

cent sufferings dwelt so strongly upon our hearts, that though received in the kindest manner on board, and generously accommodated during a pleasant voyage, we seemed but half delivered when we eventually made the port of Brest, and were in a short time after to proceed to England. However, time, that infallible physician of grief, performed wonders for us. My sister and the captain have now passed many happy years together; and, soon after their marriage, on enquiring into our fa-

mily affairs, we found ourselves entitled to a very considerable fortune in right of our father, which we now enjoy.

Our story has never yet been made public, from our having some reasons for concealing it; but as I have given you no names you are welcome to lay the facts before your readers, and tell them, that no circumstance can justify despair, as we never can limit the power of heaven, or foresee the means by which it is benignantly preparing to serve us.

## MEMOIRS of the LIFE of HUGO GROTIUS.

[*From the Universal Magazine.*]

**HUGO GROTIUS**, or de Groot, one of the most learned men in Europe, at the commencement of the last century, was born at Delft, on the 10th of April 1583; being descended from a family of great distinction in the province of Holland. He came into the world with the most happy dispositions; a profound genius, a solid judgment, and a wonderful memory. These extraordinary natural endowments had all the advantages that education could give them. In his father, John de Groot, burgomaster of Delft, and curator of the university of Leyden, he was so happy as to find a pious and excellent instructor; his gratitude to whom he has celebrated, like Horace, in some verses still extant in his "Poemata." He was scarcely past his childhood, when he was sent to the Hague, and boarded with Mr. Uten-gobard, a celebrated clergyman among the Arminians, who took great care of his trust; and, before he had completed his 12th year, he was removed to Leyden, under the learned Francis Junius. He continued three years at this university, where Joseph Scaliger was so struck with his prodigious capacity, that he condescended to direct his studies; and, in 1597, he maintained public theses in the mathematics, philosophy, and law, with the highest applause.

At this early age, he ventured to form plans which required very great learning; and he executed them with such perfection, that the republic of letters were struck with astonishment. But these were not published till after his return from France. He had a strong inclination to see that country, and an opportunity offered; at this time, of gratifying it. The States-general came to a resolution of sending, on an embassy to Henry IV. in 1598, count

Justin of Nassau, and the grand pensionary Barneveldt; and Grotius put himself into the train of these ambassadors, for the latter of whom he had a particular esteem. The learned youth was advantageously known in France before. M. de Buzanval, who had been ambassador in Holland, introduced him to the king, who presented him with his picture and a gold chain; with which present Grotius was so transported, that he got engraved a print of himself, adorned with the gold chain. After almost a year's stay in France he returned home, much pleased with his journey; only one thing was wanting to complete his satisfaction, a sight of the celebrated M. de Thou, or Thuanus, the person among all the French whom he most esteemed. He had sought an acquaintance with that great man, but did not succeed: he resolved to repair this ill fortune by opening a literary correspondence, and presenting him with the fruits of his studies in print, which he had just dedicated to the prince of Conde. This was his edition of "Martialis Cappella." He had formed the plan of this work, and almost finished it, before he left Holland; and he published it presently after his return in 1599. M. de Thou was extremely well pleased with this address, and from this time to his death an intimate correspondence subsisted between them.

Grotius, having chosen the law for his profession, had taken an opportunity before he left France of procuring a doctor's degree in that faculty. Upon his return, he attended the law courts, and pleaded his first cause at Delft with universal applause, though he was scarcely seventeen; and he maintained the same reputation as long as he continued at the bar.

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