OTHRY*S; and β '*Alos*, for *ALOS*'. Our descent hence continued along the old road, which was much broken up, and in some parts entire; but whether entire or broken, we were compelled to ride upon it, as there was no other. Another immense prospect

(1) The people of *Thessaly* entertain a tradition that the *first ship* (alluding to the *Argo*) sailed from this place; by which it is evident they mean *Volo*, the antient *PAGASÆ*, situate at the mouth of the river *Onchestus*, in the *Sinus Pelasgius*. The *Argo*, however, was launched at *Aphetæ*. *ALOS* was upon the river *Amphrysus*, in *PHTHIOTIS*, at the northern termination of *Mount Othrys*, distant *sixtystadia* from *ITONE*. See *Stephanus de Urbib. &c.* p. 66. Ed. Gronovii, Amst. 1678. As situation is more fully pointed out by *Strabo*, as cited by *Gronovius* in Note (26) of the same edition. 'Ὁ δὲ Φθιώτις Ἄλος ὑπὸ τῷ πύργῳ κείται τῆς Ὀφρύος ὁροῦ πρὸς ἄρκτον κείμενον τῇ Φθιώτιδι, κ. τ. λ. (*Strabon. Geog. lib. ix.* p. 627. Ed. Oxon.) But *Strabo* afterwards adds, that *Alos* was placed by *Artemidorus* upon the sea-shore: Ἀρτεμίδωρος δὲ τὴν Ἄλον ἐν τῇ παραλίᾳ εἶησεν, κ. τ. λ. The geography of *THESSALY* remains now, as it ever was, in a state of great uncertainty.

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now presented itself; and at almost an equal depth below us, to that before mentioned. It was the PLAIN OF PHARSALIA, so renowned for the great battle between the armies of *Julius Cæsar* and *Pompey*, when twenty-four thousand soldiers of *Pompey's* army were made prisoners of war. It was fought on the twelfth of *May*, forty-eight years B. C. The pleasure of beholding this magnificent prospect was greatly diminished by our want of knowledge of other objects. The eye roamed over distant summits, as if it surveyed a world of mountains: but our guides were so ignorant, that they could not tell us one of their names; and we might have attempted in vain to form conjectures of them by the wretched maps which exist of all this country. Soon afterwards it became dark; and the rest of our journey this day proved so fatiguing, that it was with much ado we could sit upon our horses to reach the end of it. A long, laborious, and difficult descent was to be got over. After many an anxious inquiry of our guides concerning the distance yet remaining to our place of rest, about two hours after darkness began, the illuminated minarets of PHARSALUS¹, now called

Pharsa.

(1) ΦΑΡΣΑΛΟΣ, πόλις Θισσαλίας, κ. τ. λ. *Stephanus De Urbibus*, p. 691. ed. *Gronovii*.

Pharsa, comforted us with the assurance that the *khan* was near.

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The Reader would perhaps smile if he knew what sort of comfort the *khan* itself afforded, when we arrived. All these places are alike in *Turkey*. There is not a dog-kennel in *England* where a traveller might not lodge more commodiously than in one of these *khans*; and the *caravanserais* are yet worse than the *khans*. A dirty square room, the floor covered with dust, and full of rat-holes, without even a vestige of furniture, is all he finds as the place for his repose. If he arrive without provisions, there is not the smallest chance of his getting any thing to eat, or even straw for his bed. In such an apartment we passed the night;—unable even to kindle a fire; for they brought us green wood, and we were almost suffocated with smoke;—not to mention the quantity of vermin with which such places always abound, and the chance of plague-infection from their filthy walls. This subject is merely touched upon, that persons who have not visited *Turkey* may know what they ought to expect, before they undertake a journey thither. Yet, even to all this, weariness, and watchfulness, and shivering cold, and other privations, will at last fully reconcile

Turkish
Khan.

travellers; and make them long for such a housing. In these places there is no separation of company;—masters and servants, cattle-drivers and guides, and every casual passenger of the road, make their bed together. We had been scarcely long enough, in our sorry chamber at *Pharsalus*, to sweep away some of the dirt upon its floor, when other *Tahtar* Couriers arrived; travelling as the former one (who passed us upon the road with despatches), night and day. It was curious to see how these men take what they call their *Caïf* (refreshment) at one of these *khans*. The horse is left standing in the court; while for the space of about ten minutes, or during the interval of changing horses, the *Tahtar* squats,—for it cannot be called sitting,—with his back against the wall, supporting himself upon the soles of his feet, and inhaling rapidly the fumes of his pipe upon his lungs; sending it back in curling volumes through his nostrils. Then, if he can procure about as much muddy coffee as would fill the bowl of a table-spoon, he utters his *Alhamdulillah* (*God be praised!*) and continues his expedition with renovated energy. The surprising journeys undertaken by these men on horseback, and the rapidity with which they are performed, are such as, if related,

would exceed belief. In fact, there are no couriers in the world who are capable of sustaining similar fatigue for an equal length of time; not even the *Russian Feldlégers*, in their *Pavoshies*. The *Tahtars* are sent as couriers to all parts of the empire: and it is for this reason that the dress they wear is considered the safest disguise any *Christian* traveller can assume, who is compelled to journey alone through the *Turkish* provinces.

