

said the Countess, advancing to meet her grandchildren. "I was young and fair as Adeline, when these adventures befel me; but the arm of the Lord succoured me. He brought me out of the land of bondage, and restored me to my father and country again."

"I think I have heard nurse say that you had been a slave in Africa; but, dearest grandmamma, she never told me the particulars," replied Adeline.

"She did not know them, my dear child, and you have been brought up at a distance from me. However, if you wish to hear this disastrous narrative, I will endeavour to recal even the minutest incident. I am now in extreme old age, but the leading events of my captivity are as fresh in my memory as if they only happened yesterday."

"Then you will tell us the whole story," cried Adolphe. "Ah, now I know why your pictures are like Adeline; how I long to hear all about your captivity, dear mamma."

The Countess led her young descendants into her boudoir, whose windows overlooked the sunny fields and vine-clad hills of her own beautiful Provence, and seating herself beside them, contemplated them with the affectionate smile of a doting