

apron-full, and lay them here, in the moonlight, all around the porch. It is a fine night, and they will not be the worse of the airing." The knight trembled ! he was about to cross himself.

"Hallo ! No nonsense !" cried the stranger, hastily staying his hand : " If you do not like the adventure, say so at once without mummery ; and I shall carry my advice to men of more sense and courage." As he spoke he threw his cloak in dudgeon upon his shoulders, and was turning away, when the knight caught hold of the garment, (which felt like a blanket made of spiders' webs), and besought him to have patience.

" I cannot starve," said he ; " I am not strong enough to rob, and I must have money. Sacrilege or no sacrilege, I will do your bidding !" The stranger accompanied him to the door of the chapel ; but when the knight besought him to enter and assist—

" I beg you to excuse me," said he, with a strange chuckling laugh ; " they are no kinsfolk of mine ; I have no right to lay a finger on them ; and I confess I am punctilious in matters that touch my honour."

" At least come in, then, if it is only across the threshold ; that I may know there is something living near me in this dismal vault, where the moonbeams are gliding like spectres among the pillars."

" I really would oblige you if I could ; but I dare not."

" How, dare not ?"

" No ; I have got such a cold ; it would be the death of me : " and the stranger by way of a specimen, emitted a dry hollow cough, so oddly mingled with chuckling laughter, that the knight felt his hair rising upon his head as he entered the chapel alone. His strength seemed increased, however, rather than diminished, by his terror ; and with the aid of a pick-axe, he speedily raised the stone from every grave in the place. It is an awful thing to see the effect of the moonlight as it fell quiveringly upon the skeletons. One seemed to stir its foot—another to point with its finger—and a third to grin and leer ; but when the knight