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THROUGH THE HUNGARIAN PLAIN.

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IV.



SHEPHERD ON THE BANKS OF THE THEISS.

THE spacious plain which occupies at least a third part of the total area of Hungary, begins in the immediate neighbourhood of the beautiful metropolis of the kingdom, Buda-pest, and extends eastward and southward.

In more than one respect this Plain presents peculiar attractions to the traveller. In spite of the seeming monotony of this apparently endless plain, it is by no means devoid of picturesque-ness and variety. In the first place the great plain of Hungary is not an absolutely flat surface, as is frequently supposed. Geological investigations have furnished proof that the Hungarian Plain is an ancient sea-bottom, and in many places its surface is undulating. Mountains, indeed, must not be looked for here, but in many parts of the plain there are long chains of very small hills or hillocks, as though the ocean billows sweeping onwards