

ed by a metallic substance. He lived in an age of chemical and electrical discovery, and he traced by successive experiments the principle of a phenomenon, for which, simple and indifferent as it seemed, he could not account by any law of nature. The investigation led to the development of that amazing power, which, from the name of its discoverer, is called *galvanic* electricity—a power which, in the hands of Sir Humphry Davy, analyzed substances, though simple, into previously unknown metals; which within fifty years has supplied telegraphs in some places, superseded steam in more numerous instances: superseded the printer's, engraver's, and sculptor's labour; which (the least honourable of its triumphs) enables the engineer at a safe distance—a distance of miles if necessary—to spring mines, or enables him, as in the case of the *Royal George*, to violate the peace of the great deep with tremendous explosions, himself remaining all the while in perfect security.

The last of the achievements of this mighty power is so wonderful, that, although a little beyond our present purpose, we cannot forego the opportunity of mentioning it for the gratification of our fair readers. It is electrotype *painting*. A drawing is made—no matter how simple—no matter how complicated: the task of copying and perpetuating it is the same to the marvellous agent employed; and from this drawing alone, without any recourse to etching ground or *brin*, a perfect copperplate is obtained in a few hours, at the cost of a few shillings—a copperplate, if we may so say, copied by the hand of nature, certainly by a natural operation, and therefore more exquisitely faithful to the original than the most accomplished artist could execute.

TURKISH JUSTICE.

At Antioch, in 1767, the pasha of the Province was walking alone in the bazaar, in order that he might be incognito: he observed a dealer in furs who appeared sorrowful, and whose stock in trade consisted only of an immense quantity of foxes' tails. "What is the cause of your sorrow?" asked the pasha. "Alas, master," replied the dealer, "you see your servant cruelly cheated by an Armenian, who has sold me these foxes' tails very dear, assuring me that I should have a very advantageous market for them. But I have been three months without selling one, and I am now ruined." "By the beard of the sultan, my master," replied the pasha, "I will cause thee to sell them at a high price, if thou dost as I command thee. Thou shalt not sell a single tail for less than 300 piastres, and in a few days thou shalt not have one left." Next day the pasha ordered the whole

corporation of Armenian merchants to be summoned to appear immediately before him, requiring at the same time, under the most severe penalties, that each of them should have the tail of a fox sewed to the button of his robe, as a mark of disgrace for the scandalous manner in which they traded. There was soon a crowd of buyers at the shop of the dealer in furs, who sold all his furs very dear, and who would not give one to the man who had cheated him under an exorbitant price.

A REPAST IN A TURKISH HAREM.

THE evening repast is generally taken in the harem. The wives serve their *sidi* (master) with a refinement of cares and attentions which would be considered base and servile in the West, they are so contrary to our manners. The Orientals, who eat with their fingers, always wash their hands before and after the meals; among the rich, three slaves bring the water-basin and the towels. It is the wives who perform this duty in the harem; one of them arrives first with a richly embroidered napkin, which she holds closely folded in her hands, and then, bending down with her knee on the ground, she throws it unfolded on the knees of the master. Another carries the water-basin and the vase to receive the water; kneels before him, holding the basin within his reach, and pours the water, a drop at a time, on his hands. A third afterwards presents him a new napkin to dry himself, and sometimes sprinkles rose-water on his beard. The master sits alone, or with one or two of his wives whom he chooses to invite, whilst the others use their best endeavours to divert and amuse him, by singing or playing on some instruments. The Mussulman ladies of a certain rank disdain to dance, and leave that exercise, which they consider ignoble, to the *almes*, who make a trade of it.

RIVALRY.

A MOST amusing attempt to depreciate a rival, arising from a rankling jealousy—that of the pocket—is recorded of Richardson the itinerant showman, when, at one of the great northern fairs, he beheld crowds of people hurrying to an opposition booth to see a white-bearded patriarch, who was asserted to be a hundred and eight years old. "Here's a precious humbug!" exclaimed the indignant Thespian. "Here's a fuss to see a fellow only a hundred and eight years old! Why, if my great grandfather had lived till now, he would have been a hundred and thirty-seven!"