

and endangering of my person; being obliged to have recourse to his mane, in order to keep my seat, on account of the huge and ill-shaped wooden saddle I was mounted on. At length I found the only way to manage him was, to let him follow his companion; the postilion then cracked his whip, galloped away as fast as he could go, and my horse after him; and so exactly did he follow, step by step, that when the postilion's horse galloped, mine galloped; when his trotted, walked, or stood still, mine corresponded in every movement; till, by the time I had proceeded half a mile from the town, I found myself covered all over with dirt from head to foot, which flew from the heels of

the other horse. At length, when we had got about a mile from Rouen, as we were cantering over the pave, the postilion's horse made a false step, and dashed with great violence on the ground; the rider tumbled off, and the horse rolled upon his huge jack boot. My bidet, who followed close behind, was so strongly addicted to the vice of imitation, that without any visible cause whatever, he immediately stopped short, and tumbled down upon the other, with an apparent voluntary motion. We were all four rolling together in the most ludicrous situation imaginable; a situation, that, at the moment, I wished for that prince of caricature, Geoffrey Gamabado, to have been present at.

THE NEGRO EQUALLED BY FEW EUROPEANS.

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OTOUROU, who saw each day my eagerness for our journey, thought of nothing but the means of diminishing its dangers. Without opening his design to any one, he quitted his home, and advanced so far into the country of our enemy, that he discovered from a high mountain, the sea-coast, and some habitations, which, by their structure, (new to him) he judged to be European. Alone, and avoiding all eyes, he examined the different paths; remarked those which, more distant from the villages, were consequently less dangerous; and, assured of the accuracy of his observations, became sufficiently instructed to serve as a faithful guide during the darkness of the nights—a time which he regarded as most propitious for our little troop to traverse the country without peril.

During his absence, which lasted eight days, we felt considerable inquietude—and, above all, myself. Much greater would have been our uneasiness, had we known the danger to which he exposed his life, or at least his liberty, by this expedition.

On his return, using equal precaution as in going, he had marched one whole night to cross a forest, which he knew to be frequented during the day by our enemies. He had proceeded so far by sun-rise, that he flattered himself, he should soon be secure from danger. He knew, that the boundaries of this forest were scarcely separated from our territories by a quarter of a league, and already revelled in the pleasure which the recital of his discove-

ries would give us. Animated with this idea, he pressed forward; and, in a few minutes, he arrived so near the confines of the forest, as to distinguish the short tract of land which he had yet to pass. Judge of his terror, when he perceived the little plain, which separated him from his country, covered with a multitude of negroes, whose movements, cries, and arms, sufficiently marked the hostile designs which assembled them in this place. He remained immovable; and often has he since avowed to me, that never had any other danger so cruelly alarmed his mind. Flight was impracticable. On his left was the Senegal, whose rapid course did not leave a hope, that he could swim far enough up the stream to be out of danger. On his right, the country of the same negroes extended in the form of a crescent around our territories; and the point of the crescent, which he must gain, to avoid the enemies whom he had in front, was precisely the quarter of their country which was most inhabited. When his fear was sufficiently dissipated, to admit of reflection, he resolved on the only expedient which seemed left him. It was, to plunge into the forest, and there to wait the return of night, which might afford him some opportunity of escaping. A new reflection suddenly seized him. It sprang from the love of his country. The position of these negroes left no doubt that their design was against us; and that they hoped to surprise us, while the harvest, having scattered our people, seemed to promise them a more easy booty. He felt

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