

Journal of Thomas Longmore, Sr.-trip to Margate, Ramsgate & Paris. 4 vols

Publication/Creation

1820

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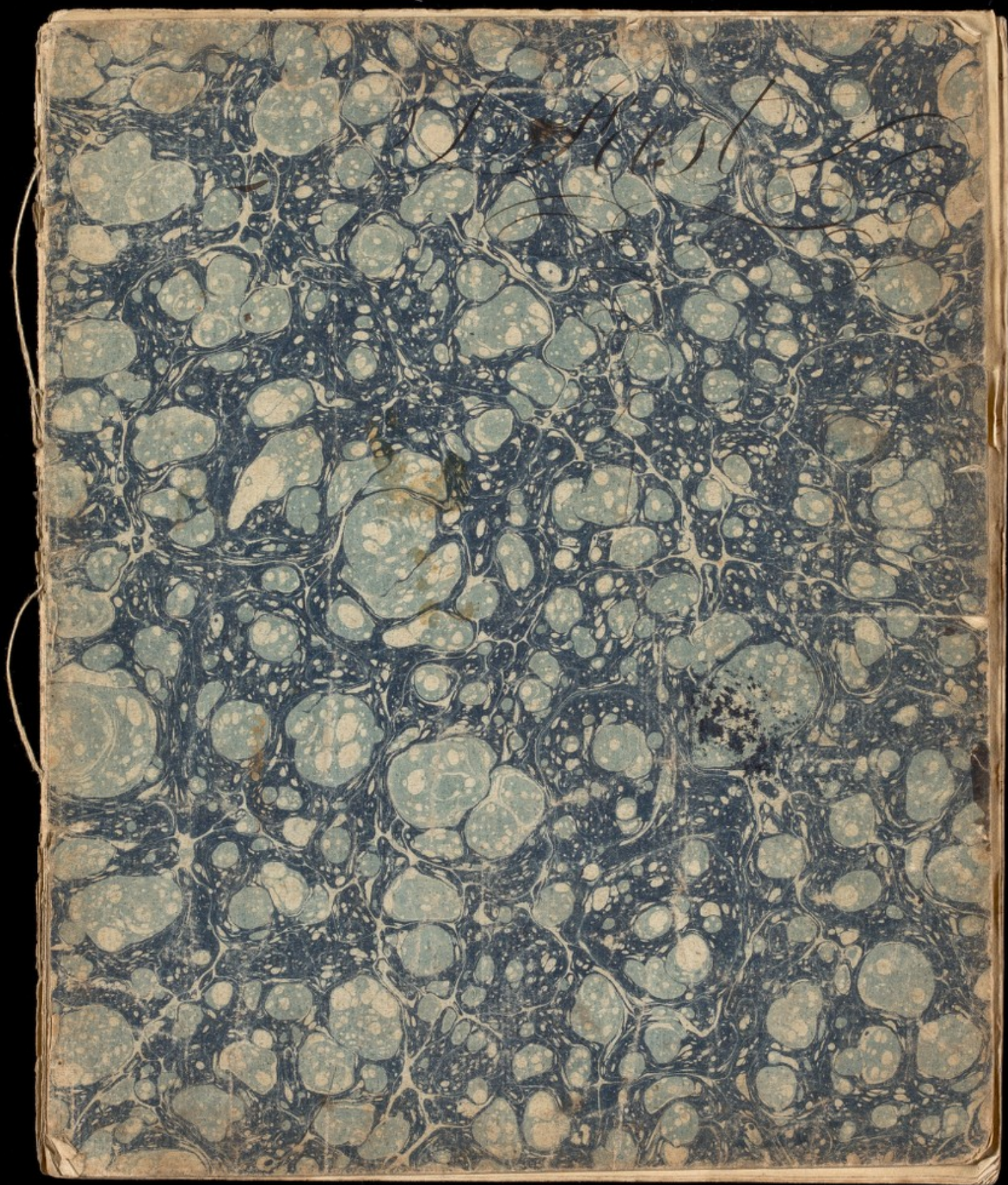
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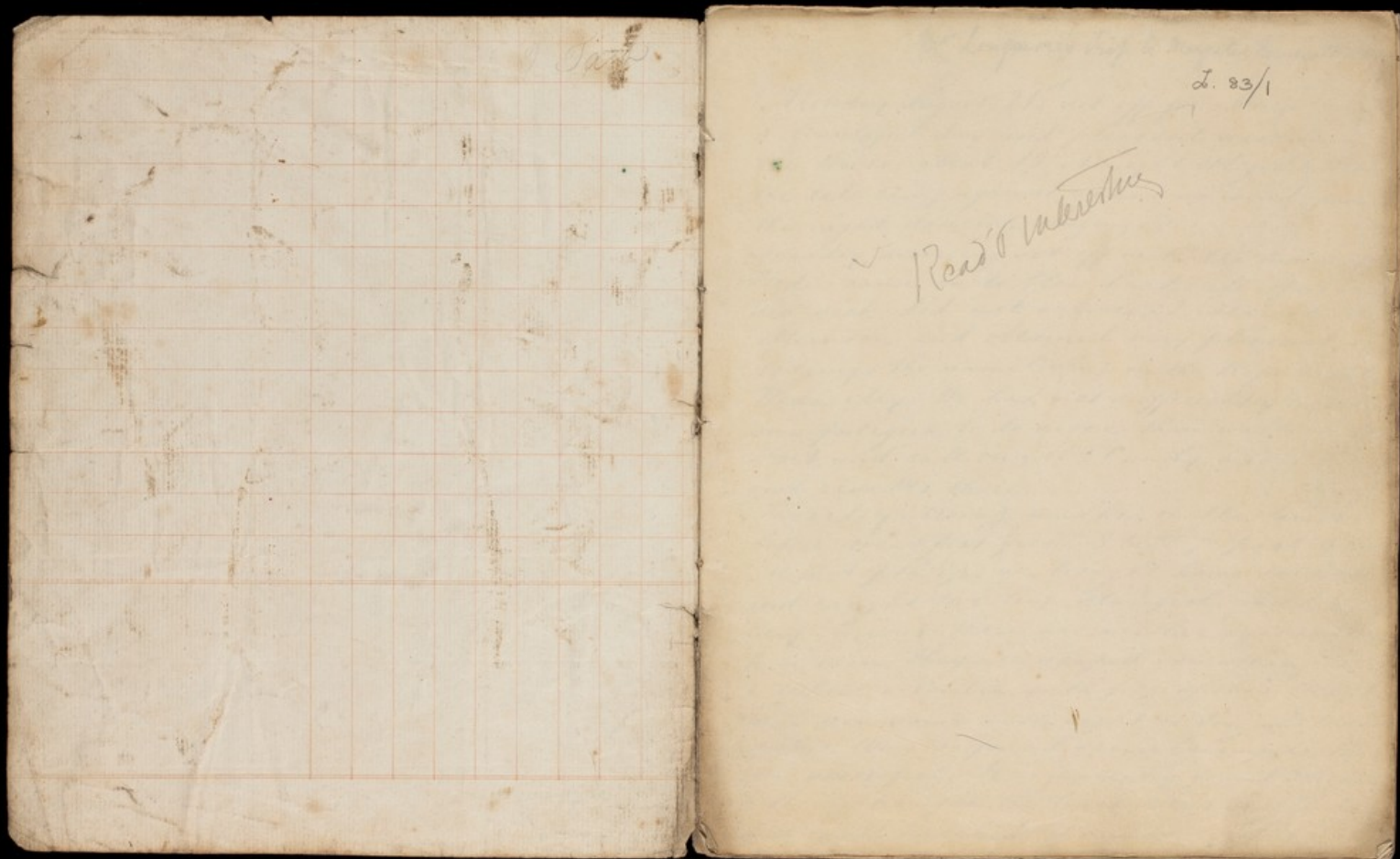
Longmore - Personal

Diana

? 1820 Aug Sept Journal of trip to Margate, Ramsgate etc kept by Thomas Longmore

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✓ Read's interesting

Mr. Longmore's Trip to Margate, Ramsgate, & Dover

Monday August 21st. Set off for Margate a beautiful day and pleasant sail down the River; about 12 at night obliged to Anchor, the tide being against us, and no wind; passed the night dancing, singing &c.

Tuesday morning set off with the turn of Tide; came on to blow hard; all of us very sea-sick; did not arrive at Margate till afternoon, and obtained very pleasant lodgings the same Evening, in the Rope-walk.

Wednesday We had not sufficiently recovered our fatigue to do more than walk on the Fort, and call on M^{rs} Cundy, who is there and resides there.

Thursday Morn^g. walked on the Sands before breakfast from 8. till 12 past 9. with Miss Septorp; we brought home some shells and caught two live Star-fish, which are very curious. There are neither eyes or mouth to be seen; they are shaped something like a Wheel, a Centre, with five spokes; but I have seen some with eight or ten, and twelve spokes. We also found several Limpets, this is a shell-fish; It is generally found sticking to the rocks upon the beach; It is small, but if it is not knocked off suddenly, it is impos-

sible to get it off at all, it sticks so very hard. I struck one with a piece of flint, till I broke its shell, and even then it would not quit its hold, till I literally broke it to pieces. We brought home with us a great many periwinkles. There are numberless small crabs crawling about the sands in all directions, some not larger than a shrimp. As I was walking in the market, I was struck at the curious manner in which the town-crier was employed. He was giving out for instance, that some-one had a large stock of haberdashery for selling off at prime cost, as they were returning to London; he also gives notice in the Market-place &c. when the packets sail for London or Ostend. The market-place is small but convenient, there is a fish-market adjoining. There are always some French-people selling fruit, and small wicker-baskets. Among them was a girl, apparently about fourteen, whose dress made her appear exactly as though she was in the family-way. Their fruit is very cheap, especially when it is considered they have a large duty to pay, four pears which the man called *Poirs de sucre* or Sugar pears, about the size of a bergamy, for a penny. This Afternoon we went on Donkeysto Pagwell-bay to Tea, the ride was very pleasant; we came to a Turnpike, and they made us pay a halfpenny for each of them; by the way, this was the first time I knew they were chargeable. We had there some very good Cyder, and the Tea served up quite in Style; as usual we had here some very fine

Shrimps. The charge was not immoderate. This was the first meal, (if tea may be so called, at all events, I made one of it) that I had enjoyed since my arrival. There was a Telescope in the Room, and we had a pretty good view of the Downs and the Shipping. We saw Men almost up to their necks in water catching Shrimps. This Evening we had a very lovely addition to our party, by the arrival of Mr. Jos. Farey. Friday. Morning we all bathed. I first rode out in the front of the Ladies machine, and afterwards went myself with Mr. Farey. I do not much like the sensation of bathing, I could not help swallowing a considerable quantity of water, which I found very unpleasant. This Afternoon we went to a place called the Shallows to take our tea. It is a house where you take your own tea and sugar, and they provide you with cream, seed-cakes, brown bread and butter &c. for which they charge 8s. each. I scarcely ever drank my Tea with a greater relish; we had it under an Arbour in the garden. We had a delightful walk home in the evening. After resting we went to Bettison's Library, which we found full of gentel, or rather perhaps, well dressed Company, amusing themselves in different ways, some in conversation, some ruffling, and some few listening to the playing,

of an ^{English} Harpsichord; we heard three songs; one "The death of Abercromby" sung by Gibbon; he is well enough for such a place, but in my opinion he is lost upon the stage. It appears there is frequently a deficiency of fresh-butter in Margate; I heard the Crier give notice that one of the Traders had received a good supply. I forgot to mention that Mr. Farey and myself went this morning with a party fishing; not seeing much sport, I did not chuse to fish; Mr. F. sat very patiently for two hours at it, without catching one, though some of the others caught several small Cod, Dabs &c. Saturday Morn^g, after going to market, Miss Arthrop and I (none of the others feeling inclined) took a long walk along the Sands for about a mile, and came out through a chasm in the cliff near to Dandelion; we walked home through the fields; the variation from the sands to the green fields made it beautiful; the golden appearance of those tracts of ground covered with Canaryseed greatly added to the beauty of the surrounding country; this seed has a slender stalk, and is about two-thirds the height of wheat. In the afternoon we all went to Kingsgate, walking along the sea coast; I was surprised at the first appearance of the place: I had an idea that it was as large as Margate or Ramsgate, but instead of that I think there is not half a dozen houses in the place;

the dilapidated state of several small forts or signal stations, give it a very picturesque appearance; I did not learn when they were erected, but I think they are not very old; they are built chiefly of flint, (as are a great many buildings of the Isle of Thanet) One was a kind of monument on which was the following writing "This Tower was built to the Honour of Thos^l Harley, Lord Mayor of London in the year 1768." underneath this was a Latin inscription. This place derived its name from one of our Kings with his Queen landing at it; there is a gate erected at the place, which has had a portcullis in it, it bears the marks of age; from the Latin inscription, I think it was Charles 2^d. We walked down to the sands through the gate, the sand here was particularly fine, and on it we found several rather curious stones. In the Cliff was dug a large hole for a boat, and in it was a smaller one, which led you by steps to the top of the Cliff; but we could not explore it, because the door at the top was shut. at this place we saw a very deep well, but all those in these parts are the same; while sitting at Sea, we saw a Frigate in full sail, it is a beautiful sight. We had not a very pleasant walk back, as it was nearly dark, and we had to grope our way through Turnip or ploughed fields, which very much fatigued the Ladies; we passed close to the North Foreland

Lighthouse, and afterwards came to an Obelisk on which I could not find any inscription. — I was afterwards told it was a Landmark, that being the highest ground in the Isle of Thanet. Sunday Morning we all went to Margate Church. It was full of people. In the evening two of the Ladies and myself took a beautiful walk round the Cliffs towards the Windmills, turning down a Lane, and going through two fields, alongside a Hedge, something uncommon so near Margate.

Here I must break off my Journal, not finding time to write afterwards while I remained at Margate. Nothing is more laughable, than a large party going out on Donkey's; we one morning took an airing in this manner, there were eight in number, with a boy behind to whip them on for without they would not stir; we met with numberless little misfortunes; my saddle was not on tight, and it very soon slipped under the Donkey, and I slipped on the ground; sometimes we should be going through a narrow Lane, when the rogue of a boy never failed to whip those behind, which made them run on and jostle against those before, trying to get ahead of them out of the way of the whip: then the Ladies would make a fine cry out, fearing they should be pushed off. We only once rode out on Horses; we then rode to Minster, and returned home through Birchington, Dandelion &c. We found the former much more diverting: the charge for a Horse was 1/6 per hour, for a Donkey 1/- but you were obliged

to keep a Horse at least two hours. The latter was much the cheapest if you were going any distance. One afternoon several of us walked to a place called the Old Thallows; it is rather farther from Margate than the New Thallows, & perhaps not quite so pleasant; they find you boiling water &c. for Tea in the same way as at the other: it was kept by a poor widow with two or three small children. She informed us she was nearly ruined, and should be obliged to quit the place, in consequence of the new House settling up between her and Margate. We drank tea in her garden, and after having a swing, set off for Broadstairs, which we found much farther than we thought for; we passed through St. Peter's Church Yard: there is here, apparently a very Old Church; we had not time however, to pay much attention to it, but passed briskly on, and at last arrived at Broadstairs. This has lately become a fashionable place, but I confess I cannot see what for; here is no shipping, no pier, at least none deserving the name, as at Margate or Ramsgate. I met scarcely a person in the street. In short, I thought it altogether a very dull place. It consists of a principal street, and a kind of terrace or parade, fronting the sea. It will do for a fashionable place though as well as any other, for when you spend the chief of the day in bed, and the night at cards or dancing, it matters not what the situation of the place is. Now I think of it, we were there in the day-time, and this might be one cause of its appearing so dull.

We did not arrive at Margate, till it was dark, which made the latter part of our walk very unpleasant, the more so, as we were a good deal fatigued.

We spent the whole of one day at Ramsgate, we went by the Coach, and arrived there about 11 O. Clock. We immediately walked to the Pier, which is the chief ornament of the place; it is a circular stone building, about 40 ft. 20 wide, projecting a long distance into the Sea. -- opposite to it is another pier, or rather the other half built in the same manner, circling round, and joining the other, within about 20 Yards: the space between is the entrance to the Harbour. If a person extends his Arms, making them a Circle, and pointing the ends of his fingers towards each other, and leaving a space between them for the entrance, he will have a pretty accurate idea of Ramsgate harbour. On one side are mounted several pieces of Cannon, 68 Pounds. I should think long twenty-fours would be much more useful, because these would not reach a Ship at any distance. Hanging over the pier is a Life-boat, which can be lowered in a moment, if any one is in danger of drowning; my brother was on the pier one morning, and had an opportunity of seeing the utility of it: a young man was bathing, and got out of his depth, and crying out for help, two men jumped into the boat, which was immediately let down by two others, and they were just in time to save his life.

At the extremity of the other side of the Pier, is the Light-house, which we ascended to see the reflectors; they are copper, with a front of silver, which is kept so bright, that if the Sun shined upon them, it is impossible to look at them; there are three, with a small lamp before each. They have here a Telescope, which they lend you to look at the shipping, in the Downs, the French coast &c. but the Glass was a bad one, and the day was hazy. The man sells little trifles, and curious Sea-weeds; two of the weeds were very much so; one he called a Sponge-weed; in fact, I believe it was sponge, but it was in narrow pieces like fingers, joined together naturally at one end: the other he called a muscel weed, which was in itself curious, but it was covered with an immense quantity of very small muscels. Two or three of us took a boat, and went under the pier fishing. I never had such good sport in my life; you have a packthread line on a reel, without any rod or float, which would be useless: there is a leaden weight just above the hook to sink it, and you let it go within about six inches of the bottom; but the fish are here so thick, that you need not be very particular: we caught about three dozen of a fish called Whiting-pout; they are not quite so large, but are as fine to eat as Whiting; our bait was a large worm, called a Lob, which they dig out of the sands when the tide is down. After dinner we walked to Jacob's ladder, a spiral kind of Stair-case, so called, which leads from the Pier to the top of the cliff. There is a terrace of good houses, which have a most commanding prospect: this part of the Town is so much higher

than the other, that you descend from it by a number of steps. We dined, and took our Tea at the Castle Tavern, where we were well attended, and their charge was not immoderate. Many prefer Ramsgate to Margate. It is generally considered ^{more} genteel; but the visitors of the latter place appear more sociable though I can scarcely judge, as I never resided at Ramsgate. We had a pleasant walk home in the evening, and altogether were well pleased with our day's excursion.

I was as much pleased with an excursion to a place called Minster, as with any. It is a small village inland from Margate; we walked there one afternoon, and went to a sort of Inn, kept by a person of the name of Buddle. I thought both the man and his wife, were the most civil and obliging people of the kind I had met with; our curiosity was excited to go, by hearing the crier give out in the market place, rather ludicrously, that the Tea and fruit gardens at Minster were open for the reception of the public, and B. Buddle would endeavour to make all his visitors comfortable; we were indeed made so in every respect; we drank tea in the garden, which was pretty full of company; they allowed us to ramble over it, and pick what fruit we liked, though at that time there was nothing but Damsons; during tea, Buddle was head waiter, as soon as it was over, a band came into the garden, and he was then head-musician; after hearing it play countrydances &c. - pretty tolerably considering, for about half an hour, we took a turn round the garden, intending then to depart, as we could procure no conveyance, and it was rather a long walk, upwards of five miles; but when we got to the House, we found the band in a

sort of Clubroom, and about a dozen very respectable persons dancing a Countrydance, properly so called I thought; They invited us to join them and though by no means equipped for so violent an amusement, we could not resist it; I can say for myself, I enjoyed it as much, or more than I have a regular Assembly in Town; we continued at it till past nine, and then set off to walk to Margate; fortunately one of our party, that was not very well, had room made for her in a Caravan that was going, and the Old lady of the house lent her a shawl, and would not be prevailed upon to keep the value of it as security, though she had never seen us before. After all, for our Tea, our Fruit, and our Dance, they only demanded 7⁶ each.

Going home, we lost our road, and when we had walked about three miles, we came to a Post which pointed out the distance to several places, but it was so dark, we could not see the writing, without climbing up close to it; with some difficulty we found we were in the right road to Margate, but still 3¹/₂ miles from it.

We had enough to talk about, which made our walk appear shorter than it otherwise would have done. Its length being nearly eleven O'clock, we arrived, considerably fatigued, having gone full a mile out of our way.

This closes the account of our excursions in the Isle of Thanet. I have that of one day to Dover to relate, but before I come to that, I shall add a few general observations, which I made on the inhabitants &c. - The people generally, I found civil and obliging, in fact too much so for their own good.

too ready to trust strangers, consequently very liable to be taken in by Sharpers. The fishermen make a good harvest in the summer, by taking people out at a shilling a piece for a sail, and they are seldom out more than an hour, there being generally some in the boat taken ill, who are glad to get back to shore again as quick as possible; other boats take persons out fishing, finding tackle, bait, &c. at 2/- each, but whether it is that they will not take you to a likely place to catch them, or that it is not a good place generally, (which latter I think is the cause) it is very seldom that many are caught; these boats will sometimes make two or three pounds a day in this way. The soil, almost universally consists of chalk, or lime, and in the middle of the day the sun shines with intense heat, which reflected from the white ground, renders it extremely unpleasant walking, in fact, almost impracticable. Fresh water appears difficult to be obtained, wells are dug to an immense depth before it can be got at, but most places that are adjacent to the sea, are the same, I believe, in this respect. The heat is such, that if you go from London, and stop but a fortnight, on your return you are tanned as though stained with a walnut, but it wears off in a short time.

