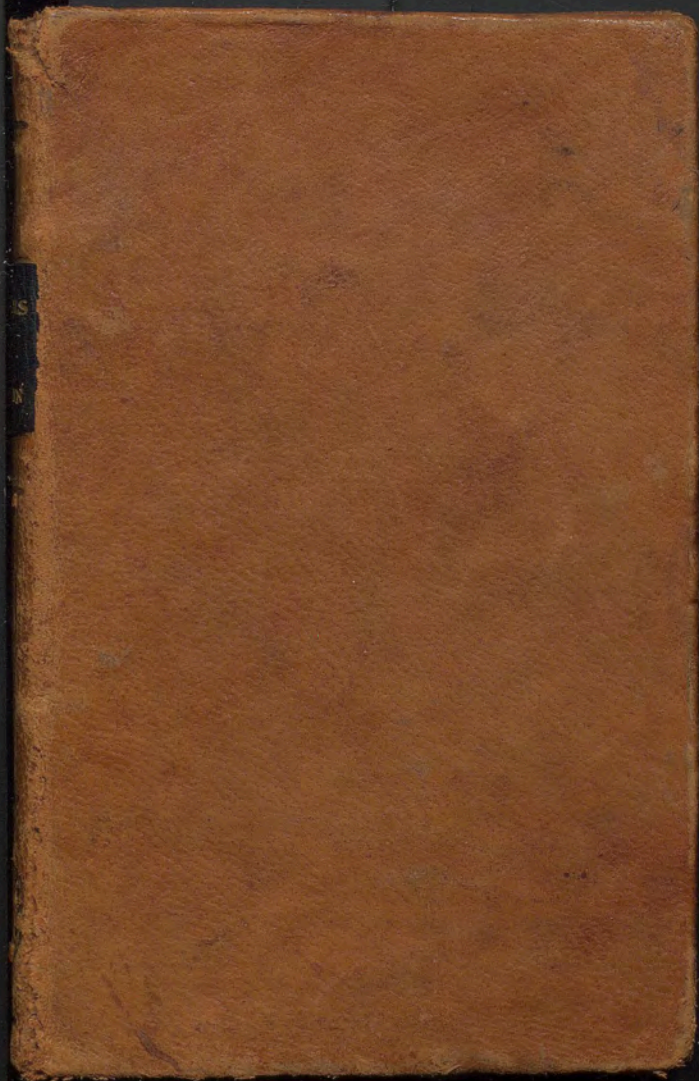




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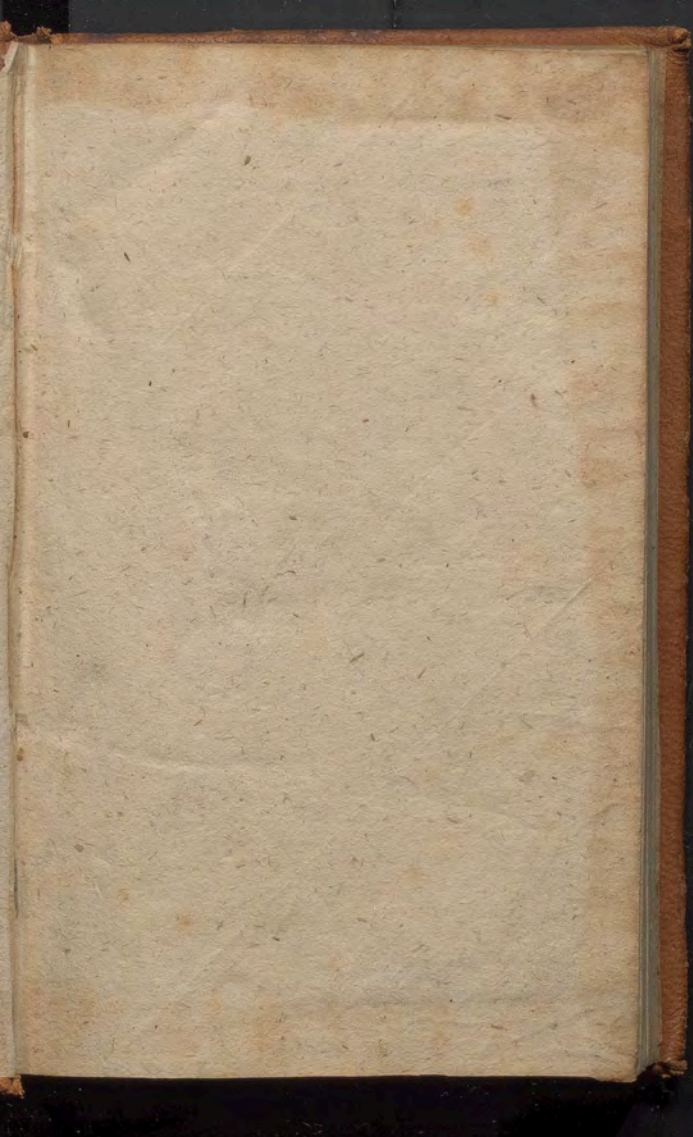
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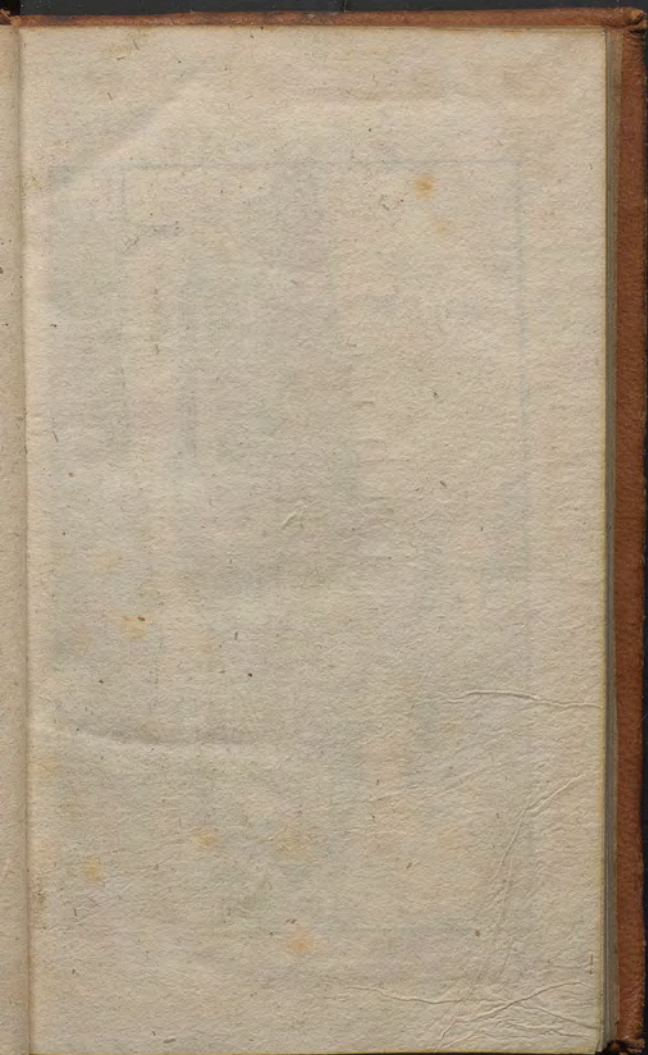
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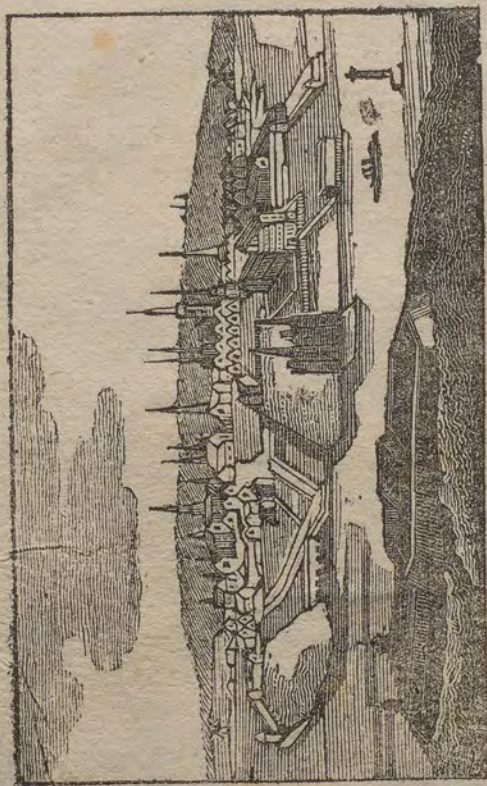
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TRAVELS

IN

SWEDEN, DENMARK,

AND

NORWAY.



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TRAVELS

IN

DENMARK, SWEDEN, AND NORWAY.

THOMAS BOULGER, his wife, and four children, lived on the borders of the county of Louth, between Newry and Narrow-water, just where the Newry canal flows into Carlingford bay. He tenanted five and twenty acres of good arable land, which he did not, like too many of his neighbours, neglect, merely because he had it at so low a rent as ten shillings per acre: he made its produce as much as if his rent was fifty shillings—and the low rate at which he held it, was only an additional motive for exertion. His father held it before him, and by dint of industry and perseverance, had made the land what it was at the period of which we speak. Like many others, old Thomas Boulger, the father, united the two opposite, but not incompatible callings

of farmer and linen weaver; and having found the advantage of the "two strings to his bow," as he called it, he had brought up his son to the loom as well as the plough. If the weather be unfavourable for outside work, he can be at the web within; and when the markets are bad, or the yarn high, he has his farm to mind; and in the mean time, whether at the bench at home, or in the fields abroad, he can have his eye upon his family, training them up in the ways of virtue and religion,—“those ways of pleasantness, whose paths are peace;” and adding to precept the influence of good example.

In this way the old man had prospered, and in a good old age had left his son the legacy of an honest name, of more worth than the snug cottage or the land attached, though it was what men might call a good take, and ensured him comfort and independence as long as he should strive to imitate the example which had been set him.

Nor was Thomas Boulger unmindful of the lessons which he had early received, or ungrateful to kind Providence for the blessings he enjoyed. His wife, a prudent, well-conducted woman, proved worthy of his choice; and as a family was coming fast about them, it behoved them to practise all those little plans of thrift and industry which might encrease their store, and enable them to educate their children.

Mrs. Boulger had her bee-hives each year; they took up little space; they only required care, and they rendered her a profitable return;—she had her pigs also; nor was their support felt in a family, where between parents, children, and two labouring men whom they kept to assist in the farm, eight persons were to be fed, and much would necessarily remain, the refuse of their meals, which would turn to account. Thomas Boulger also had his loom, as has been mentioned—his garden, and an orchard which yielded many bushels of apples, pears, &c. for the market, and allowed him to make use of the soil for his cows; besides which he sometimes would contract to keep a few perch of the county road in repair;—thus endeavouring, as the phrase is, to earn an honest penny in an honest way; and it is greatly to his credit to say, that once he obtained a favour from the neighbouring gentry, by whom he was universally esteemed and respected, he took great care not to forfeit it by any fault which it was in his power to avoid.

What a blessing would it be for Ireland did such characters as Tom Boulger abound in every county. There was Billy Rogers, who lived but three fields from Boulger, and yet to look at himself, his wife, his children, his cabin, you would have supposed he had never seen the good effects of prudence, industry, and good conduct. He was not a drunkard, nor an

idler—these faults bring with them inevitable ruin—but he had the fault, the common fault of the Irish, of never looking beyond the present—no forethought—though many things occurred at times to admonish him; he was like that thoughtless spendthrift who hailed the appearance of a single swallow as the proof that summer was at hand; and was soon reminded, that it is the wise part to think of the future as well as the present. If the good clergyman of the parish walked in to see Billy Rogers, none were so glad to see him, or more willing to listen to his advice:—"Welcome, Sir," said Mrs. Rogers, adjusting her cap, and neck handkerchief, and setting a chair for him, from which she had carefully wiped away the dust, "I am glad to see you—James, William, where is your bow to the gentleman; Nancy, your curtsy, Miss?—Oh what a shame to have the place so dirty—I declare I'll beat you for not sweeping it before this time of day," "Thank you, Mrs. Rogers," was the parson's answer, "I am sure your blows won't be heavy, when you remember that you might have thought of it yourself to desire her."—"His Reverence has you there, sure enough," said Bill, good-humouredly, as his wife, half smiling, shewed by her eyes that conscience had already told her as much. "I called to see you to-day, William," said the clergyman, (without noticing what passed between them)

to ask you why you dont send your children to the school?" "And that I will," replied Rogers, "but to-day I am cutting down a bit of oats, and I wish to get it in before the weather changes." "There you are right—but as you are not always reaping your oats, why, my friend, keep these young ones at home who cannot assist; it seems to me as if it would be an advantage to have them out of your way. And then, look at your two daughters there at the looms, you have given them no learning; and though often and often I have asked you to send them regularly to me on Sunday morning, yet still it is the same thing, however different the excuse." "Too true, Sir," said Rogers, "and yet (for he was always persuading himself that his fault was not so great) and yet how can I spare them on a week-day, they help, good girls, to earn a bit for the family? And then on Sunday we dont like to let them go, their little things are so bare; but shortly, Sir, (brightening up as he said it) shortly we shall have a trifle to lay out, and then you may depend on it. In the mean time, James, William, Nancy, remember you go to the school to-morrow. You shall find us better for the future; and we will take our two eldest in hands ourselves, and teach them a little in the evenings," "Be steady to that resolution," was generally the parting advice of the good minister as he left the cottage, painfully

reminded that he had heard the same promise often before, and as often known it to be forgotten in the anxiety to provide for the pressing wants of the day, and the habit of postponing all thought for the future.

That such was not the course pursued by Boulger, we have already seen, and we shall soon have occasion to trace the manner in which it was rewarded. Every day he sent his children to the school, and every evening it was his care to make them rehearse the lessons of the following day. They sat at the further end of the room, under his own eye, and at intervals he would converse with them upon such subjects as came within his observation, mixing all with such remarks and admonitions as might, under the Divine blessing, form their minds to virtue. In due time the boys became monitors, and, successively, head monitors, securing for themselves the esteem of the master, and the good opinion of the persons who superintended and directed the master in the management of the school.

In process of time, the good effects of Thomas Boulger's care of his children became manifest; the girls had learned needle-work, reading and writing at school—their mother's care had made them notable at home, and, as the world throve, they became necessary to take care of the dairy and the poultry, and the clothing of the family. William

Boulger, the eldest son, had a liking for his father's occupation, and as he had been taught, without difficulty, to take his father's place at the loom, it seemed a natural transition from the school desk, to be his father's right hand at home, and in the field. The second son, Ned, was two years younger, and therefore continued at the school two years after his brother William had left it. He was what the world calls a bright boy, having a ready talent for every thing which was taught him; he could write so fine a hand, that Mr. Harding, who had the largest property in the neighbourhood, and was the chief patron of the school, had often brought him to assist his land agent in settling his accounts, and copying such letters as he sent on business. In this small way he had so much reason to be satisfied with him, that he offered his father to take him altogether into his family, as a clerk and assistant to the steward, with a promise that he should succeed to that place, provided he showed himself qualified, and endeavoured to acquire the knowledge of country business necessary for such a responsible situation.

In this situation Ned Boulger had continued six years, gradually rising in the esteem of all around him, and proving himself more and more deserving of the confidence which Mr. Harding reposed in him. With a steadiness

and prudence far above his years, he was cheerful, and even lively—never forgetful of the respect to which his superiors were entitled, and yet so judicious in all he said—so frank in his disposition, and so attached to the family from whom he had received these many marks of kindness, that he came at last to be considered as a faithful friend.

Nor was it only Mr. Harding that knew how to value this excellent young man: the same sentiments were felt by every member of his family, and it was numerous; consisting of Mrs. Harding, and seven children, three girls, and four boys. Of the latter of them, the eldest, Arthur Harding, was a young man of high attainments, and of a disposition corrected and formed by the care of watchful and judicious parents. He had finished his education at the university, and, as his fortune was to be large, and the station in which Providence had placed him, seemed to call him to public life, it became advisable to open his mind by foreign travel, and thus fit him for the efficient discharge of the duties which would rest upon him. He was to visit the different countries of Europe, not for the mere purpose of satisfying his curiosity, but to note the habits and manners of different people—to observe those points in which they might be imitated with advantage, and at the same time those errors which we at home would do well to shun.

To send a beloved son, however, into foreign lands, was a measure which Mr. and Mrs. Harding could not resolve on without many painful struggles. If there were advantages to be gained, there were also attendant dangers; and though they had great reliance on the firmness of Arthur's principles, they deemed it necessary, in every possible way, to fortify him against the contagion of bad example. They therefore procured Dr. Collins, an elderly gentleman of talents, experience, and character, to accompany him in the capacity of friend and adviser, whilst their parental care selected Ned Boulger, as the person whose good sense and virtue would tend to confirm him in those principles which they had inculcated, and prove to him a useful auxiliary on those occasions where he might be obliged to act without the assistance of his governor.

Such a project, it may be well supposed, was by no means unpleasing to Ned Boulger himself. His attachment to Mr. Harding's family had literally grown with his growth, and strengthened with his strength, so that he rejoiced at any opportunity afforded to him of returning their kindness, whilst at the same time he was not insensible to the opportunity thus afforded to him of satisfying a laudable curiosity respecting other countries. His father's consent being obtained, he entered gladly upon those preparations which were necessary

for one who was about to absent himself for several months from home.

As Dr. Collins and Mr. Harding arranged it, it was resolved that the party should, in the first instance, direct their course towards the countries of Northern Europe, namely, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, and Lapland; they might not indeed afford so much interest as the more refined inhabitants of the middle and southern parts of Europe; but their manners being more simple—their habits of living less luxurious, and their opinions more nearly allied to virtue, they offered fewer dangers to young men; whilst the very novelty of every object which meets the eye in a foreign country when a Briton for the first time leaving his home, lands there, would have so many attractions for young minds, that they were not apprehensive of the sight being devoid of interest.

Every thing having been thus arranged for the journey, the party left Mr. Harding's on the 20th May, 18—, bearing with them the prayers and good wishes of those they left behind. The Northern coach conveyed them in a few hours to Dublin, but there it was not a part of their plan to stop, being anxious to take advantage of the fine season before them, and if possible see the whole of Denmark, Norway and Sweden, before the winter should set in; which in Northern Europe is extremely

severe. The same evening that they reached Dublin, they embarked in a steam-packet, and in twenty-six hours were landed in Bristol, a town of great commercial importance, situated on the rivers Avon and Frome, and not far from the river Severn, into which their united streams flow. From hence they travelled in an easterly direction across England, till they reached Harwich, upon the eastern coast of the county of Essex, where they found a packet sailing to the opposite shore of the continent, and were so fortunate as to procure births without difficulty. The passage across was uncommonly expeditious, though both the young men suffered greatly from sea sickness. In a storm, vessels have been driven from Harwich to the mouth of the Elbe in thirty hours—but the captain of the packet considered it a fine run to make Heligoland in forty-five hours—the wind having fallen shortly after they lost sight of the English coast, and obliged them to lie to for six hours, waiting for the tide.

Heligoland is the name given to a group of small islands in the North Sea, or German Ocean, belonging formerly to Denmark, but now to Great Britain, and situated about twenty-eight miles from the mouths of three rivers, the Elbe (which our travellers were to enter, in order to reach the city of Ham-burgh), the Weser, a river flowing through the

kingdom of Hanover, in Germany, and the Eyder, a river of Denmark. It lies N. Lat. $54^{\circ} 11'$ North, and about $7^{\circ} 53'$ East Longitude—It consists of the principal island, the smaller island, called the Down, and several sand banks and rocks, of which that called "The Monk," is the most conspicuous. The night was extremely dark, which was the cause of the captain not chusing to make at once for the mouth of the river Elbe. Into the harbour of Heligoland, therefore they were safely guided by a noble light-house, which, placed on the high land, was visible at twenty-seven miles distance; and they enjoyed, that night, the luxury of a bed on shore, no small comfort to fresh-water sailors, who had been tossed about for nearly two days, and had suffered greatly from sea sickness.

Heligoland, which is about two miles in circuit, has two excellent harbours, and to the east of the Down was a roadsted, where the packet cast anchor in forty-eight feet water. The inhabitants are computed at about two thousand, who subsist chiefly by fishing, and acting as pilots to vessels entering the Elbe; the women cultivating the little grain (barley and oats) raised here, and attending to a few hundred sheep for which there is pasture.—There are two wells of fresh water in the island, but scarcely a shrub or tree of any kind can be seen—fuel, and garden vege-

tables being brought from the neighbouring continent, in exchange for fish. "Why," said Arthur, "should England be anxious to keep possession of such an inconsiderable spot? It seems to me not worth the expense of the military establishment which we are obliged to keep up." "In time of peace," replied Dr. Collins, "it certainly does not indemnify us; but in the late war, where the ports of the continent were closed against us, it was useful as a depot for merchandise, which afterwards, notwithstanding Bonaparte's prohibition, was landed on the neighbouring shore; and it is probably this, joined to its double harbour, which has made our Government deem it expedient to retain it. If the bad passions of men were to involve us again in war,—may such calamity be far from us—Heligoland would be of incalculable advantage as a naval and commercial station."

The next morning, at seven o'clock, our travellers, much refreshed, obeyed the signal which the captain made for them to embark once more. At eight the anchor was weighed, and a pilot taking the helm, in about four hours they made the mouth of the Elbe, which here forms the boundary of separation between Denmark and Germany. This noble river rises on the northern frontier of Bohemia, and receiving the water of several tributary streams, becomes navigable for smaller vessels as soon

as it reaches the city of Dresden, the capital of Saxony. In its north-westerly course it successively passes the cities of Meissen, Torgau, Wittenberg, Magdeburg, and Hamburg; seventy miles below the last of which it discharges itself into the German ocean. As far as Hamburg, vessels drawing fourteen feet water proceed, but from thence it is navigable only by small craft; and it will give some idea of its usefulness as a means of inland communication, that no less than five hundred vessels of different sizes are employed between Hamburg and Magdeburg, which lies 120 miles S. S. E.

The packet proceeded steadily up the river, having both wind and tide in its favour, but the pilot pointed out to Dr Collins the position of a great many sand banks, which rendered the navigation extremely difficult. Upon their right hand lay the fertile possessions of Hanover, belonging to the king of England, who is its hereditary monarch; on the left, the more barren and desolate plains of Denmark. Dr. Collins, however, pointed out to them, that wherever villages appeared on the Danish side of the river, they were remarkably neat, the walls being painted of a green colour, and each house having a small garden and plantation near it. Of this description was Gluckstadt, and likewise Blankanese, whence the boats plying from the mouth of the river to

Hamburgh, derive their name. These boats are remarkable for the swiftness with which they sail: their form is narrow and long, and they have a little cabin in the prow, which ends in a point, like the toe of a lady's slipper, to which indeed the boat has in the whole of its appearance, a great resemblance. Its mast consists of a single fir tree of great length, which supports a square sail of large dimensions.

The sun was setting when the view of Altona and Hamburgh opened upon them, with great magnificence, both situated about seventy-eight miles from the mouth of the river, in E. long. $9^{\circ} 58'$. N. lat. $53^{\circ} 32'$. The forest of masts belonging to the shipping was far greater than in the Liffey, and even the Thames itself did not shew the appearance of more commerce, as Dr. Collins informed them. Nor was the impression at all lessened by the internal view of the city of Hamburgh, and its inhabitants. Altona, likewise, carries on a considerable commerce, though they might both be considered one place, the distance between them being only one mile, Hamburgh being the farthest of the two from the mouth of the river, and the houses continuing the whole way. The port of Hamburgh is closed every night at a certain hour, which varies according to the season of the year; after this hour no one is permitted to enter into the city, even the mail being hauled over the gates by

a rope, the person who brings it not being permitted to pass the barrier.

The streets of Hamburgh are narrow, and badly paved. The houses, although lofty, have a gloomy air. Those belonging to the wealthy merchants are very grand. Many of the houses occupied by the trading classes, are built both of brick and wood, most of them having pointed roofs, which form a triangle in front. The walls are thick, and the windows narrow, and so numerous, and with small spaces between them, that they might be mistaken for manufactories. This city is computed to be distant 448 miles to the N. East of London.

The atmosphere of Hamburgh is damp, and there are few cities in which more rain falls—a circumstance which keeps the streets dirty. This, however, is of less consequence, from the number of vehicles which are in general use. All the merchants keep carriages; besides which, a sort of waggon, having four seats, on springs, and drawn by two horses, is very common; they hold eight persons. The horses are from Holstein, and are remarkably beautiful.

