

pounds per annum, and I am sorry to add that he is by no means one of the richest bishops in Germany.

Spires is a small free city, which was formerly handsomer than it is now: towards the end of the last century it was entirely destroyed by the French army; since that time it has long lain in ruins, and is now hardly above half built up again. It was one of the first Roman colonies on the banks of the Rhine, and many Roman coins are still found in the country.

Here, brother, I was in the midst of that theatre from whence, in the last century, our troops spread desolation from the Rhine to the Moselle; where Melac, appearing not as the leader of a mighty host, but the head of a murderous band, laid sixty flourishing towns in ashes, and made a desert of one of the finest countries on earth! Where Turenne, the greatest general of the greatest monarch in the world, answered the generous elector, who, struck with the wrongs his country was enduring, would bravely have risked his life for his people, and challenged the incendiary to single combat, with a bon-mot, saying, 'that since he had the honour to serve the king of France, he fought only at the head of twenty thousand men.' How little in my eyes did then appear the great Turenne, whose bon-mot, turned into common sense, amounted to no more than this: 'These twenty thousand men give me a right to lay your country in ashes!'

My friend carried me to the cathedral, half of which is still in ruins. Here I saw the tombs of the old emperors, whose sepulchres our soldiers plundered, and whose bones they strewed on the ground. 'This happened,' said my friend, 'in your golden age, under Louis the fourteenth, when your greatest poets, reasoners, and philosophers flourished; when you was supposed to have arrived at the highest pitch of polish of which a nation is capable; when we Germans were no more in your sight than so many Cherokees; and some of your academicians had the insolence to propose, as a question fit for discussion, "Whether it was possible that a German should have any esprit?"' Brother, I was almost ashamed to be a Frenchman.

Both at Spires and Bruchsal I found, in the few houses where we made our flying visits, more ease and knowledge of the world than I expected. I remarked that people are very fond of strangers in this country.

I reckon the few days I spent at Carlsruhe amongst the happiest of my life. I saw a prince who truly lives only for his people, and seeks his own happiness in theirs; one whose active and enlightened mind pervades the whole country, and by its influence makes all those who have a share in the administration patriots like himself. Education, police, encouragements to industry and agriculture; every thing, in short, here breathes a spirit of philosophy and the warm love of mankind. O that I could make many millions as happy as the margrave of Baden makes two hundred thousand men!

After the electors, and the houses of Wirtemberg and Hesse Cassel, the margrave of Baden is one of the greatest potentates in Germany. The princes of Bareith and Darmstadt are the only ones who can enter into any competition with him; his revenue is one million two hundred thousand florins, i. e. one hundred and twenty thousand pounds per annum. The margrave's country extends along the right side of the Rhine from Basil to near Philipsburg, and from thence through part of Alsatia to the Moselle. If it all lay together it would be more productive.

They carry on a large trade in cattle, wood, and wine, which last is extremely good in the environs of Basil. The country, likewise, produces a kind of marble, which some think equal in goodness to the Florentine or Carara; but this is exaggeration. The mildness of the government secures to the people the quiet enjoyment of the rewards of their industry. There are not indeed opportunities of making great fortunes,