

THROUGH FRANCE AND ITALY

self should be obliged to undress and get to bed—there was one way of doing it, and that I leave to the reader to devise ; protesting as I do, that if it is not the most delicate in nature, 'tis the fault of his own imagination—against which this is not my first complaint.

Now when we were got to bed, whether it was the novelty of the situation, or what it was, I know not ; but so it was, I could not shut my eyes ; I tried this side and that, and turn'd and turn'd again, till a full hour after midnight ; when Nature and patience both wearing out—O my God ! said I.

You have broke the treaty, Monsieur, said the lady, who had no more sleep than myself.—I begg'd a thousand pardons—but insisted it was no more than an ejaculation—she maintained 'twas an entire infraction of the treaty—I maintain'd it was provided for in the clause of the third article.

The lady would by no means give up the point, though she weaken'd her barrier by it ; for in the warmth of the dispute, I could hear two or three corking pins fall out of the curtain to the ground.

Upon my word and honour, Madame, said I—stretching my arm out of bed by way of asseveration—

(—I was going to have added, that I would not have trespass'd against the remotest idea of decorum for the world)—