Such was the appearance which this city presented to the party on their entrance; but the letters of introduction which Mr, Harding had given to his son, and Dr. Collins, procured them a closer view of the habits of the people,

whilst Ned Boulger employed his time in making his own observations. It was the season when all the principal inhabitants had retired to their country seats, and having been to one of these residences by the first person to whom they introduced themselves, they found it elegantly furnished, and the table loaded with the most luxurious kinds of food, and costly wines. The interior apartments of the humblest shopkeepers were remarkable for their neatness, and the great attention which is paid to cleanliness. Every article of furniture was polished, and every corner swept; the outside of their doors, the stairs and rails being scoured with soap and water. "I like cleanliness and neatness," said Dr. Collins, "but here, I think the love of these comforts is carried too far. The boards are so white, that you see the owners often living in the kitchens of their houses, to avoid soiling their rooms. Whatever house you enter, you seldom fail of seeing a servant on her knees, washing or scrubbing away at the furniture, or the stairs and banisters; and you can testify, Ned, how annoying it is to have the people constantly casting water from hand pumps against the fronts of the houses, for you came home yesterday like one who had been drenched in the Liffey." "Of the two, however," said Arthur Harding, "cleanliness is better than filth, and I wish we could teach our countrymen at home such

habits, even though we might now and then get a wet jacket by it." "I prefer cleanliness too replied Dr. Collins, but it would be better to avoid both extremes; I should not like to live with an untidy, slovenly house-keeper, but neither should I wish to take cold by sitting in damp rooms. The Golden mean, my young friend, is the safest as well as the happiest course for us to proceed in, and therefore I prefer English neatness to Irish slovenliness, on one side; or Hamburgh cleanliness on the other: Harding and Edward felt a little mortified, at having their country thus decryed, but they felt that Dr. Collins was right, and they could only wish that it should cease to deserve such a character.

I like their mode of living, however, said Arthur, at those houses where we have dined. When the company is all seated, you see no person requested to eat or drink, and it is a mark of ill breeding to ask any lady or gentleman to take a glass of wine; each takes as much as he chuses, and no people can be more temperate than the Hamburghers. The meat is brought to the guests in order, by the attendants, ready cut up, and each helps himself or passes it as he pleases. The only fault I find is that there is too great a profusion: and yet, said Dr. Collins, the Hamburgher, amidst his own luxuries is not unmindful of the wants of his fellow creatures; the manner in which provision

is made for the poor, reflects great credit upon the people and government. They are supported by voluntary contributions and by a tax upon public amusements, and all is thrown into one common fund, out of which it is distributed in just proportion to the five parishes of the city: in this way they avoid the great error into which we fall, in our populous cities, when as you know the wealthiest parish has, generally the smallest number of poor to relieve, whilst the declining parts of the town contain the greatest number of indigent people, and have the least means of giving their assistance. Well Sir, said Arthur, good humouredly; whatever praise these people may deserve, I am sure there is one particular in which there is great room for improvement. There is Néd, who is rather low sized, and yet he has not enjoyed the pleasure of a comfortable bed since we came here; the bed-steads are all so short that he cannot stretch himself at his length; and as for me I am obliged to lie exactly like a Z, literally doubled up, in order that my legs may not start out from under the covering. You are better off, replied the Doctor laughing, than in other places, where I have seen the bed-clothes folded back at the feet as well as the head; and when I innocently asked the reason, I was told it was because German gentlemen are accustomed to go to bed in their boots!!

But it was in regard to its commercial importance, that Hamburgh chiefly deserved the travellers attention, and no one was better qualified than Dr. Collins, to satisfy the enquiries of his young companions. Hamburgh said he, was one of those cities which formerly associated together, for the protection of trade under the name of Hanse Towns; and the cause of their uniting together, gives us some idea of the lawless state of society at the time. It was then customary for a stranded vessel to be seized by the nobleman who possessed the shore on which the wreck took place;—or when a merchant travelling through a foreign land happened to die, the government of the country where his death took place, seized upon whatever property he possessed; nay if a stranger proved insolvent, it was usual for the police to imprison the first of his countrymen whom they could find, and oblige him to pay these debts, which another had contracted:—how unwise as well as unjust, said Arthur, for such acts must have checked the spirit of commerce, and deterred many from exposing themselves to such dangers. It was indeed, said Dr. Collins, but it never struck them in that light, and therefore self defence obliged the chief commercial towns of Germany, to enter into a confederacy to assist each other in the maintenance of their natural rights. This was in the year 1241, and the adjacent cities

Hamburgh and Lubeck, were the first to form it, for the purpose, as they declared, of employing their joint efforts to clear the highways from robbers, and the seas from pirates : and to protect each other from the injuries I have already mentioned ; and when Brunswick afterwards joined them, they took the name of the Hanse towns, from the old German word Hanse, which means union, or association. In the course of the next two centuries, they received accession of various cities and towns, the principal of which were Cologne, Dantzic, Frankfort, all in Germany ; until at last they could in succeeding times, number in the confederation sixty-four places of commercial importance, and became strong enough to assert their rights against any state, who should offer an injury to those whom they protected. The places I have mentioned as the chief towns of the union : added Dr. Collins, were so many central points for the various towns belonging to the Hanse League, which were situated in their vicinity and enjoyed a sort of precedence, Lubeck being always considered as entitled to the first rank ; in 1630, the union may be said to have been dissolved, perhaps on account of commerce being better understood, and self interest pointing out to the different Sovereigns of the country, the advantage of encouraging instead of checking trade. Since that time, the title

of Hanse towns has been confined to Lubeck, Bremen and Hamburg, which still maintain a commercial treaty with each other. I think Sir, the spirit of commerce still exists in this, at least, said Arthur, for we have already been able to observe how entirely business engrosses the attention of almost every individual: I went yesterday into the counting house of a merchant, and it had all the bustle and appearance of our national bank. In the office where I was, there were no less than thirty clerks, all occupied at their desks. Yes replied Dr. Collins, and that flourishing commerce will continue, as long as trade is protected, for see how admirable is the position of Hamburg, situated on the northern bank of a noble estuary, which, even here, though so distant from the sea, is from three to six miles wide; and enjoying as we have seen by means of the Elbe, a water communication with the interior of the German continent; and besides, said Arthur, opening at once upon the German Ocean, so that vessels can at once proceed to the various ports of Europe, as well as America. It reminds me of Liverpool which as I have read is the Emporium of English manufactures; Yes, said Ned, who had listened with great interest, to the conversation; and it has another feature of resemblance, the wealth which commerce brings, have given the inhabitants the means

of improving the port. You have made a very sensible remark, said Dr. Collins, with an encouraging smile, and I shall always be glad to see you joining in our conversation. Let us endeavour to ascend the spire of that fine church of St. Peter, and you will have a fine birds-eye view of the city, the rivers, and the adjacent country. Look now at the busy scene below; what little creatures the people all appear; do you see those carriages, on which we have made such pleasant excursions: those Danish horses which draw them, loaded with eight persons, look no larger than dogs, and then what numbers of people! how busily they are moving about their various occupations! they look like puppets; and one spirit appears to prevail amongst them; and then look at the Alster flowing into the Elbe, from the north. You perceive it forms outside the town, a large basin like a lake, and within the town, another of less extent, called the Binnen Alster, which serves as a harbour. This river also forming several small islands, has enabled the merchants to have canals running along the backs of their houses, by which they can load and unload the barges, which convey the merchandize to and from the shipping in the port; look also at that arm of the Elbe, which forms two ports, one on the east for boats, and another on the west, for ships called Niederbaum. What a pity that ships drawing

more than fourteen feet of water, cannot come up higher than Blankanese, which you see at the distance of nine miles. It is however to that circumstance, that this latter village owes its prosperity; numbers being employed in conveying in boats, the cargoes of large vessels to the town. Now Ned, said Dr. Collins, you see the advantageous position of what we may call the continental Liverpool; that river before you, is navigable throughout the greater part of Saxony, almost to the confines of Bohemia. The Alster carries boats with the aid of a canal to Lubeck, on the Baltic; hence, you may form an idea of its commercial importance. The Hamburgh merchant buys the commodities of Great Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands, the West Indies, the United States of America, and supplies with these, all the countries lying along the Elbe, and indeed the greater part of Germany. He also buys up the products of these different countries through which he has sought a market for his commodities, the inhabitants having discovered that, to make their sales through the Hamburgher, is less hazardous, than a direct intercourse with places so remote as those where their commodities finally arrive.

Having thus acquainted themselves with all that was remarkable in Hamburgh, (and it being the first place they visited, the interest it

excited in the young men was strong) Dr. Collins made his arrangements for setting out the following day, upon a tour through Denmark, the first country they were to visit. That evening therefore, was employed, in making both Arthur Harding and Ned acquainted with the geography of the country; in order that they might know their course, and be the better qualified to profit by what they should see. He made them remark that it lay between 54° and 57° N. lat. and 8° and $12\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ east longitude, and (consisted of two parts, one continental, containing the provinces of Jutland, Sleswick, Holstein, and the small province of Lauenburg, forming altogether a peninsula) and the other insular consisting of the islands of Zealand, Funen, Langsland, Falster, Laaland, Bornholm, Moen, and a number of smaller islands in the Baltic Sea. He shewed them also, that, though made up of so many separate portions, it was on the whole a compact territory, its superficial extent being 22000 square miles, and its population about 1,800,000. The continental part you perceive, said he, is separated from northern Germany by the Elbe, and by the country which stretches thence to the Baltic; whilst the two principal islands Funen and Zealand, lie across the entrance into the Baltic Sea. Funen is divided from peninsular Denmark, by the strait called the Little Belt, nine miles across. The strait

called the Great Belt, separates Funen from Zealand, whilst the narrow channel called the Sound, runs between Zealand, and the opposite shore of Norway. What a large Sea is the Baltic, said Arthur, and then its shape is so extraordinary. It is, replied Dr. Collins, one of the large inland Seas of Europe, it begins at these islands, which we have mentioned, of Zealand and Funen, and washes the shores of Germany, on the south; Russia on the east, and Sweden on the west; being above six hundred miles in length, and from seventy-five to one hundred and fifty in breadth; the number of square miles in its surface being estimated at 120,000. I have read, said Arthur, that the depth of water in the Baltic is every year growing less. It is found to be the case replied he, but then the decrease in depth, goes on slowly as we count time, though perhaps in centuries hence, all this space will be dried up, and then Russia and the other States, will be no longer possessed of such a range of coast. I heard also, Sir, said Ned, that it was frozen across for three months in the year, so that people and even waggons could pass in all directions. That is in severe winters only; at other times the ice is strong to a certain distance from the shore, but farther out, is too weak to support great weights, though it puts an end to navigation, till the return of fine weather melts the ice,

and leaves the navigation once more unobstructed.

The party left Hamburg in a post waggon, drawn by four horses, on the first of June. This sort of vehicle had been recommended to them, as the most convenient for travelling through the Dutchy of Holstein, which lay in the way to Copenhagen the capital of the whole country. As they passed through the western gate of the fortifications, they saw the mode in which the mail was conveyed over the dykes and ramparts into the city, after the gates were shut. It is placed in a trunk which is made to slide along a cable, by means of a windlass. Unaccustomed to such a machine as their waggon, they found it most uneasy, use however soon reconciled them to it though they were jolted with a degree of violence, which might be expected, by persons travelling swiftly in a carriage without springs over bad roads, unevenly paved, almost the whole way, with large rough stones.

The dutchy of **Holstein**, through which they were now proceeding, is an extensive district belonging to Denmark, and of course entitled to a place in an account of travels through that country. It is bounded on the west by the German Ocean, south by the river Elbe, east by the Baltic, and north by Denmark, its latitude is the same, as that of the north of England; it contains about 3,250 square

miles, and its population amounts to 360,000; at first, the country appeared poor and desolate, but as they advanced, it improved in aspect; and they observed the houses to be both neat and comfortable. On the top of some of these cottages, were to be seen the large nests of the stork, for which the inhabitants have a superstitious regard, conceiving that it always portends some prosperous event to the owner of the house; they suffer their nests therefore, to remain untouched, even after the bird has migrated into Holland, which it always does in the month of March, attracted by the abundance of food, such as worms and frogs which at that season, abounds in that marshy country. How astonishing, said Dr. Collins, the instinct which impels this, as well as some other species of the feathered creation, annually to take a long and fatiguing flight from home, and leads them back again, with unerring accuracy; "the stork in the heavens, knoweth her appointed time." As they drew near to Eutin, a neat but small town, in the dutchy of Holstein, which lies forty miles from Hamburgh; they passed by several lakes, beautifully adorned with trees, though the country was flat and otherwise uninteresting, excepting as they occasionally caught a distant glimpse of the Baltic Sea, and the rising sun, reflected on its smooth unruffled surface.

The houses in this town were of an uniform structure ; the barn, stables, dwelling house, &c. being all under the same roof, and a large door in the gable end of the building, admitting not only carriages, waggon and horses, but the inmates of the family. In this manner, our travellers were driven vehicle and all, into one of these houses, which was an Inn. It was upon Saturday evening, and they were to rest on the morrow ; having determined if possible never to travel on Sunday, but to hallow it to *His* service, whose day it is called. What they saw, however, was not calculated to impress them with a favorable impression of the people, for the peasants were employed far differently from what they had been accustomed to see at home ; gaming and drinking, and as might be expected, from the way they were occupied, quarreling : indeed the contrast brought forcibly to the minds of the young men, their native village, and the very proper and devout wish, which they both expressed that the bad example before them, might never lead them to forget the hallowing the Lord's day, was a pleasing evidence to Dr. Collins, that the seeds of religious instruction had struck deep into their minds.

Here it was, that they were first entertained with music of a new and strange description. This was the chorus of multitudes of frogs, and singular as it may appear, the

sound is harmonious. Those who have never heard it, would hardly think it possible, for any number of frogs, to produce such a clamour, and that not of an unpleasing description; and yet such was the effect produced by these animals, as the croaking of myriads or rather millions was heard in the still evening.

Having stopped for one day at Eutin, the party left it for Kiel, which is fifty-one miles north from Hamburg; long. 10° east, and lat. 51° north. They had thought it impossible any roads could be worse than those from Hamburg to the place they had just left, but they were soon convinced of their error; their mode of conveyance was the same as before, but the road was so very much broken, that it was a wonder they were not overturned; the horses however, were very fine, and notwithstanding every delay, they were able to travel at the average rate of five miles an hour. The cottages appeared every where, neat and spacious, and the inhabitants seemed to be healthy and comfortable in their circumstances.

About a mile before they arrived at Kiel, which is the capital of Holstein, the party quitted their waggon to walk through the fields to the town; their road lay near the public burial ground; and it was pleasing to them to observe the care and neatness, with which it is kept. Memorials of wood or stone, mark-

ed the ground belonging to different families, and the graves were all dressed out with plants and flowers, cultivated by surviving friends. The town stands at the extremity of an inlet from the Baltic, and consists chiefly of one long street terminated by a small square; the houses neat and elegant. The harbour was good, but it had not risen into importance, as a place of trade. Here they saw the canal called Kiel, which runs from the Baltic, eastward, meets the Eyder river as it flows westward into the German ocean, and thus forms a communication between those two seas. It extends above twenty-two miles in length, being from ninety to one hundred feet wide at the surface, fifty four feet at the bottom, and admitting vessels drawing nine feet of water. This canal was finished in 1784, and it will shew the advantage of it, that in 1803 (a time of war when the navigation of the Sound was interrupted) the number of vessels which passed through it amounted to nearly four thousand.

Quitting Kiel after a stay of one day, they seated themselves in their uneasy carriage in order to proceed northwards to Arroë Sound, an inlet of the Baltic, on the eastern shore of the peninsula of Jutland. After crossing the canal of Kiel, they left Holstein, and entered the Dutchy of Sleswick, observing immediately a change of costume, in the head-dress of the female peasants, who appeared with a broad

white fillet bound over the forehead and temples. Their first stage lay through a pleasant country, but the second was dreary and barren. This they were told they might have avoided, if, instead of taking a route along the eastern coast, they had proceeded by one in a more westerly direction, which travellers have described as passing through a country abounding in forests and beautiful woods, having gravel roads amongst rich meadows, and highly cultivated land.

If the road, however, along which they passed was uninteresting, they were able to pass over it at a rapid pace, by the assistance of those fine horses already mentioned, which are peculiar to Holstein, and are celebrated for their beauty and excellence. They were of a dark glossy bay colour, with small heads, large nostrils, and full dark eyes, the fine clearness of which, seemed to denote the spirit of the animal; notwithstanding their great beauty, and the activity and speed for which they were so famous, they possessed great strength; 20,000, the number exported annually being a sufficient proof of the estimation in which they are held in the various countries of Europe.

The following day their road skirted along the Eastern coast of Sleswick, and gave them occasional views of the Baltic. It was early when they started, but when the roads became more frequented and their course had led them

through several small but neat towns, which were beautifully situated upon inlets of the Baltic; it was easy to observe that something particular interested the young men. Every moment as the natives with that courtesy for which continental foreigners in general are remarkable, saluted them; they exchanged looks, as if each understood the thoughts that occupied the other. I perceive, said Dr. Collins, what it is that strikes you in these people: it is their resemblance to Englishmen, as you must have observed them passing through that country, in features as well as manners. This however will not appear surprising when you recollect the connexion which formerly existed between the two countries. History tells us that in the eighth century the Danes were a warlike people, inured to the sea and accustomed to make incursions upon the coast of England, and after collecting what plunder they could, to betake themselves again to their ships. Their vessels were small and ran secretly up the creeks and rivers, and as they were skillful in managing them they kept the whole coast in continual alarm. On one occasion they advanced as far as London, and having routed the troops which opposed them, they marched into the heart of England. On another they got possession of York, and at length gaining confidence from repeated successes, they established themselves in the country.

“Did they hold it long?” said Arthur. “Yes,” replied he. In the tenth century, the English were forced to receive a king from Denmark; and it may well be supposed, that during the fifty years that Canute the Great, Harold, and Hardicanute reigned, a great many of the Danish followers settled in the conquered country, and by intermarrying with the native English, transmitted the Danish features to their posterity. It is interesting, concluded he, to recount that the very country through which we are travelling is named Angeln, and pronounced by the people, Engelonde, nearly the same as we pronounce England. You see also, that the method of cultivating and dividing the land is the same: the meadows on each side of us being bounded by quickset hedges, or by fences made of inter-twisted boughs. You know also, I suppose, that your own country, Ireland, did not escape the ravages of these fierce invaders, although a valiant resistance was made to them, and many bloody battles were fought;—one at Clontarf, near Dublin, in 1015, in which the Danes were totally defeated. All historians agree in ascribing to them the barbarism into which the country subsequently sunk, from being the most learned people on the face of the whole earth.

It was in this manner Dr. Collins interested his young companions, as they proceeded along to Arroo Sound; situated on the shore of the strait called the Lesser Belt, and consisting only of a Post house, and a few cottages be-

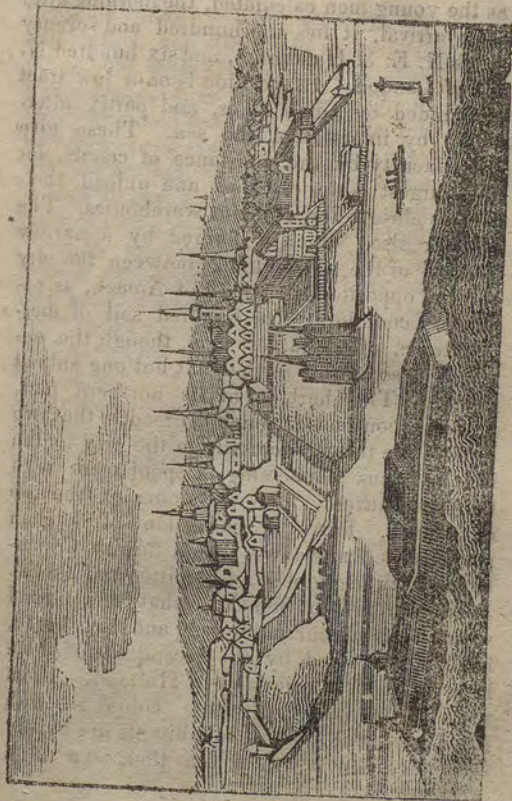
longing to the mariners, who navigate the passage, which is nine miles across. Here embarking, they were landed in two hours at Assurs, on the opposite shore of the island of Funen. This island which ranks next in extent to Zealand, is thirty-five miles long and thirty broad, having a surface of 1,200 square miles, and a population of 130,000. They found it fertile, and able to export a considerable quantity of grain to Norway; like the other parts of Denmark, however it scarcely has any manufactures. Oden See, situated at the bottom of a large Gulf in the north eastern part of the island, is the capital. It possessed nothing remarkable to detain them, they therefore proceeded to Fribourg, on the eastern shore, where, finding a boat ready to set sail, and the wind favorable, they embarked, and had a delightful passage of four hours to Corsoers on the western coast of the isle of Zealand; the distance eighteen miles, about the same as that between Ireland and Scotland, at Donaghadee and Portpatrick, or between England and France, at Dover and Calais.

The island of Zealand, the largest of those which form the insular part of Denmark, extends from $55^{\circ} 2'$ to $56^{\circ} 8'$ N. lat. It has an area of 2,600 square miles, and its population amounts to 310,000. Its surface resembles that of the adjacent Danish islands, it being entirely without mountains; instead of

being, however, like several of them a dead flat, it is finely varied, having small hills and fields intersected by canals, which in summer when the ground is covered with vegetation gives the country a beautiful appearance. It abounds in corn, particularly barley, also in good pasturage, and exports both grain and cattle.

The next morning at two o'clock, A. M. the long twilight in these northern countries permitting travellers to proceed with equal convenience by night as by day; they left Corsoers in a large open waggon. Soon after they saw the sun rising over the Baltic, the sky at the horizon, exhibiting for half an hour a bright green colour. Unfortunately for our party, the road from Corsoers to the capital passed through the least interesting part of the island; they saw, however, marks of good cultivation, which gave them a favorable opinion of the industry of the inhabitants; and reached it about five o'clock in the evening of the fifth of June. At seven the same evening, they reached Copenhagen, the metropolis, not only of the island itself, but of the whole kingdom:—well satisfied that they were once more in a place where they might enjoy the pleasure of resting for a few days.

The city of Copenhagen, (i. e.) in the language of the country, merchants harbour; is computed to contain 150,000 inhabitants, and



as the young men calculated, the morning after their arrival, it lies one hundred and seventy miles N. E. of Hamburgh, and six hundred N. E. of London. Its position is on a low tract surrounded by small lakes, and partly intersected by inlets from the sea. These give great facility by the assistance of canals, for the largest ships to load and unload their cargoes close to the different warehouses. The harbour also, which is formed by a narrow channel of the sea, running between the city and the opposite little island of Amack, is capable of containing five hundred sail of merchantmen, of the largest size, though the entrance is so narrow as to admit but one ship at a time. This harbour at its northern part, however, contracts so much in breadth, that two bridges are thrown across from the city to the island; thus connecting Copenhagen with Christianshaven. The remainder of the isle of Amack, forms a succession of kitchen gardens and meadows, which furnish Copenhagen with vegetables, milk, butter and cheese. It is curious to remark, that this island which is about four miles long and two broad, is chiefly peopled by the descendants of a colony from East Friesland in Holland. From the intermarriages of these colonists with the Danes, the present inhabitants are chiefly descended, but as they wear their own dress,

the same which was worn when the colony was first settled, and still retain not only their language, but their Dutch manners, they appear a race distinct from the Danes. The men wear broad brimmed hats, black jackets, full glazed breeches of the same colour, loose at the knee, and tied around the waist. The women dress in blue jackets and red petticoats, and have a piece of blue glazed cloth bound on their heads.

On the morning after their arrival, being refreshed by sound rest, and in beds which, to their great satisfaction, they found long enough, Dr. Collins proceeded, with his young companions, to the house of a merchant, to whom he had letters of introduction. This gentleman received them with great kindness; told them that on the next day he would have leisure to take them to several places worthy of their attention, and in the mean time, hoped they would give him their company at two o'clock; an invitation which Dr. Collins and Arthur gladly accepted, having arranged that Ned should return for them in the evening, when they might resume their rambles in the city.

