

a point of witnessing the departure of the Pilgrims nor can there well be imagined a more beautiful religious demonstration, or one more calculated to leave a suetifying impression behind it on the most callous spectator. At three o'clock in the morning of Sunday July sixth I arose and proceeded to St. Peter's parish church, the most ancient and venerable in Munich, where I found so large a congregation already assembled, that I had the greatest difficulty in pushing my way into the nave so as to have a good view of the proceedings. High Mass was in course of celebration, and terminated at half past four. A sermon was then preached to the vast gathering of Pilgrims. It was a very moving discourse, and delivered in an animated style. In the course of it the preacher drew a striking comparison between the pilgrimage on which his hearers were presently to set forth, and that of human life, on which we are all travelling. He impressed it upon them that they should let the first be a type of the latter. He alluded to the fatigues and inconveniences which would await them on their way to our Lady of Allotting; and said that they must look on these as figuring the trials which virtue had to suffer on its mortal career. This was the spirit in which he said they must set out, if they meant fully to profit by so holy an undertaking. Among other things he also said, that the Catholic church prescribed or countenanced no religious act, even of the most trifling kind, that was not pregnant with sacred significance, and fitted to convey some eternal lesson to a devout mind. Then towards the end, he pointed out what they ought to invoke heaven for without fail, on their arrival at the blessed spot. Besides their own particular intentions, they ought not he said, to forget on such an occasion to apply their hearty prayers for the propagation of the true faith, for the suppression of heresy, and the repentance of sinners. On this latter point he dwelt in very vivid colours. Neither were they to pass over their king and country nor the pastors, who, like himself, were solicitous and laboured so hard for their flocks, but who needed as much as any the prayers of those flocks so that grace might not fail them, without which nothing could be done. He concluded by a solemn prayer for the blessing of God on the pilgrims, who all joined in it kneeling, and then gave them his own blessing. A hymn was next chaunted in general chorus, and presently the great cross and banners which were to head the procession, and the priests who were to accompany it as far as the gates of the town, moved slowly towards the great door of the church. In the meantime the pilgrims issued out at all sides and formed in two parallel lines of two abreast in the street. I sought and obtained an advantageous point of view in the great square called the Schraunen Platz close at hand along which they must defile. It was now about half past five, the sun shone resplendently, and the gaunt old tower of St. Peter's, seemed actually to shake its side with the merry peal it rang out. Vast crowds were congregated on the scene.—First came the affecting effigy of our Lord crucified which ever leads the way on such solemnities, finely significant of the main hope and stay of a Christian under every variety of situation and circumstance on earth. Next followed a train of priests in surplices and stoles attended by assistants carrying banners. Then came a company of pilgrims, all men, in full costume, who, with staff in hand walked at a grave and measured pace; and habited in long robes of serge corded about the waist, with wallets at their backs, the scallop shell at the breast, and sandals on their feet, headed the long train of their companions in common clothes, and stamped the character of the proceeding. Following them walked the interminable lines of the great body of pilgrims, amounting to over four thousand persons, as I was informed. They consisted of people of all ages, both sexes, and various stations. Each one wore suspended at the breast a medal as a badge. It is true that the far greater proportion belonged to the poorer classes. But as it was mainly among such that Christ himself dwelt familiarly when on earth, so it has ever continued to be the case, that the more open and fervent practises of religion should be principally upheld by those who have only the simplicity of their hearts to offer to God; but which simplicity when vented in his honour and worship he values far above all the science and knowledge that ever has been, or will yet be, discovered or forged by the infatuation of intellectual pride. Still there was a reasonable sprinkling here and there of those who by their dress and air showed that they were members of what is called the better sort. Among them several ladies well known in polite circles were recognised together with some gentlemen of literary distinction. It was striking to observe how utterly one spirit inspired such a heterogeneous mass. Old men who seemed hardly able to walk by the aid of a staff, young girls full of comeliness and hope, decrepit dames withered by years and sorrow, stalworth youths fresh and elastic as if ready to foot it to Jerusalem itself, were to be seen all blended promiscuously together, and equally absorbed by the blessed journey they had undertaken. As the procession moved forwards, "Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God of Sabaoth," resounded alternately in harmonious chorus and fervent recitation from its ranks together with the doxology and other sacred burdens, which, however, I did not catch so intelligibly or constantly. On their arrival at the Isergate