

around my neck an iron collar, which was fastened to the scaffold; they then fixed a ring to each foot; and this being done, they stretched my limbs with all their might. They next wound two ropes round each arm, and two round each thigh, which was passed under the scaffold, through holes made for that purpose, and were all drawn tight at the same time, by four men, upon a signal made for this purpose. The reader will believe that my pains must be intolerable, when I solemnly declare that these ropes, which were of the size of one's little finger, pierced through my flesh quite to the bone, making the blood to gush out at eight different places that were thus bound. As I persisted in refusing to discover any more than what has been seen in the interrogatories above, the ropes were thus drawn together four different times. At my side stood a physician and surgeon, who often felt my temples, to judge of the danger I might be in, by which means my tortures were suspended at intervals that I might have an opportunity of recovering myself a little.

"Whilst I was thus suffering, they were so barbarously unjust to declare that were I to die under the torture, I should be guilty by my obstinacy, of self-murder. In fine, the last time the ropes were drawn tight, I grew so exceedingly weak, occasioned by the blood's circulation being stopped, and the pains I endured, that I fainted quite away insomuch that I was carried back to my dungeon without perceiving it.

"These barbarians, finding that the tortures above described could not extort any further discovery from me, but that the more they made me suffer, the more fervently I addressed my supplications to heaven; they were so inhuman, six weeks after, as to expose me to another kind of torture, more grievous, if possible, than the former. They made me stretch my arms in such a manner that the palms of my hands were turned outward; when, by the help of a rope that fastened them to-

gether at the wrist, and which they turned by an engine, they drew them nearer to one another behind, in such a manner, that the back of each hand touched, and stood exactly parallel one to another, whereby both of my shoulders were dislocated, and a considerable quantity of blood issued from my mouth. This torture was repeated thrice, after which I was again taken to my dungeon and put into the hands of physicians and surgeons, who in setting my bones, put me to exquisite pain.

"Two months after, being a little recovered, I was again conveyed to the torture-room, and there made to undergo another kind of punishment twice. The reader may judge of its horror from the following description thereof.

"The torturers turned twice around my body, a thick iron chain, which, crossing upon my stomach, terminated afterwards at my wrists. They next set my back against a thick board, at each extremity whereof was a pulley, through which there ran a rope, that caught the ends of the chains at my wrists. The tormentors then stretched these ropes, by means of a roller, pressed or bruised my stomach, in proportion as the means were drawn tighter. They tortured me on this occasion to such a degree, that my wrists and shoulders were put out of joint. The surgeons, however, set them presently after; but the barbarians not yet having satisfied their cruelty, made me undergo this torture a second time, which I did with fresh pains, though with equal constancy and resolution. I was then remanded back to my dungeon, attended by the surgeons, who dressed my bruises, and here I continued until their *auto da fe*, or gaol delivery."

On that occasion, he was sentenced to work at the galleys for four years. Soon, however, after he had commenced the degrading occupation of a galley slave, the injuries which he had received during his inquisitorial tortures having so much impaired his health that he was unable to undergo the toils