

Exactly the reverse of this aquatic propensity takes place in the German; he will sacrifice the pleasures of a delightful prospect; as in the case of the house where I now am, and rather than have a beautiful expanse of water in his view, place his house with its back to it, & fronting a dead level plain, without a single object to break the weariness of the scene. Some have ascribed the predilection of the Dutch for water to their extreme cleanliness, and that they wished to be near it for the purpose of frequent ablution, but this is not the true cause. The Germans are a cleanly people as well as the Dutch; and besides it is not for clean water the latter always evinces his desire, but rather for moisture; for a bog or stinking pool, if nothing else can be found will satisfy a Dutchman.—But damp he must have in some shape or other. When in Holland I have sometimes thought the Dutchman preferred a moist atmosphere to a dry, because the former might possess some superior fitness for condensing the smoke of his tobacco pipe. But were this the case, how could the Dutch have left to any other nation the all important discovery of the steam engine: where the process of condensation has so much to do? *Peccavi!* I am wandering again. My reveries on the step of the ladder were broken in upon by the tall spectre form of mine host, who having arranged the rest of the company by showing the Major and his Lady into the parlour and left the rest to shift for themselves, now approached your humble servant and with as much swavity of visage and manner as he could assume, politely asked me to walk in. To his kind invitation I made a suitable return and gave him to understand, I would comply with his request in a few minutes. Soon after entering the house I found such of the crew and passengers as chose, indulging in *pleno cyatho* well replenished by the assiduous landlord. Proceeding to the inner apartment I found the Major and his lady there. The room possessed all the requisites of genuine German comfort, large and lofty, and furnished with articles of the true old-fashioned stamp. The chairs narrow in the seats and lofty in the backs, cushioned and covered with a sort of tapstry which bore all the emblematic figures of the heathen mythology. Around the walls at regular intervals were placed old wainscot tables whose jetty gloss had been preserved for years, by the labours of the landlady and her *fille de chambre*. Dependant on the walls were the pictures of many antient worthies, whose visages had become so begrimed by time that hardly a trace of their original colour could be discerned. These were interspersed with old German maps and other *etceteras* too tedious to mention. Still the apartment was arranged with a degree of care, which if it could not call forth the encomiums of taste, extorted the approbation of visitors—for the cleanliness and order in which every thing was arranged plainly told that all had been done from a desire to please.

I omitted to mention one circumstance which occurred on entering the house, and in my passage through the ante-chamber. From some whisperers I overheard, I found a plan was laying by a part of the crew, in which they were joined by some of the passengers to get a few of the landlords apples which hung so temptingly on the trees, as we ascended the banks. This with the crew was no unusual thing; for they seldom failed to taste his fruit *en passant*. The frequency of