As they had still three hours till dinner time, our travellers took a guide with them, and proceeded to the haven, which was crowded with merchantmen, and gave them a favourable impression of the commercial spirit of the people; they saw there vessels from the distant

shores of China and the East Indies, from Africa, America, the islands of the West Indies, and the harbours of the Mediterranean, together with several from their own country. From thence they proceeded to visit the Arsenal, Docks, and Naval store houses. Several vessels were then building, and others appeared ready for sea, whilst some were in dry docks for repairs. On every side they witnessed marks of activity and business; but that which most pleased them was the regularity which every where prevailed, and the arrangements which provided, with the most admirable economy of room, for the convenient storage of all the naval stores. The rope room was one thousand feet in length. In the smithy, in which a number of workmen were forging ship anchors, there were seventeen furnaces; and the magazines for hemp, cordage, canvas, &c. contained every thing in the neatest order, and of the best quality.

On their return from the Arsenal, they visited the *Observatory*—a large tower, so constructed, that by means of a spiral road, which is paved with bricks, without steps, a coach drawn by four horses, might be safely conducted to the top. Ascending to the gallery where astronomical observations were made, they enjoyed a fine prospect of the city and harbour of Copenhagen. There was not a cloud in the sky,

and as the atmosphere was clear, they distinctly saw the opposite coast of Sweden.— With the assistance of the telescope also, the guide pointed out to them the Swedish town of Landscronia, with its large church, surmounted by a dome. From this elevated position, the town appeared oblong, the circumference being nearly four English miles, surrounded by fortifications. Some few of the streets they had remarked to be ill paved and inconvenient, but immediately below them, and, as they afterwards found, in general, they were broad, and well paved. The material used in building was brick, or white lime-stone, wood being prohibited, whilst the houses of the wealthy were of freestone, or Norwegian marble. As they returned, the guide pointed out the ruins of the royal palace, which had been destroyed some years before; it must have been a magnificent pile, for it was built of hewn stone, and two thousand men were employed for ten years in the erection of it. The royal stable attached to it were also on a magnificent scales the racks of one of them, which contained stalls for forty-eight horses, were of copper, and the columns that divided the stables were of Norwegian marble.

At the appointed hour, Dr. Collins and Arthur proceeded to Mr. Spengler, who gave them a friendly and cordial welcome: he had invited a few to meet them; and as his English

acquaintances conversed fluently in French, (which is the language in general use amongst the wealthier class in Denmark) they were able to obtain a good deal of information respecting the city, and its inhabitants. "I had always understood," said Arthur, "that Copenhagen was made up of three distinct parts, but, to our great surprize, we found that what was called the *Old Town* was the most recently built." "It is so," replied the gentleman who sat near him, "and the cause is this, a dreadful fire occurred there in the year 1728, which destroyed five churches and sixty-seven streets; and a second in the year 1794, which also did great mischief; these were, therefore, rebuilt in the modern stile of architecture: but you must go to-morrow to see the *New Town*, which is also extremely beautiful; it consists of an octagon, containing four uniform and elegant buildings of hewn stone, and of four broad streets leading therefrom: of the four buildings, one is appropriated to the King, another to the Crown Prince, the third to the King's brother, and the fourth to the Marine Academy. This part is called *Frederickstown*, having been built by Frederick V. between the years 1746 and 1765. The third part is *Christianshaven*, on the opposite shore of *Amack*." "I should think," said Dr. Collins, "that it is dearly purchasing these improvements at such an expense of property as was

of course destroyed by these fires." "We are of the same opinion," said Mr. Spengler, "and indeed have adopted such regulations as might have prevented such a calamity: watchmen are placed on the top of a high tower, who sound a tocsin or alarm bell as soon as a fire is perceived, upon hearing which, the inhabitants (if it be night) must illuminate their houses, and continue to do so until the fire is extinguished. Notwithstanding all these precautions, perhaps there is no city in Europe, if we except Constantinople, where accidents by fire are more frequent." "Your beautiful city suffered much also, I am sorry to perceive," said Dr. Collins, "during the bombardment by the English troops in 1807." "It did indeed, Sir," answered one of the company; "no less than three hundred houses, including our cathedral, and a part of the university, were destroyed, and about double that number were damaged; but let us forget that we were enemies—we are now friends, and it becomes us to pray that the peace which now exists between us, may be as lasting as it was designed to be, by Him, whose almost parting words were, that we should love one another."

Arthur's next inquiry was into the state of manufactures in Denmark; but he found them far from being in a flourishing condition—the merchants being obliged to import hardware, earthenware, printed cottons, and even linens,

in considerable quantities. "We have a good many sugar refineries," said Mr. Spengler; "some paper mills, and four iron foundries; all these, however, shew that our manufactures are still in their infancy. It is our foreign commerce which we may boast of—no less than two thousand sail of merchantmen having belonged to us in the year 1800, carrying 250,000 tons of merchandize, and manned by twenty thousand seamen. We lay claim, also," added he, "to a merit of another kind," and his countenance brightened with benevolence as he spoke, "we were the first state which, in 1803, followed your example, by abolishing the slave trade—that inhuman traffic in human flesh, which so directly contradicts the golden law, of doing to others as we should wish to be done by, was prohibited here almost as soon as in England—and it might be said to have been a sacrifice of self-interest to duty; for at that time we had no less than seventy merchantmen trading to Guinea—two of them were my property; but I am thankful to your countrymen, who first shewed us the exceeding sinfulness of the practice—since then we have not a single vessel engaged in it; and our intercourse with Africa has, in a great measure, ceased." "May you never feel regret, Sir," said Arthur, with ingenuous warmth, "at obeying the dictates of justice as well as Humanity; and may other states learn from your

example, that a man is not the less our brother because the colour of his skin is black—He may be more ignorant than we, but that is only a reason for endeavouring to enlighten him, and not for enslaving him.”

In conversation such as this, the time usually allotted for dinner was passed; after which, according to the custom of the country, the company all rose from table together, and took their leave. Dr. Collins and Arthur returned to their lodgings, where they found Ned setting out to join them; with him, therefore, they went to the public walks in the king's garden, which were excessively crowded.

The next day, (7th June) Dr. Collins and Arthur waited on the British ambassador residing at the Court of Denmark, and were received by him with much courtesy: he invited them to a party which he was to have at his house that evening, “and you will be sure,” said he, “to meet all your countrymen who are at present in Copenhagen; and should you need my services in any way, and no one in a foreign country can tell how he may be obliged to require them, it will give me pleasure to render them to you.” Dr. Collins expressed his grateful acknowledgments for this great kindness, and he and Arthur took their leave, much impressed with his condescension. After leaving him, they called on Ned, and together proceeded to what was called the *Bourse*, or

public place of Exchange. It was a long building, full of shops, arranged on each side, and containing every article for household consumption except provisions, but extremely dear, as they judged by comparing what was asked for several articles, with the price at which the same might have been had in their own country. The tradesmen, however, were civil and obliging, and never seemed to consider any attention troublesome which they paid to a stranger.

At the British ambassador's, whither Dr. Collins and Arthur went at six in the evening, they met not only several countrymen, but the most respectable native society, with several of whom they formed an acquaintance, being introduced by Mr. Spengler—and so kindly hospitable were they to our travellers, that five days were passed most agreeably amongst them ere they could think of quitting Copenhagen. In this time they visited the libraries belonging to the city and university, and some collections of natural curiosities, and the royal gallery of painting, which contained one picture so striking and expressive, that the young men, though not possessed of any judgment, could not withdraw from it for a considerable time:—it represented Jonah preaching to the Ninevites, and pronouncing the message which he was divinely charged to deliver to that people, for their great sinfulness as a nation:

“YET FORTY DAYS AND NINEVAH SHALL BE OVERTHROWN;” Jonah ii ch. 4 verse;—and the prophet’s air and manner, and attitude, strongly marked the messenger who had been sent to accuse them of wickedness, and to denounce the punishment. “How beautiful the art of painting,” said Dr. Collins, “but where is it so well employed as in speaking thus a lesson to nations and individuals, and reminding them that punishment awaits the guilty?”—In seeing such things the time passed pleasantly away, and the incident which we have just mentioned, will show how anxiously Dr. Collins endeavoured to join the useful with the pleasant.

On the 13th June, the party left Copenhagen for Elsinour, travelling through a pleasant country, and along a very fine road, which led to the north-eastern extremity of the isle of Zealand, where “*the Sound*,” or passage of the Baltic, is narrowest. On the right, as they proceeded, lay a plain marble monument, which Arthur, on alighting, and going near, found to have been erected by the peasantry of the district, in gratitude to their benefactor, Count Bernstorff, who first set the example of giving freedom to his tenantry. Before that period, every one born upon a nobleman’s estate was his property, as much as the soil itself, and was transferred with the land as part of the farming stock. The inscription was in Latin, which Arthur translated for Ned Boulger—and simply

related the fact. The ornaments on the top of the monument were a scythe and a wheat sheaf, signifying, as Dr. Collins explained, that agriculture is best encouraged by the abolition of slavery. Count Bernstorff's example was soon followed by the king, and the rest of the nobility, so that now there is no such thing in Denmark as a peasant bound to the soil like the tree that grows upon it, and obliged to work for the benefit of the proprietor. "Happy England! happy Ireland!" said Ned, "where white slavery like this is not known, but where every man, however poor, is free to live where, and to work for whom he pleases."

Elsineur, sometimes called Helsingor, is a neat town, twenty miles north of Copenhagen, and containing about seven thousand inhabitants. It has no harbour, but an excellent roadsted, which at that time was crowded with ships of different nations, going up or down the Baltic; some anchoring to pay the toll, which the king of Denmark exacts from each vessel that passes. The total number of these in the year is computed at 10,000, and the sum paid by them is one per cent on the value of the cargoes, in the case of the English, French, Dutch, and Swedes; and one and a quarter per cent on the cargoes of other nations. In return for this toll, which supplies an annual

revenue of about 150,000 pounds, the crown of Denmark takes the charge of constructing light-houses, and erecting signals to mark the shoals and rocks from the Cattegat to the entrance of the Baltic; and to enforce the payment, powerful batteries are erected at the fortress of Cronborg, which commands the channel.

Having mentioned that arm of the sea which is called the Cattegat, it may be useful to add, that this large gulf of the German Ocean, lies between the east coast of Jutland and the opposite part of the Western coast of Sweden; on the north it is bounded by the Skagerack, a bank which is on the northern coast of North Jutland, W. Long. 10, Lat 57, and on the South by the islands of Funen and Zealand. As already mentioned, it communicates with the Baltic sea by the Sound, and the greater and less Belt, being from north to south 120 miles, and from east to west between 60 and 70. The word Cattegat means the cat's hole—The cat's gate, as Arthur explained it, for he was always looking for the relationship which Dr. Collins told him had formerly subsisted between Great Britain and Northern Europe; and it is but justice to his acuteness to say, that he often discovered traces of it in the languages of the two countries.

The passage from Elsinour to the opposite

coast, is usually performed in half an hour: in which time they had the satisfaction of landing upon the shore of Sweden, amongst a people so different in language, dress, and customs, from those whom they had but just left, that it appeared almost like a dream, that a few minutes should have set them down in so different a country. The kingdom of Sweden comprehends the three countries of Sweden, Norway, and Lapland, and constitutes a compact territory, which extends from 54° to 71° N. latitude. Their greatest length from North to South is about 1100 miles, and their greatest width about 500; the surface which it covers is 343,000 square miles, an extent which would place it next to Russia, in the first rank of European states, if it were not that the greatest part is covered with forests of vast size, where, perhaps, man has never penetrated; whilst elsewhere, except in the neighbourhood of towns, inhabitants are thinly scattered.

Sweden, as including the three states of Sweden, Norway, and Lapland, is bounded on the North by the Arctic Sea; on the East by Russian Lapland, the Gulf of Bothnia, and the Baltic; on the South by the Baltic Sea; and on the West by the North Sea. Norway, which formerly belonged to Denmark, but was ceded to Sweden, by treaty, in 1814, is separated from it by the Dofrafield mountains,

which run from north to south, through its whole extent.

Few countries are more intersected with rivers, and interspersed with lakes, than Sweden. The former are, in general, rapid, and not navigable, on account of rocks and shoals, which interrupt their course. The principal lakes are the Malar, the Wenner, and the Wetter. Lake Malar, which is upwards of sixty miles long, and eighteen broad, lies north and west of Stockholm, near which capital it discharges itself into the Baltic Sea. Wenner Lake is ninety miles long, and in some parts forty miles wide; and Wetter Lake is of equal length, and from twelve to eighteen miles wide. These will be more particularly described in the course of our travellers' journey through the country.

It was scarcely half an hour after Dr. Collins and his companions had landed at Helsinburg, a little fishing town of 1200 inhabitants, ere they had an opportunity of seeing one of those productions of nature, with which the country abounds. As they sat at the window, some fir trees, of an astonishing length were conducted by wheel axles to the water side, for exportation; a separate vehicle was employed for each tree, being drawn by horses driven by women. "These," said Dr. Collins, "are cut down in some of the almost boundless

forests which are spread over the country. Indeed, if the sovereigns of Europe were each to have some title, characteristic of the nature of their dominions, we might call the Swedish monarch Lord of the Woods, since, in whatever direction he moved, he might often travel from sun-rise to sun-set, and find no other subjects than the trees of his forests."

In a few hours, Dr. Collins having hired a small sized low waggon, drawn by two small, but very beautiful horses, quit Helsinbourg, with his companions, intending to traverse, in a northerly direction, that part of the province of Scania, which lay between them and Gothenburg, going along the western coast. The roads were uncommonly fine, and it being now the summer season, every thing looked smiling, and imparted cheerfulness to the party. The dress of the natives first engaged their attention; the women wore a scarlet jacket, placed over a sort of variegated waistcoat, and short blue petticoats, not reaching lower than the knee, the feet being bare; and a white handkerchief bound loosely on the head, and covering a part of the face. Some appeared without the jacket, and these had only shift sleeves over their arms, buttoned a little above their wrists; they were slender in their make, of fair complexion, and had brown flaxen hair. The men appeared tall and strong, but not so robust as the

Danes; the face long, and somewhat pale, with gray eyes, good teeth, and a mild expressive countenance. Their dress consists, in general, of coarse blue cloth, round hats, and silk handkerchiefs round their necks. The cottages which they passed, as well as the houses in the different villages, were all constructed of wood, but they appeared dirty; and agriculture, it was evident, was not properly attended to.

The second day they passed extensive tracts, covered with heath, and exhibiting a bleak and barren soil. At a village on the road, where they found it would be necessary to wait for some time for post horses, the two young men got out, to walk forward to the next station, about seven miles distant, intending to have fresh horses ready by the time Dr. Collins and the waggon should arrive. In doing this, however, they missed the road, turning to the right, when they should have continued straight forward. Presently they arrived at a gentleman's country seat, situated on the banks of a fine river; they then crossed the bridge, followed the road, through the farm-yard, until the way opened upon a wide heath. Here, however, their mistake became apparent, for the sea lay upon the right hand instead of the left, the road having, imperceptibly, swept in a circular direction, till it turned their backs upon the village whither they thought them-

selves proceeding. They now looked round for some person to extricate them from their difficulty—and perceiving a woman and a boy at a distance, they called out to them to stop. It was plain, however, they were frightened at the appearance and voice of the strangers, for they both immediately took to their heels, and ran as fast as they could. Ned, however, soon outstripped them, and coming near, made them comprehend what he wanted, by signs, and by repeating distinctly the name of the village which they had missed. The boy, therefore, was permitted to return with them, and to conduct them across the country to Laholm, where they arrived after having walked sixteen miles. Dr. Collins, in the mean time, having suffered the greatest anxiety at not finding them, and greatly fearing that some accident had befallen them—"We must not separate again," said he, "even though it is unpleasant to have a long delay at the post houses.—In a less honest country, you might have met a very different guide from that obliging and cheerful looking boy.—It was well also that you made them understand what you wanted." "I think, sir," replied Ned, "that was less difficult than you suppose, for we discovered many words used by our little guide to be nearly the same as English—and to listen to him, you would almost fancy he was speaking broad Scotch."

Long ere the travellers had reached Gothenburg, they perceived several traces of its flourishing condition;—suburbs extending some distance into the country—public walks, and a throng of passengers both on foot and in carriages—above three hundred merchant vessels lay in the harbour, and they were informed that a fleet of the same number had left it a few days before. The streets are extremely regular, intersecting each other at right angles, the principal having canals running through their centre; the houses of the merchants also bore every appearance of opulence, and the letters which Dr. Collins had received from Mr. Spengler at Copenhagen, gave him an opportunity of judging of the style in which they lived. There are no inns in the town, but the hospitality of a merchant prevented that from being any inconvenience, for he insisted on their taking up their quarters in his house; and subsequent observations showed them that such kindness was not of rare occurrence amongst these people.

Assisted by this gentleman's acquaintance, Dr. Collins and his young friends saw every thing to the best advantage. They visited the public buildings, the Governor, Count Rosen, and several collections of natural curiosities, and at one of the latter places, saw a great many of the animals which are found in Sweden, stuffed and preserved. "In winter," said their

informant, "the necessities of life are procured amongst us, on the cheapest terms, owing to the great quantities of game which are brought into the market in sledges, even from great distances by the peasantry. Black Cock, Ptarmigan, hares, and the large bird called the Cock of the mountain; now and then also a bear is brought in from the mountain districts, and sold like beef at so much per pound.

"The most extraordinary circumstance, however, connected with the supply of food (continued their friend) remains yet to be explained to you. You are doubtless aware, young gentlemen, that every year an innumerable army of herrings quit their abodes in the arctic sea, and migrate southwards in such quantities, as to alter the very appearance of the sea, being divided into columns of five or six miles in length, and three or four miles in breadth.—This living tide meets in its progress the British Islands, and is thus divided into two parts, one of which passes along the Western shore of Scotland, the other visits all the Eastern side of Great Britain, and all the Western shores of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, &c. giving employment to thousands, and affording a very lucrative branch of commerce to those who have undertaken to engage in it. None however, derived more advantage from it in the beginning of this century than our fishermen. The number taken in the fishing season, has

amounted to the astonishing quantity of two millions of barrels, each barrel containing from 12 to 1300 herrings, and they have often been sold at two pence a barrel, to be used as manure for the land, or the manufacture of oil; 15 barrels of herrings yielding one barrel of fish oil. Now, however, all this is at an end; the herrings have deserted this part of the coast, and their disappearance has greatly depressed our trade."

Two o'clock being the dinner hour in Gothenburg, and their kind host having invited some friends to meet the strangers, Dr. Collins took care to be punctual to the hour, that the company might not be inconvenienced by waiting. When they were all assembled, the repast commenced by offering to each person a glass of brandy, a custom which they afterwards found to prevail through Sweden, though our travellers could never be induced to conform to a custom, which is not only unnecessary, but positively injurious, when indulged to any extent. A dish called a Salmagundi was then brought in, consisting of minced herrings, hard eggs, oil, vinegar and pepper. The dishes were then brought in, one by one, ready carved, and each helped himself to as much as he chose. On a signal, the company all rose together, bowed to each other, and retired into another room, when coffee concluded the entertainment. Sometimes, how-

ever, after a walk, they re-assemble to tea at half past six, take supper at nine, and separate at ten or eleven o'clock.

Previously to leaving Gothenburg, Dr. Collins took his friend's advice by sending on a *forebad*, that is a messenger to engage horses, to the falls of Trolhatta, a cascade about fifty miles distant, and lying very little out of the road from Gothenburg to Stockholm. He also took care to lay in a stock of provisions, together with a supply of straps and cords to repair the harness of their post waggon, should it break, an accident which appeared very likely to occur; the only vehicle they could procure being nothing more than a pair of wheels with two shafts resting upon the axle. Upon the shafts were lashed the trunks of the party, and on the latter they sat, one behind the other. For thirty miles the country was bleak and barren. Approaching Edel the pine forests commence, the dark tints of which afforded a lively contrast with the beautiful green of the young spring shoots. Lilla Edel, as it is called, is a small village, rendered highly picturesque by the falls of the Gotha. After changing horses twice, the party drew near to Trolhatta. Its appearance was altogether Swedish, and therefore quite novel to strangers' eyes. The houses, all made of planks, looked like so many deal boxes, lying up and down in all directions, by the side of the several torrents issuing

from the main bed of the Gotha, the vapour of which rises like smoke amongst the little buildings. Some time before they reached it, however, they had notice of being in the neighbourhood of the waterfall, for, on descending the hill which leads to Trolhatta, they could discern, though at a distance, the thick cloud of mist which these celebrated falls send up to a great height, and by a winding path, they reached an elevated spot above the fall, where in a little time the whole scene was before them. The waters of the river appeared tumbling down steep declivities among the rocks below, whilst on each side were precipices rising to a great height, thinly clad with straggling pines. Before it arrives at the cataracts, the river glides on smoothly, and clear as chrystal: in its descent along a bed five hundred yards in length, it forms four principal falls, the perpendicular height of which, taken together, is about 110 feet: the spray rose in clouds of mist upwards of eighty feet, and formed in the sun's rays, a brilliant rainbow. After surveying this sublime scene for some time, the party proceeded to the distance of half a mile lower down on the heights, where a bird's eye view is obtained of the majestic and savage scenery before them—the river rushing headlong down the falls, enveloped in foam and spray. That the navigation of the river may not be obstructed, locks, with sluices

have been cut in the solid rock, with incredible pains and labour, through which vessels are lowered to the level of the water below the falls: affording a striking proof, as Dr. Collins remarked, that there are few obstacles however great, in the way of a useful design, which cannot be surmounted by the ingenuity and perseverance of man. Their guide told them, that on one occasion, to gratify some wealthy visiter, who had more money than humanity or wits, two hogs, *a house*, and two ducks, were sent down the principal fall. The pigs, after a headlong roll, landed safely, and proceeded quietly back to their sty. The floating house followed next, and was dashed to pieces, as were also the ducks. Here they saw the sawing mills, which are common to many parts of the country. They are worked by over-shot mills. The timbers were placed in sliding cradles, which have a horizontal motion; the saws are ranged vertically, and parallel to each other, so that planks of different degrees of thickness may be cut at the same time from the same tree. In *one machine*, Arthur counted ten saws acting at once. Old men, and even girls are employed to guide and guard these works, which are carried on with admirable facility.

Finding that there was an opportunity for continuing their journey from Troihatta to Wenner lake, by water, Dr. Collins hired a couple

of small boats; glad of an opportunity of dismissing their uneasy and tiresome post cart. After proceeding about four miles, they left the stream of the Gotha, which here ceased to be navigable, and entered upon the Carlsgraf canal, a work both of nature and art.—It was a small stream, augmented for the purpose of navigation, and communicating from the Gotha to the Wenner lake by a cut towards the north; this soon brought them to what at first seemed a sea, but which they found to be only a lake. It extends in an oblong form from the south-west to north-east, several rivers which rise in the mountains of Norway flowing into it, and afterwards uniting their waters to form the Gotha, which causing the celebrated cataracts of Trolhatta, just described, passes by the city of Gothenburg, and falls into the Cattegat. At the southern extremity of the lake, which we have just mentioned, is situated the town of Wennersberg, where Dr. Collins landed; and towards its eastern side it approaches so near its sister lake, the Wetter, as to be separated from it only by a distance of seven English miles.

Wennersberg is a small town, but the houses are neat, and better built than any they saw except those of Gothenburg; the shores of the lake also were bold and rocky, so that the scene appeared delightful; both the young men bathed, and found great refreshment from it;

indeed they assured Dr. Collins, that only the water was fresh, they would have liked it nearly as well as a plunge in their own Carlingford bay. "That is right," said he, smilingly, "there is something in that word 'home,' which ties us to our native country, and makes it preferable to the rest of the world—it makes the Icelfander happy amidst volcanoes, and the Swiss amidst snow-topped mountains;—it reminds the soldier and the sailor of some little sunny spot, which he once saw before he went on his rambles, where he would like to sit down, and pass the remainder of his days:—I am not surprised, therefore, that you should be constantly reverting to Ireland. It is a place where a man may be free and happy, provided he knows how to enjoy with gratitude the blessings which surround him."

From Wennersberg, our travellers having quit the boat, proceeded along the eastern side of the lake to Lidköping, the walls of which it washes. On their way they came to a ferry, about half a mile wide; it was near midnight, for at this time of the year, the twilight continues all night, and they had not stopped at Wennersberg longer than to hire the two carts which carried them. Dr. Collins, however, had some doubt of trusting to the discretion of two boys, who came, yawning, from the ferry house. The wind was rather tempestuous, and

the waves several times broke into the boat, and threatened to swamp her; nor were the fears of Dr. Collins diminished, when he found the boys evidently unable to manage the boat, and vainly struggling to keep their course to the opposite shore. Presently they passed an island to which they were about to turn the boat's head, when Arthur and Ned taking the oars, (for they could not make them understand a word) soon brought her to the point they had been so long endeavouring to reach. Here they found the Swede whom they had employed as their *forebad* to engage horses at the different post stations. From him Dr. Collins received a message, sent by the wife of a Swedish officer, who was absent from home, to request the party would pass the remainder of the night in her house, as they were not within reach of any inn, and were even at some distance from the public road. This hospitable invitation they did not hesitate to accept; and they afterwards found, that such attention to strangers, whenever they have an opportunity of shewing it, is characteristic of the Swedish gentry.