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Silver Medals of the Locri Opuntii.

CHAP. IX.

PHARSALIA, TO THE VALLEY OF TEMPE.

*Appearance of the Country after passing Thermopylæ—
 Boundaries and names of Thessaly—Pharsalus and
 Palæpharsalus—Population of Pharsa—Field of the Bat-
 tle of Pharsalia—Appearance of the Plain—Pelasgiotis
 —Numerous Sepulchres—Antique Cars—Larissa—Evil
 disposition of its inhabitants—Population—Commerce
 —Penæus River—Larissa Cremaste—Road to Tempe—
 Tumuli—Military Way—Nesonis Palus—View of
 Olympus—Entrance of the Valley—Gonnus—Origin of
 the Defile—Ampelâkia—Natural locality of the Verde-
 antico Marble—consequence of the discovery—Atrakia
 —Marmor Atracium—Village of Ampelâkia—Manu-
 factory—Effect of the English Cotton-mills—Manner
 of making the thread—Process of dyeing the wool—
 Bearing*

Bearing of the Defile—Antient fortification—Roman Inscription—its date ascertained—use made of it—Former notions of Tempe—Descriptions given of it by antient authors—Pococke and Busching—Value of Livy's Observations—Pliny and Ælian.

AFTER leaving the old boundaries of *Græcia Propria*, the traveller, in the wider fields of *THESSALY*, finds an altered region, and an altered people. The difference is perceivable from the instant that he has passed the heights behind *Zeitûn*. *THESSALY* was the *Yorkshire* of Antient Greece, as to its country and its inhabitants. A vulgar adage in *England*, maintaining that “if a halter be cast upon the grave of a *Yorkshireman*, he will rise and steal a horse;” and the saying, “Do not put *Yorkshire* upon us,” as deprecating fraud; express the aphorisms antiently in use respecting the *Thessalians*, who were notorious for their knavish disposition; inso-much that base money was called *Thessalian coin*, and a cheating action *Thessalian treachery*. Do not these facts tend to establish former observations concerning the effect produced by different regions upon the minds of the natives?—for *Thessaly* has not forfeited its archaic

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Appearance of the country, after passing *Thermopylæ*.

(1) See Chap. II. of this Volume, p. 60.

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of Thes-
saly.

character; and with regard to the shrewd peasantry of *Yorkshire*, however we may be disposed to make the exception, and to dispute the application of an illiberal pleasantry, we shall not be able to banish it from the language of common conversation. The boundaries however of *Thessaly* have varied as often as the appellation it has received¹. Its most antient denomination was *Pelasia*; wherefore *Homer* always calls it *Pelagicon Argos*. He does not once mention it under the name of *Thessaly*. It has also borne the various names of *Pyrrhæa*, *Æmonia*, *Pandora*, *Nesonis*, and lastly *Thessaly*. It is divided by *Strabo*² into the four districts of *Phthiotis*, *Estiæotis*, *Thessaliotis*, and *Pelasgiotis*; all of which *Ptolemy*³ ascribes to *Macedonia*.

Pharsalus.

We found but few antiquities remaining of the antient PHARSALUS. Like other towns and villages of THESSALY, *Pharsa* is so entirely under *Turkish* domination, and has been so long in the hands of *Moslems*, that if they have not destroyed the relics of its former state, they have always hidden them from a traveller's view.

(1) Vid. *Stephan. de Urbib.* p. 305. Not. 46. edit. *Gronovii. Amst.* 1678.

(2) Vid. *Strabon. Geog. lib. ix.*

(3) *Ptolemæi Geog. lib. iii. cap. 13.*

The name alone remains to shew what it once was. *South-west* of the town, indeed, there is a hill surrounded with *antient walls*, formed of large masses of a coarse kind of marble. There is also the lower part of a *Gate*. And upon a lofty rock above the town, towards the *south*, are other ruins of greater magnitude; shewing a considerable portion of the walls of the *Acropolis*, and remains of its *Propylæa*. This place, as it is usual, is called *Palæo-castro*. *Livy* mentions a *PALÆPHARSALUS*⁴; and *Strabo* notices the *new* and the *old city*⁵. The modern town is situate at the foot of a mountain commanding a very extensive view towards the *north* of the *Plain of Pharsalia*, extending *east* and *west*. In the court of the *khan*, and in other parts of the town, we saw some steps made of enormous blocks of stone. *Pharsa* contains two thousand houses; but, for its inhabitants, a far greater proportion of *Turks* than of *Greeks*. There are four mosques; and the cisterns, within the courts and inclosures of these sanctuaries, and of the houses, perhaps contain inscriptions; but

*Palæ-
pharsalus.*

Population
of *Pharsa*.

(4) "*Castra eo tempore A. Hostilius in Thessalia circa Palæpharsalum habebat.*" Vid. *Liv. Hist. Epitome*, lib. xlv. c. 1. p. 678. Paris, 1738.

(5) *Τῆς νεῦς πόλεως καὶ τῆς παλαιᾶς.* *Strab. Geog.* lib. ix. p. 625. ed. Oron.