

KING.—Come, Lords and Ladies, to the banquet. (*Hands La Val. to a table in a pavillion ; takes his place beside her. Courtiers, ladies, &c. seat themselves.*

Enter shepherd and shepherdesses, &c. bearing fruit, flowers and viands, which they place upon tables. Singing birds flutter about ; music from Lully's operas. Enter Pan accompanied by nymphs and fauns dryad, hamadryad, &c. a Ballet—during which the fountains and jets d'eau play—at the conclusion a display of fireworks in the distance.

COURTIERS.—Long live Louis le Grand !

Curtain falls.

TALES OF OUR VILLAGE.—NO. 6.

In those days of improvement and progression, when conveyance from one place to another is expeditious and secure, when lodging houses stud the roadside even in slow-paced Nova Scotia, and the highways admit of the passage of any kind of vehicle, it is not easy to imagine the hardships encountered by the early settlers, or the difficulties that beset them in their efforts for a livelihood.

They must have been a more hardy race than their successors ; or else energies were called forth to suit the exigencies of the time ; for it required a strong arm and a brave heart to surmount the trials, and often perils, that surrounded early Provincial life. Wood covered by-paths were all that existed to connect the scattered hamlets. These in many cases could only be travelled on foot. There was no resting place from the commencement to the end of the journey ; and the foot-sore wayfarer was often compelled to rest beneath the shade of some spreading tree, there to untie his knapsack, and partake of its humble refreshment ; often, when wearied by the fatigues of the day, to make his bed in the dark forest, and sleep till the light of morning might guide him anew upon his way.

Perils, however, as well as fatigue, often attended these solitary peregrinations. Paths intersected each other, and, unless well acquainted with the intricacies of the forest, the traveller often missed the way, and perhaps only found it again to find himself further from his place of destination than before. In summer, however, the danger was comparatively light ; but in winter, when subjected to violent snow drifts and intense cold, the early settlers' forest, path was one of difficulty and peril.

Yet in a new country all these mischances must be encountered and endured. Toil and danger must be borne while struggling for a living. Men are fitted to the times in which they dwell, and do not shrink from the trials imposed upon them.