Upon their arrival at the lady's mansion, it was easy to perceive that some preparations had been already made for their coming. A table was laid out in a large apartment, covered with such luxuries as the country afforded: and because it was known that the guests were

dearth of provisions both among men and cattle. Many of the houses and barns, their guide pointed out to them, which had been unroofed to supply fodder for cattle; and the bones of several of the animals which had perished, were here and there visible; besides which, they heard the distress fully corroborated at the different post houses. "I know of one other country," said Arthur, whose patriotism was always suggesting comparisons to the credit of his own Ireland; "I know one other country, remarkable for its hospitality, and it is worth remarking, that it is amongst the poorest that the virtue is the most apparent. The fare of our countrymen, too," said he, "is often scanty, but who is there amongst even the poorest, who would not share his potatoes with the hungry traveller?"

At Targ, they gained the public road, and after a pleasant ride through a fine and extensive forest of fir trees, they reached Lidköping, a handsome town of some importance. Several vessels were lying before it; and the extreme neatness of the small cottages denoted a much more cleanly people than the inhabitants of the southern provinces. Their furniture was not only scoured, but polished till it shone; and each chimney was neatly whitewashed. Leaving Lidköping, the appearance of the country was extremely beautiful; the finest roads wound in a serpentine manner through

English, such things were added, as it was thought would prove gratifying to English palates; they had bottled beer, wheaten bread, curds, eggs, fish, and confectionary. They were afterwards conducted to two neat apartments, where they slept soundly after their fatigue and anxiety. The next morning they found that the master of the house had returned, after they had gone to rest, and they met him at the breakfast table, where he introduced them to his wife, a handsome, pleasing woman:—he informed them that he had been in the Swedish service, but had retired to cultivate his estate, which was named Siorgd, and to inhabit the house, which had been once a very excellent mansion, looking out upon the lake. This incident, perhaps, shows better than any other way, the manners of the Swedes, and their friendly hospitality towards strangers. It was in obedience to the precept of one of the ancient sages of the country, which says, “BE HUMANE AND GENTLE TO THOSE YOU MEET ON THE SEA;” and again, “TO THE GUEST WHO ENTERS YOUR DWELLING WITH FROZEN LIMBS, GIVE THE WARMTH OF YOUR FIRE;”—“HE WHO HATH TRAVELLED OVER THE MOUNTAINS, HATH NEED OF FOOD AND WELL DRIED GARMENTS.” This hospitality was the more remarkable, that the preceding winters had been uncommonly severe, and of unusual duration; and this had caused a great

dearth of provisions both among men and cattle. Many of the houses and barns, their guide pointed out to them, which had been unroofed to supply fodder for cattle; and the bones of several of the animals which had perished, were here and there visible; besides which, they heard the distress fully corroborated at the different post houses. "I know of one other country," said Arthur, whose patriotism was always suggesting comparisons to the credit of his own Ireland; "I know one other country, remarkable for its hospitality, and it is worth remarking, that it is amongst the poorest that the virtue is the most apparent. The fare of our countrymen, too," said he, "is often scanty, but who is there amongst even the poorest, who would not share his potatoes with the hungry traveller?"

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forests of fir trees, which occasionally opening, gave them a view of the lake in the vista. In winter, they were told, that the wolves which abound in the woods, commit great ravages; two of the largest oxen, belonging to the landlord of an inn at Hofera, where they stopped to change horses, having been carried off in a single night. These animals, from the nature of the country, and the vast extent of the forests, would increase in such numbers, as to over-run it, did not the occasional severity of the winters, and the difficulty of obtaining food, destroy large numbers by mere hunger. The peasants also, at that time of the year, assemble, and attack them: They first surround a part of the forest, forming a large circle, and gradually contracting it until the wolves are completely hemmed in. For every wolf that is killed, a reward is paid by the government, and as the skin fetches a good price, they are well repaid for the trouble of hunting them. Three of these skins are sufficient to make one of the large winter fur cloaks which are worn by the upper classes. The peasants, on turning their horses out, tip their feet with iron, by which means of defence, they are able to beat off their furious assailants. Indeed, on their way, the driver often drew their attention to cattle having large scars, where wolves had attacked them. The young men's hopes, however, of seeing a wolf

were for the present disappointed; indeed they might have traversed, perhaps, the whole kingdom, at this season, without seeing a single beast of prey.

Orebro, the next town to Lidköping, where our travellers halted for the night, in their course to Stockholm, is a large and handsome town, with a population of 3000 inhabitants, situated on the small lake Heilmar, which, by means of a canal, forms a connection with the Malar lake, and the Baltic sea. The accommodation at the inn was good, and every thing so neat, that they soon felt themselves comfortable; they were, however, offered, and declined, the glass of brandy. The floor was strewed with juniper branches, covered with sand, a custom which Dr. Collins reminded his young companions, prevailed in England and Ireland in the reign of Elizabeth, the royal apartments which that queen used, being thus covered; only that instead of juniper, they used clean straw. The next morning they were betimes on the road, and soon entered the extensive forest of Kaaglar, remarkable for its wild and gloomy scenery. While crossing it, they observed, on one side of the road, a large heap of stones, marking the spot where a traveller had been murdered; and the more remarkable on this account, that such a dreadful crime as murder is of rare occurrence in Sweden. "Come, my young companions,"

said Dr. Collins, "let us each add one to the heap; it is thus it has been formed; and you see its use, in awakening serious recollections in the passenger: you remember, that in the Old Testament dispensation, God declared that it was a crime of a most awful nature, to take away that life which none but HE can give: 'WHOSO SHEDDETH MAN'S BLOOD, BY MAN SHALL HIS BLOOD BE SHED;' and surely we cannot at the same time forget to thank Him humbly, that He hath thus preserved us from dangers, with which in His wisdom he permitted others to be assailed."

With such reflections as these, the party continued their route for some miles further, before they cleared the forest. Juniper was constantly the underwood on one side, and here and there they observed ant-hills, in height from three to four feet, and formed of old leaves, and minute pieces of bark, mixed with earth. At Vesteras, they came in sight, for the first time, of the Malar lake, which presented its smooth surface, broken only by a number of small and richly wooded islands. As they were leaving it, they met the clergyman, whose mild and venerable air appeared well deserving of the respect which was paid him by all who met him. He was dressed in a straw hat, gray coat, black silk waistcoat and breeches, black stockings, and an enormous pair of silver shoe-buckles. Coming up

to the side of the waggon, he addressed our travellers in Latin, in which he was answered by Dr. Collins; and, after a short conversation, gave them, with unaffected piety, his parting benediction.

The next day's journey gave our travellers another opportunity of observing the manners of this interesting people. It was the eve of St. John's day, and everywhere they met the peasantry in their best dresses. All the women had their heads covered with white handkerchiefs, and the effect was singular, looking at a good many assembled together. Trees stripped of their bark, but retaining their green boughs, had been planted by the road side, and before the houses; the porches and doors of all their dwellings, even of the cottages, were decorated with garlands of flowers; and upright poles, covered with flowers and green boughs, were visible in every place through which they passed. The dress of the male peasants has always great uniformity in Sweden, because the inhabitants of the same district always wear suits of the one colour, and being restricted by custom to the use of three colours, *blue*, *gray*, and *black*, there is not, of course, the least diversity in their appearance; all were hastening from the country parts, to the different villages where they celebrate this festival with dancing and merriment; and as our travellers passed the different groups,

they were hailed with great glee. There was nothing boisterous, however, in their merriment; and Dr. Collins afterwards learned, that no excess ever disgraced this annual festivity.

The following day was the last stage of their journey to the Swedish capital. As they drew near it, the country became more romantic, and yet not the less cultivated, where cultivation was possible. The Malar lake appeared in view more frequently, and lofty rocks, covered with pine, interrupted the straight course of the road; still there was nothing to mark the vicinity of the metropolis: within two miles of it, a long fence, and a gravel walk, gave tokens of a country seat; but still the cottages on the road side did not become more numerous, nor did they see the concourse of vehicles and passengers going to and fro, which may be generally observed on approaching a large town. Whilst they wondered that Stockholm should still be distant, they were stopped at a wooden building, where an ill dressed man demanded to search their baggage, in order to see whether it contained any articles on which a duty should be paid; and, to their great surprise, he informed them they were entering the city. Beyond them was a narrow street, (if street it could be called) with red wooden pales on one side, and a row of red wooden houses on the other. In a short time, however, the grand street, called 'The Queen's Street,'

opened upon them. Still, however, they were disappointed, for as yet they saw nothing of the magnificence they had been led to expect. The houses were lofty, the windows flat, but no shop windows exposing to view the goods within; no appearance of trade, and no bustle in the streets. For about three quarters of a mile the same sort of view was continued. On a sudden, however, the scene changed, and they found themselves in a spacious square, surrounded on all sides by buildings of a magnificent description. On the right arose, above a broad and rapid stream, a superb palace, connected with the square by a bridge of granite. In the centre of the square stood an equestrian statue of bronze, upon a pedestal of polished granite. On each side lofty palaces corresponded with each other, and between these and the first building, the winding of the lake admitted an extensive view of the city, rising like an amphitheatre, and the rocks at a distance. They proceeded over the bridge, and passed at the foot of the palace; and on turning to the right, caught at once a view of the shipping moored to a fine broad quay; whilst on the opposite side of the water lofty houses rose one above another; the dome of a church above them seeming to look down upon the lake and the city below. It is impossible to describe the effect which the whole scene had upon the party; they had just left the

rocks and the forests behind them, and they were now in the centre of one of the finest cities in Europe.

The city of Stockholm, which is 320 miles north-east of Copenhagen, and no less than 850 in the same direction with respect to London, E. long. 18. 3. N. lat. 59. 20. has been generally described as standing upon seven islands, but Dr. Collins, and his young companions, found it more correct to limit the number to three; the other four containing only forts, or buildings for naval purposes. The citadel island, which is the smallest of the three, constitutes the original city, and is still the most busy part of the town, its quays being bordered by a stately range of buildings, the residences of the principal merchants. It was, in fact, that which first met our travellers' eyes, after emerging from the forest by which they approached it, when they saw the royal palace, and the other public buildings, which form the great square.

The streets are all built at right angles to each other, but being, in general, narrow, and the houses high, they have a gloomy appearance. Its extensive trade is owing to its singularly advantageous position at the junction of the lake Malar with an inlet of the Baltic; the former extending sixty miles into the interior, and by means of the canals of Arboga and Stromsholm, affording the inhabitants of the

more distant provinces the convenience of sending to the capital the commodities which they export; and the latter giving them a fine harbour for receiving the productions of foreign countries. The only draw-back on the navigation, arises from the number of small islands and detached rocks which lie at the mouth of this inlet from the Baltic, and the delay occasionally experienced in working up a winding channel from the sea, of more than twenty miles in length, and which, in one part, is contracted into a narrow strait, bounded by high rocks. The chief exports are iron, steel, copper, pitch, tar, and timber; the imports are colonial produce, wine, fruit, salt, and, in a limited degree, British manufactures. "Commerce would flourish" (said an English gentleman whom Dr. Collins met at the hotel, and whose information and respectability rendered him an eligible acquaintance) "commerce would flourish greatly, but for two causes, the first is, that the Swedish government, in hopes to promote home industry, have in a great measure prohibited foreign manufactures; the second is, the discouragement which our country gives to the importation of timber from Sweden, in any other than British vessels. If both these obstacles were removed—if our manufactures were freely admitted into Sweden, and Swedish timber were as freely admitted into England, in Swedish as well as English vessels, I think

the two countries would find it reciprocally advantageous." "Will you excuse me, Sir," said Arthur, "for saying that I don't understand that; though I suppose (added he, with diffidence) I am wrong: it always seemed to me, that if I wished to encourage a particular manufacture, suppose linen, the best way would be not to allow any other country to send us that article. This prohibition would surely keep up the price of linen, and give better wages to the workman, and greater encouragement to the manufacturers; and so it doubtless is in this country." "I am glad," replied Mr. Blackhall (that was their new acquaintance's name) that you have taken a particular instance—I see by it you are from Ireland," added he, smiling, "but it will answer equally well for our argument, to consider what effect a law prohibiting the importation of linen into that country, would have on that article. I grant you, in the first place, that if the legislature wishes to give to the linen manufacturer the exclusive possession of the Irish market, the prohibition does it effectually—that is to say, if the people of Ireland must wear linen garments, and cannot, by your law, get it elsewhere, they cannot avoid buying it from the Irish manufacturer, and he may charge any price he pleases for the article; but laws are not made for the benefit of individuals, but of the nation at large. Now, suppose the

English chose to make linen, as well as the Irish—and suppose also they made it cheaper, where do you think that I, a Swedish merchant, will go to buy it, if I want a cargo of it for this country, or for Russia, or for Denmark, or for any other part of the world?” —“Surely, (said Arthur) you will buy it in that market where it is cheapest.” “That is,” said Mr. Blackhall, “I shall buy it in England instead of Ireland: “certainly” replied Arthur. “Well then” rejoined Mr. Blackhall, “you see the consequence of your prohibitory law is to shut out your own manufacture from the rest of the world.” “I acknowledge it,” answered Arthur, “I perceive that whatever cramps the commerce of a country, is also a check upon industry:” “Yes said Mr. Blackhall, it is just as if I were to oblige the inhabitants of a particular street to buy their groceries from one of their neighbours; he would sell to those who could not do without his commodities, and might put as high a price as he chose upon the different articles, but not another person in the whole city would deal with him, so that what he gained by the monopoly would perhaps be far less, than if his sales were more extensive; let him lessen his profits to one half, and let the effect be to increase his sales four fold, you see at once, he would at the end of a year, gain twice as much as he did before; so it is with trade in general, give me a market for my linens, four times as extensive

as I had before, and I shall not only by lowering my profits one-half, double my income, but I shall be obliged to manufacture four times as much linen, and thus to increase the number of my workmen." "That is" said Arthur "quite clear: but suppose that the trade is opened, and that its necessary effect is to enable the English manufacturer to undersell me even in Ireland, even after I have reduced my profits as much as possible, will not this put an end to the linen trade, wont it throw a great many people out of bread, and ruin the manufacturer who has employed his capital in that way." "It must produce that effect" said Mr. Blackhall, "in a greater or less degree, the fault however was, in the first instance, laying on the prohibition, and thus giving a false encouragement to the trade; having once gone wrong is no reason why I should continue to do so; my duty is as soon as I perceive my error to measure back my steps, and endeavour as soon as possible to strike into the right road. It is distressing that any individual should suffer, or that a family should lose its means of support; but it would be much more painful to continue this check upon industry, and thus keep thousands perhaps from finding employment in some other channel. The most that can be done in these cases is to throw open the market, not at once, but gradually, and thus afford the manufacturer time for withdrawing his me-

ney from the trade in which he can no longer engage with advantage, and employing it in another way. It is a great loss to the nation at large, when capital is not employed in that way, which would return the greatest profit. If you had £100,000, and you employed it in the linen or any other trade, which was languishing, it is a loss to the country if you do not strive to employ it in some other way which would be profitable; you lay out your money in linens, they lie upon hands, they dont sell your 100,000 pounds lies idle, it brings in no return, and perhaps you become bankrupt; but you employ it say in the cotton trade, you gain 10,000 pounds in one year by it—the nation is thus wealthier by that sum—you lay it out in buying more cotton goods, and giving more employment to industry; at length you amass a large fortune, and employ it as you ought to do in building, in improving land, in encouraging the industrious, in relieving the poor. And such is the way we merchants are obliged to do; we send a cargo of timber to England, we expected good profit on the sale, but the price we find lowered; we must sell it perhaps at a loss; do we then buy another cargo of the same article and dispatch it to the same market? No, we think the first loss enough, we find out some other way to employ our money. We learn that Swedish iron is in demand, and we deal in that article

so crowded. They next went to see the arsenal, situate in the northern suburb, and in what is called the king's garden; a small spot laid out with pleasant walks and planted with trees. The arsenal contained a great number of warlike trophies, the *shoe* of a horse on which one of their celebrated monarchs rode at a great battle, the very clothes worn by another who was killed at the siege of a fortress in Norway. But the object of the greatest interest, was a boat which Peter the Great, Emperor of Russia, had built with his own hands. "You ought to know him well," said their conductor to the party, "for he went over to England about 120 years ago, and there worked like an humble carpenter in your dock yards, in order that he might gain a knowledge of ship building, which he was anxious to introduce amongst his subjects, well knowing that they could never thrive in commerce unless he could make them a maritime nation." We have heard of sovereigns, said Dr. Collins, gaining the name of "great," because they were mighty conquerors, and had spilled the blood of their fellow creatures; but true greatness consists in rendering benefits to the human race, and not injuries.

The Swedish mode of reckoning time struck our travellers as curious. The Swedish Sunday begins at 6 o'clock on the evening of Saturday, and ends at 6 on Sunday; thus for

example: in travelling on the 20th June, Dr. Collins found the date in the day-book after 6 o'clock marked 21st June.

The conversation which Mr. Blackhall had held with our travellers had opened the minds of both Arthur and Ned—leading them to reflections which they had never made before, and teaching them an useful truth, which they might apply to other subjects as well as the one which Arthur had chosen in his natural preference for every thing Irish, but it led to a result highly gratifying to the whole party.—Dr. Collins had left Ireland intending to visit the two capitals, Copenhagen, and Stockholm, and the places which lay in the direct road, but now an extension of their plans opened upon them, which as it offered the means of great improvement to Arthur, he did not hesitate to adopt. Mr. Blackhall their new acquaintance, who spoke the Swedish language with great fluency, had been for several years settled in Drontheim, or as the natives call it Tronyem, in Norway, being at the head of a mercantile establishment, which was largely engaged in the export of timber to Great Britain, and having now finished the business which had brought him to Stockholm, he was about to return home.—He was pleased with the mild deportment and enlarged information of Dr. Collins, and the ingenuous disposition of Arthur: he was also strongly prepos-

sessed in favor of Ned, who, though often silent through diffidence, he found on several occasions to be possessed of a good understanding and sound natural judgment; and finding that Dr. Collins was not frightened by the distance, he proposed that the whole party should accompany him to Drontheim—"we can travel together," said he, "and my knowledge of the country will I think be useful to you—I shall also be happy to receive you into my house, where you shall have a sincere welcome from my family, and should you chuse to go farther northwards, into Norwegian Lapland, it will be in my power to give you such introductions as will serve you on the route. In three days I shall set out, and if you choose to accept my offer, I can easily procure a light and strong carriage for the journey."

It was thus that the friendly proposal was made and accepted, the young men rejoicing that they were to see much more of foreign countries than they had expected, and, with the ardour of youth, not a little pleased that their course should lie in a direction seldom traversed by their countrymen.

The interval between this and their departure, was occupied in making the necessary preparations for the journey—assisted in the choice by Mr. Blackhall, Dr. Collins bought a neat little waggon, quite new, together with all the harness necessary for travelling in these coun-

tries, for a sum not exceeding £8. 10s. and a description of it will show the reader how good the roads must be, and with how light a carriage it is possible to go all over the country. It was made without springs, being quite open and with very little iron-work on it; in shape it might be compared to a shoe, set upon wheels, with the heel foremost; a seat lined with oil cloth was raised in this part, capable of containing two persons, besides which a temporary seat was placed behind for one person, and another could place himself commodiously beside the driver on a boarded seat in front. Behind the seats, answering in form to the upper leather and toe of the shoe, was the place for stowing beds, provisions, and baggage; these however were for the present placed in Mr. Blackhall's waggon which followed, he preferring to enjoy the company of his friends.—The waggon was drawn by two horses abreast, and without any apparent difficulty.—Indeed, at one of the post houses where the party subsequently stopped to change horses, a sturdy peasant, seeing the little vehicle for which his two fine horses were required, began to laugh, and placing himself beneath the waggon, raised it, wheels and all, some distance from the ground upon his shoulders. The other articles which they purchased were a couple of rifle guns, Mr. Blackhall telling them that they were necessary, not against robbers, but that sometimes

a wolf or a bear was known to cross the traveller's course, and it was right to be prepared for them; besides which they procured from the mint a large bag of copper money, and a map of the roads in Sweden and Norway, which they afterwards found of the greatest use in travelling.

Though their preparations were few and simple, they found it difficult to have them ready, owing to the indolent custom which prevails, not only in Stockholm, but through all the north of Europe, for all classes to retire to rest, from the hour of two to four each day; the tradesmen shutting up their shops, and the whole city appearing as silent and deserted as if the sun had just risen. It is true they ascribe the custom to the excessive heat, but we know that however hot the summer, that time of the day, in London, or Dublin, or Edinburgh, is always the busiest; here, however, there was a complete cessation from business, and the traveller must either make his purchases earlier, or else defer them until the shop-keeper has re-opened his shutters to the light, and his door to his customers. At length, however, they were made in sufficient time to allow of their packing up their things, and stowing the luggage in the waggon the evening before their departure.

On the 28th June, the party took leave of Stockholm, at six o'clock, on a delightful morning, having sent Mr. Blackhall's waggon on

with his servant as a forebud ; and after a short time clearing the city, proceeded on their road at a rapid and steady pace ; at noon, the heat became so great, that the driver was obliged to stop, to pour buckets of water upon the wheels which had taken fire with the friction. After this, however, their road lay through a deep forest, where they had shelter from the scorching rays of the sun, but soon they found that even in the forest they had another inconvenience to bear : myriads of musquitoes attacked the poor horses, and a larger kind in particular, which they learned from Mr. Blackhall was the great enemy of the reindeer, and actually compels them, by its tormenting sting, to undertake a journey of some hundred miles, from the Lapland forests to the sea coast to avoid them : in vain did the horses increase their speed, as if to escape from the assailants, they continued to pursue, until a breeze springing up at length dispersed them.

Having stopped for dinner at a little inn which was the picture of neatness, and where the entire charge for four persons amounted to no more than 4s. our travellers proceeded on their road, determined not to stop till midnight, an hour which will not appear extraordinary if we consider that the sun does not set in these high latitudes till past ten, and that the twilight which continues all night, is as bright as a November cloudy day in Ireland. It was about

eight o'clock, when Arthur and Ned having alighted to walk a short way, came up to the waggon's side to point out an unusual glow in the distance, which would have seemed to them like the horizon at sun set, it being also in the direction of the west, if they had not at the same moment seen the sun itself far from his setting, and shining with great lustre. "It is a forest on fire," said Mr. Blackhall, "and before the termination of your journey you will often have to remark the same thing. I think, said Dr. Collins, as we passed along to day, I observed signs of some patches of land having been cleared for tillage in the same way. Sometimes, replied Mr. Blackhall, the peasants clear the land in this way, finding that it not only benefits the land, but is the most effectual mode of removing the thick underwood. It frequently happens, however, from not using proper precautions, or from beginning the operation when the season is too far advanced, that they are unable to confine it within the intended limits, and it soon spreads over a wide tract of forest. The whole country is then enveloped in flames, and it is a long time before it can be stopped. "What must be the situation of a traveller who has to pass through the burning forest," said Dr. Collins, "but I suppose he does not attempt to proceed." "Frequently he is obliged, and then it requires the greatest caution to escape the flames; his path is at intervals

concealed by smoke, and then he is uncertain whether to advance or retreat. If a breeze arise, the whole forest glows, and explosions are heard on all sides, as the sap and rosin boiling with the heat, burst the trunks. "I suppose Sir," said Ned, "it is from the clouds alone that water could be had to quench the fire." "Rain," replied Mr. Blackhall, seldom falls in summer, but at times there is a shower." "Oh then, interrupted Arthur, the flames are quenched at once. If you have ever seen blacksmiths working at a forge, said Dr. Collins, you would not say so, for you there see them when heating their iron, occasionally throwing on the coals, a dash of water to increase the flame and heat." "Such, in a greater degree, is the effect of a shower," said Mr. Blackhall; "a loud hissing is heard, the smoke lies thick and heavy on the ground, and the flames are for a time repressed, but they shortly burst out again with greater fury. I shall read for you a description given by Linnæus, the celebrated botanist, of the danger by which he was surrounded when crossing a burning forest, and it so well agrees with accounts which I have heard myself from others, that I copied it when in Stockholm in a leaf of my journal.