Friday, Sept. 1st. We had an early breakfast, and immediately after, Mr. Jos. Farrey, Miss Farrey, and myself, set off by Coach for Dover; We passed through St. Lawrence, Ramsgate, Pegwell, Sandwich, Sandown, Deal, Walmer, and arrived at Dover about 1 o'clock. The distance is about 27 Miles, and we changed horses three times; at Ramsgate, at Sandwich, and at Deal: the day was very fine, and we had a

beautiful ride; between Ramsgate and Sandwich we observed several salt-pits, and some things like very small Windmills, intended I believe, to drain the lands, but I could not understand the construction as I merely saw them in passing. Sandwich appears a very dull place. Deal also appears very dull in itself, but I should suppose the shipping in the Downs, would very much enliven it. This place is noted for smuggling. I jumped off the Coach while they were changing horses, and ran to the water side, but there was not much shipping at the time; by far the largest there was the Newcastle Frigate, a very beautiful ship, one of the new ones, built on the same plan, as the large American Frigates. She appeared as long, but not so high in the hull as a 7th Gun ship. There is no beach at Deal, I believe they call it a Shingle. After we left this place, we soon arrived at Walmer: There is an Old Castle going fast to decay; It is a very small one, enclosed by a low wall, and apparently a small dry ditch. There are some noble Barracks, built of brick, but a fine and extensive building, the front towards the sea, and a large lawn before it. There is also an Hospital, but I could not exactly learn whether it was a Naval or a Military one; but I think it was for the Navy. From here the ride for several miles, was particularly beautiful, having a fine view of the sea, and the road being hilly we had occasionally some fine prospects. Remember noticing some of the finest clover by the road side, that I ever saw. There was nothing else particularly striking till we arrived at Dover Castle, which I shall describe presently; from the Castle to the

Town is about a mile, and you go down one of the steepest hills that I ever saw a Coach go down: they were obliged to lock one of the wheels at the top of it. In Dover itself I saw nothing particular; in fact we had not time enough to look for anything there, as we had to return the same evening to Margate. Immediately we arrived we walked down to the beach which is a very bold one, the waves dashing upon it with a great deal of force, and it is so steep, that the Bathing-machines have no horses, they being backed in about five or six feet by the men, when it is quite deep enough. I should think the bathing must be very unpleasant: the water here is very much saltier than it is at Margate. We next walked to what they call the pier, though it does not deserve that name, being nothing but a small and shabby wooden one, and having got to the end of it, we strained our eyes to try and discern Calais, but could not see it, though we could see up the country several miles. I suppose the Town must be in a flat, though I always understood it was discernable from Dover. We had an early dinner at the Union Hotel, and immediately after crossed the town to the Cliff, which is an amazing height; at the top of it are barracks for the Soldiers, and to ascend to them you go up a stone stair-case which is dug out of the interior of the Cliff. There are two sets of stairs, one for the Soldiers going up, the other for those coming down: the building them must have been very expensive, as well as very laborious. It was such a long ascent, that I remember we all complained of a pain in our knees, when we arrived at the top. The object of these stairs, I presume is to occasion a more speedy communication between

the Soldiers at the top of the Cliff and the Town below; I suppose they save $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile. They may be otherwise useful in case of the place being attacked by an enemy. When at the summit we came to the barracks, which are very small, apparently only intended for one Company: here is also a hill fort, which is a higher part of the hill, detached from the other by a wide, and very deep ditch, over which is a kind of draw bridge. There is no building or shelter of any kind for the troops, which in case of a siege, would be placed in it; all round are placed long 24 pounders.

I think it would occasion an enemy some trouble before he could take it. From here we proceeded to the Castle, which is on another hill about half a mile distant; but I very much regret that from the short time we had to stay we could only take a superficial view of its curiosities or its fortifications. All that could be seen in the time we saw.

On our entrance into the Castle we were met by an Old Man, who shewed us over it. When we had advanced a little way, we observed two small bells by the side of the path, which on our approach, began ringing violently; under each of them was a box, on one of which was wrote, "Pray remember the poor confined debtors!" and on the other, "Pray remember the Kings poor confined debtors!" There must have been a connection between the bells, and one of the windows of the Castle, by means of a string or wire, though it was some distance off. Looking over the Castle-wall, we observed at the bottom of the Cliff, a small cottage and garden attached, which the man informed us was called Sir Smith's folly. I did not learn why it was so called. Going onwards, we came to a very fine piece

of artillery, which he called Queen Elizabeth's pocket-piece. It was a 12 pounder cannon 14 1/2 in length, a present from Holland to that Queen in the year 1549. There was an inscription on it which the man said was generally translated, but wrongly, as follows.

If you lead me well, and keep me clean,

I'll carry a ball to Calais green.

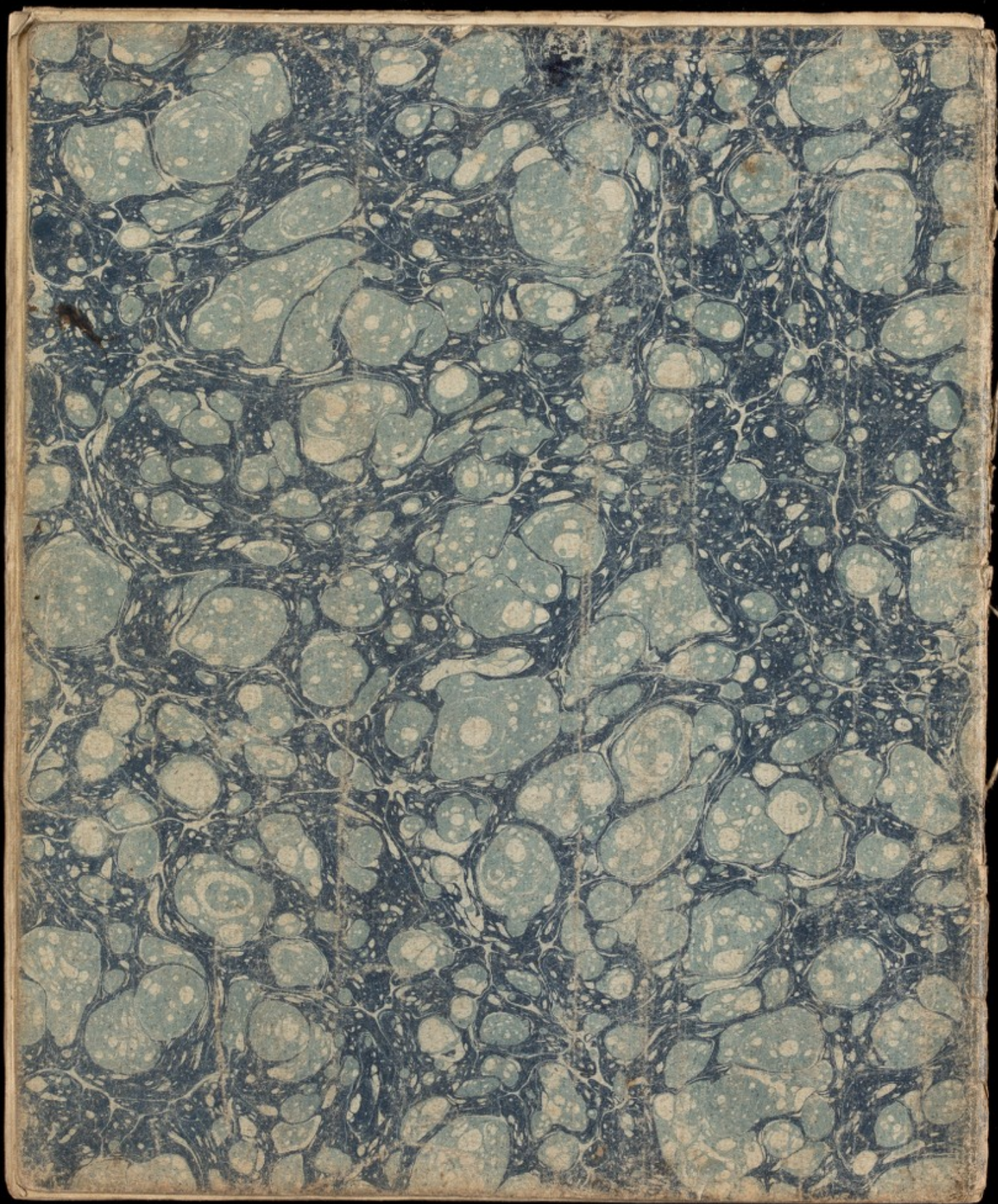
I believe he could not tell the proper translation.

On putting my ear to the mouth, and the man clapping his hand on the touch-hole, I heard a report something like a pistol. There are Casemate-barracks for 3000 Men; these are cut out from the bottom of the cliff 180 feet from the Trench; they were immediately under the ground we were walking upon, and in several places, circular wells (as it were) were dug from the top, to the barracks below, to admit air and light; these were the depth of the cliff, which as I mentioned above was 180 feet; they were for the prevention of accidents covered with a strong iron grating; passing along he showed us other barracks above ground, the roofs of which were bomb-proof, and on the top of them were placed several 24 pounders, which commanded the main road: he showed us also a bomb-proof well to supply the garrison with water. There are also some very ancient ruins of a fort, built by the Romans, as the man told us 1800 years ago: If this is correct, it must have been built at, or about the time our Saviour was in the world: be this as it may, there is no doubt that it was built by the Romans, as the ruins consist of the so much celebrated Roman tiles, together with stone and cement. He each of us brought away a piece of the tile, which is uncommonly hard. He afterwards showed us into an apartment the walls of which were lined with muskets, blunder buxses, swords &c. and a woman pointed out to us an ancient spur, an old key, and

another trifle or two; but this was a taking, for the old fellow only sent us here to put a shilling or two into the woman's pocket. We were now obliged to draw near the gates, as it was getting toward 5 o'clock, and we expected the Coach: going along he told us it would require 10000 men to garrison it properly so as to stand a siege, and with that number, he said it would hold out two years against 200,000 men, supposing they had plenty of provisions &c.; but I think, as bad a general as I am, I could take it in half the time, and with only half the number of men; the heights round about, I conceive, contribute to its strength very greatly, while in the hands of the besieged; but if the besiegers could obtain one or two of them the castle and works, would be completely under the fire of their guns, and the castle appears so old, that I think it would soon be knocked about their ears: At the time we were there, there were no soldiers at all in the place, and very few cannon mounted: but the man said the garrison, if it was there, could mount 400 guns in 1/2 of an hour. Thus have I described all that I saw at Dover, and in the Castle &c. He now went into the main road as we expected the Coach every minute, and having been walking about some hours, up hills and down dales in a very hot day, we were very tired and very thirsty, and no house being near, we knew not how to quench our thirst; but while we were considering about it, a woman came up with two pails full of milk, going to Dover; this we thought a lucky chance, but to our great mortification, she had not a drop to spare, as she had not enough for all her customers as it was; we were so dry we could hardly

keep from taking her pails by storm; we then went to a little hut, (which was at the top of the hill, and where a man was stationed to lock the wheels of the coaches going down) to buy some water; but he told us there was no water at the top of the hill, and he was obliged to fetch what he wanted from Dover, (nearly a mile) and unfortunately he had not a drop left: presently after the coach came up, and we were obliged to set off at last without assuaging our thirst. As I have before described what we saw on the road, it only remains for me to say that we arrived at Collygate, very much fatigued, but perfectly satisfied with our days pleasure.

I shall just state in conclusion, that on Wednesday the 6th of Sept^r we set off by the Packet for London, where after a long passage, we arrived in perfect health and safety; all of us well pleased with our excursion.



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Longmore - Personal

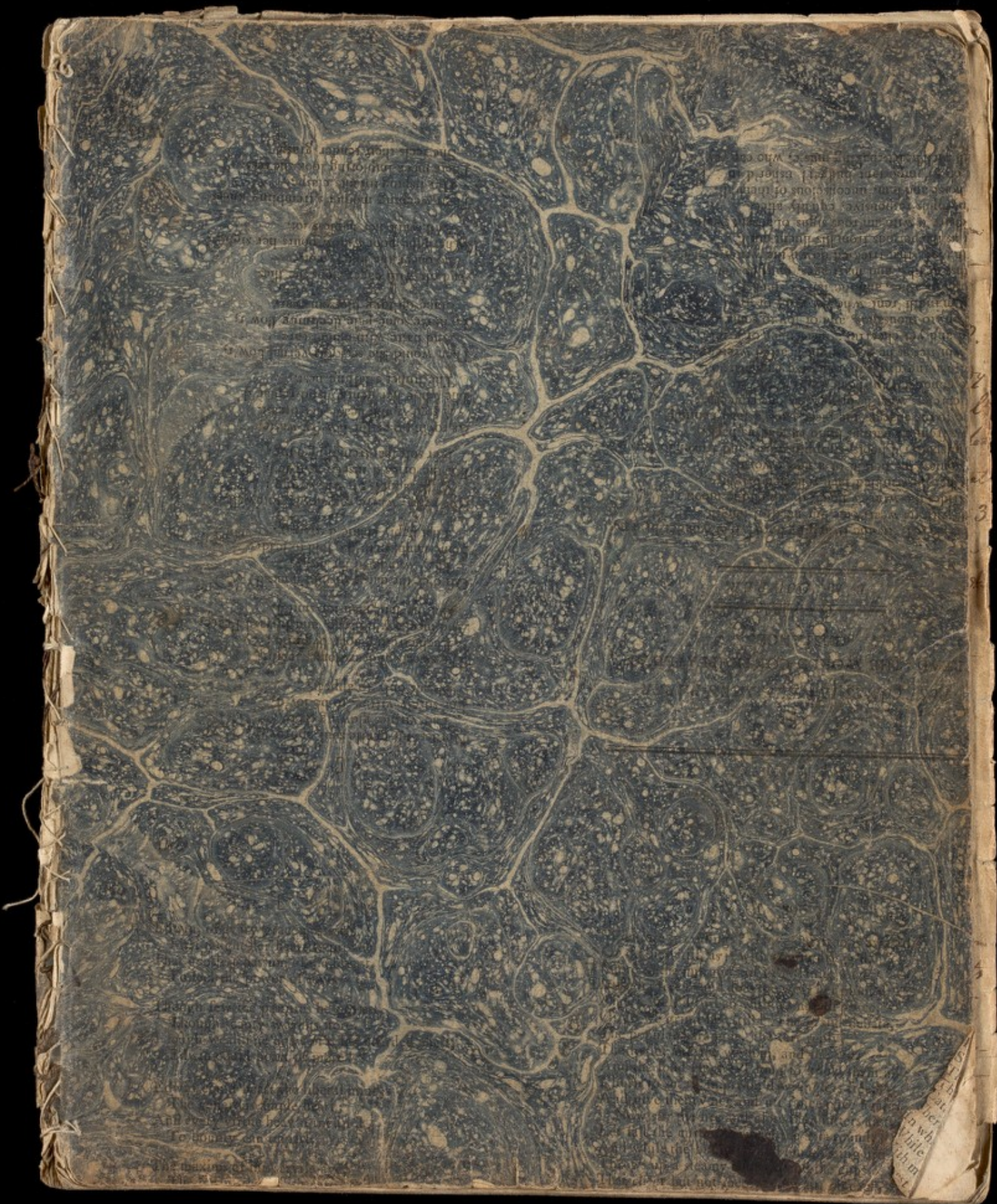
Diana

1820

Aug. Sept.

Journal of an Excursion to Paris by Thomas Longmore Sr

3 vols.



read *Varlami* La Lande

Add dirty Streets to splendid Palaces,
And you have pictured well what Paris is.

Si tu n'as vu Paris, tu n'as rien vu.

French Proverb

in spite of every one of these ^{so just} views from of
Paris. every good people of from each country
come to Paris to learn and take advantage
in the natural genius given to French people
by their climate and manners. &c.

Read
17/8

State of the Weather at Paris from L. 23/2
Augth 16th to Septth 10th inclusive.

Aug th 16	9. A. M. Windy & Cloudy - 9. P. M. Light Clouds - Sultry
17	9. A. M. Very fine - 9. P. M. Calm & Fine - Hot
18	9. A. M. Cloudy & Close - 9. P. M. Fine & Clouds - Warm
19	9. A. M. Fine & Warm - 9. P. M. Very Fine - D.
20	9. A. M. Light Clouds - 9. P. M. Fine
21	9. A. M. Cloudy rather Cool - 9. P. M. Fast Rain since 2.
22	9. A. M. Settled Rain - 9. P. M. Rain Ceased - Cloudy
23	9. A. M. Settled Rain - 9. P. M. Rain ceased - Cloudy
24	9. A. M. Fine but Cloudy - 9. P. M. Very Fine - Temperate
25	9. A. M. Very Fine - 9. P. M. D. D. - Temperate
26	9. A. M. Cloudy & Cool - 9. P. M. Fine - Rain from 11 to 3
27	9. A. M. Fine - Rain in Night - 9. P. M. Fine - Warm
28	9. A. M. Cloudy - Slight Rain - 9. P. M. Cloudy - Much Rain
29	9. A. M. Fine - Rather Cool - 9. P. M. Fine
30	9. A. M. Showery & Warm - 9. P. M. Fine & Warm
31	9. A. M. Fine & Warm - 9. P. M. Fine
Sept 1	9. A. M. Cloudy & Cool - 9. P. M. Hard Rain
2	9. A. M. Showery - 9. P. M. Cloudy
3	9. A. M. Fine - Rain in Night - 9. A. M. Fine
4	9. A. M. Fine - 9. P. M. Fine
5	9. A. M. Very Fine - 9. P. M. Fine
6	9. A. M. Fine - 9. P. M. Fine
7	9. A. M. Fine - 9. P. M. Fine - Eclipse from 12 till 1/4 past 3. Sun 3 parts obscured
8	9. A. M. Fine - 9. P. M. Fine
9	9. A. M. Cloudy - 9. P. M. Fine & Warm
10	9. A. M. Fine & Warm - 9. P. M. D. D.

State of the Weather at London from
Augth 16th to Septth 10th inclusive.

Aug th 16 th	Cloudy	but no Rain
" 17	Cloudy Morn ^g	No Rain
" 18	Fine	
" 19	Fine	1. P. M. Thunder Storm
" 20	Beautiful Day	
" 21	Cloudy Morn ^g	Rain all Day
" 22	Rain all Day	
" 23	Rather Finer	
" 24	Fine all Day	
" 25	Fine early tho: Cloudy	Rain all Day
" 26	Fine Morn ^g	Showery
" 27	Fine Morn ^g	Stormy
" 28		Showery Fine Even ^g
" 29	Fine All Day	
" 30	Beautiful Day	
" 31	D ^r	D ^r
Sept ^r 1	D ^r	D ^r
" 2	D ^r	D ^r
" 3	D ^r	D ^r
" 4	D ^r	D ^r
" 5	D ^r	D ^r
" 6	D ^r	D ^r
" 7	D ^r	D ^r
" 8	Cloudy all Day	
" 9	Fine all Day	
" 10	D ^r	D ^r

of and
see code
table;

Mais Monsieur, vous vous souvenez l'apprit a
la to time pour forger quelques des tables cher le
pauvre le murex l'edifice et ou l'oultre nation paleme
la murex le bonnet piteux murex des tout murex

Journal of an Excursion to Paris. (1)

Tuesday Aug¹⁵ 1820. I left London for Brighton
at 10 past 9. O. Clock, going through Mitcham, Sutton,
Kye-gate, Cuckfield &c—; soon after leaving Sutton
you arrive at Banstead Downs, the country is
very open & you have an extensive view; at
Mutton Heath also is a fine prospect, & the great
quantity of heath in blossom, produced an agree-
able effect. Kye-gate Hill is a tremendous one, and
nearly a mile long; but it is said, there is no
evil without its attendant good, & if the hill
is an evil, the sublime view obtained from it
is the good. In the town of Kye-gate I saw nothing
particular: we changed horses there, which we did
not again do till we arrived at Cuckfield, an 18
mile stage. When within a few miles of Brighton,
we ascended a hill, & when descending on the
other side, all the passengers on the Coach remarked
what a sudden change had taken place in the
atmosphere; before, there was a fine blue sky, and
on the other side the hill, it was cloudy, & so cold
that a great coat would have been acceptable;

23 it remained so for about 2 Miles, & then almost as suddenly was warm again. I happened on the beach to say that I was going to France, & a grown up female actually asked me if there was no way of going there without crossing the sea. I arrived at Brighton about 5 O. Clock. The Kremlin, or Papillion, or whatever name this non-descript building goes by, is still in an unfinished state: there are so many little spires & steeples, that it would be difficult to count them: why it should be called the Pavilion I cannot guess; the word means a tent, or moveable building; in the latter sense it may be rather applicable, as there has always been some part of it removing, to give place to something else: the tout-ensemble is a lamentable monument of the King's want of taste.

