

AMONG THE MAGYARS.*

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TRACHYTE ROCKS
ON THE
SUMMIT OF THE
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HUNGARY is among the least-frequented parts of Europe. It lies eastward of the ordinary route of the tourist; its inhabitants are so polyglot in language, that even a Mezzofanti might find himself perplexed; and hence it is less known than even the frozen borders of the White Sea. The authoress of these volumes, enthusiastic as she is, can hardly have been surprised when she heard a lady exclaim: "Magyars! Magyars! A very interesting people, I dare say; but as to myself, I never could take much interest in these poor savage blacks!" Probably the general level of information does not rise above a few vague his-

torical facts. That Pest was the seat of a Roman camp whence the stately rulers of men over-awed the barbarians on the Danube; that from these vast plains Attila led his gigantic Huns to the conquest of the civilized world; that the injured Maria Theresa was here saluted by the cry, "Let us die for our king"; and that Kossuth was, some years ago, the romantic leader of an unfortunate insurrection, is perhaps all that is known of this interesting land by a large portion of the reading public. Altering our Macaulay, it may be said that for one who has mastered the history of the Magyars, there are hundreds that can tell who conquered the Incas.

The volumes before us attempt to make more widely known the beauties and the peculiarities of this strange land. That the language of the Magyar is difficult is made abundantly clear. Hungary is the modern Babel. It is a "Mosaic of nations." The traveller is jostled by Magyars, Slovaks, Wallacks, Croatians, and almost a score of other races. As the vast waves of humanity

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