"Several days ago, the forests had been set on fire by lightning, and the flames raged at this time with great violence, owing to the drought of the season. In many different places, perhaps nine or ten, that I saw, the devasta-

tion extended several miles distance. I traversed a space of three quarters of a mile in extent (about four English miles and a half) which was entirely burnt. The fire was nearly extinguished, except in ant hills, and dry trunks of trees, so that the face of the country appeared quite black and gloomy looking. After we had travelled about half a quarter of a mile across one of those scenes of ruin, the wind began to blow with rather more force than it had previously done, upon which a sudden noise arose in the half burnt forest, such as I can only compare to the distant firing of cannon, we knew not which way to turn our steps, the smoke made it quite insufferable to remain where we were, and we were afraid to turn back. It seemed best to hasten forwards, in the hopes of soon reaching the outskirts of the wood, but in this we were disappointed; we ran as fast as we could, in order to avoid being crushed by the falling trees. some of which threatened us every minute. Sometimes the fall of a large trunk was so sudden, that we stood aghast, not knowing which way to turn for escape, and throwing ourselves entirely on the mercy of providence. In one instance, a large tree fell exactly before me, and the guide who walked not more than a fathom from me—but thanks to providence, we both escaped and reached the end of our journey in safety, rejoicing in, and I hope thankful for, the mercies vouchsafed to us."

Having rested at a small village called Eskilstuna, where Mr. Blackhall's servant, a Swede, had arrived some hours before them, and prepared supper and beds for the party, they set out the next morning, still allowing him a start of some hours, and reached Smaby, where the young men were much amused at the curious group formed by the peasants and their horses, breakfasting together, and cordially partaking of a large hard rye cake: this is the constant food of both throughout Sweden, and indeed forms their chief article of food. Before they set out on a journey a few of these cakes are strung together, and form their only food whilst absent. The travellers had occasion for two horses to each carriage, and as they often belonged to as many different proprietors, who always accompanied them for the purpose of bringing them back, it was interesting to hear the frequent altercations between them, each, while running beside the carriage, endeavouring to persuade the driver that his horse never needs the whip, at the same time giving a hint, that a lash would be well applied upon his neighbour's, and at times they were observed to shed tears when they thought them driven beyond their strength. The whip, however, was seldom wanting, seven and eight miles an hour, being at times their rate of going, and the roads so good that they seldom went out

of a gallop until they had reached the post-house, though on such occasions they always left the owners of the horses to follow.

On their arrival at Carlstadt, which is 160 miles west of Stockholm, the travellers rested for a day, Mr. Blackhall having some business to transact there. It is the principal town in the province of *Wameland*, contains 2,000 inhabitants, and is situated at the influx of the *Clara-Elf*, into the lake Wenner, in lat. 59°. From hence, every mile that they proceeded, indicated their approach to the frontiers of Norway. The features of the country became bolder, the streams rushed more impetuously to their level, and the hills became more frequent, and of greater elevation; the dwellings of the peasantry were warm and comfortable, and well adapted to resist the violence of winter storms and the severity of the cold, built universally of solid trunks of the pine tree, and the seams closely stuffed with moss, in the same way as a ship is caulked; the heat inside is kept up, not by fire places, but by stoves, which once lighted, retain the warmth for the whole day, and indeed cause so much heat as to be insupportable to foreigners who are not used to it. The roofs are also generally formed of pine trees, and covered with thatch, which being plentifully sown with grass seeds produce a plentiful crop. In some places, fir trees of a tolerable size, grew on the

roofs, the natives conceiving that the roots bound the thatch together, and rendered it more solid and compact. The bark of the beech tree is also used as a covering for the roof, and from its oily nature is found to resist the wet for years. "Which do you think, Arthur, is the most useful tree in this part of the world?" said Mr. Blackhall. "Without doubt, Sir," answered he, "it is the pine, for I see it every where used in the construction of their houses." "No," replied Mr. Blackhall, "it is the beech, its bark is used as an inner sole for shoes, and is considered preferable to leather. The peasant carves its wood into bowls, mugs, &c. it being tougher than the fir. It furnishes excellent fuel. The outer bark supplies the place of tiles, the inner, which is reddish, is applied to many purposes of tanning and dying; and lastly, the sap affords a liquor known by the name of beech wine, from which a spirit is sometimes extracted. It is only here in the South that it grows to any considerable size, and we shall observe as we travel North, that it gradually becomes more stunted in its growth, until it assumes at length the appearance of a dwarfish shrub, not rising higher than a few feet above the ground.

The third evening of the journey, the travellers were sitting in the neat apartment of their inn, Arthur writing up his journal, and Ned attentively listening to the conversation which

Dr. Collins and Mr. Blackhall were carrying on, when Arthur laying down his pen, as if he had concluded, said, "surely this is a beautiful country, but how many are the privations of its inhabitants, how great the hardships they must bear, especially in winter. No country is like our own." "No country," said Dr. Collins, seriously, "is so highly blessed as our own in climate, in civilization, in wealth; but let us see whether the Swedish character will not bear a comparison with that even of our own favored land. What, says Mr. Blackhall, who has had opportunities of knowing the people of both countries?" "All I shall do," replied Mr. Blackhall, "is to draw a picture of the Swede, and leave it to Arthur's own judgment to say, on which side the advantage lies. Providence has, it is true, placed him in a part of the world, where the severity of winter is felt for considerably more than half the year, and the barrenness of the soil necessarily exposes him to great privations, and yet you will find him always cheerful and contented; even in the midst of summer, the early approach of frost, what the Swede calls the *jarn-natter* or the iron night, sometimes cuts off the whole of his scanty crop, and deprives him of his winter provisions; he does not murmur however, but with the bitter bark of the pine, beaten till it becomes a soft pulp, he makes bark-bread, (or what he calls bark-brod,) and contrives to live upon this unpalatable food

where others would probably starve. It is hard fare, Arthur, but he shows no sign of discontent, and though when in this situation, he is never in a great flow of spirits, I know him to be humble, devout, and consequently truly happy; give him the smallest trifle, he warmly expresses his thanks, and he continues grateful. I have often heard our countrymen say, Sweden is a poor country, it is at home that wealth abounds. This is true, it is a poor country, but poverty is not accompanied by misery, and go where you will, you find the Swede industriously cultivating a spot of ground, and by dint of hard labour forcing a barren soil to yield him its produce. He has found that our real wants are few, his food is coarse and scant in quantity, but he is strong, healthy, hardy and contented; always well, and comfortably clad with articles of his own manufacture; his cabin is comfortable and clean, and yet he builds it entirely himself; his fields are not overgrown with weeds, he strives to make the land repay his toil, and if it disappoints him, he cannot say he left a foot of it neglected. Now, Arthur, look at our common country, and tell me ingenuously, do we with all our wealth, our bountiful soil, our knowledge, our many many advantages; do we show the same virtuous qualities, or do our fields as we travel along the road side, or do our cabins show the same industry? thousands

are poor and in want of common sustenance, how many of those thousands might justly lay the blame on themselves? Great indeed will be your improvement from travel, Arthur, if you learn to appreciate worth wherever it is found, and bear home whatever you find worth imitation to be afterwards inculcated upon your countrymen."

At Haga the party first heard complaints of bears in the neighbouring forest, and of the ravages they had made among the cattle a fortnight before; three had been killed by the peasantry, which they described as large and of the black species. To those who pursue this animal singly, it is attended with considerable danger, for if the first shot misses, or any other part than the head be wounded, the enraged animal rushes upon the assailant, and unless he can retreat quickly behind a tree, soon tears him to pieces; sometimes the hunter takes with him two or three small dogs, which by barking round the bear, divert his attention from the man, who is thus enabled to get a certain shot. An instance of great courage had taken place the preceding winter at Haga, in a peasant, who searching for his cow, found a large bear actually feeding upon it; undismayed, though armed only with his hatchet, he without hesitation attacked it, and providentially came off victorious. These accounts raised the courage of the young men,

they instantly got out their rifles, primed and loaded them, longing each for an opportunity of showing his intrepidity, nor did Dr. Collins discourage them, though there is no doubt he secretly hoped their resolution would not be put to the trial.

No wild beast crossed our travellers path, and the guns therefore were not discharged, but in a short time, on descending a steep hill, the party arrived at Magnebro, the frontier bridge between Sweden and Norway, and at nine in the evening came in sight of the fortress of Kongsvinger, perched like an eagle on the top of a mountain, and commanding the country around; at the bottom ran the Glommen, across which they had to ferry, before they could reach their resting place for the night. This river, the largest in Norway, rises in the lake of Stor Scargen, amongst the mountains of Dofrafield, in the 62° of N. latitude, and after forming several cascades in its southern course, falls into the Cattegat at Frederickshall, after a course of 150 miles. The next morning before their departure, they waited on the commandant of the fortress, by whom they were received with great courtesy. The view from the ramparts was very fine. The Norwegian mountains rose around them in majestic grandeur, some covered to the top with fine forests, whilst below, the eye could trace the broad stream of the Glommen for a great

distance. Christiania is exactly 100 miles from Kongsvinger, and lies a little south west of the course which was their direct one to Drontheim. By the assistance, however, of their forebud, who had the horses always ready for them at each station, they made it in one day, arriving in the capital of Norway about eleven o'clock at night: as their road lay for a considerable part of the way, along the banks of the Glommen, they had an opportunity of seeing the manner in which timber is conveyed down the stream to Christiania, from the distant forests of Norway. "The timber which you see," said Mr. Blackhall, "was originally the property of the peasant, being the produce of the immense forests by which he is surrounded; it is felled in the common way with the ax, the head of which being very thick and short, brings down the tree in a very short time, when wielded by an expert hand; the bark being then stripped, and the branches lopped off, the trunks are laid in rows till they are received, as it is called by the merchant. I have often gone myself, continued he, upon this business, 150 or 200 miles up the river from its mouth, attended by a *measurer* and a *marker*. The former to determine the dimensions of the tree, which, from practice he is able to do by mere inspection; the latter to put my mark on both ends, after the purchase is effected. When they are

received and *marked*, the peasant rolls them to the bank of the river, and tumbles them into the water, after which they are left entirely to the guidance of the stream, not being looked after till they reach the port of Christiania, where a boom is placed across the mouth of the Glommen to stop them, and where the different merchants have clerks ready to recognize and claim their employers' property, which they are enabled to do by the marks cut upon the two ends." "I should have thought," said Dr. Collins, "that a mark at one end would be sufficient," "so it would" replied Mr. Blackhall, "if the trees were not often broken in two, in descending the numerous falls of the river, in which case there would be no way of determining to whom the unmarked end belonged.

"When the river runs very rapidly, by being much swollen, three booms are necessary, it often happening that the violence with which the current drives them, breaks not only the first but the second also, and indeed there are times when all three give way, when of course thousands of logs are carried out to sea to the great loss and often ruin of the merchant. You might imagine, perhaps, that it requires but a short time to float these logs to the sea, particularly when the river is a rapid one, and yet I have had timber three years upon its voyage to the coast. A singular instance of it happen-

ed in the Drammen, which is the second large river of Norway, and flows into the sea 20 miles south west of Christiania. Up this river at some distance from its mouth, is the Cataract of Grave Fossen Fall, above and below which, the river is a mile broad. The winter of 1803, had been uncommonly mild, the preceding summer very dry, so that the stream had not the power to force the timber over the fall, which is very narrow, being scarcely 50 feet in breadth. The winters of 1804—5, were equally mild, so that in 1807, when I was on the spot, the timber was piled from 12 to 18 feet above the surface, and the quantity below was not less, the logs being wedged close together; in the month of July, however, in consequence of the winter of 1806 being severe, the quantity of water so increased that the whole mass went down the fall, and the roar it occasioned was heard for some days for miles around. For this long period, however, the merchants could export no timber from Drammen, and I myself was one of those who were greatly embarrassed by having no return for the money I had laid out in the forests; in fact my property was "in the river," and I believe I should have been a bankrupt, but for the providential rise of the waters."

Christiania the capital of Norway, where they were now arrived, is 250 miles west of Stockholm, 300 miles N. W. of Copenhagen,

long. 10° 48 West, and N. lat. nearly 60°. It is situated in a fertile valley at the bottom of a gulf, in the province of Aggerhuus. The gulf penetrates above 50 miles into the interior of the country, being enclosed on both sides by lofty mountains, and interspersed with beautiful and romantic islands. On the morning after their arrival, Mr. Blackhall took them to a neighbouring eminence, from whence they enjoyed a fine view of the city and the adjacent scenery. Numerous vessels were riding at anchor in the bay, which presented an unruffled surface. On their return from their walk, Mr. Blackhall introduced his friends to a merchant with whom he was connected in commerce, who received them with great kindness, and insisted on their taking apartments at his country house at Uvevold, which was only a short distance from the city. Indeed they had no great inducement to remain in the latter, the decline of trade having thrown a general gloom over the people, and a morning visit having sufficed to show them all that was worth visiting. Had it been the month of January instead of July, the annual fair which is held there, would have afforded an interesting and lively spectacle, the peasants of both sexes assembling from the remotest uplands, clothed in their best apparel, and the inhabitants of each district appearing in their respective dress, which seldom varies, descending unaltered by fashion through

successive generations. Throughout Norway, winter is the season for gaiety, for the earth is then bound up with frost, and the ordinary labours of the peasant are wholly suspended; they therefore come down in crowds from the interior to purchase such manufactures and other articles as their own country or their own ingenuity cannot supply them with. At the approach of spring also, said their new acquaintance, Christiania used to present the appearance of great animation, great exertion being then made to put the loaded vessels to sea. When the snow has melted from the hills and the verdure begins to appear, a number of men are employed on the frozen surface of the gulf in cutting a passage for them. This operation is performed with great dexterity and expedition, about 50 men ranged on opposite sides, briskly saw the ice into oblong blocks, which they press under the adjacent surface, and the ship immediately following their progress, advances quickly and almost without interruption to the sea; but trade, continued he, has been almost annihilated by some recent changes which have taken place in the laws of Great Britain, as they regard timber imported from Norway. "You know my opinions," said Mr. Blackball, to Arthur, smiling, "respecting restrictions upon the freedom of commerce, they are I think unjust to the buyer, if they give the seller a better price than he could otherwise pro-

cure; if they do not, they are useless, for the purchaser would of himself give the preference to the cheapest market."

The idea that foreigners generally have of Norway, Sweden, Lapland, is generally associated with that of continual and intense cold, and it was that which our travellers had previous to their departure from England. Here however, if not before, they found how great had been their mistake; setting out from Christiania, where they had remained only two days, anxious to profit by the fine weather, they found the country highly cultivated, and the luxuriance of the fields in the valleys equal if not superior to any thing they had witnessed either in England or Ireland. If vegetation is completely checked during the winter months, it is made up by the strength of the summer's sun, and the length of time during which it remains above the horizon each day in the northern parts, not sinking from view for three months, whilst in the more southern it sets at eleven and rises at one. Here grain is sown and reaped in six or seven weeks, and were the summer long enough, there is little doubt but double crops would be raised, wherever the soil was rich enough to bear it. In every direction, the small farms of the peasants caught the eye, showing a degree of comfort rarely to be met with. At nine miles from Christiania, the great Miosen lake

commences, and along its western bank their road lay for the distance of 70 miles, their carriage wheels being at times washed with its waves, whilst, at others, they were mountains high above its waters; here they found the cottages to have double fronts, they being found to render them warmer. Their manner of building was the same as in Sweden, on the roof, a luxuriant crop of grass was generally growing, though some were loaded with a thick coating of pebbles, and above them two or three large fragments of rock to secure the whole from being blown away by the winter storms.

It is unnecessary to detail with minuteness the journey from Christiania to Drontheim; on all sides lay the same magnificent scenery: mountains covered with pine forests to their very summits, patches of verdure near their foot, and beautiful valleys watered by the winding streams of the Lossen river, which sometimes widened to the breadth of a lake, and at different distances, the picturesque cottage of the farmer, either standing alone or else grouped into a little hamlet: these were the objects that met the eye until they reached the village of Dovre, which either gives its name to or takes it from the range of mountains called Dofrafield, or the chain of the Dofra: field, in the Norwegian language, signifying mountain. One of their resting places for the night was called Mossbus, where on their arrival

they observed a great number of young men assembled for the purpose of being enrolled. This afforded Mr. Blackhall an opportunity of explaining to his young friends, that after the age of fifteen, every Norwegian is considered as being in his Majesty's service, and that once in every year, an officer visits each district, to note down the names and to measure the stature of the young men; he also notices any alteration that may have happened in their growth since the former year. These young men all appeared in their scarlet caps, in shape like our night cap, and white coat, which dress is the costume of that part of Norway. Here also they had an opportunity of observing the great ingenuity of the peasantry in the manufacture of every thing necessary for the common purposes of life: living as they do remote from towns in their little scattered farms, and frequently at the distance of many miles from their nearest neighbour, necessity, the parent of invention, teaches them early the useful arts and trades, and thus renders them independent of that assistance which it is not in their power to obtain. Here the same man is found to be his own tailor, shoemaker, carpenter, joiner, and often even his own clock and watch maker; an organ was showed to the party, perfect in its parts and with a variety of stops, the work of a self taught mechanic; most of them also are expert at carving, and the beautiful whiteness

of the fir wood, renders this talent very ornamental to their cottages. In short there are few things for the purchase of which they are obliged to resort to the large towns, so great is their natural ingenuity, thus called forth by their wants, and improved by the instructions of their parents during their long winters.

It was here also that Mr. Blackhall pointed out to the young men, a blind man who, on their arrival, was sent to some distance to seek for the horses. Though destitute of sight, he was so perfectly acquainted with the intricate and dangerous paths of the mountains, that he was even employed as a guide. A striking example, said Dr. Collins, of the merciful disposition of providence towards us, strengthening the other faculties so as sometimes to supply the place of that which is wanting.

It was in the course of the following day's journey, that our travellers alighting from their carriage, at a village called Losnes, passed over a remarkable bridge, thrown with a degree of boldness that was quite astonishing, across a fearful chasm, at the bottom of which rushes an impetuous cataract; an inscription placed upon it, stated that it had been rebuilt in 1791, and was ninety feet high above the surface of the water, which was foaming below. The conclusion of it breathed a spirit of piety and deserves to be recorded:

THOU, TRAVELLER, THAT WANDEREST HERE,
 CONSIDER NATURE'S WONDERS,
 THINK DEEPLY ON THE WORKS
 OF GOD,
 THOU SEEST THEM EVERY HOUR.
 HE HATH PREPARED PATHS ON LAND
 AND ON WATER,
 WITH MANY MORE THINGS
 THAT MAN MAY GO SECURE.
 TO GOD
 BE THANKS AND HONOR.

Proceeding from Elstad, the next place where they halted for the night, the party came to a bridge near the village of Bredin, which connected two projecting rocks, and stretched across a foaming cataract. Looking up, they observed with great astonishment, a square timber mill dam built upon some jutting rocks, in the very midst of the falling water, for the purpose of arresting and carrying off in wooden channels, a portion of the water to supply some sawing mills which were constructed, in a manner almost as remarkable, by the side of the cascade; indeed it appeared wonderful that it was able for a moment to



resist such a furious torrent, without being at once swept away. The dam was constructed of the same materials that were used for building the bridge and the sawing mills, namely of the trunks of fir trees almost in their natural state. The appearance of the bridge was uncommonly light, it seemed, at a little distance, as it were like a rope thrown across the tremendous gulph. The light carriage made no impression on it, nor would it have shaken it even though Dr. Collins had not insisted on every one of the party alighting from it and walking across; but few, as Arthur said, would like to be among the number of passengers as they are seen heaped upon an Irish stage coach, if one of these vehicles was obliged to pass over such a bridge. Near it, Mr. Blackhall showed them the defile or pass of *Sinclair*, as a spot interesting indeed to the Norwegian, but no less so to every Briton who reads the inscription placed by the road side. It states that in this pass Col. Sinclair with 900 followers, all Scotchmen, was cut off by the mountaineers on 24th August, 1612; at that time, Gustavus Adolphus, king of Sweden, being at war with Gustavus IV of Norway, Col. Sinclair raised a regiment of his countrymen to assist him. These troops having landed in Norway at the only point where they found the coast accessible, the commander thought to traverse the great chain

of Norwegian mountains, and thus to reach the Swedish frontier, when on passing this spot, his followers were attacked with stones and other missiles by the peasantry, who had posted themselves on the rocks which overhung the pass, and as the tablet records, were literally "crushed like pots of clay."

The beginning of the inscription, which is in Norwegian verse, is literally as follows:

Courage, loyalty, and intrepidity, and
whatsoever gives honor,

The whole world amidst Norwegian
rocks may learn.

A spot was shown to them by one of the mountaineers whom they met near the spot, where Col. Sinclair and his soldiers were buried, and it still bears the name of Sinclair's grave; a ballad also is in the mouth of every one in the neighbourhood, which begins:

Sinclair came o'er the north sea,
To storm the cliffs of Norway.

and shows how well the transaction is preserved though it took place above two centuries ago.

Accident gave our travellers an opportunity of witnessing a Norwegian wedding, at a village called Formoe; and though the day was not far advanced, they willingly halted till the next morning that they might assist at it. The young woman was very handsome, her lover

was present, and they were both in full dress for the approaching ceremony. The young man's clothes were all of white, and he wore large buckles in his shoes—his lady was dressed in a jacket and petticoat of brown cloth; upon her head she wore a cap of black silk edged with silver lace, and bound round with a black handkerchief in the form of a turban; this head dress was further set off by a little pink ribbon tied under the chin, part of which fell down the neck behind—her shift was fastened in front by a neat broach, and she wore high heeled shoes that were soled with iron, and had very large buckles in front—her complexion was somewhat dark, but her features being well formed with a fine bloom on her cheeks, and her hair and eye-brows of a rich dark colour—her appearance on the whole was extremely pleasing, and more like that of a native of Italy, than of the mountains of Norway.

When a marriage takes place in Norway, open house is kept during the entire week for all comers. Every neighbour and every relation of the bride and bridegroom bring with them provisions as a contribution to this feast. The new married couple are expected to provide beer and brandy. The food consists of meat, cakes, fritters, &c. besides a standard dish for a Norwegian wedding, called cabbage soup, it is made with beef, pork, sausages,

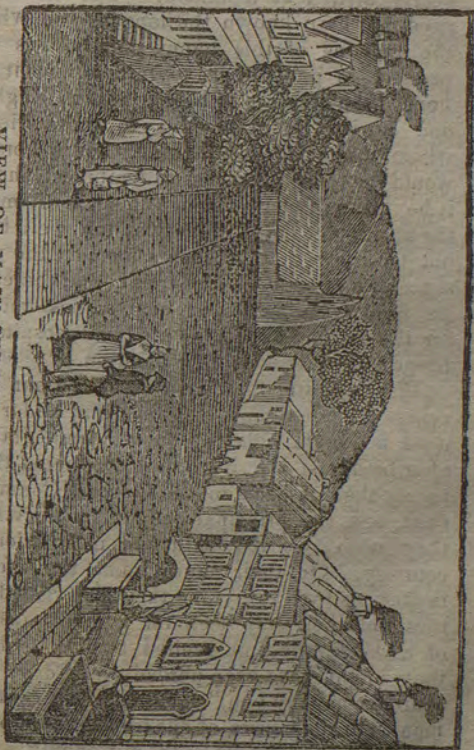
and vegetables of every kind mixed together. When the guests take their leave, they all make presents to the wedding pair, according to their circumstances and degrees of relationship or friendship. Some of them give two, three, four and five dollars, and in this way the newly married couple sometimes collect a sum equal to three hundred, and seldom less than one hundred dollars.

The morning was dark and gloomy when the party set forward from the village of Foste, where the difficulties of the ascent may be said to commence. This village or rather station, is the first of four "*field stuer*" or mountain rooms, which in the thirteenth century were built by king Eyestein, for the accommodation of travellers crossing the Dofrafield. Thanks to Mr. Blackhall's experience, their carriage though light was strong, their harness was good, besides which his forebud who had often crossed with him before, had taken care to provide good drivers and also additional horses, where the ascent was very steep, and yet they found it exceedingly fatiguing from the exertion they were obliged to make at intervals in helping the carriage on: Wherever the horses suddenly stopped, and they did so frequently from exhaustion, a peasant was instantly obliged to lock the wheels by throwing a long pole between the spokes of both, and to place a large stone behind the wheel to prevent it from rolling back. In this way they reached the *Harebach*, 4575 feet above the sea, at about two

o'clock, and were glad to rest for a time amidst the snow, which even at this time of the year lay scattered around. A total silence prevailed on all sides, broken at times by the whistling of the plover, which occasionally flitted past. The view was bounded on all sides by snow-covered Mountains, and in the distance arose the lofty Sneehatten, (literally *hat of snow*,) like a vast column 8000 feet high, looking down upon the place where they were. It was full an hour and a half before Dr. Collins was sufficiently rested to proceed. Arthur and his companion however were in a much shorter time able to take their guns and bring down some brace of plover for their supper.