On my arrival at Brighton, I found the packet for France sailed at 4 O. Clock, & that I had to convey my luggage to the Custom House: by the time I had got some tea, & refreshed myself, it was time to go to the beach to embark. The passage money was £2-2-0 for the Cabin Passenger, and £1-1-0 the Deck. I took the latter. — The embarkation is unpleasant

and even somewhat dangerous, if it at all blows hard, which it did at the time of my leaving Brighton. The person embarking has first to get into a rowing boat, which takes him to a sailing boat, and this takes him to the Packet. The first boat could not come within a dozen yards of the shore, and all the passengers had to be carried to it, by some men: when it was sufficiently loaded, half a dozen men had to push it off, going up to their middles in water: most of us got much wet before we reached the second boat, a poor Frenchman in particular who sat just to windward of me, had several waves break right upon his back, of which I only got the spray. It was with some difficulty that we got into the second boat, being obliged to watch the rising of a wave to spring from one boat into the other: in the sailing boat we were very much crowded, and in consequence of the arrival on the coast of the Royal Yacht, and the attendant vessels of war, the boatmen had had plenty of employment in taking persons to look at them, and unfortunately for us, the men who had to take us to the packet were all intoxicated.

so much so, that they were scarcely able to manage the sails. The Captain of the Packet was with us, but they either could not, or would not obey his orders, and the boat was striking against the ground continually. At length he sprang forward himself, & took the sails from them, placing a Lieut. of the Army who happened to be with us at the helm, and we then stood out, and arrived at the Packet without difficulty. We weighed anchor soon after 8. O. Clock with a strong and favorable breeze, and about 9 I was taken ill, and I lay all night on the deck with sensations impossible to describe; about midnight it began to rain, and I think this was the most wretched night I had ever spent; about 1. O. Clock, the Capt. (Jas. Lind of the Elizabeth) asked me below very politely, but I somehow suspected that he meant to be paid for his politeness, and as I learnt that all the beds were occupied I would not go; I afterwards understood that several gentlemen who went below were charged an extra guinea for it, a shameful

trick, as he knew well enough they were deck passengers, and never told them that they would have to pay the Cabin price if they went below. On arriving off Dieppe, the tide was down, and we could not enter the harbor, and a boat came off to take us on shore. The boatmen made a terrible chattering, all talking together as fast as they could talk, they each had a linen cap on his head, and a sort of petticoat down to their knees and large trousers underneath; they took us on shore very well, without wetting us at all, but they seemed to make twice as much labor of it as English boatmen, and appeared to require a great deal of flattery and encouragement to keep them at it, at least Capt. Lind gave them plenty of it. Each passenger had to pay ^{3.0} at Brighton to go to the Packet, and at ^{2.0} Dieppe 3 francs = 2.6 english to leave it. - Wednesday Morn'g, landed at Dieppe soon after 9. O. Clock, thus for the first time in my life setting my foot on a foreign shore, and I determined on doing so to divest myself as much as possible of the native prejudices of an Englishman against the French, and to see, and to think of them as

63 they really were; yet I could not but say to myself, "thus then I am in the land of our old and almost constant enemy," in fact there are very few English who do not view a Frenchman with more or less prejudice, arising doubtless from having so long been accustomed to think him his enemy, and sure I am (speaking generally) that a Frenchman looks with a discontented eye upon the English; but he has an additional cause, we have mortally wounded his vanity, (which no one will deny him to possess) and therefore mortally offended him.

Immediately on landing we were surrounded by a crowd of people, some of them waiters of Taverns, thrusting the cards of their Hotels into our hands, others soliciting to be allowed to take our luggage to the Custom House, to which it seemed we were all obliged to go: one old man who had missed one of his trunks, after looking about for it, saw it in the hands of one of the porters, who was walking on with it; he ran after him and seizing hold of it, said in plain English, "let go, do you want

to rob me you rascal!" the poor fellow did not understand what he meant, but let go the trunk directly: when this was all settled, we walked up to the Custom House, and a young Englishman who had a flagolet, marched at our head playing the tune of *Mons^r Malbrouk*.

At the Custom House they searched our trunks, and our persons very minutely, enquiring particularly if we had no muslins about us.

I had some new English music, and a pound of snuff, which I was carrying to Paris for a French Gentleman, and I had some difficulty in persuading them not to seize the music.

As soon as we got away, I went to an Hotel kept by an Englishman of the name of Pratt, when I immediately went to bed, feeling myself very ill from the effects of the night I had passed, and laid some hours: while speaking of this Hotel, I will just add that their charges were high, and their wine bad. From all I have heard, I would advise any one going to Paris by way of Dieppe, to put up at the Hotel de l'Europe, kept by Gossel. Holland, at which there are waiters who speak English.

8. When I was somewhat refreshed, I got up and went to exchange my passport, the one I had from the French Ambassador in London was taken away to be sent to Paris, and another given to me in which my person was described very minutely, and for which I had to pay 2 or 3 francs, for though done for the safety & convenience of the government, yet the stranger must pay for it. After this I walked about to look at the Town: it has two churches, one of them very large; it has also a good sized market place, in which at the time I was there the fair was held, which was to last 3 weeks, but it had not long commenced, and there were but a few stalls with much the same sort of trifles to sell as at our fairs. There is also a harbor, into which ships of small burden can enter at high water: near this is a large Cross, with a figure of our Saviour at the top, and one of the Virgin about the middle, to the base of which you ascend by several stone steps; I saw a woman sitting on the top of the steps, and two boys kneeling on them before

her saying their prayers in a very serious manner. Dieppe appears an old Town, the houses are very lofty and ancient; some of them had two stories in their attics, or sloping roof.

I was surprised at not seeing any persons who could be called, or who had the appearance of being respectable; all the French people that I saw while at Dieppe seemed to be of the lower order; and I observed that there was more dissimilarity in the dress here, and in England, than there was in any other part of France through which I passed; the women have no bonnets, but large caps sticking up half a yard high, and nearly the whole of them have a red petticoat outside of all, with a sort of bedgown coming down only to their waist, & they wear their clothes short. I believe it is only in Normandy that they wear these red petticoats and the high caps, as I heard people speak of them as peculiar to that province. The women of Normandy were better looking than those of the other parts of France I was in. In the Afternoon I had a pleasant walk

to a village called Neuve-ville about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Dieppe, where I saw a number of French collected in a low sort of public house, who were singing with great vociferation: on my return I went to a little booth in the fair, (the only one in it) and saw a heap of little wooden puppets, which were made to dance to music, and which afterwards performed a play of Voltaire's called L'Enfant Prodigue, (The Prodigal Son) which lasted about twenty minutes, and for which each person paid 2 sous, 1 penny. there was a regular stage, though a very small one, and the figures were made to move their legs and arms very naturally, while a person behind the scene spoke the parts of each character, and from the proximity of the speaker to the figures, the voice appeared to come from the puppets, & very well amused I was.

Thursday Morning I left Dieppe for Rouen at 10 o'clock in the morning, and arrived there at $1\frac{1}{2}$ past 4. the distance is 42 miles. The Diligence is a cumbersome looking vehicle; it carries three persons in the Cabriolet which is next the horses, this is as good a place to ride in as the inside

and is as dear; it has a cover at top, something like that of an English Chaise, and is open in front, but it has a leather curtain which can be drawn across it in case of rain, or in the night: the body of the Coach holds six persons, which is much better stuffed, & much wider, and consequently easier, and more commodious than an English Stage Coach; some of the Diligences have also what is called the Gallery behind, which holds four persons; this is like a second Coach, and the traveller there, is as much inside as those in the part before him, though I believe this is something cheaper. There is a man sits on the top called the Conductor who goes all the way with the Coach, but the post ^{station} changes with the horses, generally about every 10 miles. The Conductor's manners are usually a little above the vulgar, & he always dines ^{for} with the passengers; there is a seat by his side, that will hold two persons, but this is on the roof of the Coach; so that if the Diligence is quite full, it carries 16 persons including the Conductor. It is drawn by five horses, two next the Coach, and three abreast before them; the post boy sits on the

123 left hand wheel horse; he has generally a glazed hat, a pig-tail, and his head full of grease, with invariably an immense pair of boots, and a long Whip: he does not beat the horses much, but is continually making a noise, and they travel at a brisk rate; the harness is very bad, the principal part, including the traces, being ropes. The Country from Dieppe to Rouen is most delightful, being very romantic, and well wooded; in fact the impression on my mind was that it was the finest country I ever saw; on each side the Road, nearly the whole distance were Apple-trees, about twenty yards apart, which had a very agreeable effect; they were Cyder-apples, consequently not good eating: The center of the Road was paved the whole of the way, in short it was the same along every road on which I travelled through France, for this reason, an English Stage Coach would not be strong enough for travelling in France, as the wear and tear must be infinitely greater than in England. About 15 miles on the Dieppe side of

Rouen, are a great number of Manufactories,¹³ chiefly of Cotton, some of which are very large; in one of them I counted 50 windows in front. As we advanced nearer to Rouen, the country appeared still more beautiful; beneath the road was a rich valley chequered with houses and manufactories, beyond which the Seine, here a river of considerable width, meandered smoothly, and greatly improved the picture; on its bosom floated numbers of vessels, though chiefly of a small size; on the farther side of the river was an extensive and delightful view of a well wooded and very fine country: as we proceeded, everything betokened the approach to a large Commercial City: the river was more covered with vessels, and we soon passed the quays which were filled with Goods either taken out of, or about to be put in the Shipping laying alongside. We now rode along a fine avenue of Elms about a mile in length, which formed the immediate approach to the City, and which certainly had a handsome effect, though in my opinion rather formal; the French appear fond of these straight lines, as the

14. Access to every Chateau, or Country House, was by an avenue: this road was lighted of an Evening by lamps suspended in the middle by cords, which were fastened to one of the trees on each side of the road. At length we entered the ancient city of Rouen, and as soon as we were put down, I went with an English Family who were also in the Diligence, to the Hotel de l'Europe, and after having dined, proceeded to view the Cathedral. It is of Gothic Architecture, and the front is the most beautiful specimen of it I ever saw, but I am incapable of describing it in a scientific way, neither would it be consistent with my design, which is, not to enter into a detail of Buildings &c, which may be found in printed accounts of them, but merely to draw such a sketch of what I saw, as that my memory at a future period when I shall recur to this Journal, may fill up and complete the picture: in the front of the building is a small square, which is used as a market for the sale of plants and flowers, in which I saw several curious shrubs that I never saw in England. In the interior of the Cathedral all down the aisles, were

small chapels railed in with iron rails, dedicated to different Saints, in most of which were one or two paintings and some reliques, and in some of them artificial flowers, in others a small candle burning offerings I presume at the shrines of those saints. There was a very fine Altar, & the stained Glass windows were superb; near the altar are buried John Duke of Bedford, Regent of France, one of the English Henry's, and the heart of Richard Cœur de Lion. There was a board stuck up requesting persons not to give to beggars in the Cathedral, of whom I saw several; there was also a box into which charitable people were invited to drop their money for the poor. This noble building was finished by William the Conqueror. — From here I went to the Church of St. Owen, which I understood was built or completed by the same monarch: it is a fine pile of building also in the Gothic style; the internal architecture is considered superior to that of the Cathedral, and the tower is also beautiful; there are here also some magnificent stained glass windows: the interior of this Church during the early part of the French revolution was used as a smithery: adjoining the Church is a large plain building formerly a Convent, but now

16. used as Government offices; here is a considerable library, and a few good bronze medals, some of them of English persons; among others Roger Bacon, Shakespeare, Sir Wm Congreve &c. it is however most remarkable for a superb mural, the sole work of a monk 130 years since; it is of folio size, and took him 30 years to complete, and is full of the most highly finished and beautifully colored drawings: this is invaluable, and I never saw any thing of the kind so beautiful; in an adjoining gallery are some good paintings, but unfortunately they were not ^{to} be seen at the time I was there: attached to the Monastery are very pleasant & well shaded gardens, which serve the inhabitants for a promenade, more particularly on a Sunday. Near the outskirts of the City is a Nunnery, but I had not time to go to see it. In the place de Piccolle, which is used as a market, is a large stone fountain, with a statue of Joan of Arc on the top, which is built on the very spot on which this heroine was burnt. — There is a bridge of boats (the only one) over the Seine, which joins the City to the suburb of St. Sever; it was planned by a priest, is 270 paces long, and rises and falls with the tide: although it is paved, it is made to

open, so as to admit the passage of Shipping. 17. There are still to be seen in the river, the ruins of an ancient stone bridge, and before the removal of Buonaparte, it was in agitation to clear these away, and build a new bridge over the river; but it is now, at least for the present, abandoned. Friday I ascended a high hill called Mount St. Catherine's, which commanded a fine view of the city, and so delightful a one up the river, and over a vast tract of beautiful country, that it well compensated for the trouble of ascending it; I descended by another path, by the side of an orchard, and seeing a garden gate open, I went in with a gentleman who accompanied me, and saw an elderly lady, and an old priest sitting there, to whom we apologised for our intrusion, and they very politely told us to look about as long as we pleased; the garden was full of flowers, and a grass plot in the center was surrounded by orange-trees. I found the old priest had been an emigrant in England, where he had resided upwards of 20 years, and was now in his old age, returned to mingle his bones with those of his countrymen; although so long a resident in England, he could speak but little of our language. After a multitude of Compliments we departed.

18. A Gentleman who was with me on Mount St. Catherine's said, that the view from Richmond Hill was nothing to the one before us, but when I called to mind the fine and extensive prospect from that place, the Thames beautifully winding, and Twickenham meadows, I could not but dissent from his opinion. — As I was walking through the Streets of Rouen with some other English, we saw some eggs of a full pink colour, and one of my countrymen wondering what they could be, asked an old woman who had them to sell, what they were, she very promptly replied, "œufs de coq" (cocks' eggs) he walked off quite satisfied, and she burst into a loud laugh. I afterwards understood it was the practice to colour stale eggs in that manner, and sell them very cheap to the poor people. — A stranger would suppose the French a nation of Drunkards, for he cannot walk a dozen yards without seeing written up, "Brandy, Wine &c. sold here." I had at a Coffee house here, a cup of beautiful coffee, a small glass of brandy, and a tumbler of cyder for 6^d. it is the custom with the French to take a small glass of brandy after drinking coffee. —

Rouen is very large, and is one of the first commercial cities of France; it was the only place in which I saw anything like commerce, but the Quay here was full of Goods and bustle, and reminded me of my own country; I cannot tell if the Merchants have any covered place of meeting, but there is a pleasant place for that purpose near the river, which is in the open air, and in the Evening is much frequented as a promenade; this was the only time while in France that I heard the old term of "mi lord Anglois"; I was walking up and down this place with an English Gentleman, and two girls said, "Voilà deux mi lords Anglois." The Streets of Rouen are very narrow and dirty, the houses are high, and it is said to contain near 100,000 inhabitants; it has very handsome Boulevards, which means a wide Street, that surrounds the City, with a row of high trees on each side, forming a pleasant promenade, sheltered from the rays of the sun. — I understood there were a considerable number of English residents in Rouen, and its vicinity, & certainly the environs are most delightful, & I believe house-rent and provisions are very cheap. —

20. Saturday Aug. 14th I left Rouen for Paris, at 6.0. Clock in the morning, at which place I arrived at 7 the same Even^g. the distance being about 90 miles. There are two roads from Rouen to Paris, the one called the upper, the other the lower road. I went the former which is the shortest, but I understand the latter route is much superior for the beauty of the Country. Immediately on leaving Rouen, we ascended Mount St. Catherine's, and I again enjoyed and had a view to the noble prospect, which I had previously had. The former part of this journey the country was pleasant enough, but towards midday it got very flat and open, and there being no hedges to separate the fields as in England, and very little cattle, it had to me rather a barren and disagreeable effect. I could not but observe, though passing by in so hasty a manner, that the land was not cultivated as in England, in many places the corn was so thin, and so choked with weeds, that I should ^{think} it would not have repaid the farmer in England for the expense and trouble of cutting it. At the place where we dined, they made

two tables, one for the English passengers, the ²¹ other for the French; the former were charged 3½ francs each. (£2.11 english) for rather a bad dinner, while the French were only charged 2 francs, on our complaining, they said the French persons had not so many dishes as we had, but they took off the ½ franc per head. At Pontoise, a considerable town we crossed the Seine, and soon after passed a number of large vineyards, in which the vine is reared standing, about the size of a currant bush, but rather higher; the grapes are very little if any forwarder than in England. At length we entered St. Denys, in the Church of which are entombed the French Monarchs, and we saw before us Paris, formerly the Capital of the polite World, and more recently the seat of Revolution, Cruelty and Barbarism, followed by their too general successor Military Despotism. But the giant is overthrown! the line of ancient princes are restored to the Thrones of their fathers! and Paris, which had well nigh become the Capital of Europe, is now what it ought to be, the chief City of a great and powerful kingdom. On arriving at the barrier of St. Denys, the Diligence was stopped while the Authorities looked at our

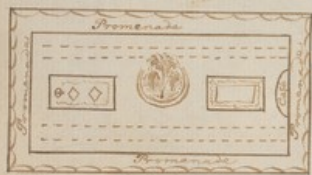
22.3 passports, and opened our trunks, which appeared merely a matter of form, yet the delay of a $\frac{1}{2}$ of an hour at the close of a long journey was not very pleasant. At length we were permitted to pass the barrier, and we traversed the Faubourg, or Suburb St. Denis, crossed the Boulevards at the Porte St. Denis, and finally were set down in the Cour des Fontaines, and after running about for a $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour, I settled at last at an Hotel in the place where the Coach first set me down, called l'Hotel de l'Europe, at which also the same English Family put up with whom I had travelled all the way from Brighton, and I afterwards associated with them a good deal, and received from them many attentions and much politeness. I had frequently been surprised at the great numbers of my countrymen that I had met with, who were totally unable to speak the French language: in the Coach with me was a party of five, only one of whom could speak it at all, and a young man who was in another part of the same Coach, and quite alone, could not speak a word of French, and when put down, came up to me with a face full of distress, protesting he did not

23. know what to do or say, and asking my assistance. He had a direction to an hotel, at which he hoped to find a friend, but was not certain, and if he should not be there, he was at a loss to know what to do. I got him a porter, and went with him to find the hotel, and gave him a direction to one at which I had a parcel to deliver, and at which I expected to reside, and told him that if he did not find his friend, and chose to come there, I would render him all the assistance I could; it happened however that I did not like the place, and went to the Hotel de Clugny, but on going the next day to deliver my parcel to an English physician who resided there, I found my fellow traveller, who as soon as he saw me was ready to jump on my neck. He stated that he could not find his friend, and immediately came as I directed him, he had slept there, but no one could speak English, he could not speak French, and he had teased the Doctor to interpret for him, till he would have nothing more to do with him, and he was thinking of setting off for Dieppe again the next day. — He directly paid his bill,

24. and came with me to my hotel. I mention this circumstance to show the folly of persons going into a foreign country alone, without being able to speak at least a little of its language. I had but a poor idea of Paris on my first entry: instead of fine avenues & grand triumphal arches, of which I had heard, I traversed long and narrow streets, with dirty shabby looking houses, the height of which did but increase the sombre appearance of the streets, and the people all appeared poor, and meanly clothed: in fact the only grand entrance to Paris is by the barrier and avenue of Neuilly, and through the Champs Elysées, which is indeed an appropriate entrance to a great city. — The Hotels in Paris are on a different principle to those of London, for though you can have any meal or refreshment you call for, yet it is not expected by the hotel-keepers, as you may pay for your Apartments, and get all your meals where you please; I had only my breakfast at my hotel, and that was for convenience: I had an Apartment for which I paid 10^{fr} francs per week. I B. 9 English

25. it contained besides a very handsome and good bed, a sofa with a rich damask cover, a commode, a chest of Drawers, and a Table, each with marble tops, 3 handsome pier glasses &c. &c. — I will just observe here that their furniture is generally more elegant than ours, & the mahogany, I suppose from the manner of cleaning it, looks of a much finer grain, and has a much better polish than the same description of furniture in England; their crockery too, even the poorest sorts, seems to have a sort of classical shape, if I may so use the word. Sunday. I employed the greater part of the morning in writing, and afterwards walked to the Palais Royal, in which place I dined and took coffee, and afterwards promenaded or sat down in its garden: during my stay in Paris I visited it very frequently, and it was only by a number of visits that I could see this place of bustle, of pleasure, of sensuality and of wickedness, in which is every thing calculated to attract the eye, to tempt the appetite, or to work upon the passions, and many there are of my countrymen who have regretted the hour they first sat foot within

263 its precincts. The Palace in front is detached, and is inhabited by the Duke of Orleans, but the place more immediately known by the name of the Palais Royal, the grand head-quarters of gaiety and dissipation, is a parallelogram, and appears to have been originally grand galleries, I presume for paintings: the following sketch may perhaps give an idea of it: all round



the external part on the ground, & under a piazza, are small, but most elegant shops, large, & superbly fitted up cafés, or places for taking coffee, and other refreshments, with some few places underground, the resort of girls of ill fame, the principal of which is the Café des Aveugles, (Coffee house of the Blind men) in which there is a band continually playing, the musicians, about six, being all blind, on which account the refreshments are charged higher than at other places. In the front of these shops & cafés is a very lively & much frequented promenade, particularly of an Evening when every place is brilliantly lighted up, & all is gaiety: as you pass along, you see into the Cafés, always

full of people, taking their various refreshments, some conversing, others playing at dominoes, the favorite game apparently of a Frenchman, while the shops make a wonderful display of attractive and beautiful things in their windows, the jewellers in particular, of which there are a great number in this place; a glass shop having a staircase come into the shop, the balusters are all of cut glass, which looks very beautiful when the shop is lighted up. In the center of the garden is a handsome fountain, throwing up a stream of water in the shape of a fleur-de-lis; at each end of this are small enclosures, in one of which is a pedestal and a small cannon placed upon it, which by the aid of two burning glasses placed over the touch hole, is fired off every day exactly at 12 O'clock if the sun shines, a man coming to load it a few minutes before that time: on each side of these enclosures & the fountain, are two rows of trees, beneath which is an agreeable promenade in the middle of the day; in various parts of the garden chairs are placed and you pay a sous for the use of one of them, and every morning you may see the news-mongers of Paris, lounging in these gardens, as well as in those

28. of the Tuilleries, reading the various News papers, for which luxury they also pay a sous, a person having a stand here to lend them: the price of the News paper is about 2^d or 2^½. — On the first floor of the buildings in the Palais Royale, over the Cafés, Shops &c. are other Cafés, with Restaurants, or Eating-houses, Gambling Rooms &c. but though I call the Restaurants Eating-houses, no judgment can be formed of them by comparing them with the eating houses of London, as those of Paris are altogether different, many of them being spacious apartments, decorated with a profusion of looking glass, & frequented by most respectable people, ladies as well as gentlemen: of some of these places, I shall speak again: over these are one or two stories more, chiefly occupied by les jolies filles du Palais Royale. — I shall finish my account of this place by a translation from a french work. — "The Palais Royale was built by Louis Lemaire for the Cardinal de Richelieu, on the site of the Hôtels de Rambouillet et de Brion; it was given by the will of this Minister to Louis 14th since which time it has borne its present name notwithstanding its cession by the King in 1692.

to the branch of Orleans.

