

slight indisposition. The road to his country-seat was uphill work, for Combe-Varin (that is its name) is situate five thousand feet above the sea. It was formerly a hunting-house of a noble family related to Mr. Desor, and has been changed by him into a very comfortable Swiss dwelling-house. The Professor's name is well known in the learned world. He was a long time in America, and a companion of Agassiz. Now he has settled in Switzerland, and is a senator of influence in his canton. He is a bachelor, but his house is never empty of visitors, for he has many friends in every part of the world. We found there a Mr. Reinwald, a publisher from Paris, with his wife, and a Professor Eisenlohr from Carlsruhe, a great scientific gun, who died, however, some time ago.

The Professor does not look like a professor, but more like a country gentleman, and his household does not resemble that of a bachelor either.

Everything was extremely comfortable, and in all Switzerland I never met a better provided dinner-table. Mr. Desor is somewhat of an Epicurean, as every sensible man ought to be who can afford it. I felt somewhat out of my depth in this learned society, but all of them being men of the world they dealt mercifully with me, and our visit was very pleasant.

We made from Combe-Varin some fine excursions, and paid a visit to a friend of the Professor's, Mr. Fritz