The road now gently declined till they reached Fogstue, (Fog-chamber) another of the Field Stuer; it was midnight, however, when they arrived at the comfortable inn, where they found a good supper and well aired beds prepared for them. The next day they reached Jukin, and the following one, Riese, where they slept. Their fatigue was now at an end, and the wild scenery which they had for the preceding two days been witnessing, had totally disappeared. But eighty miles now separated them from Drontheim, and as their road lay through the populous and fertile valley of Galtinatti it was easy for them to reach their destination at an early hour in the evening, and to witness the joy Mr. Blackhall's return diffused through his delighted family, consisting of his wife, an English woman,

VIEW OF MAIN-STREET IN DRONTHEIM.



and seven children, the four eldest boys now nearly arrived at manhood. Our travellers need not have known the language in which the greeting of this happy family was expressed, to judge of its joyfulness, yet it enhanced the pleasure to hear it pass in English, and carried their thoughts to those friends whom they had left behind, and whom it would be their happiness to embrace, should it be the will of Providence to spare them for the meeting. Dr. Collins was too well bred not to know that at such a moment the presence of a stranger is a restraint, and therefore he soon with his young companions retired for the night, and left his kind and hospitable friends together with their children.

The day after their arrival shewed our travellers the inhabitants of Drontheim, under the most favorable point of view. Immediately after breakfast Mr. Blackhall conducted them to pay their respects to the General Commandant, and the principal people, by all whom they were received with the most friendly courtesy. On their return home they found invitations from every one they had visited, so that had their stay been for a month instead of a week, the time limited by Dr. Collins, they might have been abroad every day. "I shall accompany you," said their kind countryman, "to the houses of our friends, but to-day you must give to me and my family, from whom I cannot separate myself after so long an absence, and to-morrow we must dine with

the General, whose rank entitles his invitation to precedence of all others; in the mean time let me now explain to you the arrangement which we make of the hours of the day: we do not rise with the sun, because at present that orb appears above our horizon about half an hour after midnight, and for about three days of midsummer never sets at all; but we take a slight breakfast about six in the morning, and at nine we have a luncheon, which is called *duel*: at twelve or one we dine, at the end of dinner on a sign from the mistress of the house, the company all bow to her, drink her health, and then suddenly rising, push their chairs along the ground to the sides of the room. If I did not warn you, said he, smiling, you might be startled, for it is one of our customs, and a singular one certainly, to do it with great noise. Then all stand silent for a time, returning thanks to the Giver of all good, after which bowing to the master of the house and to each other, they kiss the hand of their hostess and retire into another room where coffee is served, during which some gentlemen smoke tobacco in an adjoining apartment; after coffee, tea is served; and the company amuse themselves in various ways till supper is announced. Dont be alarmed, Arthur," concluded he, seeing the fallen looks of his young friend, at such a dismal round of eating and drinking. This takes place only at dinners of ceremony, and you shall go to as few of them as you please; our mode of living at home is more

conformable to English manners, and you will become better acquainted with some of our countrymen who follow my example; with respect to my friend Ned, I have a plan which I think he will like, one of my clerks is an Englishman, and lives next door to me with his family, he shall board with him during your stay, so that except at meal times, you will be together, and can visit the curiosities of our city, and whatever else is remarkable. I have one thing more to mention, and I think it will gratify you, a vessel of mine clears out of the harbour this very day, with a cargo of timber, for Dublin, and will proceed on her voyage, wind and weather permitting, tomorrow, a few letters wont add much to the weight of her lading, so that I shall not close the packet which I am sending with her to my correspondent before morning."

It was pleasing to observe the countenances of the young men as Mr. Blackhall considerably offered to forward letters to their friends, the colour mounted into their cheeks, as home was thus brought before them; home the scene of early happiness, the residence of parents and friends, which after all they had seen, they still preferred to all the world, feeling as it were, the ties which connected them with it only increased by the distance which separated them from it; with the greatest alacrity they returned to their rooms to make up the journals which they had regularly kept, nor would they consent to stir

from the house till they each accompanied his parcel with letters expressing their affectionate attachment to those whom they hoped to see again.

Arthur's letter was as follows :

Drontheim, July 8th, 1818.

My dear Father,

You have long ere this I trust been made acquainted with our proceedings, as far as Stockholm, and the unexpected alteration which we there made in our original plan. If the letters which we dispatched from that city, reached you safely, they informed you that a good Providence had watched over us both at sea and on land, and given us health and spirits to enjoy the advantages your affection had provided. How happy should I be at this moment, could I know that you were then, and are still as well and as free from sorrow of every kind as an affectionate son can wish; it is one of the pains which separation from friends always brings, that we must be in continued uncertainty about the present health and happiness of those we love, and though your letters have always been the source of the highest gratification, still the fear that perhaps at the moment I was reading them, you were not possessed of the same health and happiness as when you wrote,

has presented itself to my mind, and I have found relief only in the recollection that the same Almighty Being was watching over us both, and would spare us, if *He* saw fit, to meet again in happiness and health.

I should have sent you my journal from Stockholm, had it then possessed any interest, or been likely to amuse you. I was there however as it were only on the threshold of a new world, and every thing appeared to me so strange, my eyes and ears were so engaged, with uncommon sights and sounds, so unlike every thing I had heard or seen before, that it was a long time before I could reduce my thoughts to any order, or amongst the multitude, select those objects which were most deserving of being mentioned.

This confusion however, has since ceased. I do not now as I did at first, stare with astonishment at every thing new or wonderful, or look with surprise at little children speaking a language which I had been accustomed to think could be acquired only by long study and labour; I can at length compare what I see with what I saw before, I think I entertain more comprehensive views of society, seeing every where the traces of an all wise Providence, in giving to all nations, those blessings which best befit them, and beholding even in the peculiarities which distinguish one people from another, distinctions which have their rise in climate and constitution.

I have found Dr. Collins every thing you

could wish, standing as he does in your place, I look up to him with respect, whilst the mildness of his manners, the care he takes to make my travels productive of improvement, and the anxiety he shows about my safety and health, have gained my warmest affection and esteem. Farewell my dearest father—remember me with kindest love to my mother, let all my friends know that I often think of them, hoping ere long to meet them again, and believe me Sir, your dutiful and attached son,

ARTHUR HARDING.

P. S.—Ned Boulger writes by this opportunity to his father—tell him how much it increases my pleasure to have my early companion beside me—if a good son be a blessing to a parent, he is such a one, and has shown himself deserving of all your kindness.

Pat Spring and Faithful for me, I sometimes wish for them when I see the foxes crossing our path, only I don't think the good dogs would know their old enemies in their white coats—I hope John takes care to give them water and takes them a run in the fields every day.

Ned's letter was more simple, but it was not less characteristic of a sound head and a good heart.—It ran as follows :

Drontheim, July 8th, 1818.

Dear Father,

The coach which brought us from Newry to Dublin, when we were setting out on our travels, started so suddenly, that you had not time to finish what you began—I remember well, however, the first words, “God bless you Ned, and keep you safe,” and he has kept me safe in danger as well as temptation, and I hope will always make me mindful that he sees me every moment, and marks my thoughts as well as actions.

At that time you little thought I should be so great a traveller, and in places too, which few of our countrymen ever see, but should we meet again, you shall have a more full account of what we have seen, than I can send you now. Mr. Arthur sends home his Journal, which he seldom failed to write up every evening. I had to see that the trunks were safe, and to unpack them, so that I could only now and then note down the remarkable things I saw, and these I send you, but I have a great deal more to tell you, which I must defer till the winter evenings, when my mother taking off your wet things, sets your chair in your own warm corner, and makes you as comfortable as she can, after the work of the day is over.

The city from which I write, is called Tronyem, by those who have the best right to know, that is the natives. The Irish

I am told who trade to Norway, call it Drontheim, and so I call it to you, though a Norwegian would not understand me. It was once the capital of the kingdom, and looks a very handsome place, though all the houses are built of wood. Do not imagine, however, that they are therefore little cabins, or even like farmers houses, there are not finer private houses in Dublin, and the only reason I can discover for their being built of wood instead of brick, is, the great plenty of the former, Norway being the land of timber, and forests covering the greater part of the country, and for hundreds of miles. I do not think there is so much ground cleared of trees in this country as there is land covered with trees in Ireland.

Dont suppose however, that I am pleased with every thing I see, very far from it. In summer it is light nearly the twenty-four hours, and the poorer class I am told seldom sleep in a week day, but then they make up for it on Sunday, many of them never stirring from bed: of course they cannot be good christians, for you remember, it is one of the commandments, to keep holy the sabbath day.

They have a custom also of drinking a glass of brandy before their meals, which must be very hurtful to their constitutions. I told one of them so, but smart enough, he told me many of my countrymen did worse, for they drank whiskey at all times; that made me silent, for you know it is true: the Irish, I grieve to say, are too fond of what they call the "native," and

worse than the Norwegians, they drink immoderately, and in their cups quarrel and fight. Oh! father, money is said to be the root of all evil, but it should be rather whiskey is the root of all evil, for it tempts people to commit every wickedness.

The people here are very poor, for you must know, that for many months in the year, the ground is covered with snow; indeed so poor, that I have seen them boil the dung of horses with a little rye meal in water, and give it as food to poultry, cows, and pigs; and I am told that further north, they feed the cows for a great part of the year, on sea-weed and the heads and offal of fish.

I have seen no turf or coal since we landed on the continent, but you need not suppose that they want fuel, the immense woods give them enough for firing, and there seems far less likelihood of the forests being exhausted than the hog of Allen being cut out.

Perhaps when you read so far, you are ready to say, that with such plenty of wood we must have fine fires: no such thing, the rooms are heated with large stoves, built up in one side of the room, like a huge chest, taller than a man and covered with tiles, which continue hot for a long time, and keep the apartment warm. Give me, however, a blaze in the grate, what we call in the North "a wee bit ingle," which not only makes us warm but cheerful.

You remember once telling me, that in former days there were wolves in Ireland, you

would say they must all have come over here, for I am told the woods are full of them, and that when hungry, they often lie in wait for travellers. You would scarcely guess what a simple thing frightens them away, a piece of rope left dangling behind a car or sledge is sufficient to send them away, which it does by its constant motion.

And now dear father, God be with you and all at home, tell cousin Tom I hope he minds his book; here there are schools in every parish, and you could not meet one but is able to read and write; should he be a dunce, he is the only one of all I love whom I shall not see again with pleasure.

Mr. Arthur is so kind as to desire to be remembered to you, could I tell how good he is to me, you would love him more than I do, though I don't think that possible.

I love to all, especially my mother, her parting gift is now before me, and it will please her to know, that night and morning Mr. Arthur and I read a chapter in it together. It has been to both of us a precious treasure.

With prayers for all my relations, I subscribe myself, your affectionate son,

EDWARD BOULGER.

N. B.—I have bought a Norwegian pipe for uncle James, the bowl is baked earth, the pipe of horn nicely turned, and with common care it never breaks. Your dutiful Son,

EDWARD BOULGER.

These letters written and dispatched, Dr. Collins and his young companions strolled out by themselves to walk about the city. The last town towards the north pole; it presented nothing but what might remind them of the cities of more southern Europe. The streets were wide and well paved, and lined on each side with houses, which, though built of wood, were in general plastered and whitewashed. The meeting of the four principal streets, formed a handsome square, having in the center a handsome fountain, which supplied the inhabitants with excellent water; upon the north side stands the finest wooden building in all Norway, a magnificent pile, the residence of the Commandant, and looking down the street, which extends westward: a lofty mountain appearing as it were at the extremity. On the east lay another mountain, less lofty and covered with a rich harvest. Beyond the Commandant's palace appeared a range of mountains; and between, a noble bay full of shipping, with Monkholm (monk-island) and its citadel in the center; whilst to the south the land gradually rose till it was terminated by the venerable remains of the old cathedral, erected in the eleventh century. Almost all the houses had gardens laid out, it is true, rather according to the dutch taste, with straight walks, wooden statutes of men, poultry, and animals, and trees clipped into various grotesque shapes. Ramparts surrounded the town, and on them they saw the criminals in chains, who

were condemned to this punishment for different periods, according to the nature and enormity of their offences. Death is never inflicted but upon the most incorrigible and atrocious crimes, and they were informed that an execution had not taken place for the preceding ten years.

The next day as already mentioned they dined with the Commandant, the feast was tedious but magnificent, and in the evening the troops were reviewed in the square before the house. Amongst the many regiments which they saw, there was one which particularly attracted their attention, and which may be considered amongst the greatest curiosities in the country. This is a corps of about six hundred men, which have acquired the art of performing all their military evolutions in the Lapland Skates. Their Colonel, a man upwards of sixty years of age, was at their head, Mr. Blackhall told them he had seen him conduct himself in these Skates with as much dexterity as the youngest soldier in his regiment. Their uniform is light green—in summer they are armed with rifles and act as chasseurs, but as soon as the snow has fallen in sufficient quantity, and in a state to bear them, they put on their *skies* or skates, and commence their winter manœuvres. This singular description of military force has been sometimes employed with great success against the enemy in the wars with Sweden—indeed as Mr. Blackhall informed them an army would

be completely in the power of an handful of these troops, in winter, for they being stopped by no obstacle, and swift as the wind, can attack it on all points, while the depth of the snow and the nature of the country would not only make pursuit impossible to the regular troops, but almost deprive them of the means of defence; the skiders, or skaters, still hovering round them like swallows, skimming the surface of the ground, and dealing destruction upon their helpless adversaries.

In every pair of the skates, worn by these troops, the one is longer than the other; the long skate which is six or seven or sometimes even eight feet long, is worn on the left leg, and upon this leg the skater chiefly rests; the short skate which is generally one or two feet shorter than the other, is worn upon the right leg, and serves principally for pushing the other forwards and directing it: for this purpose, it is covered with rein deer-skin, the hair of which lies smooth, while the skater is advancing, but bristles up and becomes rough upon any motion backward, and therefore serves as a hold upon the snow.

The bottom of the long skate is of smooth wood, having a groove hollow'd within the surface to make it lighter, and to assist the spring of the skater, who sometimes, in going very rapidly down a hill must take great leaps over the rocky and rough ground that may be above the snow—a leap of *fifteen yards* is sometimes taken in this manner—

a stick flattened at one end to prevent its sinking in the snow, is held by the skater in his hand as a director, and his position in going down hill is always with his knees very much bent, and bearing with his two hands upon the stick on the left side, dragging it after him, and at the same time supporting himself by it." "I should think," said Arthur, "our mode of skating in Ireland by far more graceful, than this way of hurrying forwards with the knees bent, and the skater carrying a great stick in his hand." "That is true," said Mr. Blackhall, "but see how these men have the advantage over you in the swiftness and ease with which they can move; for whilst your countrymen can only glide over a level surface when he has his skates on, the Norwegian can descend steep hills with a velocity that I have heard can be only compared to the flight of a bird."

It is not necessary to mention the attentions which our travellers received from their friends, or the kind efforts which were made to render their stay agreeable: at the end of the week, it became necessary to decide upon a plan of future operations. If they were to proceed to Russia, it was necessary to retrace their steps to Stockholm, and then cross the Baltic to Petersburg, but the young men had both been so excited by the accounts they had heard of the country north of Drontheim, that they pleaded earnestly with Dr. Collins, to shape his course in that direction, rather than spend

their time in re-measuring ground which they had already trodden. The clerk with whom Ned had been living, had a few years before resided close to the North Cape, at Rebrog where he had charge of a fishing establishment, for a Drontheim merchant, and his brother was still there; "no small inducement," said Arthur, "to know that we shall find a countryman there, and be sure of his kindness." "But how," said Dr. Collins, "shall we thus avoid what you seem to consider so objectionable—the farther north we go, the more ground we shall have to traverse a second time." "No Sir," said Arthur, "we can make our way down to Tornea, at the head of the Gulph of Bothnia, from which we can proceed to Petersburg, or to any other port in the Baltic, as well as from Stockholm." "Well," said Dr. Collins, "I consent, but remember it is only on one condition, you must follow explicitly my wishes respecting clothing, and must not expose yourselves to cold when proper precautions may defend you from it."—This decision thus made, they now sought the assistance of their kind friend, Mr. Blackhall, who entered fully into their wishes, and told them what preparations it was necessary they should make, "your low carriage," said he, "will answer exceedingly well as far as it can go, and you must hire a Norwegian who has been the journey already, but as a great deal of it is to be performed in boats, you must reckon on being obliged to leave the

former behind you when you embark, and you must here confide to me every article which would be superfluous for the journey—you shall find them before you at any point you choose to mention—you must bring your own blankets, and also provide yourselves with cloaks of wolf's skin, with large sheep-skin caps and gloves to wear when requisite—as for letters leave that to me, I shall procure such as you will find useful at the different places where you must stop."

These arrangements were quickly made, their servant hired, named Jean Jorkinson, who spoke French and knew a little English, and what was more satisfactory, had an excellent character for honesty, sobriety, and intelligence; on the 16th of July, they bade adieu to Drontheim and its friendly inhabitants, sincerely wishing that circumstances might give them an opportunity of returning in their own country those attentions which had been so kindly bestowed.

When friendships are thus formed between persons, who have learned to appreciate each others worth, and yet from circumstances are never likely to meet again—the parting scene is always melancholy. The morning however was delightful, not a cloud was to be seen, the air was balmy and mild, and as their guide informed them, promised a continuance of fair weather, and the sides of the mountains around were covered with the blossoms of the wild raspberry and strawberry; they there-

fore, soon after clearing the streets of the city, gradually recovered their spirits, and at length talked with cheerfulness of the pleasant journey which was before them, they also got rapidly on their journey, for instead of the small though spirited horses which they had been hitherto used to, they found the cattle on the road, strong, bony, and short backed, of a dark brown and fine crest.

As they passed along the shore, Jean, the guide, whom they found to be frank and communicative, pointed out several large flocks of Eider ducks, which were hovering near, undisturbed by our travellers approach. "These birds," said he, "are valuable for the downy feathers they yield, being made into pillows and beds for the rich. "What is the mode of procuring it?" said Arthur. "It is curious, Sir," replied Jean, "the female when she prepares her nest, plucks her softest feathers to line it and make it warm;" "yes," interrupted Dr. Collins, "and it is from the breast she takes them, for that in all water fowl, is the place where they are finest, thus giving warmth to that part of the body, which in swimming is most exposed to the cold;" "And do they," said Arthur, "rob the nest of the downy lining: then the young ones perish with cold?" "not so, young gentlemen," said Jean, "the down is stripped from the nest *three* times successively, for so often she renews it, but after this she is allowed to finish it undisturbed."

As our party advanced from day to day in

their course, it was easy to remark that they were approaching the colder regions of Lapland, which lies north of Norway; cows first disappeared, being succeeded by large flocks of goats, which were collected on the shore and appeared to be feeding on the sea weed; the road also became gradually more imperceptible, until at length it had dwindled down to a mere track, a sign they were approaching the end of it; at the end of each day's journey, however, their guide knew where they would find a comfortable lodging, and as no incident occurred worthy of mention, it is not requisite to detail more particularly their course.

On the 12th day the party reached Overgaard in the afternoon, and drove up to the only house, that of Hans Barlieu, inn-keeper, fisherman, boatman and farmer, a person well known to all travellers on this road and living on the banks of the river Oy. His house may be said to be celebrated, from the circumstance that all roads in Norway end at his door, and though from thence to North Cape the distance is 700 miles, the only means of getting thither is by boats, first following the course of the Overgaard river, as it runs northwards, twenty-five miles to the sea, and then threading the many islands which are scattered in so extraordinary a manner along the Norwegian and Lapland coast, till you reach the Cape. These and the extensive *fiords* or *firths* which frequently run thirty or forty miles into the

country from the shore, would of themselves render any roads useless, while from the increasing number of mountains, it would be most difficult as well as expensive to construct them. The traveller accustomed as he may have been to the mountain range in the south of Norway, here views mountains behind mountains, and as his little boat passes slowly along their base, he sees at once how fatiguing must have been the attempt to traverse their snow covered summits.

Hans Barlieu was a portly man, about forty years of age, who bade the party welcome with much kindness, and on learning that they were proceeding to the North Cape, gave orders for a boat and six rowers, to be in readiness by break of day for their departure, when the tide which runs up these friths would serve.

The next morning every thing being ready, Dr. Collins recommended his waggon to the care of Hans, adding, that if circumstances should prevent the return of the party the same way, he might consider it as his own, but it was to be ready for Dr. Collins should he claim it within the next six months, before which he expected to be on his route returning. The boat in which they embarked was built of light deal, narrow, and about thirty feet in length; the manner of rowing was singular, the sixth rower sat facing the rest, and while he rowed performed at the same time the office of steersman, guiding the boat with great dex-

terity, through the narrow channels which lay between the rocks. The scene was now completely changed, instead of the rumbling of wheels, the jolting of the roads, the delays at the different post-houses, they were gently floating down the spacious stream of the Oy river, forests of dark green pine clothed the sides of the mountains from the top to the base, and numerous birds were warbling their morning song amongst the branches. As they looked over the boats side into the water, which the rowers assured them was in some places 1,200 feet deep; they could distinguish the large salmon moving slowly up the stream. As they approached the mouth of the Overgaard river, the scenery grew more and more beautiful, till at length reaching the sea and continuing their course still northwards, they passed by the island of Ottoroen, separated from the main land only by a narrow sound, through which they directed their course. It is one of the largest islands on the Norway coast, being more than 20 miles in length and 30 in circumference. On the south side, at Vng, they saw a church, the north wind however blowing right against them, they were unwilling to increase the labour of the men by going out of their course, they therefore proceeded without stopping till they reached Segerstad, having accomplished a distance of 40 miles from Overgaard in twelve hours. Here they landed for the purpose of procuring a fresh boat and rowers; but as Boulger had felt the effects of the

sea, and for the preceding three hours had complained much of sickness, it was resolved to remain there till morning.

Segerstad where they now rested, is on another considerable island, called Gioen, which is twenty-one miles in circumference. The land appeared good, but to their inquiry why it was not cultivated, it was answered that the inhabitants found it more profitable to attend to the fishing, which supplies them with great quantities of cod, herrings, and salmon. The following morning the effects of the sea sickness having quite disappeared, the party left the place after laying in a good stock of dried salmon, which in the absence of flesh meat was to be now their principal food; towards evening they came to the great Folden, which runs inwards nearly seventy miles, as far as Aarbotn, across its mouth which is nearly ten miles wide; it was quite unprotected by islands and a great swell rolled in from the ocean.— Here it was that Providence saved them from a calamity which they afterwards learned is of frequent occurrence. The day was calm and sultry, but as evening came on, a thick mist rose from the surface of the water, which gradually spread and enveloped them so completely, that they could not see a boat's length in any direction. Here the necessity of a compass which the Norwegian boatmen seldom possess, strongly showed itself. For some time they plied their oars as if confident of success, till Ned remarked that the sun

which was then setting in the west appeared ahead, and therefore he feared they were not proceeding fairly in their course which lay due north. This was too obvious to be disputed, though no one had perceived it till it was then mentioned. The men accordingly rested on their oars, and a consultation having been held, it was resolved to alter their course. They must have wandered far from the right direction, for it was some hours ere they found themselves once more within sight of land, surrounded by immense small rocky inlets, covered with marine plants, and thousands of the gull tribe which literally whitened them with their numbers. At four in the morning they reached Appelvaer, a small island, inhabited by a merchant, whom with great difficulty they roused from his bed, and procuring the accommodation he had, gratefully acknowledged the mercy of God, in thus preserving them as well at sea as on land. Appelvaer, however, is little more than a barren rock, and entirely destitute of any vegetables; they therefore stopped no longer than was sufficient to procure another boat and rowers, determining to take the rest which nature required in the boat, rather than stop in a place which promised them such bad accommodation.

