

testimony to the cruel ravages occasioned by that of 1783. This frightful catastrophe, which has altered the aspect of those countries in an inconceivable manner, was preceded by the most appalling indications. Close, compact, and immovable mists seemed to hang heavily over the earth—in some places the atmosphere appeared red hot, so that people expected it would every moment burst out into flames—the water of the river assumed an ashy and turbid colour, while a suffocating stench of sulphur diffused itself around. The violent shocks, which were repeated at several intervals from the 5th of February to the 23rd of May, destroyed the greater part of the buildings of Calabria Ultra. The number of inhabitants who were crushed under the ruins of their houses, or who perished on the strands of Scylla, was estimated at about 50,000. Rivers arrested in their course by the fall of mountains, became so many infected lakes, corrupting the air in all directions. Houses, trees, and large fields were hurried down together to the bottom of the deep glens without being separated by the shock—in short, all the extraordinary calamities and changes which can be effected by earthquakes were beheld at this deplorable period, under the various forms which characterize them.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF SCRIPTURE.

The only partridges in the Greek islands are those with red legs, which are likewise found on the continent of Asia, and in the southern countries of Europe. In some of the Cycladas, when the inhabitants are too poor to expend much money on gunpowder, they have a practice of chasing them on foot, till the birds are so wearied as to be easily taken with the hand. Does not this illustrate I Sam. xxiv, 20; which speaks of Saul pursuing David, "as when one doth hunt a partridge on the mountains?"

I observed a peculiarity in the costume of Mr. Scoles's servant. He was a native of Saïde, near the base of mount Lebanon, and wore a sort of tunic, covered, especially at the back and arms, with the closest embroidery, and patches of variegated cloth. It reminded us at once of Joseph's "coat of many colours," (Gen. xxxvii, 3.) and of the spoils of Sisera, mentioned in the Song of

Barak—"Have they not sped? Have they not divided the prey, to every man a damsel or two? To Sisera a prey of divers colours of needlework on both sides?" Judg. v, 30.

It was likewise singularly illustrative of another fact. Saïde, his native town, is the ancient Sidon taken by Baldwin the First in A. D. 1110; and the Sidonian women have been in all ages celebrated for their embroidery. So Homer, *Iliad*, book vi, line 286; thus translated by Pope—

"The Phrygian queen to her rich wardrobe went,
Where treasure's odours breathed a costly scent.
There lay the vestures of no vulgar art,
Sidonian maids embroider'd every part,
Whom from soft Sidon youthful Paris bore,
With Helen touching on the Tyrian shore?"

As we passed through one of the retired streets in Megiste, we were surprised to hear the voice of a female issuing from one of the wretched hovels, in tones of sorrow and bewailing. It seemed, however, to attract the attention of no one save ourselves, and our guide, whom we questioned, informed us that it was a widow whose husband had died some months before, and who was now, according to custom, chanting her daily *dirge* to his memory—a practice which it is ordinary in the island to continue for 12 months after the decease of the individual, unless the mourner find a second husband in the interval.

The custom of lamenting for the dead long after the period of dissolution, is of the remotest antiquity; and Esdras mentions that, "In all Jewry they mourned for Josiah and the chief men, with the women, made lamentation for him unto this day and this was given out for an ordinance to be done by all the nation of Israel," Esdras i, 32.

On the right hand of the governor of Castellorizo, reclined his secretary—a stayed, stately personage, with a sad coloured jubbee and a crimson turban; his features full of gravity, his pen in his hand, and his long brass iukhorn (to use an Hibernicism) stuck in his girdle. This employment is one of considerable antiquity. It is common throughout the Levant, and we met with it often in the houses of the Greek. To one end of a long brass tube, for holding pens, is attached the little cases containing the moistened sepia, used for ink, which is closed with a lid and snap, and the