

## CHAPTER I.

Brest—First impressions—A four-legged baby—Paris—Castle Anholt—Prince Alfred—His family—Our position—Journey to Vienna—Audience with the Emperor of Austria—Result—Salm in the hands of his old enemies—Flight—My audience with the mother of Maximilian—Her present—Munich—Countess Salm-Hoegstraeten—Return to Westphalia—Princess Minna—Prince Alfred dangerously ill—Rheingrafenstein—von Stein—Meeting with Corvins in Rorschach—Castle Wiggen—The Rorschach Hill—The Lake of Constance—Mrs. Raggebas—Visitors—A visit to Combe Varin—Professor Edward Desor—Baron H. and wife—A Russian Baron and his daughter—Prince Hohenzollern—At the Weinburg—Off to Berlin.

To travel alone several thousand miles is a very heavy task for a young woman, especially if encumbered by a dog, whom nobody would any longer call a little dog, and which, in fact, weighed nearly twenty pounds and had distressingly long legs. Little children are great encumbrances in travelling, but they are at least looked upon as pardonable nuisances; whilst a dog is persecuted by railway and diligence conductors, and even captains of steamers, with a zeal approaching fanaticism. A baby may be shown openly—and this is rather the pleasant side of baby transportation—conductors cannot object; whilst a dog must be carefully con-