29. If the Louvre is celebrated as the Palace of Kings, the Palais Royale is still more so by the agreeable or sad remembrances which it leaves in the minds of the numerous strangers who have frequented it. In fact who is that stranger who has not seen over & over again this sort of European Bazaar, where his every sense has been so forcibly attached, where every passion has found so much food for its violence? To admire the Louvre, it is necessary to have a great soul, a cultivated mind; one must rise above the common class of mankind; but the Palais Royale is unfortunately too calculated to seduce & captivate the vulgar."

I this day dined with a gentleman at a Restaurant in the Palais Royale called La Renommée, which I would recommend to others, as I dined there very frequently, & found every thing comfortable, good & reasonable. The price for dinner was 2 francs. 11^s 8 per head, for which we had soup, 4 other dishes at choice, a dessert and a pint of Vin Ordinaire, or Table Wine, which is pleasant enough. The company that frequented this place, were very respectable, & the rooms were elegantly fitted up, the walls being lined with looking glass all round. We afterwards

30. had a bottle of Champagne Rosé, which was very good, & I found would soon make a person tipsy; the price was 4-2 English. About 9 in the evening we went to the well-known Café des Mille Colonnes, which is equally famous for the superb manner in which it is fitted up, as for "La belle Limonadière", or the handsome bar lady, for I must not I suppose call her bar woman, who is dressed so sumptuously, being decorated with jewels even, who is treated so respectfully by all that enter or quit the room, every gentleman touching his hat on passing her, & receiving in return a graceful bend, who cannot take copper money without immediately placing her fingers in rose-water, in short who is the admiration of all Paris, though it must not be concealed that this delectable creature is at least 40 - is very stout, & moreover painted white & red most beautifully. A Frenchman asking me one day how I liked her; I mentioned these trifling deductions from her beauty as reasons for my not thinking much of her: he immediately elevated his shoulders, his eyes, & his eye-brows

to their highest possible attitude, no doubt wondering at my barbarism. — We had here some excellent coffee; in fact the French coffee is very deservedly praised, for the English will bear no comparison with it: it is always very clear, & made so strong, that one half coffee, and one half milk is the general way of taking it, & the milk is always made hot. Monday! Till this day I had formed but a mean opinion of the City of Paris; the Streets I had seen on my entrance and till this morning, being very narrow, with in general a gutter running down the middle of them, and the want of footpaths, was calculated to excite any thing but admiration. This day however I walked to the Boulevards Montmartre & Stallenne, which are fine wide streets, planted on each side with trees, with footpaths & handsome shops and cafés: the latter Boulevard is a fashionable promenade in the evening. I then passed on to the Boulevard des Capucines, & turned up the Rue de la Paix, which is a fine wide street leading to the Place Vendôme. This latter is the only handsome square in Paris; there is no other that an inhabitant of London would

32. I think worthy the name, unless indeed the Place Louis 15th be considered a square, around which there are no Buildings. the Place Vendome however is large & surrounded by fine houses; but its principal ornament is the famous Buonaparte column which stands in the center of it. It is erected where once stood an equestrian statue of Louis 16th destroyed at the commencement of the Revolution. It stands on a base of Marble, & is coated over with Bronze, upon which is a spiral representation in Bas-relief of the different victories gained by the French under Buonaparte, and originally a statue of that great man, crowned the summit of it, but it is now taken down and the white flag flies in its place. There is a gallery near the top, the same as at our Monument, to which there is an internal ascent by a stone staircase. This beautiful column was erected on the model of that of Trajan at Rome. It is 136 ft. high, & 12 ft. in diameter. From here I walked up the Rue Castiglione, crossed the Rue Rivoli, a wide & handsome street with footpaths, planned I believe by Buonaparte, & entered the gardens of the Tuilleries. It was now that I found Paris could boast of

33. beauties that London possessed not, whichever way I turned, my eyes were delighted with fine Terraces, Fountains, Statues, & Orange Trees, with company either walking in the shade of the Trees, or lounging on the seats, placed in all parts of the garden. These are the finest gardens in Paris, are in the very heart of the city, & are always open to the public. They are bounded on one side by the Rue Rivoli, on the other by the Quay & river, at one end by the Palace of the Tuilleries, & at the other by the Place Louis 15th. The statues in them are very numerous, many of them originals by French Sculptors of the age of Louis 14th. Two horses held by slaves, by M^r. Coustou, at the entrance from the Place Louis 15th are considered very fine: others of them are copies from the antique, the originals of which are most of them in the Museum of the Louvre: some few of them are in Bronze; there are at least 4 fountains in these gardens, which are in the middle of large basins of water, and produce an agreeable & refreshing effect. The Palace of the Tuilleries is a large pile of Building, & is greatly superior to any of our London Palaces, but at the same time has

34.} rather a formal & ancient appearance, but is considerably diminished by the miserable 35.
the noble garden in front, with all its atten-
dant beauties, seems to add to the Majesty of
the Chateau. The greater part of it was built
by Catherine de Medecis, & it was completed
in the reigns of Henry 4th & Louis 13th.
I passed under the palace by an Archway which
took me into the court of the Thuilleries, and
I saw before me the beautiful triumphal arch-
of the Carrousel, which when decorated by the
Corinthian Horses, & the Marble bas-reliefs
of which it has been despoiled, must have been
superb; & even now, shorn as it is of its chiefest
ornaments, it is a very handsome arch, & embel-
lished by some well executed statues by French
artists, & altogether forms an appropriate en-
trance to the Court of the Thuilleries. I then
passed under the Palace of the Louvre, and
when in the Place du Louvre, admired the
magnificent front of that Palace, which is
one of the most splendid pieces of architec-
ture I ever saw; Paris owes this in a great
measure to Buonaparte: the effect however

is considerably diminished by the miserable
dirty houses in the front of it. From here I
turned to the right, & soon found myself on
the Quay at the rivers side, & I will just re-
mark here that these Quays, or Streets, rather,
extend on each side the river the whole
length of Paris, a row of Shops fronting the
river, except where public buildings inter-
vene, so that a person may walk by the
river's side the whole length of the City.
What a grand improvement would this be to
London! & it is only impracticable, I think,
on account of the vast expence that would
attend it. I did not expect to find the Seine
a Thames, but after what I had heard from
Frenchmen of their river, I certainly did
think to see a finer one than I found. While
at Paris the impression on my mind was, that
it was very little more than half as wide as
the Thames, but if I now say that it is two-thirds
the width of the latter river, I am sure I shall
mention the extreme width. There are several
baths on the Seine, one of which is particularly
handsome & very large; the whole of the linen
appears to be washed in the river, as there are
places in various parts of it, where the washing

36. Women are continually seen at their labour, the mode adopted for the purpose of washing is rather curious; they shake the linen in the river, & then beat it with a piece of wood, repeating this till it is quite clean, the consequence is, that the linen is of a beautiful colour, but is soon worn out, this was the summer process, what it may be in winter I cannot say: the appearance of the river was not at all improved by a number of large charcoal barges, just in front of the grand gallery of the Louvre. If the Seine at Paris is so much narrower than the Thames at London, it is not to be expected from this circumstance alone, that its Bridges can equal ours; in fact, I can say with truth, that not one Bridge across the Seine equals either in beauty or in architecture, those of Westminster, or Blackfriars, leaving Waterloo Bridge out of the question. — Paris altogether has six Bridges, besides several small ones to the three islands in the River. Passengers pay for going over two of the principal ones; namely the Pont du Jardin du Roi (Bridge of the Kings Garden) & the Pont des Arts, which latter only serves for foot passengers. I will just add what a Frenchman writes of the Pont Neuf. "It was commenced in the reign of Henry 3^d & finished in that of Henry 4th. It is the finest bridge Rue Dauphine with the Rue de la Monnaie. The only remark I shall make on this is, that most likely Monsieur had never been in any Capital but his own, or if he had, no matter; for a Frenchman once told me, before he had seen to Paris, that he thought the Pont des Arts, an Iron Bridge, was as large as that of Southwark. He might as well have said that St. Genevieve was as large as St. Paul's. Walking along the Quay du Louvre, in front of the noble gallery, I again entered the garden of the Thuilleries, & there walked about looking at the Statues &c. — till I was glad to return to my hotel from fatigue & hunger. In the evening I went to the Café de la Paix, in the Palais Royale, which was once used as a Theatre, & which still retains its original form, having a pit, & two tiers of boxes — and are amused by Music, Rope-dancing &c.

38, upon the Stage, while they pay only for what representation of the *Siber* &c. — In the gal^l 39, they choose to order, which by the way, is nearly double what is paid for it at other places, — the company is not the most select.

Tuesday Morning I went to the Royal Museum of the Louvre to see the Statues & Paintings, but it would be useless for me to attempt to describe them; indeed it would be but a catalogue in description; they must be seen to form a just idea of their worth and beauty, & of the magnificent gallery in which the paintings are placed; I had only time to visit this place twice, whereas a week should be spent to view them properly, I mean so as to enjoy their beauties without fatigue; many of my countrymen indeed, can see them in an hour, by walking along the gallery & back again, & they are then enabled to say, they have been to the Louvre, and seen all the paintings, but a lover of the Fine Arts, may here spend day after day with fresh admiration & delight. Among the Statues I was more particularly struck with a *Diana* and *Faun*, an *Hermaprodite*, an allegorical

only open on certain days to the public in general, yet a foreigner may gain admittance at any time by only showing his passport. This is much to the credit of the French Government, & it is greatly to be regretted that our public edifices are not as liberally opened as those of France. I will finish by an extract from the speech of M. Lebreton, perpetual secretary of the Fine Arts at the Royal Institution of France, in which, (though the national vanity shines preeminent) there is a great deal of truth. — "Before victory was conquered by force, she obtained for France a choice of antique Statues, as well as of the finest works in modern paintings: but she took only those which were stipulated for by treaty, & the exquisite groupes of *Monte Cavallo*, as well as many other statues & bas-reliefs of more easy transport, were not brought away. Time was given to the Sovereign to take casts from

40. all the originals which he lost, an honorable and delicate proceeding, which was not followed to us who had given the example of it. A number of respectable men, esteemed for their character & their abilities, were sent from Paris, lest to ravish from Rome the ceded monuments, & of which our possession was not to be doubted, than to watch over their safety & preservation during the displacing of them, & their journey. The success of this astonishing operation, above all in the present day, is scarcely to be conceived. Arrived here in about a year, without accident, through that prodigious, continual & religious watchfulness, all the learned societies, the instructing bodies, with their pupils accompanied the cars, to decorate which, every art had contributed, & presented them to the government, to the constituted authorities, & to the population of the Capital, who were all congregated in the Champ de Mars to receive them, & to celebrate in a manner their apotheosis. What could Athens in the time of Pericles have done more

That which I recall to you, most of you have seen, & all Europe has read the account of this memorable fact. It was showing ourselves worthy to great a gift, & approaching as near as possible to those Gods, who came to honor us with their presence. It will not be said that France was wanting in magnificence in erecting a temple for them, nor in generosity in facilitating the access of foreigners to them, whether friends or enemies: there appeared no longer to exist here, national hatred or rivalry. We perhaps enjoyed the most, as we were the cause of enjoyment to others. But no one will deny that Paris held these chef-d'œuvres as a deposit, for the greater advantage of Europe, & not for the pride of an exclusive proprietorship. It was not Frenchmen who by torchlight tore the sculptures of Phidias from the monuments of Athens, & laid in ruins the porticoes of the violated temples. The Fine Arts, like the more delicate productions of nature, have their zone, their favorite temperature; & since the 16th century they have adopted France as their country, not from the want of another to settle in, nor from the effect

42) of political catastrophes, as it was under the grand reign of Les 10th that they became French. They will not cease to continue so." "Alas!" says another Frenchman, "they no longer exist for us! Fortune, to whom we owed them, not, has ravished them from us... May her favorites recollect her inconstancy! may the people never forget the terrible lessons they have received?" To which an Englishman may say, "Am I not to be deceived?"

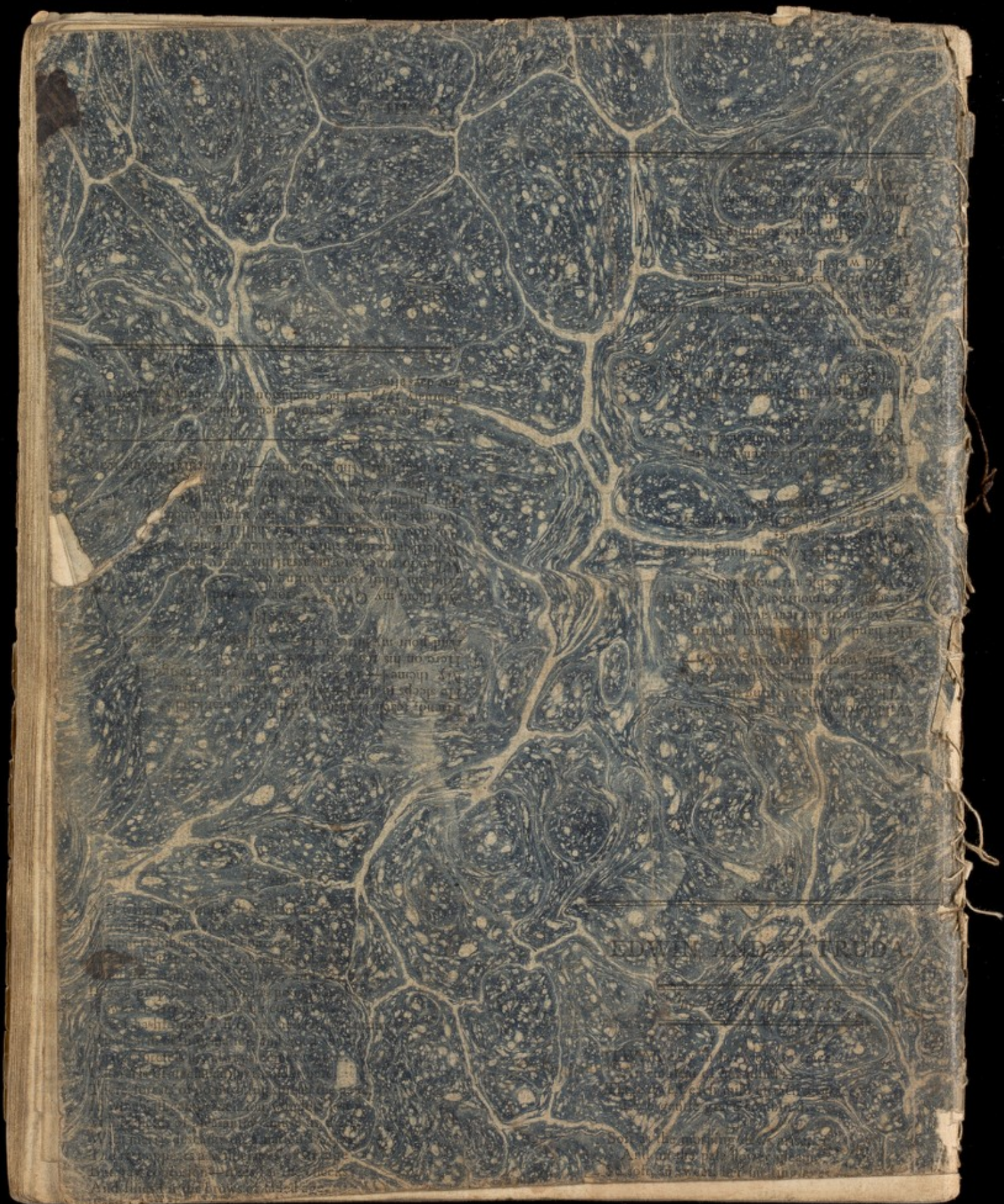
This evening I went to a Gamble-hall of people, but comparatively few of them were allowed for the sake of the revenue to play. I saw one person, an Englishman stake the government: it appeared an extensive concern, there being three rooms very handsomely fitted up, one for a game called Roulette, at which you might stake as little as 1 franc, and two other rooms for Rouge & Noir: one of these was for silver players, the other for Gold, as in the latter Room no one was allowed to stake less than gold, in the silver room you could not stake less than 5 francs each time. It appeared to be conducted with great fairness, but I should think it was in appearance only, or they never could make it answer; as the expenses must be very great. First there is the rent of the premises, then the Tax to the Government, the wages to persons employed, and besides, players are allowed to call for any trifling refreshment without paying for it. When all this is considered, it appears certain that the profitable-keeper must have a very serious advantage over the player, or he would never be able to meet such large expenses. The Rooms were nearly full of people, but comparatively few of them were allowed for the sake of the revenue to play. I saw one person, an Englishman stake more than £20--at one time. I did not play at all, for I had predetermined, (as Sterne says) not to give them a single sou. I was surprised at the great care, or memory evinced by the man who kept the door. Previous to entering the rooms he takes your hat &c. without giving a ticket. In England, & immediately recollects you again your coming out, & presents your hat without difficulty. I rather puzzled him once by going in with one person, & coming out with another, and putting on spectacles when I came out. He stared hard at me, & said, you did not come in with

44.} this gentleman, to which I replied, no, I came
in with a short person. He then reached over
his hat without hesitation.

I this day saw at a Print-shop, some French
engravings of three of Wilkie's pictures - The
Blind Fiddler - Village Politician - & The
Rent Day - though there were some very good
prints at this place, yet two or three of Boydell's
that I saw there, appeared to me to surpass them
all.

I also saw to day Lord Byron's
poems translated into French, as well as the
greater part of Walter Scott's Novels.

I had a very pleasant white Wine to day,
called Chably, for which I paid at the rate of
1/- per bottle. I observed that Peaches
were very plenty, as I bought 4. for as many
sous; the finest however were a trifle dearer.





Si tu n'as vu Paris, tu n'as rien vu.

French Proverb.

*Add dirty Streets to splendid Palaces,
And you have pictured well what Paris is.*

*Continuation of a Journal of an Excursion
to Paris!*

L. 23/3

Wednesday Aug. 4th. I went with a party to the King's Garden, or Garden of Plants, & here, as at the Louvre, a week might be spent in viewing all that is to be seen. There is at this place the finest Museum of Natural History in the world; a Botanical School, a School for Practical Agriculture, a Menagerie of wild and tame animals, a magnificent cabinet of Comparative Anatomy, large Greenhouses, a Laboratory, & fine public walks in an immense garden full of all sorts of plants & flowers, with each a label on it, to describe its name and species. This garden was established in 1636, under the care of Gui de la Brosse, Physician to Louis 13th, for the culture & study of plants useful in medicine: it was at first small, but having been enlarged from time to time, is now a very large piece of ground: its front is close to the river.