After crossing the Folden fiord, they proceeded along the numerous islands with which the Northern Ocean is spotted, and as the sea was calm, and they were much fatigued, they slept soundly till eleven, A. M. when the steers-

man wakened them to breakfast. When this needful refreshment was over, they had time to observe the extraordinary wildness of the coast on their right; Arthur also called the attention of the party to the shallowness of the water as he thought, every object being seen at the bottom as distinctly as if the depth was only a few feet; but how great was their surprise to find that sounding gave nearly 150 feet, the clearness of the water causing the deception. Opposite Otersun, the next place where they stopped, lay the Vigten islands, the nearest called Ind Vigten, being above fifty miles in circumference. Here the post-master who had the care of forwarding the post between North Cape and Drontheim four times a year, and at whose house they resided, showed them the skins of eight rein-deer which he had shot; these animals used, he said, to swim over from the main land in summer, to escape the attack of the gad fly, which here is kept off by the sea breeze; the wolves, however, he said, were numerous in his neighbourhood, and coming over like the deer, had thinned their number considerably.

Mr. Jansens house was furnished in a style of ancient splendor, which they little expected to meet so far north. Every article of furniture bore the marks of antiquity, massive gilded tables and painted chairs curiously carved, were to be observed in the bed-rooms, which were hung round with numerous family pictures. The family consisted of himself,

a son, a daughter, and a niece. His wife, with whom he had lived forty years, had recently died, and the old man had not entirely recovered from the severe loss he had sustained. The next day was Sunday, and according to our traveller's uniform custom, they rested from their journey; they had, therefore, an opportunity of observing the patriarchal way in which this respectable man lived amongst his dependants. All supped together at the same table, plentifully set out with large bowls of *Suur Melk*, (sour milk) and thin rye cakes. The upper end of the table, however, where sat the strangers with their host and his family presented objects of greater luxury. Large plates of eggs of different kinds of sea fowl were handed round by the young women, and these were as various in their colours as in size, some belonging to the largest species of gulls, exceeding in bulk a turkey's egg, and of a remarkable fine flavor, whilst others resembled those of a plover in size and were similarly marked. Bowls of rich cream mixed with ripe fruit succeeded, and formed a cooling and delicious repast.

This simple meal concluded, it was interesting to see the manner in which each of the family and household approaching the table, thanked Mr. Jansens for his supper, and to hear the kind tone in which the old man told them they were all welcome.

Here also the young men heard of a huge sea animal, which had been seen in the neigh-

hood of the island during the preceding summer, and if the accounts be true, which they had not only from the post-master, but from many others in the subsequent part of their journey, it must be ranked in the first class of animals. The first time Mr. Jansons saw it, he was in a boat, at the distance of about two hundred yards, and to him the length appeared to be six hundred feet, though it lay in large coils above the water to the height of many feet. Its colour was grayish, but at the distance at which he was, he could not tell whether or not it was covered with scales; but when it moved a loud crackling noise was distinctly heard. Its head was shaped like a serpent, but though all who dwell on the island saw it, and it continued almost in the same part of the sound for nearly a month, they were all too much frightened to go near it, and it appeared as if the inhabitants of its own element, were equally terrified, for all the fish left the coast in consequence.

From this place our travellers proceeded, by rowing or sailing along the same kind of craggy shore which we have been describing, occasionally stopping to change their boat and to get fresh rowers; they passed the Kunnenfield mountain on the right, on the top of which they were told might be seen the skeleton of a whale, how long it had lain there no one could tell, but it seemed to Dr. Collins not improbable, that it had been carried and left there when "the fountains of the great deep

were broken up and the windows of heaven opened," and the flood of waters covered the highest mountains, and all the people in the world except eight were drowned, for their wickedness, "which was great." At Hundholm, in lat. 67, 15, nearly opposite the Lofoden islands, they found a fishing station, consisting of about twelve houses, inhabited by merchants and fishermen. Here are caught vast quantities of cod fish for exportation, after having been dried by exposure to the air; the number of fish caught in the preceding season, they were informed, amounted to about a million of vogs, each vog containing twenty-eight middle sized cod;—an English vessel called the *Eliza* was then in harbour, loading for the Mediterranean. Nor was it cod fish only, which appeared in this part of the Northern Sea; whales also are found there, which have been known to exceed a hundred feet in length, though they do not give one-fourth part of the oil or blubber that a Greenland whale would yield. Here they found that the sun disappeared only for half an hour, and as it was their practice to continue their course to a late hour of the night, the effect was curious; generally tired on their arrival at night, they sought in vain to escape the broad glare of day, for the dazzling beams of the sun, unrestrained by window shutters or bed curtains, comforts unknown in this part of the world, burst full upon them. Indeed they found that this continued day, pre-

vented the inhabitants from keeping the same hours as in more southern countries; the common hour for supper was about midnight.— They retired to bed about one or two, and their hour of rising was consequently about ten o'clock, A. M.

A little beyond Lofoden isles they passed the Salten Strom, remarkable for its dangerous whirlpool; the depth of this eddy in some parts is as much as twenty-five fathoms, and in the centre a vacuity is formed to the very bottom, by the curling spiral motion of the waters. The boatmen told them that numbers of fishermen had been lost at different times, being drawn in by the current, and yet, however singular the fact appears, it is nevertheless true, that it is not always fatal to be sucked in by the vortex, for they saw afterwards at Hundholm, where they changed their boat, a man who had been taken down with his boat twice, but had providentially escaped both times, by clinging fast to the boat, which was thrown up in another part.

At Hundholm, to their great surprise they found an Englishman residing, who was engaged extensively in the exportation of fish, which is here caught in great abundance. Mr. Price received them with the cordiality of an old acquaintance, for seldom did a stranger penetrate to this remote situation, much less a countryman. In half an hour after their arrival, they were lodged in his house, nor was he satisfied till they promised to spend three days, in return for which he offered them his

own boat, and assisted them in hiring six stout rowers who should go with them all the way to Tromsøe, thus superseding the necessity of taking boats from island to island, which had latterly been attended with great delay, and was now hardly likely to be practicable, from the small number of inhabitants which they were henceforth to meet with at several places where they must stop.

It may well be supposed, that such an opportunity for becoming acquainted with the manners of the people, was not neglected by the young men, and that their kind friend was happy at the interest they took in this subject. They had heard and read some extraordinary accounts of another whirlpool, called the Malstrom, such as its being several leagues in circuit, and that not only vessels of large size had been lost in it, but, even whales themselves had been caught within its vortex, and overpowered by its violence, the bellowings indicating how violent were their struggles, and how desperate their fruitless efforts to disengage themselves. Mr. Price, however, assured Arthur that these accounts were much exaggerated. "The fishery which I direct, is in its immediate neighbourhood, and the boats are constantly crossing it at all times, unless when it blows hard from the westward." "I should like to cross it myself to-morrow," said Arthur, "if Dr. Collins has no objection." "I have none, Arthur," replied he, "for I rely upon Mr. Price's account, that there is no

danger, and I think it a duty we owe in such cases to society, to set the mind right, for I have heard of many vessels on their way to Archangel, which lies round the North Cape, being deterred from touching at any part of this coast."

In such conversation the day passed so agreeably in the company of Mr. Price's family, that they almost fancied themselves in their own country, an illusion which was encouraged by hearing their mother tongue on all sides, and witnessing several little English customs which their host kept up.

On the following morning, provided with a stout boat and six rowers, and accompanied by Mr. Price, the party made right across the Whirlpool. It was about half-ebb at the time they reached it, consequently the current was at its height, but the day was calm, and the sea so little ruffled, that Dr. Collins said, there was not so much noise as the water makes at London Bridge, rushing through the centre arch.

This was confirmed by the clergyman of Veroe, where they landed, and to whom their friend Mr. Price, introduced them.— "I have myself," said he, "seen whales swimming about in the Malstroom as quietly as any where else." When it blew hard, however, he added, attempts to cross the stream were considered so dangerous that none but the fool hardy would think of it, and he himself when going on his ecclesiastical

duties, had been obliged to desist, and return after being out a long time.

The three days passed rapidly away, and they were reluctantly obliged to quit their countryman, and resume their journey. The evening after their departure, they found it impossible to reach any place for sleeping, they therefore by the advice of Jean, (who fully proved his title to the character he had obtained,) and the boatmen, made fast to a rock and slept aboard. It was a still night, but the sun appeared above the horizon the whole time without setting. Great numbers of porpoises surrounded them, and their loud breathings which effectually banished sleep from the young men, showed the warmth of the weather, for it is said, that heat always brings them to the surface. Large flocks of Eider ducks also passed them, but took no notice of the boat, though the oars as they struck the water covered them with the spray.

At Sandtort, the party was received most kindly by Mr. Christiansens, a merchant. His house was situated near the firth, where they landed, which appeared about three miles across, and was land-locked on all sides by lofty mountains. He was a Dane, and it was an interesting fact, that his settling here was occasioned by the loss of his vessel, which was wrecked when making a trading voyage to these parts. It was then a barren rock, but he had built a very comfortable dwelling for



A LAPLANDER.

himself, farm houses for his dependants, extensive ware-houses and good cellars. He had even brought soil for a garden from the main-land, and it now produced most kind of vegetables, amongst them onions, turnips, and greens, a proof how much may be accomplished by industry.

Here the young men had the pleasure for the first time of seeing a Laplander, who lived on the neighbouring coast, and supported himself by fishing. They afterwards saw many, but as he was the first, they were more particular in observing him. In appearance he was rather good-looking, had dark complexion, and was about five feet four inches high, which for a Laplander was tall. His dress was a dirty white frock, loose and reaching to the knees, with a leather belt around his waist, from which hung a long knife. He wore no shirt, the use of linen being totally unknown among the Laplanders. It was open in front, and between it and his skin were various articles of provision, tobacco, and a bottle of brandy, all of them supported by the belt below. This is the only kind of pocket the Laplanders have, and the collection of things in it is oftentimes surprising. Sometimes among them is a piece of stale fish, which has probably been lying there for days, but the Laplander does not think it less palatable on that account. The preceding year there had been a herd of some hundred rein-deer upon the island, but finding a scarcity of moss, the Laplanders

had swam them over to the continent, at a part of the firth which appeared to be two miles across.

Tromsøe, the next place where our party stopped in their course northwards, is situated in latitude $62\frac{1}{2}$, and lies between whale island and the mainland, being divided from the latter only by a narrow strait, through which the sea rushing causes a very violent current or strom, the name by which it is known. Tromsøe was founded by the Danes before they gave up Norway to the Swedes, and endowed with several privileges to induce merchants to come amongst them for the purpose of trade, and thus to relieve the inhabitants from the risk of sending their fish and other commodities to Drontheim and Bergen on their own account. They were sorry to observe, however, that it had not answered their purpose fully, though it had commercial relations with the Russians from Archangel and the coasts of the White sea, with Copenhagen, Bremen and Holstein. It contained about twenty merchants and five hundred inhabitants, being the residence of the commandant or chief governor of Denmark, the judge and the sheriff; the population also of the surrounding islands was very considerable, consisting of Laplanders, Icelanders, and Norwegians.

From Mr. Lybrandt, the chief merchant residing at Tromsøe, and to whom the party had letters, they learned, that the sun never sets for above two months of summer.

—In winter, however, for the same space of time, the inhabitants never see it; and during the latter period, for the twenty-four hours, there is only $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours when they have sufficient light to be able to read without the use of candles. It is never perfectly dark however, the reflection from the snow causing a certain degree of light; and when the weather is clear, the Aurora Borealis, or Northern lights, make the night almost as clear as the day. Arthur and Ned were very particular in their enquiries about the *Northern lights*, and were told they were always accompanied by a noise similar to a whistling wind; and, it was added, that the further north you go, the greater is the brilliancy of the light, and the plainer the sound is heard. "When the winter sets in, you must be badly off for timber," said Dr. Collins. "We are; and yet you would scarcely suppose from whence we often obtain a supply; from no nearer a place than America, for from that place comes a quantity of trees which are often washed ashore, carried across the Atlantic by the current which sets in from the American to the European continent. Near Tromsøe, the people often pick up logs of mahogany of a great length, which must have come from the bay of Honduras, in North America."

The next subject of enquiry was the whale fishery; but it surprised them much to hear, that although the seas abounded with the animal, it was considered a service of danger to

attack them, especially in the months of July and August, when they collect together in shoals, and often upset boats.

The boatmen whom Dr. Collins had hired at Mr. Price's recommendation, had behaved so well, and been so steady and diligent, that he would willingly have taken them as far as Hammerfest; the distance, however, they thought too great, as it would prevent their returning for a considerable time, and they were anxious to get home, to lay in the winter's provision for their cattle. The party, therefore, took their departure from Tromsøe, in Mr. Lybrant's boat, which he had the kindness to lend for the occasion, and the same night stopped at Reenoe, which was so called from the number of rein-deer which are found there in their wild state.

At their next resting place, our travellers had the opportunity of seeing one of those natural curiosities for which Norway is remarkable. This was the Lemming, a species of rat, which inhabiting, as is supposed, the mountains of Norway, at uncertain times migrates from its native seats, and in such great numbers, that the ground is literally covered with them, the body marching always, it is said, when migrating, in a straight direction, crossing hills swimming rivers, and even passing over houses with which it comes in contact, without being diverted from its course.

Dr. Collins found Mr. Steen, his host, a sensible, well informed man, and like the Norwe-

gian clergy in general, attentive to, and zealous in the discharge of his duties. He had two parishes both of them small islands, under his care. The greater number of his parishioners were Laplanders, who came in numbers in their boats on Sunday, dressed in their best clothes. Mr. Steen was, on these occasions, clothed in a black gown, wearing round his neck a very wide white ruff, highly starched, and in broad plates, which gave an air of great neatness to the whole dress. His other church being on the island of Skirvoe, he was often, as his wife told our travellers, exposed to great hardship and danger in attending it, the distance being thirty miles on the ocean. In the long dreary nights of winter, when the sun is hid from these regions, and the storm sweeps over the sea, he is often obliged to leave home in his little boat. "I have frequently taken leave of him (added she) as he set out, not expecting to see him again—but he seemed happy and contented—and, I am persuaded, always left the event to Providence, knowing that he was in the hands of Omnipotence." In the course of conversation, she lamented to Dr. Collins the want of medical advice, and instruction for children, both of which were severely felt—and remarked, how happy the inhabitants of England and Ireland must be, who, as she heard, had dispensaries, and schools, in almost all directions." "How surprised," said Dr. Collins to his companions, "would this good man be, if he knew that

there are parents amongst us, who do not appreciate the blessings of education for their children, but in many cases, with schools under their very eye, would see their children growing up in ignorance."

It was impossible for our travellers to leave the worthy minister, Mr. Steen, without regret. It was time, however, that they should advance northwards and they therefore, continued their voyage, amidst the repeated farewells of their friends, and exclamations of *Luk paa reiser*—(good luck to your travels) which are the constant wish, and terms used towards those who are about to set out upon a journey.

The further they proceeded, the more they were struck with the extraordinary boldness of the coast, and the depth of the water—three or four hundred fathoms being often found within a few yards of the mountain cliffs—a circumstance, however, which makes the navigation of the Norway coast in one respect safe, as the largest vessel may pass without danger even between any two adjacent rocky islands, though it might at the same time almost touch them with its sides. Indeed, as Dr. Collins remarked, it is a striking proof of the watchful care of Providence. Keeping within the chain of these islands, and protected by them from the storms of the ocean, the large yachts which are loaded with fish, the produce of these seas, and make their long annual voyages from hence to Drontheim and the other more southern parts of Norway.

The part of the coast along which our travellers were now steering, is called Finmark, by the inhabitants, and comprehends a narrow tract, winding along the eastern coast, and leading round by the North Cape into the White Sea. Finmark is a country divided between Norway and Russia, but the inhabitants have the same language and habits. They quit their hovels in winter, and return to them in summer, in the middle of which season, even the Alpine Laplanders visit these coasts for the sake of fishing, bringing with them their tents, their herds, and their furniture. The whole area of Finmark contains about 26,000 English square miles, and the population of the province was, in 1801, only 7802. Here our travellers met a race of men resembling the Laplanders, whose stature is from 4 to 4½ feet, the hair short, black, and coarse; their heads large, the lips thick, chest broad, waists slender, skin swarthy, shanks spindle. From use they climb trees with the agility of squirrels, and are so strong in the arm, as to draw a bow which a Norwegian can scarcely bend.

At Loppen, which was the first place the Doctor stopped at with his young companions, after crossing the boundary of Finmark, or Lapland, they found a number of the Laps, as they are called, who, hearing of the foreigners' arrival, had crowded in from all quarters to see the visitors; they were all dressed in rein deer skins, the hair outside,

which made them very strange looking figures, —Loppen is an island about ten miles in circumference, but very narrow; it contains only five families, and has a church, and a resident clergyman. There they found a Norwegian revenue cutter stationed on that part of the coast, to prevent smuggling. The same evening they got on to Soroe, the largest island in Finmark, and inferior to Tron, in Norway. The next morning they reached Hasvig, a busy little place, and at that time filled with small craft, which were returning from the summer fishery; also small Russian three-masted vessels, of a singular figure, and boats. The natives were exchanging the produce of their fishery with the Russians for flour and whiskey, of which latter, like all ignorant unenlightened people, they are immoderately fond. In one part, the natives were extracting oil from the livers of the fish, whilst a few yards off was a large party of Russian sailors, with their slop robes, long beards, and high caps; and their tall stature making the contrast with the Laplanders' diminutive form still more striking.

At Hasvig, our travellers were only about forty miles from Hammerfest, and one hundred and twenty from the North Cape. Embarking, therefore, after a hasty breakfast they soon came in sight of Whale Island, and landed, not at Hammerfest, but at Fugleness, on the opposite side of the bay—having letters to Mr Cowley, the brother of Mr. Blackhall's clerk, with whom Ned had made acquaintance

at Drontheim. Hearing of the arrival of strangers, he came out to receive them, and gave them a cordial welcome to his house, which was known to the inhabitants of the place by the name of "Rød Huus," or, the red house, so called from its colour.

In the evening a boat was got ready, and the party rowed across the bay to Hammerfest, that Mr. Cowley might introduce them to the different merchants. The view from the bay, which is surrounded by lofty mountains, was very fine—and above the rest, just over, Hammerfest rose Tyvefield, with its summit in the clouds.

On landing, they found Hammerfest to consist of a few wooden houses, belonging to the merchants, irregularly scattered, and painted over with a kind of red ochre. Behind them stood a small church, and near it the abode of the pastor. On commencing their visits, however they found no one at home till they reached the house of Mr. Dwyer, where the whole society of the place was assembled. Here they were received, not as strangers, but as friends; instead of a cold salute, every hand was stretched out to welcome them, and in a few minutes the whole party were as intimate together as if they had been acquainted for years; and it was nearly sunset, that is half-past eleven, P. M. before Mr. Cowley and his friends could quit this cheerful circle, to return to their quarters at Hammerfest.

The following day Mr. Cowley having

ceived intelligence that some Laplanders with their rein-deer approached within a mile of Fugleness, and would remain for a day or two in that part of the mountains, he offered to accompany our travellers in a visit to their huts. It may be supposed that the proposal was cheerfully assented to, and accordingly they set out together attended by Jean and and Mr. Cowley's factor, (Mr. Aarberg,) who kindly offered to go along with them.

After about half an hour's walk, they found the tent pitched at the extremity of a valley, between the mountains which sloped down gradually to the sea shore, and commanded a fine view of that part of the ocean inclosed by the surrounding islands. The owner of the tent, Per Mathison Sahra, was sitting at the door, but received the strangers with perfect indifference; they however, crept into the inside where they found his wife busy in preparing the vessels for milking, and for making the cheese.

As the herd was some miles distant in the mountains, and would consequently take a long time returning to the fold, our party had leisure for examining the whole of the Laplander's household, arrangements, which were extremely curious. The wife whose name was Maret Martius Datter, was not above four feet nine inches high, and of a brown complexion, caused more by dirt than the natural colour of the skin—she had on her summer dress of white walmal cloth, girt round

by a belt, to which was hung a small knife, her shoes were of strong leather, peaked at the toes, and her head dress was a high cap, made of cloth and bits of coloured calico. Though her manners were wild and uncouth, they had none of the surliness of her husband.

In about two hours the barking of dogs was heard at a distance, and soon after the whole herd could be discerned about a mile off, winding slowly along the mountains. They now approached the fold, which was a large space cleared of the brushwood, and inclosed by branches of the dwarf birch, and aspin stuck round to prevent the deer from straying. The whole troop advanced in a throng, snorting and clattering their hoofs together, but their keen sense of smell soon made them aware there were strangers near, and instantly there was a general commotion amongst them: with some difficulty they were prevented from escaping again into the open plains, and at length lodged within the fold, where the men and women, bringing their bowls from the tent began the operation of milking. Before each deer was milked, a cord with a noose was thrown round the horns by which the animal was secured and kept steady. The quantity of milk which each deer gave, did not exceed a tea cup full, but it was extremely luscious, as rich as cream, and of a fine flavor. Whilst our party was attentively observing this novel scene, Per Mathison was sulky and disobliging—he did not like the strangers tasting his



MILKING THE REIN-DEER.

good milk, but a glass of brandy of which our travellers had a small supply, put him in good humour. The women also tasted it, and though they made some wry faces at it at first, they like it amazingly and emptied their glasses to the last drop.

In the middle of the herd, suspended to the branches of a low birch tree, was a child about a year old, enclosed in a kind of cradle or rather a case covered with leather, and having a sort of curtain of coarse linen cloth to shade it from the musquitoes and from the heat of the sun. It was midnight before the whole of the herd was milked, the sun had left the heavens about half an hour, but a deep orange tint remained along the verge of the horizon. The deer were at length turned out from the fold, and spreading themselves along the sides of the mountains, were soon out of sight. The Laplanders collected their milk together, invited the strangers to supper, and the whole party having crept into the tent, and seated themselves on rein-deer skins, which were spread on the ground, the women began busily to make their cheeses, boiling the milk first in a large iron pot, over a fire in the middle of the tent, the smoke of which having no outlet but a small hole in the top of the tent, nearly stifled those who were not so well accustomed to it as the natives. The milk when taken off the fire runs all in the consistence of curd, and being put into moulds made of beech-

wood, was pressed, until each cheese became not more than an inch in thickness, and about the size of a common plate.

The whey and some curds were for the promised supper, and to this they all sat down, though it may well be supposed our travellers appetites were not much sharpened by the manner in which their meal was served. Fingers were here the only substitutes for knives and forks, and the Laplanders greedily dipped their hands down into the large pot, grasped up handfuls of curds and whey, and devoured it. The bowls which the strangers had begged to have the use of, Maret Datter took, licked eagerly inside and outside after they had done with them. Green wood being placed on the fire, the Laplanders squatted down before it, two children lay down on rein-deer skins and fell fast asleep, and about twenty small dogs were lying about in all directions. Soon after one of the men went out to watch the deer, the other was to go out in his turn in a few hours, and it was curious to remark, how, upon a signal given by the person who was going upon guard, one half of the dogs started up and followed him, while the rest took no notice of the call, as if well aware that it was not their turn to stir until the second man was going out.

The day was now pretty far advanced, the Laplanders prepared to go to rest, and accordingly our travellers taking their departure, walked back to Fugleness, well pleased with their excursion.

It now became the wish of our party to proceed to the North Cape, the object of their long and arduous journey, and therefore taking leave of Mr. Cowley, they set out for it in a boat which they hired with fresh rowers, at the same time that their host having some business to transact at Tromsøe, sailed for that place in one of his own vessels. The weather was rather unfavorable and the wind contrary, notwithstanding which, in five days, resting always at night, they reached the island of Maasøe, where they had heard a person could be found as guide to the neighbouring island of Magerøe. This man they hired, and he proved a sociable, honest, and active fellow. Maasøe is just opposite to the southern extremity of Magerøe, the most northerly part of which is the North Cape, it is situated in lat. 71° . They left Maasøe about half-past ten, P. M. with a fair wind, the evening sun was sinking down to the horizon, and threw its yellow light upon the surface of the sea. At half-past twelve, A. M. just as the orb began to mount, they made Giesvor, a small village of Magerøe; but nothing that any of the party had ever seen could equal the wildness, gloom, and wretchedness of the scene before them. All around lay rocks in the greatest confusion, without a single particle of vegetation to cover the black rugged sides. There is one cause, indeed, which will always render Magerøe a desolate and deserted spot; there is no fuel to be had, and this has gradually led

to its present depopulated state? That it was not always so thinly inhabited, we may be sure, from the numerous remains of churches and habitations which are found in different parts of the coast. In Mageroe, the most northerly point in Europe, there are four church yards.

The next morning being fine, they set out from Giesvor, and after crossing two or three firths, landed at the bottom of Store Kiften, a firth, and found the gamme or hut of a shore Laplander. It was nicely composed of sods, piled to the height of three feet, and close to it in the hollow of the rock, was a kind of store place for the clothes, wooden bowls, fishing nets, and a variety of other articles.

