

it over his beard, which hung in hoary ringlets to his girdle.

They had much conversation with this eccentric man, whom they found to the last degree acute, communicative, and entertaining; blending the vivacity of a Frenchman with the gravity of a Turk.

His predilection for Turkish characters and manners was extreme. He described the Turks in general as people of great sense and integrity, the most hospitable, generous, and happiest of mankind. He talked of returning, as soon as possible to Egypt, which he painted as a perfect paradise.

Though Mr. Montague seldom stirred abroad, he had the politeness to return the Duke of Hamilton's visit, and as they were not furnished with a cushion, he placed himself cross-legged on the sofa. This posture, by long habit, was become most agreeable to him; and indeed, he seemed to cherish the same opinion with regard to all the customs which prevail among the Turks. He defended the practice of polygamy, and maintained, that not one Turk in a thousand would go to the Christian heaven, if he had it in his choice.

If the situation of Venice, wholly surrounded by water, renders it a curious object, it certainly does not add to the pleasure of living in it. Here there are neither green fields to walk or ride in, the fragrance of herbs, nor the melody of birds; but when a person wishes to take the air, he must submit to be paddled about in a boat, along dirty canals, or confine himself to walk in St. Mark's Place.

The lake, or shallow of the sea, on which Venice stands, is a kind of small inner gulph, separated