

was well loaded, too ; for strapped upon his shoulders was a capacious knapsack, apparently completely filled, but nevertheless he strode on manfully, and at length reached the road along which the two laborers had walked some ten minutes before. Judging at once that his way could not lie to the right—not from any knowledge of the country, not from any dependence on the idiot's previous guiding, but from an habitual, or intuitive discernment of the bearings of places—he turned directly to the left, walked on a little way, and then to his joy and satisfaction, beheld a light like a bright eye look out over the hedge-rows. Advancing farther in search of a path leading to it, he observed several more lights on both sides ; but he was constant to his first love, and making his way onward, in about five minutes more he was knocking with his knuckles on Ben Halliday's door.

The loud "Come in," was pronounced in the broad Cumberland accent, and entering the cottage the traveller saw the laborer and his family seated round an abundant bowl of very good potato soup, with certain pieces of meat in it, to the whole of which an onion had lent a flavor by no means disagreeable to the nose of