

seen service, if the wearer had not—just such a thing as an officer would bestow upon his serving-man.

He continued to munch his chop and sip his ale in silence, without lifting his eyes from the table, until a cherry-stone, sportively snapped from the thumb and finger of one of the gentlemen at the opposite table, struck him upon his right ear. His eye was instantly upon the aggressor, and he gathered from the ill-suppressed merriment of the party that this petty impertinence was intentional. The stranger stooped and picked up the cherry-stone, and a scarcely perceptible smile passed over his features as he carefully wrapped it in a piece of paper and placed it in his pocket. This singular procedure, somewhat excited as the young gentlemen were by the wine they had taken, upset their gravity entirely, and they burst into a loud fit of laughter. Unmoved by this rudeness, the stranger continued to finish his frugal repast in quiet, until another cherry-stone, from the same hand, struck him upon the right elbow. This also, to the increased amusement of the other party, he picked from the floor, and carefully deposited with the first.

Amidst shouts of laughter a third cherry-stone was soon after discharged, which hit him upon the left breast. This also he deliberately took from the floor, and deposited with the other two. As he rose, and was engaged in paying for his repast, the gaiety of these sporting gentlemen became slightly subdued. It was not easy to account for this; they did not detect the slightest evidence of irritation or resentment on the features of the stranger. He seemed a little taller, to be sure; and the carriage of his head might have appeared to them rather more erect. He walked to the table at which they were sitting, and with that air of dignified calmness which is a thousand times more terrible than wrath, drew a card from his pocket, and presented it with perfect civility to