It is a building of two stories high, of very plain architecture that contains the Museum of Natural

History, as well as a numerous & valuable library. The Museum is spread over the two stories; the Library occupies a part of the first; a very fine statue of Buffon attracts the attention on entering. I had only time this day to see the Museum, but it would require a considerable volume, to give any thing like an adequate description of it, as well as much more time than I had to bestow upon it. The British Museum when compared with this is insignificant, particularly as concerns the collection of Beasts, Birds, & Insects. I was very much struck with the number & size of some of the Moths, one of them with its wings extended, was full nine inches from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other: I rather prefer the mode of classification adopted at the British Museum for the Minerals, which are in cases on the floors of the rooms, & thus all easily discerned, whereas the French collection is in cases against the walls, so that the minerals on the upper shelves are scarcely seen. — This place is under the direction & superintendence of 13 professors,

who at stated periods give lectures on the different studies which they profess, these are all gratis, & free to foreigners as well as natives. The Museum is open to the public generally, twice a week, but foreigners are admitted at all times on presenting their passports. In consequence of the events of 1814 & 1815, this Museum lost near 10,000 objects in Natural History, reclaimed either by the King of the Netherlands, or by the Sovereign Pontiff. These had previously been taken by the French from the collections of those Sovereigns; they had however duplicates of most of the things they were obliged to return, so that the loss was not greatly felt.

On leaving the Museum, you cross a Court, and enter the garden, & two wide walks front you, leading directly to the Bridge of the King's Garden, formerly the Bridge of Australia. On the right hand is a little wood, on the left, the Botanical School, & the Greenhouses; & in the center, the immense parterre, containing every sort of plant, as also two basins of water, in which

4.) every sort of aquatic plant is cultivated. Farther on, & more to the left, is a circular piece of ground enclosed with wooden paling, in the center of which is a basin of water; here are various curious sorts of Ducks, Swans, Peacocks &c. & several live turtles. All round this part, called the Swiss Valley, are a number of enclosures, in which are a great quantity of animals & birds of the larger kinds, all in the open air, with an extended space to range in, such as Deer, & Goats of various sorts, an Ostrich, Cassowary's &c. &c. — there is also a considerable collection of scarce monkeys, eagles & vultures in pairs &c. in large cages or dens: in a large open space, surrounded with very stout iron bars, & in which is a house for his shelter, is a Bison, an animal like a Bull, but with an immense bushy neck, & very small eyes, which appeared like two stars for brilliancy; he seemed to have prodigious strength, & to be very fierce. In another place, under cover were several small animals of different species; while I was looking about me here, someone cried out, "take care of the

Camels!" on turning round, I saw one of those large animals close to my back. I started forward of course, but the Keeper said they were quite tame; there were two of them, & they had just come from work in some part of the garden. In another part were the Dens of the larger wild animals, such as Lions, Tigers &c. — serving to convince the spectator that man was the master of all, excepting only himself. — In another place, in a sort of pit, about 27 ft. 14 below the Garden, was an old Brown Bear, called Martin, which the Keeper caused to ascend a withered tree placed in the center of the pit, by showing or giving him pieces of bread; he had also a den to retire to when he pleased. In another place is a sort of labyrinth, where you ascend by a spiral walk to a pavilion, which being on a considerable eminence, commands a very fine view of Paris. — Near this is the Theatre of Anatomy, which contains a most superb & curious collection of preparations in wax, not only of the different parts of the human frame, but also of a great quantity of animals &c. — which are

63 all exceedingly natural; there are also a number of skeletons, & among others, that of the famous *Totentot Venus*, in which there is nothing particular, or that would lead any one to suppose it was the skeleton of a person so prodigiously stout as she was.

I have now given the particulars of all I saw at the Garden of Plants, but it was only on a second & third visit that I saw what I have just described, & if I had had time, I should have liked to have gone there two or three times more.

The Afternoon of this day was very wet, & fortunately for us, a *Fiacre* came to the gate just as we wished to depart, of which we availed ourselves to get to our Hotel. The *Fiacre* is the same as our Hackney Coach, & carries four persons. The charge however is different, for you may hire a *Fiacre* at one extremity of Paris, & order it to be driven to the other, & it would be but $\frac{1}{3}$, it would be the same money if you only went 100 yards, or if you stop anywhere to make a purchase or a call, you pay double, as it then becomes two distinct fares. You hire it for a course (as they call it) and whenever you order the *Fiacre* to stop, that is the

end of the course. If it is a long course they always ask for *quelque chose à boire*. I think the Horses of these vehicles are better than those of our Hackney Coaches; at all events, they certainly go faster. Besides the *Fiacre*, there is the *Cabriolet*, which is precisely like an English Chaise, with an head to it, & is drawn by one Horse. This carries one or two persons, & is taken by the course the same as the *Fiacre*, the price is 10^s the course.

I endeavored in the Evening to get into the *Théâtre François*, to see *Tatma*, in the Tragedy of *Marie Stuart*, but the doors being much crowded, and I not understanding at the time the necessary ceremony previous to entering, I was disappointed, which I regretted the more, as he was soon afterwards taken ill, & remained so the whole of the time that I was in France, so that I left the country without seeing him, & without visiting that Theatre.

Thursday Morn^g. I went with a party to the Cathedral of *Notre Dame*, which is an ancient Gothic building, but not half so splendid as that of *Rouen*, either with regard to the Architecture or the stained windows: in the interior we saw some curious carved work, some old paintings,

8.) not very well done, & a very fine tomb of the
last Archbishop of Paris. I enquired after the
robes & regalia of Buonaparte, which I understood
were kept here, but I was told they were removed.
From there we went to the Church of St. Genevieve
otherwise called Le Pantheon Francais. In the
front is a fine portico with columns of the Co-
rinthian order, to which is an ascent by about
20 steps. I was surprised at seeing the words,
"L'unité, L'égalité, La liberté, ou la mort."
still legible over the Porch, though an ineffectual
attempt had been made to efface them. In the
interior of the Church are a number of fine co-
lumns, also of the Corinthian order, but it was
intended I believe for a Temple not a Church, and
it has much more the former appearance than
the latter: beneath, in a variety of separate vaults,
are the tombs of some of the great men of France,
among others those of Voltaire & Rousseau, which
are but of wood. In one part of the vaults there
is a fine echo. It is a very handsome stone building
with a Dome, underneath which are Columns, the
same as at St. Pauls, but it is much inferior in
every respect to that Building, though I suppose

it is unquestionably the finest Church in Paris. I
From there we walked to the Garden of Plants,
where we finished the morning very agreeably, some-
times looking over the Museum, & others amusing them-
selves with looking at the Animals or walking
about the garden. We returned over the Pont
du Jardin du Roi, & made a circuit of a great
part of the City, walking along the Boulevards
St. Antoine, du Temple, St. Martin &c. & passing by
the gates of St. Martin & St. Denis, two different
entrances to Paris, but which are for ornament
not use, as a Coach can go all round them.
They are in fact Triumphant Arches. The latter
is of the oldest date, it was built in the reign of
Louis the 14th. the architect was Blondel. It is 74
feet in width & about 85 feet high. On one side
is a bas-relief of the Passage of the Rhine, on the
other a bas-relief of the taking of Maastricht.
over the former, are the words Ludovico Magno.
In the center is a large Arch-way wide enough for
the passage of carriages, & on each side a small
one for foot passengers. This is a much finer Arch
than that of St. Martin, but not equal to the
Arch of the Carrousel. On the Boulevard St.

St. Martin is a handsome Fountain called the Fountain of Lions: it is in the shape of a Mushroom and a large sheet of water falls into a basin underneath; it has also two well executed Lions at each corner, from whose mouths water is continually spouting into the basin. Eustace & other authors have lamented that London is not ornamented with fountains as Rome, Paris &c. — but they seem to have forgotten that in those City's they are works of necessity, not having the water laid on to each house as it is in London. I believe the inhabitants of Paris would be happy to give up their ornamental fountains, for our useful water pipes. At Rome they are also necessary on account of the refreshing coolness they dispense. They are not half supplied with water in many parts of Paris, and as a proof, men are continually carrying about water to sell. We dined close to the Porte St. Denis, à la carte, as the French call it, that is you are presented with a large Bill, on which are an immense number of dishes named, with their prices annexed, from which you order what you please, & know the expense of it. — After dinner we walked along the boulevard

Statiennae, which is the best, & most fashionable of them all, & got home as soon as possible, very much fatigued. I forgot to observe that as we passed some of the Theatres which were on the Boulevards we remarked that they were opened to the public gratis, it being the eve of the fête of St. Louis. I understood that most of the other Theatres were open in the same manner. Whether the Government or the Proprietors of the Theatres were the sufferers, I did not learn. In the evening I went with my English friends to the Garden of the Thuilleries which was partially illuminated, it being the eve of St. Louis: there were thousands of people there, & the coup d'œil was beautiful: many persons who had chairs to let, taking advantage of the numbers of people, demanded 5^s for the use of one, but as the garden thinned, they gradually fell, till they let for a penny each. In all directions you hear cries of "Vive vent des chaises!" "Voulez des chaises!" "Reposer vous Monsieur Madame!" Friday Morn^g, it was discovered that two Lady's who had been with us the preceding evening in

13. } the garden of the Thuilleries had had their
gowns cut, I presume because they were English.
I employed the whole of this morning in writing
as I was much fatigued the day before.
In the afternoon I went with a party through
the Garden of the Thuilleries, & across the Place
Louis 15th to the Champs Elysées, which appeared
something like an English Fair: there was a great
variety of amusements, among others Rope dancers,
climbing greasy poles for a prize; a play performed
publicly, with a number of bands of music dis-
persed in various parts, around which were
groups of the lower orders dancing quadrilles,
among whom were many soldiers, some of whom
danced exceedingly well. There were besides in
various places casks of wine, of which any one
might drink free; all this was at the expence of
the King, it being the fête of St. Louis. This was the
first time I saw a Frenchman intoxicated. I now
saw one quite senseless from drinking, & many others
resting about & singing, which led me to think,
that it was perhaps from the poverty of the lower
orders, & not from their natural disposition, that
they were more sober than the same class in

England. I must add however, that I have 13.
seen poor French people at the cabarets, instead
of drinking brandy, which is cheaper in France
than Gin is in England, drink their common
Red Wine, the inferior sort of which is but
sorry stuff, & by no means likely to intoxicate
any one. At dusk, the whole of the Champs
Elysées, as well as the Garden of the Thuilleries, with
a few public buildings were illuminated, but not
with various coloured lamps as in England,
(except one or two of the buildings which were
decorated with handsome stars) but merely
oil, in a sort of earthenware saucer without
glass, placed on wooden frames erected for
the purpose, of this shape.  Someone of our
party remarked with what celerity they were
lighted to which another replied, it was no
wonder, it was such light work. These lamps
however had a good effect, & the garden of the
Thuilleries in particular was in many parts
very brilliantly illuminated, & filled as it was
by thousands of people, ever gay, but now livelier
than usual, with the chaster light of the moon
piercing through those parts that were not illu-

14.} mined by the lamps; the several fountains throwing up their waters, which shone like silver from the effect of the surrounding light; the beautiful statues dispersed every where, altogether formed a scene like enchantment. I left my party seated in the garden, & wandered over the Pont du Roi, going along the Quai on the opposite side, & recrossing the river by the Pont Neuf, on which latter bridge, the beautiful bronze equestrian statue of Henry the 4th which stands there was illuminated, but I saw no gleams of light from any private house. I returned to the Quai of the Garden of the Tuilleries about 1/2 past 9, which was then full of people, who were waiting to see the fire-works, which were very soon let off from the Pont Louis 16th. They only lasted about 5 minutes, but they were the most superb I ever saw: so many were let off at once, that the whole atmosphere appeared to tremble, & the dense clouds of smoke that arose from them, and which seemed full of fire, had a very fine effect, as it was a most lovely moonlight night

and they could be seen floating along for a great distance, I could not help noticing the great number of soldiers that were dispersed in every part but throughout the Garden of the Tuilleries in particular. I had heard so much of this fête previous to its taking place, & my expectations were so raised, that although I was well enough pleased, yet it fell short of what I had anticipated. The people began to disperse very soon after the fire-works had been discharged, & we got home at an early hour.

Saturday—I spent the whole of the morning at the Louvre, amongst the paintings. I almost preferred the Flemish, to the Italian schools. The Landscapes of Claude appear like nature itself.

In the evening I went to the Café de la Régence which is much frequented every night by amateurs of the skillful & difficult game of Chess. I played a game with one who was certainly a first rate player, he beat me tolerably easy. I went to the same place twice afterwards, & always saw the same set of gentlemen, many of them were decorated with an order, either of St. Louis, or of the Legion of Honor. I played a second game of Chess, with a different

16. person, who gave me a Knight, & still I was beat, though it took him two hours to do it, but I felt that I could not play so well as usual, surrounded as I was by a number of gentlemen, nearly all probably fine players, & more than ordinarily interested by the play of an Englishman. I left a new silk Umbrella in the Coffee Room, which I did not remember till I was just stepping into bed, & I gave it up for lost, as the room was full of people, besides two or three waiters. I called however the first thing in the morning, & as soon as I mentioned it, was agreeably surprised to hear the waiter answer—*"Ah oui, Monsieur, Je vous le rendrai—le voilà Mons^{rs}"* I gave him a trifle, & we were mutually pleased. I cannot let this pass without observing, that however a Frenchman will cheat you in the price of things, and I believe few will hesitate at this, it is an excellent trait in his character, that you may leave any thing about, I believe your purse even, & it will be perfectly safe. If this waiter had said, "We have not seen the Umbrella Sir, there were 50 persons in the Coffee Room," I could not have said a word. It may be attributed perhaps to the excellency of their police.

Sunday. Morn^g. I went with a party to see the House of Peers, or Palace of Luxembourg. It was built by the directions of Mary of Medici, by Jacques Desbrosses, her Architect, after the plan of the Palace Pitti at Florence, where that Princess had passed part of her youth. The Architecture of this Palace is rather heavy; the building seems too much of a heap, too square, if I may so speak. The Court immediately on entering has however a very grand and imposing effect. This Palace was given by Louis 14th to Monsieur. In the first years of the Revolution it was used as a prison. The Directory and the Senate afterwards held their sittings here. It is now reserved for the deliberations of the Peers of France. One of the ascents to the Chamber of Peers is by a noble stone stair case, on each side of which are niches containing the statues of several French Generals killed in battle. The ceiling of this stair case is richly painted, as are most of the ceilings in the different apartments. The House of Peers is very elegant, it is a circular chamber with chairs for the Peers, & a high seat in front of & overlooking the whole for the president. Another room adjoins this called the Hall of the Throne, with some fine

18.3 paintings in it, in which is a very handsome chair for the King when he comes to the House: but every room is far surpassed by that called the Chamber of Mary of Medecis, which though not a large one, is one of the most magnificent rooms I was ever in. On the ceiling is a very fine painting, I believe by Rubens, of Mary de Medecis with attendants. Gilding & Plate glass are here in profusion. It is now used as a sort of withdrawing room for the Peers. I observed that the Bees (the emblem of Buonaparte) were every where most carefully removed, & the Lily substituted in their place. Before the return of Louis, there was a superb collection of paintings at this Palace, comprising the chefs-d'œuvres of Rubens, Lessueur, & Vernet, the two latter French artists, which were afterwards taken to the Louvre, to fill up the chasms occasioned by those restitutions to the Allies, which however just, I cannot but regret, as from the liberality with which every public building is opened for the inspection of Foreigners, as well as from the central and convenient situation of Paris, it deserved to be the depot of the Fine Arts of Europe. The Gallery is

now filled with the productions of living French Artists, & if these paintings are not so numerous or so excellent as those in the gallery of the Louvre, they are at least quite as interesting. Among them are some very fine pictures by David, & an exceedingly good one by Thierry, The Judgment of Brutus. The Gardens to this Palace are extensive, & very handsome, & ornamented with some fine statues, and a noble fountain: although not on so grand a scale as those of the Tuilleries, they are perhaps equally pleasant, & are laid out in the same old fashioned style. a fine avenue of great length leads from the garden to the Boulevards, & is terminated by the Observatory a considerable building. This Avenue has been formed since the Revolution. Numbers of children were amusing themselves in the shaded parts of the garden, at a variety of games, as Sunday in France appears to be the day set apart for amusement & recreation. In more places than one I saw people sitting outside their doors on the Sunday afternoon playing at Dominoes. The public Gardens, the Coffee Houses, & the Theatres are more frequented on that day than on any other. In the evening of this day we amused ourselves for an hour

20, by promenading about the garden of the Palais Royale.

Monday morning walking down the Rue St. Honoré, I wandered into the Church of St. Rogee, where I saw the Prefect of Paris, whose son was married, which ceremony I witnessed; in the middle of it, a lady one of the party, handed by a gentleman, and attended by one of the people belonging to the Church, went round among the spectators begging for the poor. There was after this a grand service performed in honor of St. Louis, at which many of the Knights of that order attended; the pillars of the nave of the Church were hung with Gobelin Tapestry, & the ground covered with a beautiful Carpet, and benches were placed for the convenience of the Knights covered with crimson velvet: the service was performed by the Archbishop of Paris. A short time before the commencement of the ceremony, I was surprised at seeing a company of Soldiers march in with a Drummer at their head, who kept drumming the whole length of the Church; they went through some evolutions, & at last finished by grounding arms, which made the place echo again. — This Church, as well as every other that I have been in in France, has a number of small Chapels dedicated to different

Saints, & embellished with paintings, in many of which were offerings of flowers or a candle burning. The greatest beauty in this Church is a Cross at the farthest end of it, on which is our Saviour, placed in such a manner that the light from above falls upon it in a most beautiful way; underneath is stone work cut like rocks, & a variety of sculpture, among which is a fine group of men carrying our Saviour to the tomb. I observed that whoever passed by this crucifix, turned round & bowed themselves. In the evening I went to the Theatre of Novelties, belonging to Mons^r Comte, physician to the King. It is but a miserable house. I saw among other things a child without hands perform several curious things with its feet, such as cutting out a watch paper, putting a tumbler to his mouth, & drinking out of it, taking off & putting on his hat &c. — but the most wonderful thing was, a man or a monster rather, named Jacques de Falaises, who swallowed two large stones, a live bird, a small cray fish, a hen's egg whole, and a live eel about 13 inches long. — Instead of the usual appendage to a London Theatre of Apples & Oranges, I was surprised to see a man come in & offer Fans for sale at 5 sous each, & I was as much surprised at seeing the great number he sold of them.