Dr. Collins had determined to go by land to the Cape, not only to see something of the interior of Mageroe, but also to avoid the high sea which prevails almost continually at the Cape, and makes it difficult for a boat to get round it, more especially as it was impossible to land them, the cliffs being nearly perpendicular. All arrangements being therefore made, the next morning they started in the following order.—Mr. Heineken, their new friend, and our travellers went first, the young men carrying with them their guns: next came a sturdy Laplander carrying a tent, which they intended to pitch at the North Cape, in order to remain there during the night; next followed the sexton of Maasoe, with a large stock of wood for a fire then two boatmen carrying provisions,

and trusty Jean brought up the rear, with a provision of brandy, which, however useful, it would not have been safe to entrust to the Laplanders or the boatmen. A Laplander also preceded the party as guide across the mountains of Mageroe to the Cape, with which he was acquainted from having often wandered thither with the rein-deer on the island.

It was six o'clock when they reached the extreme point of the North Cape, lat. $71^{\circ} 10'$ and as the evening breeze was setting in strong and chill, it became necessary to prepare their tent for the night. This was no easy task on account of the bleak exposed situation, and the hardness of the rock which prevented their driving in the pegs, and caused them to apprehend, that, not the tent only, but all that it contained, might be swept away by the blast; at length, however, they succeeded, and having lighted a blazing fire, and brought out their provisions, they enjoyed them with a relish which the fatigues of the day and the keen air of the plain had increased. They were now at the extreme northern point of Europe, where few foreigners, and fewer still of their own countrymen, had ever been; they had voluntarily submitted to fatigues, from which many would have shrunk, for the sake of witnessing the appearance of nature in this part of the world; will it be thought strange therefore, that the youthful and buoyant spirits of the young men, should have experienced a gratification at the



THE NORTH CAPE AT MIDNIGHT.

accomplishment of the object they had kept so long in view, which none can perhaps understand unless he has been somewhat singularly situated upon ground—"where mortal foot had ne'er or rarely been."

The night set in tempestuous, and the storm howled dismally around their frail tent, nevertheless they were not anxious to give way to sleep till they should see the appearance of the horizon at midnight. From the 15th May to the 29th July, they knew that there was continued daylight, the sun never sinking below the horizon, but shining brightly through the whole period of two months and fourteen days, except when temporarily obscured by clouds; but it was now advanced in August, as we have said, and the sun therefore disappeared for about an hour; but if the spectator looked towards the west, he saw during the whole time of the sun's absence from view, that red appearance which accompanies a sun setting in our own country, and generally continues for three fourths of an hour after the luminary itself has disappeared. "What a desolate spot," said Arthur, as his eye ranged over the expanse of the sea before him, and saw the white foam of the waves, and heard them below lashing the rock on whose summit they were standing. "Bleak indeed," said Dr. Collins, "but what must it be in the depth of winter, when the sun for the period of above two months, that is from the 17th Nov. to 26th Jan. never rises to cast his rays upon this tract;

and yet how merciful is Providence. during the long winter night, the Aurora Borealis shines here with great brilliancy, compensating for the absence of the sun, and its light is so great, that the fishermen are enabled to carry on their usual occupations, as well as if the sun were above the horizon."

Though the night had been stormy, the sun shone very brightly from the sky the next day, and they were thus enabled to renew their observations, assisted by their companion Mr. Meineken. He told them that the circumference of Mageroe was about 70 miles, and they could themselves see that it was very narrow, intersected by long firths which ran very deep into the land between the mountains, and nearly approached each other from opposite sides of the island. They found also some rein deer, hares, and ermines, and had reason to believe that there were foxes also, having observed their tracks in the snow. With respect to the fox, their companion described the extraordinary manner in which the animal pursues his prey in Mageroe, which shows his sagacity in a very striking point of view. The precipices are here, said he, almost entirely covered with various kinds of sea fowl; and as they build in the clefts of the rock, which are difficult of approach, the contrivance of the foxes to get at them is most curious. A number of them advance to the face of the precipice, and taking each other by the tail, the weakest descends first, while the strongest form-

ing the last in the chain or row supports the whole number till the foremost has reached the prey; a signal is then given, on which the uppermost fox pulls with all his might, and the rest assist him as well as they can with their feet against the rock, and in this manner they proceed from rock to rock, until they have obtained a sufficient supply." It would have been a high gratification to the party, could they have beheld this curious link of foxes dangling midway between the summit of the mountain and the ocean, but they could not delay their departure, it being necessary they should set out on their return southwards with the least possible delay. Previous, however, to leaving it, they collected large fragments of rock, and piled them together, into a kind of pillar about ten feet high, which should be visible from the sea, as a memorial of their visit to this remote spot. This once accomplished, they set out, the Laplanders and boatmen dividing the burden between them, which was now considerably diminished, for the wood was all consumed, the food eaten, and the water cask exhausted. At the close of day they reached the merchant's house, at Giesvar, when a comfortable repast of rein-deer venison and fish, and a good night's rest, refreshed them after their fatigue. On awaking the next morning, they were told that some Laplanders, who had come for the purpose of fishing, had been most successfully employed during their absence, one of them having caught

in that time, the astonishing quantity of fifty vogs, or two thousand pounds weight of cod fish, by means of his lines alone.

It now became necessary for Dr. Collins to think of his return towards the south, with the least possible delay; the winter would be shortly setting in, and should the snow once begin to fall, they might be stopped for a considerable time. To their friends, therefore, at Giesvar, they expressed their warmest thanks, and added a hope, that circumstances might permit their meeting once more in this world; to Mrs. Heinegen, Dr. Collins presented a pair of polished steel scissars, which he carried in his pocket-book; she was highly delighted at receiving them, and taking each by the hand, said with warmth, *mange tak*, "many thanks," in a manner which shewed how highly she valued the kindness she had just received. To their friend the sexton, also, whom they had always found intelligent, good humoured, and obliging; they gave substantial marks of their good will, and left the poor man in tears at such unexpected generosity.

Returning now to the south, it seemed as if the wind favored their course, for it never varied from the north point. till they reached the bay of Talvig, lat. $70^{\circ} 20'$ north, about nine miles distance from the spot at which they landed.

Here it was anxiously deliberated by Dr. Collins and his two young companions, what course they should now pursue. Their object was now to get southwards, and in accom-

plishing this there were two roads, between which they might chuse; the first was to return by the way they had come to Drontheim, the second to make an overland journey to the gulf of Bothnia, across the wilds of Lapland: against the former it was urged by their host, that as the fine season was now drawing to a close, it would be not only hazardous to trust to the sea, but it would be tedious, and if the snow should once set in, there they must remain 'till it ceased to fall, and the surface was become hard enough for the sledge to run upon it. On the other hand, there were the fatigues of a land journey, should they set out upon it before the time was arrived; however, this latter had one recommendation over the other. It would bring them over a new road, whereas they had seen every thing remarkable between Drontheim and the North Cape along the coast. This therefore decided them, for although Dr. Collins might have been inclined in favour of the coasting plan, as offering less difficulty to a man of his years, he was always happy to give up his own ease to the improvement of Arthur. On the 3rd of September, therefore, they took their departure from Alten, attended by a guide and four reindeer to carry a few necessaries for the journey. Their course lay southwards along the valley in which the Alten flows, and in five days they reached with difficulty the heights of Nuppi Vara, 2,655 feet above the level of the sea. At length they came to Kanlo Kegno, where they

were once more gratified by the sight of cows and sheep feeding in green meadows. This is a small village with a church, and is inhabited by a mixed population of Quans and Laplanders. The superior industry of the former has materially improved the grounds round about Kanlo Kegno, but as the village lies in the 69° of north lat. and 830 feet above the level of the sea—they have not succeeded in their attempts to raise corn or culinary vegetables.

The party had now approached the sources of the river Alten, and was about to cross the ridge which separates Norwegian from Swedish Lapland; here therefore they dismissed their rein-deer, which they had found to be but feeble animals fit only for running, and soon worn out by the fatigue of carrying the smallest burden, and engaged the parish clerk and two Quans to accompany them the rest of the journey, to the shore of the gulf of Bothnia. Guided only by these they proceeded with great alacrity and vigour. They carried with them a small portable boat which they launched as often as was necessary upon the waters of the lakes with which this region abounds, and pushed rapidly along a chain of them which contained great numbers of salmon. At the close of a long day they took up their quarters on the borders of the frontier lake at the foot of steep hills which they had passed. It was a beautiful scene, for the moon shone bright and full upon the unruffled surface of the waters and scattered a pale light over the tops of

the birch trees, while the Quans lay round a blazing fire, roasting their fish upon the points of sticks. The next morning they followed the course of the Muonio river, which runs due south, and after shooting dexterously in their little boat over a number of falls, they arrived at a miserable fishing hut below the Songavara mountain, in lat. 69° nth. Symptoms of comparative wealth began now to appear among the industrious Finlanders. At lower Muonioniska, our travellers found a large village, and were ushered into a room having glass windows and served with silver spoons; yet the corn seldom ripens here, being nipt by the early frosts. The potatoe, however, protected under the soil comes to tolerable perfection, and this most useful root furnishes the inhabitants with their chief support. Indeed it is easy to conceive the delight of the party at meeting with this vegetable; it brought their thoughts at once to their own land of potatoes and their friends far away. They had to descend now through a frightful succession of rapids and cataracts, and it required the utmost address on the part of their guides to avoid the dangers of the passage; the river, however, soon after resumed its placid course and flowed through a thick spreading forest varied with different kinds of trees, birches, willows, alders, wild cherries fringing the bank, and the spruce fir clothing the back ground. The country now softened by degrees, and already the Swedish dress and

manners began to prevail, until at length in the romantic village of Kangis, in sight of saw mills and forges, all was activity and animation. This was a farmer's iron district, the beds of iron ore being of prodigious extent and thickness ; these treasures, however, which in England would be so invaluable, are here in a great measure lost from the difficulty of transporting the ore, and from want of wood or coal for smelting them.

From Kangis our travellers proceeded in a loaded boat down the river, the banks were lined with cottages, but all beyond them appeared a dismal boundless forest. Next morning on landing at Pakkela, they mounted a couple of small cars, and were drawn along with furious rapidity through a rich and populous country. They met crowds of people returning home from church dressed in their best attire, youths and maidens hurrying gaily to and fro, while the elderly persons clad in long dark mantles, girt with a yellow sash, and having a small black cap on their heads, marched along with stately gravity. They were much disappointed, however, on reaching Tornea, to find it consisting chiefly of detached cottages, and to contain only 630 inhabitants: The streets were broad, but not being paved, they were overgrown with grass, on which the cows regularly pasture.

Tornea, where they were now arrived, is situated on the banks of the river Tornea, about seven miles from its mouth, and at the

bottom of the gulf of Bothnia, in lat. $65^{\circ} 40'$. Of a town so little known one would wish to convey an accurate idea by description. It consists of two principal streets, nearly half a mile in length; the houses are of wood, and so rude in their structure and appearance, that as Boulger said, a stranger suddenly set down in the middle of the town, would imagine that he was surrounded by a number of faggot stacks and piles of timber heaped by the river side for exportation. The inn, however, was comfortable, and the party did ample justice to the plentiful repast which was set before them of pickled salmon, chocolate milk, pancakes, diet bread, rye biscuit, and rein-deer cheese. While they were enjoying these luxuries, one of the principal merchants of the place entered and welcomed them to Tornea, at the same time offering them any service in his power. The dress of the richer class, consisted of a short cloth jacket with cloth epaulet, or else a long nankeen coat, waiscoat, and trowsers: they were all kindly hospitable, and proved on further acquaintance to be intelligent and well informed.

Though the number of inhabitants, however, in Tornea, did not much exceed seven hundred persons, the numbers who flocked in from the neighbourhood on the following Sunday, showed the country adjoining was extremely populous, especially in the summer season when the Laplanders collect from the upper parts for the purpose of fishing in the

gulf of Bothnia. It is on this account a place of some trade, the merchants who conduct it making it the depot of the articles which they exchange with the natives. For the purpose of conducting this traffic, they set out before the month of February each year, and as our travellers learned, this march constitutes one of the most remarkable sights that can be imagined; each merchant has in his service from five to six hundred rein-deer, besides thirty Laplanders and other servants. One person is able to guide and manage about fifteen rein-deer and their sledges, and they take with them merchandize to the amount of 3,000 Rix Dollars, (£450 Sterling.) This consists of silver spoons, goblets, cloth, linen, butter, brandy and tobacco, and in decking out their cavalcade, they display as much magnificence as possible. The rein-deer are set off with bells and trappings, and their collars are covered with buff kersimere adorned with flowers. As a preparation also for the coming of these merchants, the Laplanders begin to hunt the bear in the autumn, as soon as the first snow falls, by which they track him to his den. This being ascertained, a single man sets out attended by his dog and armed with a pole pointed with a quadrangular pin of iron. The dog assaults the bear as soon as he is discovered, and the bear rising upon his hind legs to seize the dog is met by the Laplander who plunges the pointed pole into his heart. Bears' skins, therefore, are one of the chief articles

which the Tornea merchants bring back with them, besides which, they receive rein-deer skins, white fox skins, and the skins of wild cats; a rein-deer skin in Tornea sold for three shillings british, and a bear's skin for about three pounds.



The next morning at breakfast our party had a kind of bread which the natives call missue bread, which was made of the rind of pines and fir trees, and was formerly in general use throughout all the north of Europe. Their host of whom they enquired, told them that the process of preparing it was extremely simple; it consisted in scraping the rough crusty outside of the rind, clear from the peel, and with a hand

mill grinding that part which was soft and white after having dried it; the meal thus procured was used for the bread. It appeared to them unpalatable and coarse; though Linneus the celebrated botanist who met it in his travels, declared it to be white, sweet and palatable. "I am not particular," said Dr. Collins, but I should greatly prefer oaten bread, were I unable to purchase wheaten bread." "And I am sure Sir," said Arthur, "any, or rather all, sink in comparison with our good Irish potatoe."

Here ended the travels of Dr. Collins and his young companions through the kingdoms of Denmark, Sweden and Norway, which we undertook to describe. They were now on the frontier town, it might be called between the empire of Russia and the territories of Sweden. They had visited the three capital cities of Copenhagen, Stockholm and Christiania, crossed the Dofrafield mountains, and from Drontheim skirted along the whole western shore of Norway, till they reached the North Cape, penetrating into the polar regions where an English traveller is seldom seen. They had there re-crossed the Norwegian Alps, and tracing up the river Muonio, from its source, at length reached the shore of Baltic, or rather of that arm of the Baltic which is called the Gulf of Bothnia. Let us now, therefore, take leave of the reader who has travelled so long with us. A few days after, Dr. Collins was fortunate enough

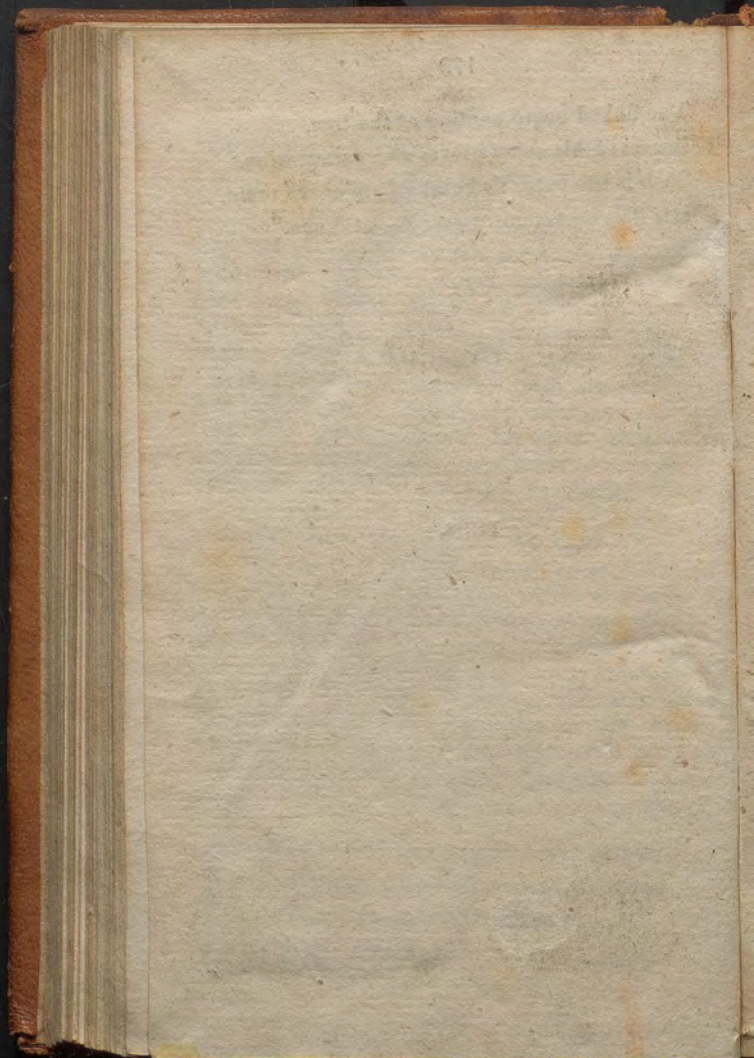
to find accommodation for his party in a vessel sailing from Tornea to Stockholm, where they had been before, and from whence they could shape their course either homewards or elsewhere, according as Mr. Harding should direct them. In Stockholm where they safely arrived after a short passage, they found letters from Ireland of the most pleasing description; their respective families all well and looking out anxiously for fresh intelligence of their movements, that from Drontheim being the last communication they had received. Mr. Harding also still expressed himself as most satisfied with Dr. Collins, and full of reliance upon his direction and judgment with respect to any future plans he might have in view for Arthur's improvement. Here, therefore, we may leave them, for though Arthur and Boulger were ready for fresh fatigues, and indeed anxious to extend their observations, they had too much good sense not to perceive that some rest was necessary for Dr. Collins, and too much kind feeling towards their friend not to wait with patience until he should be able to set out with them once more. If the reader has traced our course through the foregoing pages, with interest, and has derived instruction from their perusal, we are satisfied with our labour, for in that case it has not been profitless. It has made him acquainted with people not so blessed in climate, soil, or situation as we are, and yet happy because contented with their lot: in many places poor, even to wretch

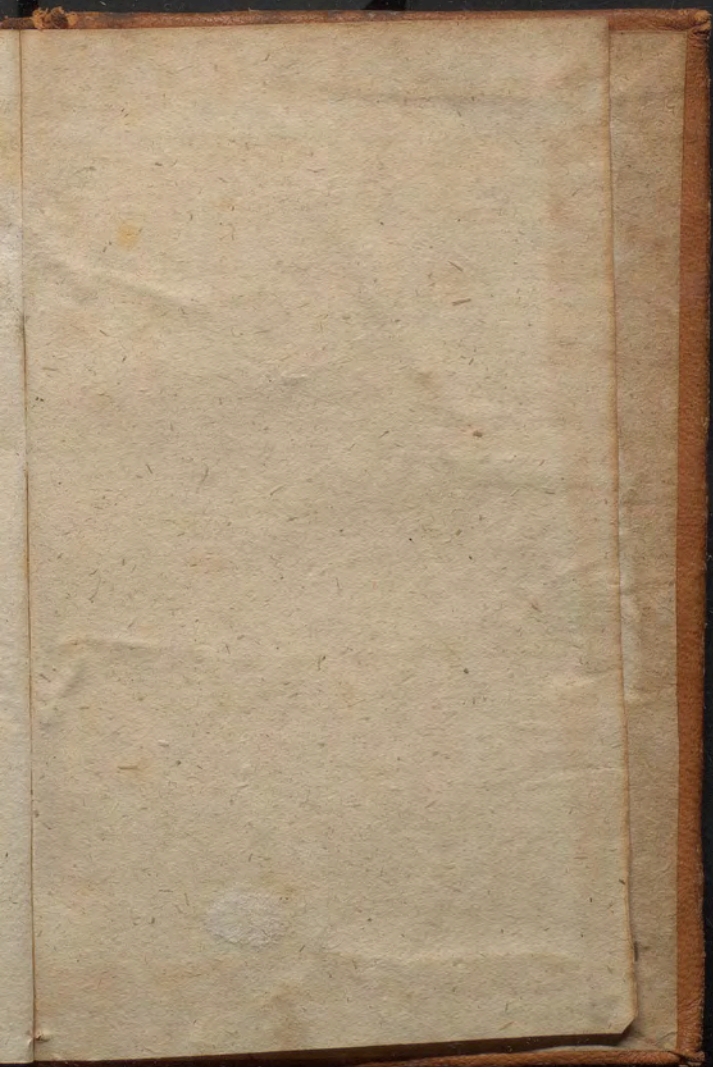
edness, and yet lightening the load of poverty, by cheerful resignation to the will of Providence. We have also found our young friends Arthur and Ned enjoying every thing they saw, always on the search for fresh objects, (and like the bee which gathers sweets from every flower on which it lights, collecting something useful in every place,) and storing their memories with every thing which could be introduced with advantage into their own country, at the same time that they were prepared to assert that it deserved the preference above every other spot upon the earth's surface—let us admire the order of Providence in this respect, for it is an undoubted fact, that if you could collect together one-hundred persons from as many different parts of the world, you would find few who would not give the preference to the land of his birth above any other, and wonder at others if they entertained a contrary opinion. The Poet's language, therefore, will form a suitable conclusion for our little volume, for it not only expresses this incontrovertible fact, but adds a reason to which every one will assent:—

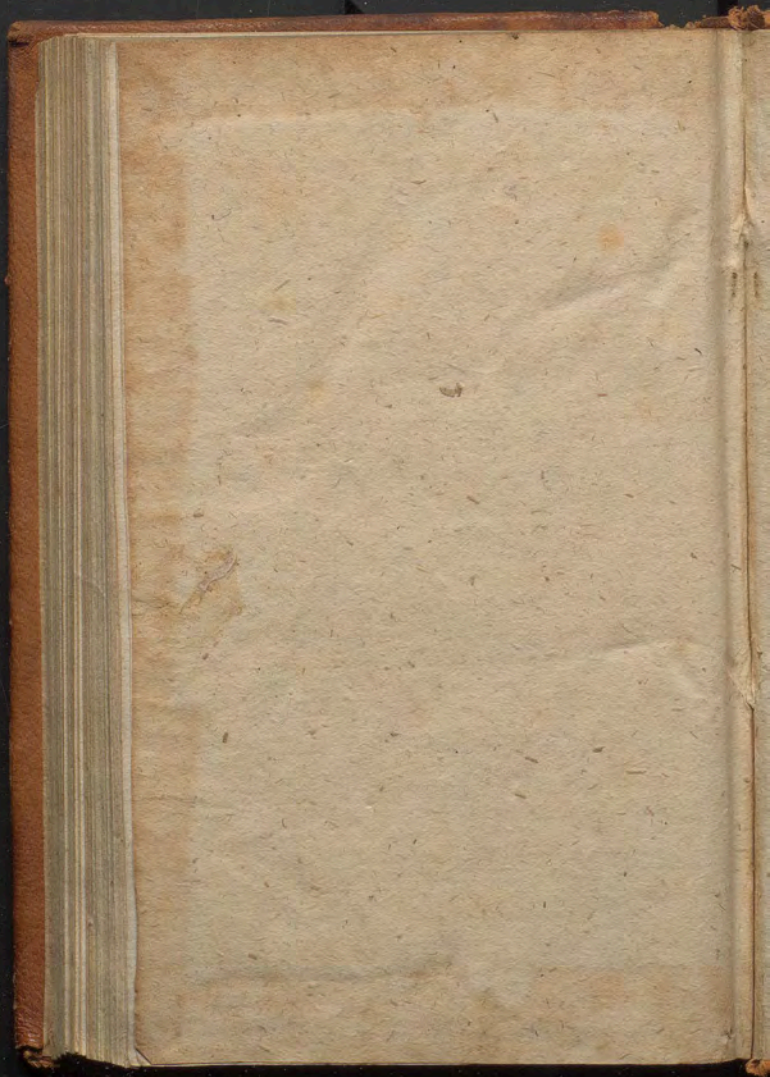
But where to find that happiest spot below,
 Who shall direct where all pretend to know;
 The shiv'ring tenant of the frozen zone,
 Boldly proclaims that happiest spot his own.

The naked negro panting at the line,
Boasts of his spicy groves and palmy wine.
Such is the patriot's boast where'er we roam,
His first best country ever is—at home."

FINIS.







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