

to say ; the Bavarians certainly do not appear gifted with a great taste for the art in general.

Stuttgart is a small city, but much more lively than Munich. The inhabitants of this little capital love their theatre, and support it with all their means ; and thus succeed in maintaining it on a footing of tolerable mediocrity : it also possesses some good performers, such as the comedian Leydelham and Hambuch the singer. A taste for the opera predominates here, as well as at Carlsruhe, where Hartzinger occupies the first rank. However, it would be wrong to imagine that good comedy is not in vogue in these two little capitals. The musical drama occupies a place in Germany in ratio as political opinions are more or less fettered, either from obstacles without or from indifference within ; and it must be considered as a good omen that the opera has not stifled a taste for all other branches of the dramatic art.

Frankfort on the Maine possesses an opera judiciously directed, and an excellent orchestra. The famous opera at Darmstadt, and the theatre of the Court of Cassel, are closed ; and a like destiny awaits all the other courtly theatres in the small states of Germany.



VARIETIES.

Singular Anecdote.—It is well known that the provinces of *Shense* and *Shanse* contain some of the most opulent men in China. The natives say they have money heaped up like mountains. And the chief money lenders in Canton are from these provinces. During the last years of the late Emperor *Kea-king*, a rich widow of the name of *Chun*, of the district of *Tae-yuen-foo*, had a son, who went to all lengths in luxury and extravagance. Among other idle pursuits, he was a great chess player. But chess, on a piece of board, or *paper*, as the Chinese have it, is a very meagre, though interesting game. Master *Chun* conceived a new idea. He got a large room painted as a chess board, with tables for himself and friend on opposite sides. For chess-men, he purchased a set of beautiful