22 Tuesday Morning I went with a party to see the Chamber of Deputies &c. — we crossed the Place Louis the 15th late Place de la Concorde. This is one of the finest parts of Paris, on account of the grandeur of the surrounding objects. If you stand in the center of it, & look one way, you see the Garden and Palace of the Tuilleries; opposite to that are the Elysian Fields, bounded by the Triumphant Arch de l'Etoile. On the third side are some very fine Public Buildings, & the view is stopped by the Church of La Madeleine; & on the opposite side to this, over the Bridge of Louis the 16th you see the Palace of Bourbon, now the Chamber of Deputies. Previous to the Revolution this Square was ornamented by a fine Equestrian Statue of Louis the 15th, which was destroyed at that fatal period, & a plaster statue of Liberty was erected in its stead, at the foot of which the unfortunate Louis the 16th lost his life. — The Palace of Bourbon was built in 1722. It has two very noble fronts; that opposite the Place Louis the 15th is one of the finest in Paris. You ascend by a grand flight of steps to a beautiful Portico with 12 Columns of the Corinthian order, at the foot of which are statues, of Pully,

Colbert, l'Hopital, & Daguesseau, as well as those of Minerva, & Justice. During the Revolution the council of Five Hundred, & the Legislative Body held their sittings in this Building. It is now occupied by the Prince of Conde, & is also the Chamber of Deputies. On entering the Palace, you step into the Hall of Conferences, in which are some very fine paintings, one of them particularly so, the subject of which is Hercules finding the dead body of Leander, painted by David. To the right of this Hall is a superb room in which is a chair of state for the King when he comes to the Chamber of Deputies. There are also two good paintings, one of the King, & the other of the Duchess of Angouleme; originally there was a very fine painting of Buonaparte by David, which was carried away by the King of Prussia: there were also two excellent paintings on different compartments of the ceiling, which could not be taken down, & were therefore destroyed because their subject was about Buonaparte; one of them was the meeting of the Emperors. Passing through the center of the Hall of Conferences, you come to the Chamber of Deputies itself. It is a circular room of large dimensions: in one part, elevated above all the

24. rest, is the seat of the President (Mons. Staver) on each side of which are the seats of the Secretaries, & in the front of it, but lower than the seat of the President, & yet higher than the rest of the Chamber is the Tribune, for those members who speak: all over the body of the chamber, are the benches for the members, those of the ministers being in front, and distinguished from the others by a different coloured lining; behind these benches is a gallery with seats for persons admitted to hear the debates with tickets, & above this is a gallery for the admission of the public generally, in the front of which is a handsome row of light Ionic Columns. To the right of the President's chair, in recesses are busts of Polon, Lycurgus, & Demosthenes, on the left, Cato, Brutus & Cicero. The English House of Commons will certainly not bear the least comparison with this. From the Chamber of Deputies we walked on to the Hotel des Invalides, a building for the reception of aged or wounded soldiers. It was built by Louis the 14th, of whom there is an equestrian statue in bas relief over the portal: it is a large old-fashioned building, surrounded by boulevards & avenues, with a very large piece of ground in front plea-

25. sanly shaded by trees. It has a small ditch round it, & a few cannon planted, more of course for ornament than use; but the principal beauty is its Dome, which is in the rear of the building, & is entirely gilt on the external part; it has a very splendid appearance, especially when the sun shines upon it, though many condemn it as a bad taste: the interior of this hall is most superbly painted, & the stone work being all white & clean, looks much better than any of the buildings I have seen in England. A Frenchman speaking of this place, very truly says. "On leaving the Hotel des Invalides, the wise man, & the philanthropist, may join with the friend to the arts, & of his country in exclaiming, Immortal Glory to the grand age of Louis the 14th." From here we proceeded to the Military School, which is not far from the Hotel des Invalides, & is like that quite detached from any other building. It was founded by Louis the 15th in 1751, for the purpose of educating young gentlemen without fortune for the Military profession, but at present I believe it is chiefly used as a barrack for a part of the Royal Guard. It is a fine large building, but has nothing particular in its architecture, & we were

not permitted to enter the internal part of it. In the front of it is the famous Champ de Mars, and at the end of that, & exactly in front of the Ecole Militaire, is the Bridge of the Military School, formerly the Bridge of Sena, commenced by Buonaparte in 1806. I was rather disappointed in the Champ de Mars, as it was by no means so large as I expected to find it. We there saw a battalion of Swiss Guards performing their evolutions, which they did well enough, but certainly not so well as I have seen the English Guards do theirs. We returned by the Pont de l'Ecole Militaire, one of the finest bridges over the Seine, which old Blucher had mined, & would have blown up, but for the interference of the Duke of Wellington. On our return along the Quai de Billy, we saw written up Royal Manufactory of Carpets, & went in to see the process of manufacturing them. It is called La Savonnerie, from its having been originally a soap manufactory, but that not answering, it was taken by Mary of Medeis, who had it converted into what it now is, A Manufactory of Carpets in imitation of those of Persia.

We have nothing at all to compare with these Carpets, either for beauty of execution, or for the brilliance and delicate shading of the colours. They are nearly of the same texture as the Axminster Carpets of England. They are not made for sale, but merely for the Royal Palaces, & to make presents to foreign Potentates. Some of them about 2-6 square, I understood took about 2 months to make, & others 30 to 40 square, take six men (who are paid according to the work they do) 2 1/2 or 3 years to complete; the cost of such a Carpet is about 2000 guineas; they are not woven but made in a frame. This place is not generally seen I believe by the visitors of Paris, but I can promise them, that it will well pay for the trouble of walking to the Quai de Billy; indeed the party who were with me, thought it more interesting than the exhibition of the famous Gobelin Tapestry, which we afterwards saw. — We got home very much fatigued, to a late dinner, & were not inclined for much exertion afterwards.

Wednesday morn^g. I went to the Royal Library in the Rue de Richelieu, where there is a vast collection of books & manuscripts: of the former they reckon 400,000 volumes, & of the latter about 80,000. This Library is said to have been founded

28. originally by King John, who possessed about 20 volumes, & it increased gradually but rather slowly, till 1556, when an order was made by government that a copy of every work that was published should be deposited in this building, but it was not till the reign of Louis the 14th that it acquired its present magnificence. Among the manuscripts are "The Letters of Henry the 4th to Gabrielle d'Estrees," "Telemachus, as written by Fenelon," "The Memoirs of Louis the 14th written by himself," as well as Letters of most of the celebrated French authors: the writing was generally very bad, particularly that of Louis the 14th: the best hand writing was that of Scarron. I was also struck with the beauty of an illuminated Testament, & admired some manuscripts of various Eastern nations &c. &c. There are also 5000 volumes of Engravings in this Library; the formation of this valuable collection of prints, the French owe to Louis the 14th, who was the founder of it. There is also a great number of coins and medals. I also saw an immense pair of Globes, 436. in circumference made in the time of Louis the 14th: the ceiling of the apartment is made so as to admit them into the room above. There is likewise a fine

large Planetarium, a piece of mechanism, which (29) can be set in motion, so that each planet revolves round the sun the same as those of nature. I saw also a representation of the desert in which are some of the Pyramids, of course in miniature, but reduced to a regular scale of feet, so that you see the proportion which they bear in size to each other. There is likewise a fine ~~erect~~^{erection} in Bronze, called "The French Parnassus", on which are representations of the most famed French Authors, placed in various degrees of height, according to their respective merits. The studious or the curious may come to this noble library every day if they please, & may sit down and call for any book they wish for, & read or make extracts till the closing of the gates in the afternoon; it is open alike to the foreigners & to the Parisian, except that in some respects the former has greater privileges than the latter. It is shut about 6 weeks in the year, but at all other times the utmost liberality is shown to those who wish either to study, or to amuse themselves. It is much to be regretted I think that there should be so much difficulty in gaining access to the library of the British Museum. It is contended that the Books would be spoiled, torn &c, but I cannot see why they should be more so here than at Paris; besides the general class of readers would not use

30. the most scarce & curious, consequently the most valuable books, but those which might easily be replaced in case of accident. I have mentioned it before, and it cannot be too often repeated, that the French are much more liberal than the English in opening their public buildings for the inspections of all, foreigners as well as natives: persons may study & take copies of the Sculpture or of the paintings in the galleries of the Louvre, as they may study & make extracts from the Royal Library. It ought to be the same in England.

After looking over the Royal Library, a large party of us hired two Fiakers to take us to the Barriere d'Enfer, (Gate of Hell) in order to go to the Catacombs. On being put down at this outlet from Paris, we had to walk some little distance before we arrived at the object of our journey, to which we were attended by a man, who very officiously thrust himself upon us to show us the way; as we went along, he took us into a small shop to buy wax tapers, as it was necessary for every person to be provided with one, for these they charged 5 sous each. We supposed that our officious companion was a guide to show us into the Catacombs, but on arriving at the gate of entrance he intimated to us that his business was at an end, but he hoped for something from the liberality of Messieurs les Anglois for his trouble. It is scarcely

worth mentioning, but it is curious to observe their contrivances to obtain money. We gave him something, but let him know that we thought his services not worth a sou, as the road was straight before us, & could not possibly be mistaken. I will here mention another instance I met with of the same kind. One morning that I was in the Church of St. Rogee with 2 English Ladies, I was accosted by one of these gentry who asked me in tolerable good English, if we were not from England; on our replying in the affirmative, he said he had had the honor of being in that country some years as a prisoner of war: he then mentioned several places in Paris, & asked us if we had seen them, & at length found out some that we had not. I saw plain enough that he wanted a job, but it was in vain that I attempted to shake him off; nothing would do but he must obtain me tickets to see the Royal Manufactory of Pier Glaucous. I told him repeatedly that I would not trouble him; but that was quite useless; it was a pleasure & an honor to do anything for the English. I at length consented, merely to get rid of him, as he said the Office for obtaining the Tickets was close by his place of residence, and gave him a franc, which he said must be paid to obtain them, & the address to my Hotel to which he might bring them. When I had given him the franc I hoped

32. that I had rid myself of him, & expected that I should never see him again, but he wished to make a better thing of me, therefore called the next morning much better dressed than I had seen him before. I had in the mean time learnt that no tickets were necessary to see the Glasses Manufactory, & when I saw the fellow enter my Apartment, I was quite vexed at his impudence, as I doubted not that he knew this well enough. After he had informed me of what I already knew, he hoped to be able to be of service to us in other ways, & when I told him decidedly that I did not want him, he asked me to requite him for the trouble he had already had. I told him he could have had but little trouble, & that he had entered into without any wish on my part, but however he had got a franc of mine, which he might keep. I could not forbear accompanying this with a sneer. He said it was by no means an adequate payment, & I answered that I had seen from the first that he wanted to make a good thing of me, & was now vexed at being disappointed, but he might assure himself that he would see no more of my money. He at last got so very impertinent, that I was obliged to tell him, that if he did not walk out of the door as quick as he could, I should be under the necessity of lending him a

53. helping hand. There is but one way of dealing with these vermin, who swarm in all parts, & that is to affront them in the first instance, & you may then get rid of them. But to return to the Catacombs. After waiting some time on the outside for a party coming out, who were then in the interior, we entered with about a dozen other persons, through a gate into a court yard, & having lighted our lamps, we were admitted by a door which opened upon a flight of dark narrow steps, 44 in number, which led down to a gallery about 8 feet in height, & 6 in width. We here waited for the guide, upon whose arrival we proceeded along the vault, following a black mark which was made on the roof, which prevented the possibility of straying into any of the numerous galleries which branched off in various directions; After traversing this passage for some time, we arrived at those chambers in which are deposited the bones from all the burial places round about Paris; (as no one is allowed to be buried in the City itself, a very proper regulation I think.) On entering these vaults, the guide called out, "Silence, Gentlemen if you please, & respect for the dead." The bones have a singular & rather awful appearance, & of course produce rather serious reflections. They are arranged with the greatest regularity & exactitude. As you walk along you have a wall of bones on each side of you, about six

34 feet in height, at the top, in the middle, & at the bottom is a row of skulls, & the intermediate spaces are filled with the bones of the leg, thigh, & arm, while the smaller bones are thrown behind. In a separate chamber are a number of bones which were broken while their owners lived. In many parts are inscriptions suitable to the place, some by Jean Jacques Rousseau, & one by the English Hervey &c:—there are also a number of crucifixes, & an altar at which mass is said on particular days. These vaults were excavated for the purpose of obtaining the stone with which a great part of the City of Paris is built; they are about 60 or 70 feet under ground, & the guide told us there were the bones of 3,200,000 persons there. We returned by a different route to the one we first entered, but which brought us again to the foot of those steps by which we descended, having ascended which, we once more entered the world of the living. I should have liked my visit to the Catacombs better, had there been fewer persons with me, for the number of people destroyed in a great measure those solemn feelings which I should have enjoyed. I would recommend every visitor of Paris to see this place, but I think few persons would go to it a second time. It is said that a person once wandered into one of the branches of

these subterraneous caverns, & was lost, & starved to death in the most horrible manner; be that as it may. the guide always counts the number of those who descend and recounts them on their return. — Most of us were glad of a small glass of Brandy when we got out, as the vaults were rather damp & cold. On our return from the Catacombs we walked up the avenue and through the gardens of the Luxembourg, & passed by the Church of St. Sulpice, which we entered. This is one of the finest Churches in Paris. The exterior is superb. in front a fine flight of stone steps leads up to a noble Portico of the Doric order, at each end of which, but on the main building rises a fine tower, the lower part of which is surrounded by columns of the Corinthian order, & the upper part by others of the Composite. The whole front of this Church has a very imposing effect, and I think may be ranked with the best pieces of Architecture in Paris. The interior is also very good. The nave is separated from the aisles by buttresses which are ornamented with Pilasters of the Corinthian order. It has the largest Organ I ever saw, but the pipes of it are white, & indeed those of all the Organs I saw while in France were the same, which seemed to give them a mean appearance to a person in the habit of seeing them gilt. The Altar is very beautiful from the well managed effect of the light being thrown

36. upon a figure of the Virgin & Child. The Church was profusely decorated with flowers, it being a Saint's day the patron of gardens. While an old woman was explaining this to me, a man came up & said it was very indecent to be talking in a Church in that manner. The old woman shuffled off very hastily, but afterwards whispered me that he only wanted for a franc put in his hand. We got home much fatigued to a late dinner, & I spent the evening in the Palais Royale and its vicinity.

Thursday Morn^g. I went with a party to see the Model of an Elephant intended to be built for a Fountain on the spot where once stood the Bastille. Of the work nothing is done but the pedestal on which it is, or rather was to stand, & the basins which were to receive the water. It is now, like many other projected works of Buonaparte, put off sine die. The Elephant was to have been of bronze, & had it been carried into execution, would have been one of the most stupendous works ever seen. The model I saw was in plaster, the same size as the real figure was to have been, namely, the Elephant 40 ft. high, & a tower on its back, 14 ft. total height 54 feet. The trunk was twisted under, & from the end of it was to proceed two streams of water. There was to have been a staircase up

37. one of the front legs, to lead to the Castle on its back, from which there would have been a very fine view of Paris. From here we walked up the Faubourg St. Antoine to see the Royal Manufactory of Pier Glasses. It is the principal of the kind in France, & was established in the reign of Louis the 14th. The glasses are brought from Picardy in a rough state, & are here polished & quick-silvered; this latter is a very curious process, but I am incapable of giving such a description of it as would be satisfactory. I was astonished at the immense weight of the quick-silver, a small wooden bowl filled with it, was more than I could lift with one hand, though I put as much strength as possible to it, & the man put an iron ball of 8 lb weight into it & it floated. — In one apartment was an immense stock of finished glasses of all sizes for sale. The largest was 10 ft. high, by 6 ft. wide, the price of which was 12,139 francs = £505-15-10. There are 1600 persons employed at this Manufactory. After leaving here we went through the Barriere de Vincennes, & walked by the external wall of Paris for about 3/4 of a mile to the Cemetery of Mont Louis, better known by the name of Pere Lachaise. There are four principal places for the reception of the Parisians when they "cease from their labors": they are those of Montmartre, Sainte Catherine, Mont Parnasse and Mont Louis, but the last named is the chief on account

38) of its extent, its picturesque site, & its beautiful monuments. It is on the spot on which stood the house of p^{re}re Lachaise, the celebrated confessor of Louis the 16th, and is now called after his name. The only objection I have to this burial place is, that it is so delightfully situated that it ought to be inhabited by the living instead of the dead. It is impossible to conceive a more beautiful spot. It is on an eminence, & from the top of it is the finest panoramic view I ever saw. You see all round, without any other hill stopping any part of the prospect. Three parts of the view comprises Paris, the whole of which is seen to the best effect; on the other quarter is the Castle & Town of Vincennes, with a fine country right & left of it. There is scarcely a tomb on this enchanting spot but what is decorated with wreaths of unfading flowers, and various sorts of shrubs grow in all directions. Among the tombs there is the famous one of Abelard and Heloise, but it has nothing very remarkable about it. The finest Monument is that to the memory of Marshal Massena; it is of Marble about 20 ft. high, without any inscription whatever, on one side is a silhouette portrait of the Marshal, & on the opposite side, his arms with the Baton ^{for} someone had written upon it with a pencil, "Le Maréchal Massena, l'enfant chéri de la victoire". Marshal Massena, the favorite child of victory? There is also the tomb of Lallemand, who was shot on the return of the Bourbons, & I was told, that there had been one to the memory of Marshal Ney, but that it had been destroyed by orders of Government, because it attracted so much attention; here are also the tombs of Corneille, La Fontaine &c. This piece of ground is very large, & rising in little hills in various directions, & flowers growing everywhere give it a most beautiful & romantic appearance. I was sorry that we could not stop longer, but we had made a long morning of it, & were at last driven away by hunger. I fully intended visiting it again, but was disappointed. I would advise everyone going to Paris to see this place; it will pay them well for the trouble of going to it. — We were very glad to go into a Restaurateurs which is at the entrance gate of the burying ground, & my eyes were delighted at seeing a hot joint of meat, (I think the only joint I saw which in France) & this, with an excellent salad, made us a famous dinner, as we were quite in the humour for a cut & come again meal. On our return home, we passed by some public gardens called La Chauxmière, & I went in with the young Englishman who fastened himself upon me at my first arrival, paying a franc each for admission,

40 and this was the only place at which he appeared to be really pleased; here was a Russian Mountain, that is, an inclined plane of a very steep descent for about 250 yards, & then an ascent of about 50 yards: a small chariot is sent down this declivity with a person in it, & the velocity with which it descends propels it up the ascent, at the top of which it comes to a flat surface, & is stopped by a man stationed there for the purpose: this machine is so wide that 5 chariots can descend at the same time, & when 3 or 4 are going down at once, it looks very much like a race. At the moment we arrived, 3 chariots were descending abreast, & when my companion had looked at them a moment, he exclaimed, "Oh Lord, there's a race, this is the best fun I've seen in France." He soon determined to descend, & we went down together, telling the man to start us at once, as it was to be a race; the rapidity with which we descended added to a little agitation, something like fear, almost took my breath away, but when I was half way down the course, all idea of danger vanished, and my breath returned: when within about 20 yards of the end, my car was a trifle behind his, owing to his being lighter than me; I therefore took hold of his car behind, & unperceived gave it a slight pull, which at the same time that it kept him back, drove me forward, & I came in about 2 yards before him; he was quite astonished at my starting on & gaining the race so suddenly, & determined on another trial; I then pulled the machine rather too violently, & he found me out: the charge was 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ s each for every descent. The French appeared very fond of this amusement, & it was as common for females to go down, as for gentlemen; it certainly causes a pleasurable feeling, a sort of excitation of the spirits, which it is difficult to describe. The gardens were not well illuminated, but there was a band, and many of the French danced quadrilles & waltzes very excellently. There was also the best conjuror I ever saw. There were to have been fire-works, but they did not let them off, because there were not many people in the gardens. We left the place about 10 O'clock, & got home very much fatigued.

Friday I felt the effects of my fatigue the day before so much, that I only walked about some of the streets which I had not before seen. In the evening a large party of us after dining in the Palais Royal, went from the Restaurateurs to some rooms above, to see the people playing at Billiards, & some of us took the cues in hand, & began to knock the balls about.

42. One of our party who was quite unused to the game he was very still however till he heard that the gendarmes⁽⁴²⁾ unfortunately struck the cloth with the end of the cue, & tore it very badly; the question then was, what arms in which he had the Rheumatism, & asked me with was to be paid for the damage done: the owner of the a long face why the gendarmes were coming, & if they tables said he could not tell till he had it mended, were going to send us to prison: I said I could not and in the mean time expected that we should have a tell, but added looking at his Rheumatic arm, "if they deposit of 30 francs - £1-5-0 English. This we contended to, I hope it will not be damp." Oh Lord, said he, was quite unnecessary & unconscionable, as we thought I don't see why I should be sent to prison for another it could not possibly cost more than 10 francs; we however person's offence: presently afterwards I heard his ever said we would have 15 with him: the Frenchman's voice from a room underneath, requesting a light, and would hear of nothing of the kind, & would not receive found that he had crept down a back staircase, a sous less than the 30 francs, which we as decidedly thinking to get out, but the doors were bolted, & the refused to give; we saw clearly the fellow wanted to room was in darkness, so that he could neither see make a good job of it, & we would not submit to, cape, nor find his way back, and when he did return, be imposed upon: a long contention ensued, & we at the had the satisfaction of seeing two gendarmes length said, if he did not choose to take the 15 francs, with their swords & muskets. - We found these men we should go; this he absolutely refused to allow till very civil, but they took the part of their countrymen he was satisfied, & placed himself in the doorway, and told us we must leave the 30 francs in the hands of the Billiardier, taking his receipt & engaging sending off someone at the same time for the gendarmes. The young man was with us, who was with ment to return what money was over & above the me the night before at the gardens of La Chaumiere, cost for the repairs of the Billiard Table, and a and not understanding French, all he knew of reasonable allowance for his loss of the use of it what was passing was, that we were at high words, while repairing, or otherwise, go with them to the Commissary of Police: we were so convinced that if

44) we once gave the money, we should never see any of it again, that we agreed to the latter alternative, but finding it was raining very hard, & that the commissary lived some distance off, we were obliged to leave the money. Our opinion of this fellow proved to be correct, for on going 2 or 3 days afterwards with my friend who had torn the cloth for the balance of the money, in lieu of receiving any, he was presented with a bill for repairs & loss of time of 45 francs - L. 1. 17. 6. - We called him a cheat & a scoundrel & went away, of course not paying him anything in addition, neither did he seem to desire it, his only object being to keep what he had already got. The cloth was fine drawn so well, that no one would have discovered the rent, had it not been pointed out to them, & I have no doubt that he had it repaired for 5 francs at the utmost. I am sorry to have to add that the gentleman thus imposed upon, suffered it without applying to the police for redress. It was not the object of the money, though galling enough to pay so much for such a trifle, but after what had passed, I would not have been so duped if possible to have avoided it. —





the King of Prussia asked in any time (the history of England)
since my list.

but now it Mr. Roydon will make ^{to} be printed his
wrote to Paris. I will ask the three translators of
a gentleman who has resided ^{about} one month at Paris.

because I shall forget the name of him.

