

a mighty stream, laves the walls of the imperial city of Ulm. I travelled on horseback, with my servant, and a guide. We expected to reach the suburbs of Ulm, where I was assured I should find an excellent inn, *die Schwabische herzog*, towards night: but, as is very usual, the guide miscalculated either the distance, or the abilities of our horses, who were, to say the truth, sorry and illfed beasts, and we were still seven German leagues from the lofty spires of that city, though we had perceived them from a mountainous height we had just passed, when the sun sunk behind the black forest on our right, and the horse my man rode on, fairly lay down, and refused to proceed, with as much obstinacy as if he had been one of those mules who, according to the verbose diction of a learned veterinary practitioner, possess, "a degree of understanding inconveniently exerted." There was no house of accommodation at hand, but Karl, the guide, told us that if we returned about half a mile we might, he dared say, get admittance into the house of the widow of a Lutheran pastor, who dwelt close under the precipitous height, over part of which we had journeyed, and whose swineherd was his own natural brother. Under such circumstances, even an introduction through a swineherd, was not to be despised; and we contrived to get to the widow's lonely mansion about an hour after sunset.

I may be perhaps expected to describe the person of the widow, but as neither she, nor the manner in which I gained her confidence sufficiently to procure the loan of the ancient German manuscript, from which the history of Anne of Wirtemberg is translated, are essential to the story, I must beg to be excused: and shall conclude this introduction by stating that the scroll had been originally found by the great grandfather of her deceased husband, in the ruins of the cell of a hermit, which had been constructed, like an eagle's aiery, nearly at the summit of the precipice that, close behind the little farm of the widow, rose frowningly over the foaming waves of the Danube, which at that place made ra-