

published accounts in general of the *climate* of many parts of Europe, and particularly of Switzerland, as compared with that of Great Britain; this is the more strange as so many *Autumn* as well as Summer tourists have contributed to this branch of literature, though as regards even the Summer tourists, we cannot agree with their conclusions on this subject. If we were to revisit Switzerland at any season, we should do so solely for the sake of the remarkable and unrivalled scenes which that country contains, but with a conviction that as to *health*, however well we might be at starting, we should stand a reasonable chance of being the worse for it before we returned to England. Even in Summer, and in fine weather, the sudden change from the hot stifling valley to the regions first of chill, and then of frost—or else the burning sun by day, immediately succeeded by damp cold after sun-set—afford a very unfavorable climate as compared with that of Wales, the lake country of Cumberland and Westmorland, or even the highlands of Scotland. "But," perhaps the reader may object, "think of the *wet weather* in those parts of Great Britain." Go and judge for yourself, my dear sir, or madam, go to Switzerland in July, and stay there till the end of September—we won't recommend a longer trial—and another season honour the mountain country of Great Britain with a similar visit—and then come to an independent opinion as to which country has afforded you the greatest number of fine days,—the least of drenching rain, cold, fog, snow and sleet, and possibly—we say possibly—the least amount of enduring colds and acute rheumatism.

We can only say for our own experience, that we fear not the winds of mountain and flood in Great Britain; that in England at least we have always derived very great benefit from our sojourn there, and returned therefrom brown and hardy, with a renewed stock of health. Of Switzerland, we must assert, the reverse of all this has been our experience. And we can also affirm of those persons whom we have known intimately, who have gone thither for their ramble of six weeks or two months, that the greater number have returned like ourselves—sufferers. One of these, a strong healthy person, was invalided for a long time afterwards with a severe tumour, attributed to walking when heated through snow, an unavoidable predicament for all persons who explore the great sights of the country and seek what the hand-books style the healthy air of the Swiss mountains. The immediate effect upon him was, the skin peeling from his legs: his companion—delicate when he started—instead of renovating his health, was detained for a long time by illness at Clavens, on the lake of Geneva: these are but two cases of several among our friends; and indeed if you do but look about you through the greater portion of Switzerland, what signs of health do you see in the population?

The hideous *goitre* which deforms more than half the female population of most of the Cantons—more or less in all of them—the wretched idiots,—the *cretins*, so frequently exhibiting human nature in a state of the most revolt-