Why now the people of England (some of which very well)
thought up on ^{intensity} of that town (Paris).

I ask now by any ^{foreigner} from come in England
now. they like better bad than good
they have the same prejudice as I do.

Read & V.
interesting
mks

Continuation of a Journal of an Excursion to Paris. L 82/4

Saturday Sept. 2. The Morn^g was rainy & I employed the greater part of it in writing. I however walked about some of the streets, & saw the Corn & Flour Hall, which is the most remarkable of any of the Halls in Paris. It is a large round building with four doors, which not only serve for ingress & egress, but to give air to the large quantity of corn & flour contained in it. It was constructed in the year 1762. and had a large dome originally built with fir; but that being destroyed by fire, it was reconstructed of wrought iron, & is admirable for its lightness, elegance & size, being 120 feet in diameter. This evening I went to the Theatre of the Vaudeville, Rue de Chartres, with my little protégée, who was heartily tired before it was half over, & went out. I wished to detain him, but he protested he should faint if I did not ask them to make way for him. This is one of the Minor Theatres, & is nearly the size of our English Opera House, but not a quarter so handsome. I saw three Operatic pieces, each of 1 Act. & with only 1 Scene each; the performance was well enough, & nothing

23 to distinguish it particularly from that of England. No Females are admitted into the pit of the French Theatres, so that if you have a Lady with you, you are under the necessity of going into the Boxes, whether you wish it or not. Why this is done I cannot tell, but it has a strange appearance to an Englishman, & the separation of the men from the fair sex by Frenchmen is unaccountable.

I this day had a Bottle of Burgundy, for which I was charged 2^{fr} the best. I do not like it better than Port, & not near so well as Champagne.

Sunday Morn^g. A Party of us took a Fiacre for the day to go to Versailles, for which we paid 25 francs. Versailles is about 12 miles from Paris, and is the chief Town of the Department of the Seine and Oise: it contains about 28,000 inhabitants.

Our object in going was to see its Palace, its Gardens, Fountains &c. but how shall I describe their beauties: with what can I compare them?

On our arrival we had an early dinner à la carte and then walked across a large court into the Palace, the interior of which looked rather neglected, & was quite unfurnished, but many of the walls and ceilings were very finely painted: the principal attraction however was the grand gallery of Louis the

14th. It is of an immense length, & proportionately wide. 3
The ceiling is painted in a most superb manner with various subjects; but what pleased me still more than the grandeur that surrounded me was, the view from the windows of the gardens. It was a long perspective of flower-beds, of Shrubberies, of beautiful Fountains, and of grass plots covered with numerous groups of well dressed company, all lit up & enlivened by an autumnal sun. After we had wandered through the Palace, we descended into the gardens, from which we had a fine view of the exterior of the building. The garden front of it is magnificent, indeed the whole is excellent, & a fit residence for a great Monarch. It is the finest Palace by far that I saw in France, & I could not but think with regret on the residences of our King, Carlton Palace, and the nondescript affair at Brighton, which to say the best of it, might perhaps be considered a fine building in China. — The gardens to this Palace were laid out by the celebrated Le Nôtre. On every side of the spectator are fountains rising, which not only dispense a refreshing coolness, but are the gardens' greatest ornaments, as many of them are of the most beautiful statuary. I am actually speaking within compass when I say that water was

ascending from upwards of a hundred founts at the same moment. These however were not always playing, but only on the first Sunday in the month during summer; yet numerous as were these fountains, a number more were not in motion, as it is only on one day in the year that the great waters (as they are called) play, which is on the Sunday before the Fête of St Louis, & we unfortunately understood it to be on the Sunday after: but it thought it impossible for anything to be more beautiful than what I saw. I heard that it cost a very considerable sum to set the whole of the Fountains in motion. The gardens were rather on a descent from the Palace, and the scene from the terrace adjoining it, was the most delightful imaginable; in fact it could only be adequately described in the language of poetry. To the left of the Palace, in a sheltered situation was a large orangery. So fine these gardens are worthy of the Palace, & the Palace of the gardens. We now walked to the bottom of the gardens, where there was again a fine group of Statuary & Fountains, & turning to the right, arrived at the entrance to the palaces of Le Grand et Le Petit Trianon, & here we were accosted by one of those officious guides who will go with you whether or no,

and though the Palaces were before our eyes, he would attend to show us the door, which was the extent of his service, for he then delivered us over to one of the Domestics: of course such politeness must not go unrewarded. These are small country seats, & are rather hunting boxes for the Royal Family than palaces, though had I not just left the Palace of Versailles, I might perhaps have thought Le Grand Trianon, a fine building. This is very handsomely furnished, and is frequently visited by some of the Royal Family. Monsieur & the Duke of Angoulême had been there on a shooting party a few days before; we were unfortunately a $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour too late, or we might have gone over it. One of these Trianons was built as a country seat for Madame de Maintenon. We walked through some of the offices of Le petit Trianon to its gardens, which are laid out in the English manner, & the romantic style of these, in contrast with the formal shapes of the French gardens, certainly had a most pleasing effect. There were a few uninhabited cottages in one part of the garden which they called a village. The Conductor took care to inform us that this garden was in the English style, & paid us the compliment to say it was very beautiful, which by the way was nothing more than

6} the strict truth. A Gentleman was relating to me a circumstance relative to one of these domestics which as it did him credit, I repeat with pleasure. He intended to give him 3 francs for himself & party for his trouble in attending them round the grounds, & by mistake gave him a Louis instead of a franc: when he had gone a few yards the man followed, & told him of his mistake, & the gentleman doubled what he originally intended to give him. This is another instance that however a Frenchman may cheat, he will not rot you.

I almost hesitated at offering the person who accompanied us a trifle for his trouble, as I saw a small decoration either of the order of St. Louis or of the Legion of Honor, suspended to one of the button holes of his coat, but however he took it very quietly, & thanked us. On quitting the gardens of the lesser Trianon, we returned again to those of the Palace of Versailles, & after taking a last view of all their beauties, quitted this delightful scene with regret. We then sought for our Fiacre and returned to Paris immediately, having been highly delighted with our excursion. The road from Paris to Versailles is through the Bois de Boulogne, which

is a most beautiful ride. Many persons resort to this place on a Sunday, gipsying as we call it, bringing their provisions with them. It is also famous for the number of duels which are fought in it.

Monday I went to see the Palace of Justice; it is situated on the principal of the three islands in the Seine, called Ile de la Cité. It was originally the residence of St. Louis, by whom a part of it was built. In the reign of Charles the 7th the Parliament met here. At present it is entirely occupied by the different Courts of Law. It is very ancient, & apparently not much more convenient than our courts. One that I saw open was small, and so crowded with people, that I could not possibly get in. The building is by no means a fine one, & I saw nothing particularly worthy of observation.

In the course of my walk I saw the Fountain of Grenelle. It is hid in a narrow Street leading out of the Rue du Bac, yet is worthy of notice on account of the beauty of its sculpture. It is ornamented with statues in marble of three females, intended to represent the City of Paris, & the rivers Seine & Marne. On the sides of the monument, are the four Seasons with their proper attributes. I think it a chef-d'œuvre of the kind, & it is to be regretted that it should be in so bad a situation. I saw also in the course of this

8.) day, the Fountain of the Innocents. It is situated in the center of the Market of the Innocents, & is the most ancient, & perhaps the finest of all the Parisian Fountains. It is of considerable height, & was constructed in 1550. by Peter Lesnot, & is ornamented with Figures & bas-reliefs by Jean Gouzeon, considered one of the best French Sculptors. It was removed to its present situation in 1788. & several figures and bas-reliefs were added at that time by the celebrated Pajou. It was dedicated to the Nymphs of the Fountain. While on this subject, I will just observe, that there are about 80 Fountains in Paris, which do not sufficiently supply the city with water. Fourteen were added from 1804. to 1809. some of them fine ones, and others were in progress, when the disastrous situation of French affairs put a stop to every public work.

Tuesday Morn^g. I went with a party to the Conservatory of Arts & Trades in the Rue St. Martin. This is a very surprising place, in which is preserved an immense collection of every thing that is useful in the arts or in manufactures: here is a specimen of every sort of manufacture, as also mills, looms, tools &c. &c. with which they are made. They have here also engravings, drawings, books &c. descriptive of every science & trade. Among other things

I saw English Fire Engines, Fire Escape Ladders, a Machine for cutting Chaff, & several other things from England.

Public Lectures are here given on Mechanics & Hydraulics. The Conservatory is open to the public on Sundays & on Thursdays from 10. O. Clock till 4. and to Foreigners on Tuesdays & Fridays on the presentation of their passports. This place is well worth seeing.

This evening I went to the Theatre Favart, ou des Italiens, the Italian Opera, where I was delighted by Madame Feodor, one of the sweetest singers I ever heard; Garcia was also there, a very good singer, but whose voice I should think not strong enough for our Italian Opera House. The Band in the Orchestra was most excellent. Previous to the commencement of the Overture, or of the Opera, three loud knocks are heard from behind the scenes, instead of ringing a bell, as at the English Theatres: the instant this signal was heard, the greatest silence prevailed in the house, & as much attention was paid to the Overture as to the Opera itself.

How different it is at English Theatres I need not say. Whether it was owing to this or not, I cannot tell, but I certainly thought it was the finest band I ever heard. The French appear very fond of music; a person who sat just before me, could scarcely contain his admiration within bounds, for in the middle of one of Feodor's most beautiful songs, he clapped his hands together & cried out, "Ah que c'est charmant!"

10, he was directly silenced however by the "hush" of those around him. — The Opera I saw was, *The Barber of Seville*, & the price of admission to the Pit was 2/6 English. I was much surprised that there was no Ballet after the Opera, but the Performance concluded immediately on the close of the Opera. — Directly I had seated myself in the Theatre, several other English wandered in without knowing to what place of amusement they had got, more than that it was a Theatre, & as I heard one of them wonder what Theatre it was, I told him it was the Italian Opera: he immediately exclaimed, "Oh Lord, I thought it was French": to which one of his companions replied, "Oh its all the same to us, we understand Italian as well as French you know". — It was tolerably evident they understood neither the one nor the other. —

This Theatre is in the Place des Italiens. —

Wednesday Morning, I was idle, doing nothing more than walk about the Streets, or read the French News-papers, which were then very interesting on account of the trial of our Queen. — In the evening I went to the Académie Royale de Musique, Rue de Richelieu. This is the French Opera, & considered the Principal Theatre in France. It is not near so large, as either Covent Garden or Drury Lane Theatres;

its general Architecture is by no means so good as that of Covent Garden; & its internal part will scarcely vie with our Minor Theatres, either as regards its decorations or its scenery; for to compare it with our two principal Theatres is out of the question: in short, it appeared dirty & gloomy, & was badly lighted, & yet this is to the full as good in these respects as any other French Theatre. It is dearer than any of the rest, the price of admission to the Pit being 3/6 English money. You have here however an Opera & a Ballet, the latter of which was excellent. The principal male singer was an elderly man: he had a strong full voice, but by no means a musical one. The first female singer was not there; her name is Albi. The best Dancer is Mons^r. Bl. — I was not so well pleased this evening as I had been the night before by the enchanting strains of Mad^e. Fedor, and the Académie Royale was not near so full of people as the Italian Opera. One thing I missed at all the French ^{Theatres that} I visited, I saw no Bills of the Plays at any of them; I believe no such thing is to be had; neither are your ears refreshed between the acts, by the delightful sounds of "Apples & Branges" as at some of our Minor Theatres. The French reckon that they have

12. ten Theatres; five principal & five minor ones. The former are, L'Académie Royale de Musique; Le Théâtre Français; Le Théâtre Royal de l'Opéra Comique; Le Théâtre Royal de l'Odéon, & the Théâtre Favart, ou des Italiens. The minor Theatres are, Les Théâtres du Vaudeville; des Variétés; de l'Ambigu-Comique; de la Gaîté; de la Porte Saint Martin. There are however some other small Theatres which are not reckoned. These places of amusement generally fill well, as the French are very fond of the Theatre. A French author, speaking of the time of the Revolution says, "Du pain et des spectacles! tel fut le cri du tems; Le peuple souverain eut des spectacles, et n'eut pas toujours du pain." "Bread & amusement! such was the cry of the day. The sovereign people had amusements, but could not always obtain bread." Thursday Sept. 7th was the day on which the Sun was eclipsed, & all the inhabitants of the good City of Paris were very busy in watching the progress of un si beau spectacle; for several days previous, printed bills were stuck about stating that Tubes containing smoked glass might be had at places named, to assist persons in seeing the eclipse; accordingly on the Thursday morning every one was looking through these glasses, & all eyes were turned towards the

heavens: half a dozen English pickpockets might ^{L3.} have made their fortunes. — After I had taken some preparatory steps towards obtaining my passport for my return to England, a party of us took a Fiacre and went to Montmartre, from whence there is a commanding & very fine prospect of Paris on the one hand, & a view of the large plain on the other, on which the allied armies were encamped previous to their first entry into Paris. Montmartre must be a tolerably strong position; it was however attacked and carried by the Russians. At the top of this hill we found many of the French cockneys with their smoked glasses, who had perhaps ascended in order to get as near to the Sun as possible. During the obscuration of the vast orb of day, it was manifestly darker, & also much cooler than it had been a short time before. It looked & felt very much like the close of day in autumn, instead of 2 O. Clock in the afternoon. It was certainly a very interesting & curious sight. — On this hill there is a very antient Church, into which we walked, and saw some reliques, such as bones &c. of a Saint: it is astonishing that such trumpery should be retained in the present day. After we had lounged away an hour or two on Montmartre, we descended

14. the hill, & passed through the barrier into Paris again. On our return we passed along the Rue St. Lazare, & observing the Tivoli Gardens, we determined to enter, but as we were all very much inclined for dinner, we resolved to look out for a Restaurant, previous to going into the gardens; understanding however that there was one in the garden, we went in, paying 2/6 each for admission, and immediately went to the Restaurateurs and dined à la carte. We had a bad dinner, but fortunately had good appetites. The woman brought us some Mutton chops almost raw, & on our returning them to be done better, she said she understood the English liked them so. — These are private gardens the same as Vauxhall, opened for the amusement of the public at a stated price, which is 3 francs; occasionally however there are grand nights, when the gardens are better illuminated and the fire-works are on a more extensive scale; the price of admission is then 5 francs or 4/2 English. I chanced to be there on one of the inferior nights, and both the illuminations of the gardens & the fire-works were much inferior to those of Vauxhall. there is here however a much greater variety of

15. amusements. After we had dined we took a turn round the gardens, which are laid out in a very pretty and romantic style, & were invited to ride on some English Hobby-horses which they had got here, & charged so much for a ride round the gardens; for though there was an abundance of amusements, yet every one was to be paid for separately. As the evening came on, the gardens were illuminated, & the company began to arrive; the band struck up, & many of the French amused themselves & us by dancing Quadrilles. — At one part of the evening feats of Strength were exhibited by two men on a stage, and another man showed his dexterity in playing with four balls, throwing them up in the air and catching them, but he was by no means so clever at it as the Indian jugglers who exhibited in this country. soon after 10. O'Clock, the fire-works went off, & presently afterwards many of the people left the gardens. Among the amusements that were paid for extra, the principal was the Russian Mountains, which are very good at this place: the price for going down was 1/2 a franc each time, & the chariots carried two persons each, so that if you went down often, it became expensive. — There was also a

16. game called La Bague, which is much the same as the common roundabout at our fairs, on which the boys ride upon wooden horses, only that each person at La Bague has a sort of Iron Skewer, and pushes at some rings as he passes quickly by them, which he only obtains when he passes the skewer through them; he goes round & round till he has skewered three. It is common for grown up people to play at it, & in general two play at once, and he who obtains the three rings first, is paid for by the other. — In another part of the garden were machines by which you might tell the relative strength of the different parts of the Body, the back, the chest, the arms, the wrists, the loins, and the whole force. There were other trifling amusements not worth enumerating. In the course of the evening hearing the sound of a bell, which seemed to proclaim something to be seen, we went in the direction from which it proceeded. here we saw a man with a long beard, and "a coat of many colours," a strange looking creature enough, & with him a sort of attendant, who when a number of persons had collected, held some

cards to them, & begged some of them would favor him¹⁷ by taking three; no one however took any but a friend who was with me, & the cards he took were handed to the man with the beard, who surveyed them with a very grave countenance, & then begged the gentleman would favor him with his ear, to which he applied the large end of a sort of speaking trumpet about three yards long, & whispered through this tube for as much as ten minutes, telling him his fortunes. When he had finished, the attendant intimated that Monsieur had 1½ francs to pay. This sage gentleman attended doubtless for the benefit of the english exclusively, as no Frenchman would fall into his trap. — There was a fracas between some of the people belonging to the Russian Mountain at this place, & an Englishman who was going down. It appeared that the Frenchman ran one of the Charriots over the foot of the Englishman, & then told him to take care, & the latter pushed the man, who was quite indignant at being struck as he termed it, & was very insolent; during the contention the gentleman got into a machine, and after a great many words, the fellow pushed it down the course, & so for the time got rid of his

18. antagonist. I was afterwards walking down the side of the course, & heard an altercation at the same place, & supposing it to be the Englishman again, I ran with two gentlemen who were with me to the scene of contest, & found that he had returned with two friends, & was at such high words with the Frenchmen that I expected it would have ended seriously. I was determined of course to support my countrymen, but the French observing 5 or 6 English, finished the business by calling for the gens-d'armes, who soon came running attended by an officer, who was very polite, and reprimanded the man for his insolence, and then told us that it was always best in such cases to complain to the proper persons, who would certainly redress our grievance by punishing any of the domestics who were insolent. His gentlemanly behaviour calmed our offended countryman, & the affair terminated. We left the gardens about 1/2 past 10. & immediately walked homewards, crossing the Italian Boulevard in our way, which was then full of company promenading up and down.

Friday Morning. I went to the Rue du Bac to obtain my passport, which had been laying at the Office all the time of my being at Paris, I having had the one they gave me at Dieppe on my first arrival, descriptive of my person. In my way I had to pass by the Place du Carrousel, and saw a number of troops of various descriptions reviewed by Marshal Oudinot, Duke of Reggio, one of Buonapartes' old Generals. He is short, and rather an insignificant looking man. It is a great shame that persons should be put to so much trouble & inconvenience to obtain their passports. I had to leave my name &c. at the Rue du Bac & return again some hours afterwards for my passport, when they made me pay 10 francs for it. I had then to take it to another place some distance off to get it countersigned: what with waiting &c. it took up the whole of the day. I have since learnt however that the Traveller may save the 10 francs by getting his passport either for Dieppe or Calais to whichever he may be going instead of having it for England. It is for leaving France that he pays this money at Paris, but they do not exact it at the seaports, to which any one ^{from England} may go, without a passport, but must not travel inland.

20, Saturday Morn^g a party of us went to see the Gobelin Tapestry. Passing along one of the Quays, we saw a small building by the side of the River, which is called La Morgue, (Bone House) in which all persons who are found drowned, or who are killed by accidents &c, & whose friends are unknown, are placed to be owned: the utility of this is, that if any one has suddenly lost a friend, it may at once be ascertained by going or sending to the Morgue, if he has been killed, that is if the body has been found. We here saw the corpse of a man who was killed the afternoon before by our old friend Martin the Bear at the Garden of Plants. It was quite naked except having a cloth round the middle. — The Garden of Plants lay in our route, & we entered to take a farewell view of the various objects which are here to be seen. Mons^r Martin was a close prisoner, being shut up in an iron cage for the crime he had committed the day before. It did not appear however that he was so much in fault, considering the temptation which had been thrown in his way. I learnt from the bystanders, that the deceased was an old man, who having lost his wife, grew melancholy, & resolved to destroy himself, & had recourse to the singular method

of throwing himself into the open den of the Bear, who immediately rushed upon him & tore him till he killed him; several large dogs were thrown in, but too late, and the bear killed two of them. It was with regret that I left this delightful place, & I more than once looked back, & mentally bade it another adieu. Though we may have nothing to attach us particularly to a place, yet the idea that we are perhaps quitting it for ever, imparts a melancholy sensation to the mind, & it was with this feeling that I walked to the Rue Mouffetard, Faubourg St. Marceau, in which Street the Manufactory of the Gobelin Tapestry is to be found. It was established in 1450 by Gilles Gobelin of Rheims, in order to work upon Tapestry the chefs d'œuvres of painting, & was protected by Louis the 1st. His successors also interested themselves in its success, & Louis the 14th confided its direction to Lebrun, his first painter, who caused some of his most beautiful paintings to be worked, some of which now hang in various rooms of the building. When we arrived a number of persons were being shown round the premises, & many others were waiting their coming out in order that they might go in. At length it was our turn to be admitted, & we were shown through several rooms in which were hung some beautiful specimens of the Tapestry, consisting

22.} of Portraits, Battle pieces, &c. &c. They looked nearly as well as paintings, & were very finely executed. though the colours of some of the most ancient pieces were considerably faded, but the man who went round with us walked so rapidly through the rooms that we only saw them cursorily, as we were obliged to keep up with him that we might hear the subject of the pieces. The excellency of the workmanship may be judged of by the simple fact that the portraits not only looked well, but were considered as good likenesses. After we had passed through several rooms, we came to the manufactory, where a number of men were employed in making large pieces of Tapestry. It appeared to be an exceedingly tedious employment, & the workmen consulted with each other as they went on, & surveyed it as narrowly as a painter does his picture when putting in the finishing touches. The man told us it took 8 years to complete a single piece of Tapestry if it was large. I was very well pleased with this exhibition, and it is what every visitor of Paris ought to see, but I should have been much more gratified if I had been allowed my own time to make a survey of it. I believe that Foreigners may see it any time on showing their

passports, but it is open to all every Saturday. I yesterday had a Bottle of ^{or. pr.} Hermitage Wine, for which I paid at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ english, & to day a Bottle of ^{or. pr.} Côte Rotie, the price of which was equal to $3\frac{1}{4}$ english. They were both white wines, & appeared to have nearly the same flavor.

23. Sunday Morn^g. it being the commencement of the Fete of St. Cloud, I went with a party to the Place Louis the 15th & there hired a covered vehicle to take us to the above place. It is about 5 miles from Paris, and we paid at the rate of $7\frac{1}{3}$ each. The road to it was delightful, & it was now enlivened by numerous vehicles full of people in their Sunday clothes, all full of life & vivacity, & all anticipating pleasure. To enter St. Cloud from Paris, you cross a bridge, and every vehicle was obliged to put down its passengers on the Paris side of the bridge, which prevented confusion & accidents. We immediately entered the delightful gardens attached to the Palace of St. Cloud, which bore exactly the appearance of a large English Fair, there being long lines of Shows, booths, & stalls filled with all sorts of Toys & Sweetmeats; in another part various games were going on, & groups of people were here & there dancing Quadrilles. Understanding

24) that the palace was open for the inspection of the Public, & that it would shortly close, we made for it instantly & entered, but I am quite unable to describe the splendor, & magnificence exhibited in the Furniture & decorations of the Apartments; immense glasses, superb vases, beds, curtains, paintings, every thing proclaimed the master to be a Sovereign. A long gallery in particular was indescribably magnificent; the ceiling was beautifully painted; the walls were filled with other fine paintings; stools & couches covered with white satin, on which were delightful drawings; in short every thing was grand in the extreme. All were admitted to see the Apartments, & it had a very curious appearance to see genteel people mixed with peasants in flaming red petticoats, & very white caps without bonnets, but all clean and neat, & polite, & good-humored. Had this been in England, you would have heard the lower orders swearing probably, & certainly some would have been grumbling, & complaining how the money must have gone to pay for it all. — This Palace is not large, but is very pleasantly situated, and

the gardens rival if not exceed in beauty those of Versailles, which is the highest praise that can be given to them: they have not the fine statuary that adorns those of Versailles, but the grounds of St. Cloud are more romantic than the other, & more congenial with the taste of an Englishman. Fountains were now playing in various parts, and the grounds bore the gayest appearance. Observing that most of the people were tending to one point, we followed the stream, & it led us to a large basin of water, at one extremity of which was an artificial cascade, then dry, but which the people were waiting to see supplied with water. Hundreds of well dressed persons stood around the large sheet of water, expecting this beau spectacle, which only took place upon particular occasions. It may always be observed even in an English crowd, that there is an unusual appearance of life & bustle amongst the persons composing it when they are waiting to see anything from which they expect to derive pleasure; & it may easily be conceived how much more vivacity would be displayed by a French than by an English collection of people. Presently the water began to trickle down

26 the Cascade, & a general "Ha!" might be heard from the French Spectators, & as it gradually increased, they were exhausting their whole vocabulary of phrases in commendation of it. "Ah c'est gentil," "c'est jolie," "c'est charmant," began it, & at length it was, "Oh, c'est superbe," "c'est magnifique," which is their highest note of admiration. It was certainly a very novel & beautiful sight, and I probably enjoyed it as much as the French, though I did not launch out so much in its praise. I have heard it said that the English feel more than the French, but express less, and perhaps it is not far from the truth. When we had sufficiently seen the Cascade, we followed the example of many others, & sat down under some trees, by the side of the basin to dine. A temporary Restaurateur furnished us with half a Goose, & some Meat Pies, into the character of which we thought it advisable not to enquire too nicely, & these with a Salad, & some miserable wine, but all seasoned by hunger & thirst, made us a tolerable dinner. An old woman teased

us to buy some Grapes, & we gave her rather more (27) than a shilling for several large bunches as we thought, but when we gave her the money, she emptied her basket, & we found that we had bought the whole contents of it. Some we ate, & some we gave away to the beggars who occasionally annoyed us. We afterwards made our way through a small wood to a very elevated terrace, on the top of which was a kind of observatory. This spot commands a most extensive & delightful prospect, but only on the side towards Paris, as there is a wood on two sides of the terrace, & on the third it is bounded by the Palace. Looking towards Paris, you have a small wood immediately beneath you; your eye then meets the Seine, and follows its meandering stream over a very large tract of beautiful country, spotted with a number of villages: the eye then gradually advances to the city, which is seen to the greatest advantage, the gilded dome of the Invalids forming a very conspicuous object. The atmosphere being much clearer over Paris than over London, on account I presume of their not burning coals, the different public buildings might be picked out, though we were at the distance of 5 miles;

28. this distance was considerably diminished however, by our looking straight across the country as the crow flies. The view was finally bounded by Montmartre, & the various hills which skirt Paris on the opposite side to that on which we were standing. — We thus passed away the afternoon among the numerous beauties & pleasures of the places, at one time enjoying the prospect, at another looking at the Quadrille dancers, of whom there were several sets on this eminence; then we should turn to look at others playing at La Pique. In short the whole was a scene of life, gaiety, & amusement. How different, thought I to a Sunday in England! but I soon dismissed this thought, as neither the time, nor the place suited with it. The fact is that a visitor of Paris must either put off all his religious ideas & habits till his return to his native country, or he must give up some of the most curious & interesting, if not the most instructive sights & scenes that Paris and its vicinity afford. — As the evening came on we again descended through the wood by another route, & approached the gate of the Park. We walked

29. along the Fair, where all still was bustle & activity, and passing the gate, quitted one of the most delightful spots, & most strange & interesting scenes that I had ever witnessed. — We immediately hired one of the numerous Fiacres that were waiting for passengers, & returned to Paris. As we passed the public gardens of Beaumont, flights of fireworks were ascending, but we were satiated with sights, & were more inclined to return to our hotel, to think & talk of what we had seen, than to go to see anything else. I notwithstanding very much regretted that I had not seen the Sèvres Porcelain Manufactory, which is close to St. Cloud, but we had not time unless we had fatigued ourselves excessively. — On arriving at the Barrier to enter Paris from any of these excursions, the Fiacre is stopped, & the door opened to see if it contains any wine or spirits, as there is a duty levied on these articles on their entering the city: in consequence, wine may be had cheaper on one side of the gates than on the other: our Coach door was opened, but shut again immediately without any search having been made.

I have now come to the eve of my departure from Paris, & shall take this opportunity to make a few observations on the appearance of the

30) Streets in Paris, as well as a few other general remarks.

The Houses are in general very high, & built of stone, but have notwithstanding a poor & dirty aspect; this is owing I believe to my being used to the neat & clean appearance given to the houses in London by their fronts being so frequently painted, the French houses too are in general inhabited by a variety of different families, so that if the lower part looks respectable, it is highly probable that the upper part will look miserably dirty.

The elegance of the Shop Fronts in London add greatly to its beauty, but the French take little pains about them. Those of the Palais Royale however form an exception; they are certainly very elegant, but even these are only our handsomest shops in Miniature. Most of the Tradespeople have a sign over their door, & some of them are very tolerably painted. The business of the shops appears to be left principally to females, & there is not that assiduousness & polite attention that are generally met with in the shops of London. I one day went into a Jewellers with a Friend & his wife who wished

to purchase a gold neck chain. The French sell these things by weight, & when the shopkeeper had weighed it, and told what it came to, my friend said he thought it dear, & that he could buy it cheaper in the Palais Royale. The man replied with great sang froid, "That is the best place to buy it then", & immediately replaced the chain in his window. This independance of spirit may pass in Paris, but it would not answer in London. It is the general practice in Paris to ask the English a great deal more for everything than they can afford to take, so that you scarcely know how to deal with them, but it is quite necessary to bate them down, unless you would prefer being imposed upon to haggling. Whether they act on the same plan among themselves or not I cannot say, but I had repeated instances of it when they were dealing with the English.

I will here mention the general habit among the French of using high & sounding words and phrases upon the most trivial occasions. A woman selling me a pair of Gloves told me they were superb, & you will hear charming, superb and magnificent applied to apples & pears, but the two latter words are in constant use. Lord Blyney in his narrative says, that he once asked a French Landlord what he could give him to eat, (always an

32) important question apparently with his Lordship) and the man replied that, he had a superb Leg of Mutton, and a magnificent Turkey.

The Streets of Paris are generally dirty, owing to a gutter always full of water running down the middle of most of them; even the Rue St. Honoré, which is one of the longest & principal Streets, & is perhaps the Street in which the most business is done, has this gutter in the middle of it, & is besides without footpaths, so that you are constantly liable to be splashed, or run over in one of the greatest thoroughfares in Paris. — In walking about Paris you are much struck at first, by the crowded and bustling appearance of the Streets. It may be accounted for I think in several ways: in the first place they are much narrower than our Streets, consequently the people are closer together, & then although Paris is unquestionably much smaller than London, and less populous, yet comparatively it is fuller of people, that is to say a larger quantity of persons dwell in the same space, than a much smaller number occupy in London. I observed this difference in a much greater degree however when I returned

to London, for after leaving Paris, our Streets appeared³³ literally deserted, & I could not forbear asking if there was not something particular to draw the people from the Metropolis, & it was some days before I could at all reconcile myself to the apparent dulness & want of life in our Streets. In fact there is a general and constant appearance of life, & gaiety & pleasure in the Streets of Paris: it is attributable in some measure no doubt to the want of domestic enjoyment, & the consequent custom of seeking pleasure out of doors; this also fills the Cafés so much, & many of them being looked into from the Street, seem to give an additional liveliness to them. If these Cafés were in London, they would have high curtains, so that they could not be looked into from without; but there is no such thing at Paris.

An Englishman when walking about naturally looks at the Females in order to form a comparison in his mind with those of his own country. I speak candidly & truly when I say, that I scarcely saw one that I could have liked, or that I thought handsome. It struck me that the men were generally much better looking than the women, & I have no doubt that this is the fact. The females have usually brilliant eyes but bad complexions.

34. Much has been said of the French calling after the English as they pass along the Streets, but you very seldom hear anything but "Voilà des Anglois." "Regarde les Anglois;" and I never was called Mons. Git-dam all the time I was at Paris though said to be so common. Once when I was looking at a print-stall two fellows mumbled something about Pomme de terre, but this was the only rudeness of the sort I experienced. — The number of book and print-stalls is quite surprising; every public and frequented place is full of them. At all these places you may meet with the best French Authors, & many of the Prints are exceedingly good. Many of them however are of a very licentious description, yet these are as publicly exhibited as any of the others. I was looking at the pictures at one of these stalls, and the man took some prints of a disgusting kind out of a portfolio, though there were already some exposed, & after showing them to his wife, who was sitting close by, & was curious to see what they were, laid them before me. It is very common for old women to hawk about for sale, little books full of prints, with some descriptive stuff under each of the pictures, which are only remarkable for their excessive depravity. (35.) It is very certain that the manners of the French are less delicate (to speak in the mildest terms) than those of the English. This however is a fact so well known, & so generally admitted, that nothing need be said in proof of it, otherwise I could mention many things that came under my own observation which were amply sufficient to convince me of it. Among other novelties that an Englishman meets with in the Streets, he frequently sees men with a little bell in their hand which they are continually ringing, & something on their backs, very much resembling a puppet-show in England; this however contains Lemonade which they hawk about in this manner. In the markets or other frequented places you see Conjurors & Quacks who tell a tough story in order to vend their medicines. I saw in one of the markets a female quack, dressed very fine & mounted on a horse. — As you walk along the Palais Royal or the Italian Boulevard of an Evening girls will tease you to buy a Nose-gay, & if you will not they sometimes contrive to place it in your bosom and run away: they watch you however, & in two or three minutes come to beg a few sous.

36) On the Pont Neuf a curious Trade is carried on; that of a Dog-snipper: people are continually here cutting the hair off that species of Dog, known in England by the name of French Dog, & the ears of the passengers are frequently regaled by the screams of the poor animal, when the operator cuts a little too closely, to be pleasant to its feelings.

It is laughable to see two Frenchmen quarrelling. From their vociferation, their gestures, & action, an Englishman is in momentary expectation of seeing a set-to; but there is seldom any danger of this, for their passion appears to vent itself in the above manner, without their actually coming to blows. It is equally amusing to see two acquaintances of the lower orders meet. Instead of 'How are you Tom or Jack' as in England, they put their hands to their hats or caps, if they happen to have them, & make as graceful a bow as any English gentleman, and then enquire with all the politeness possible, after each others health, & that of Madame.

Politeness is generally unmeaning & insincere, & the French are less sincere than the English, because they are vastly more polite. An Englishman, if

he carry his politeness to excess, feels that he shall be suspected of a want of sincerity, but a Frenchman has no fear of the sort; he is therefore prodigal of compliments & professions, knowing that his hearer receives them as a matter of course. I believe that a Frenchman may be as capable as an Englishman of doing a good action, but I mean to say that he professes ten times as much as he performs, which I think is not the case with most Englishmen.

In fact the manners of the two nations in this respect are characteristic of the differences which exist between them generally. The Frenchman's excessive & usually unmeaning politeness is probably occasioned in a great measure by the vivacity & thoughtlessness of his character: on the other hand, the Englishman's want of it, may be attributed to his thoughtfulness & reflection & his consequent slowness of speech. After all politeness must ever be pleasing, though I believe it is only because it is gratifying to that vanity, which every one in a certain degree possesses. It is to this superfluity of compliment that we may perhaps ascribe the vanity of the French Nation,

38. for that they are vain no one I think will deny. If a person is continually praised & flattered, he must either have a very strong mind, or be intolerably vain, & as flattery is so constantly used in France, the general vanity may very fairly be attributed to that cause. Such a speech as the following is not only received by the French with complacency, but is actually considered as true. "Europe would be more flattered by having Paris for its Capital, than Paris would by being the Capital of Europe."—The French are almost as illiberal as they are vain, & I take the one to be a natural consequence of the other. "No nation under the sun is comparable to France, & its inhabitants are preeminent for intellect and courage, & every other great or good quality." This is every day asserted & believed by all Frenchmen. In fact vanity & illiberality usually go hand in hand: they are the twin children of Pride. The *Gens d'armes* constitute the police of Paris, and though it does not look well to an English eye to see constables in soldiers' clothes, with cocked hats, a sword & a musket, which every *gens d'arme* is provided with, yet the French police is certainly more efficient than the English. The Newspapers of the French Metropolis are on a very different footing to those of London: it is in vain to look there for authentic news; & there are never any of those luminous commentaries on passing events, which are to be found in the columns of our papers: in fact there cannot be much display of ability in any of the Newspapers of the Continent, on account of the want of freedom there, for slavery and ignorance are generally united. They are much less in size than our papers, & the price of them is about 2^d. They are filled with a selection of news from foreign papers, but without comment; critiques on Theatrical events, & bagatelles of various sorts. Such as they are however, they are very much read. An Englishman will probably be a little startled at the freedoms taken by the domestics. I once sent a shirt to be aired, and when the servant brought it to me, he said, "What a shame it is for a tall young man like you to have his shirt warmed." This has doubtless happened since the age of Liberty & Equality. There are a number of Charities, & public institutions

403 in Paris, but they all emanate from the Govern-
ment: there is neither public spirit nor wealth
enough among individuals, to institute anything
of the kind. — It struck me while at Paris

what a similarity there was between Buonaparte
and Louis the 14th. The former only did more
because he had the energies, the soul as it were,
of the whole Nation at his command; because
he had not such Generals opposed to him, and
because Louis the 14th was fettered by the old mode
of carrying on war. They both showed themselves
eager to adorn their Capital; in fact the general
reply to any question of mine concerning a build-
ing or a fountain was; "it was erected by Buonaparte
or, it was built by Louis the 14th." The latter built
33 Churches, 2 Public Squares, & 2 Stone Bridges.
The Hotel des Invalides. The Observatory, & 15 new
Fountains. He had the Louvre enlarged & nearly
rebuilt; & the Boulevards planted with Trees.
Under Buonaparte the famous Column of the Place
Vendome was erected, 4 fine stone Bridges were
thrown across the Seine; The Rue Rivoli, & the Rue de
la Paix were formed. The Place de Carrouval was cleared
and beautified. The Museums were increased. New

Fountains were added. Grand improvements were in
course of execution at the Louvre &c. &c. &c.

Monday Sept. 11th I left my Hotel with a party of
friends for the Diligence, & among others the little
fellow who laid hold of me on my entry into Paris,
and who had continued in the same Hotel till I
left, & then determined not to stay behind. We had
not proceeded many yards, when he was collared
by a stout fellow, & saluted with, "Frisson, vous
m'avez trompé; vous me devez 5 francs." The little
man seemed not a little alarmed, till I explain-
ed who he was: it appeared that he had taken a
warm bath for his Rheumatism, the price of which
was 1 1/2 francs, & the man told him, or made him un-
derstand, that it would be attended with pleasure
and benefit if he was rubbed with some sort of scent-
ed oils, to which he agreed, but when he had to
pay, the man demanded 5 francs extra, which he
refused to give, & brought him to me to interpose for
him: I said I thought it too much, & advised him
to give him 3 francs to get rid of him. This however
the Frenchman positively refused, & the other would
not advance another sou. He had doubtless heard

42. from some of the domestics, that the Englishman was to quit Paris this morning, & was therefore on the watch to demand his 5 francs. I enjoyed my little companion's confusion for some time, but the man at last getting excessively insolent, & a number of French having got round, shrugging up their shoulders, & making remarks, I interfered, & the Frenchman again refusing 3 francs, I told him if he did not give free of expense. In short every disposition low us to depart peaceably, I should be under the necessity of using my fist, at the same time clenching it. He let go his hold instantly, & drew back, and we got to the Diligence without farther interruption. I had taken my place from Paris to London, paying for the packet as well as the land conveyance. The price was 70 francs = £2.18.4 English. Two of my friends went in the Cabriolet, & myself, & my little postage in the inside, & we had two Frenchmen with us. One of them was accompanied to the Coach by a friend to take leave, & on parting, they embraced and kissed each other on both cheeks. This was the only time I saw two men kiss each other, so that I suppose it only takes place on particular occasions. At length I bade adieu to Paris, & I certainly con-

43. sider the short period I passed there, as one of the most pleasant parts of my life. If Novelty is pleasing, here everything is new: Are you fond of gaiety & pleasure? Here it surrounds you on every side. Are you a lover of the Arts? Paris appears studious? There are Libraries open, & Lectures given free of expense. In short every disposition Our route lay through the following places. St. Denis, Ecouen, Lurarches, Chantilly, Laigneville, Clermont, St. Just, Wavigniers, Breteuil, Piers, Hébecourt, Amiens, Pecquigny, St. Isaacourt, Silly-le-Haut-Clocher, Abbeville, Nouvion, Nampont, Montreuil, Cormont, Tamer, Boulogne, & Calais. We passed through Amiens at 11 O. Clock at night, and after taking Coffee, resumed our seats in the Diligence for the night. Tuesday we were still on our journey. Abbeville and Montreuil are very strongly fortified. The country was exceedingly flat, & bore no comparison with the beautiful province of Normandy. Apple-trees however lined the Road here as well as there, & bore abundance of Fruit. We arrived at Calais to a late dinner, but as I left it early the following

44.) morning, I saw little or nothing of it.

Wednesday morning we were summoned to the Packet very early. When I got on their wooden Pier, ready to start, I had about 10^l worth of French silver in my pocket, & was wondering what I should do with it, but I was soon relieved from any anxiety on the subject, for by various little extortions, the Frenchmen contrived to pluck these remaining feathers from me. It was almost a calm, & we were 6 hours in reaching Dover. Speaking of reaching, it reminded me that I was as usual very ill the whole way.

Thursday Morn^g. Sept. 14th. I left Dover at six O'Clock, & arrived in London, about 1/2 past 5. in the evening. Kent is very hilly, and appeared more beautiful from the contrast it bore to the large flat plains of Picardy; perhaps the principal cause of my pleasure was that I was again in my native Land, that I felt myself at home, Kent is however a very fine County, & exhibits continually the most picturesque & beautiful views.

