

if she had expected a stranger? She answered rather undecidedly "No;" and taking me up stairs to a little chamber, in the back part of the house; she then closed the shutters, and telling me to fasten my door, left me.

I am not a superstitious man, neither am I a man of weak nerves, but I did not feel quite comfortable in my new abode. I knew that the forests in Germany are frequently infested with robbers, and the old woman's unconcern at my arrival, and caution to lock my door, and the supper apparently intended for younger teeth than her's, made me fear that the house might at least be the resort of some freebooter. My room was not more than five feet by eight in rise, without closet or chimney place; so having fastened my door and looked under my bed undressed, and musing upon my singular situation, soon fell into a sound sleep. I was awaked about midnight by a sensation, as if a cold hand was passing slowly over my face. I was alarmed at first; but as soon as I was thoroughly awake, ascribed it to nervous excitement, and altering my position, I soon fell asleep again. I was awakened and distinctly felt a human hand, cold and clammy, pass lingeringly over my face. I started from my bed, felt underneath and stretching out my hands which touched the walls on each side, walked the whole length of the room. Nothing palpable could now have evaded my search, but I could feel nothing. I sat still and listened, but heard only the ticking of my watch at the head of my bed. At length satisfied that there could be nothing in the room I again laid down, but I was too much excited to sleep. I held my hand above my face, determined to seize it if it approached me again. I had not been many minutes in this position when it touched my open palm, and was withdrawn. I could feel the cold sweat burst from my forehead. I drew the bed-clothes over my head, and laid shuddering with horror. As soon as I judged it was nearly morning I got up, groped for my clothes, and dressed myself

as well as my trembling hands would permit. My door I found fastened as I left it. I unlocked it, found my way down stairs, and opened the door of the room. I was surprised at seeing the old woman rocking herself in the same position as I had seen her in the night before.

"I hope you slept well?" said she, without looking up.

"I did not," I replied.

"What disturbed you," said she.

"I had a strange vision," I replied: "perhaps you can explain the intrusion."

I then related the circumstances. She said nothing; but lighted a candle, went up into my chamber. I followed her, and as soon as she entered, I saw by the light of the candle that the shutters of a window which I had not before seen at the head of my bed, were partly open. She sat down the light, and opening the shutters, pointed to a man lying upon the shed, which was on a level with my window.

"'Tis my poor drunken brother," said she; "I expected him home last evening, but finding he did not come, gave him up for the night, and offered you his supper and bed. He probably returned late, and knowing that he was intoxicated, tried to get into his window without disturbing me."

I helped the poor woman to drag the bugbear into the bed, and paying for my lodgings returned to the hotel for my breakfast.

### THE ARTS.

"What cannot Art and Industry perform,  
Where science plains the progress of their toil!  
They smile at penury, disease and storm;  
And oceans from their mighty mounds recoil."

**HISTORY OF HATS.**—At a recent meeting of the London society of Antiquaries, Mr. Repton communicated a very curious and interesting paper on the history of hats, accompanied by eight sheets of drawings of hats and caps, in an infinity of shapes and fashions, from the time of Richard II. up to 184. He observed, the name hat was derived from a Saxon word, meaning a covering for the head, in which general sense it had been used by early authors, and applied to the helmets of steel. Hats and caps were anciently made of felt, woollen, silk, straw, and various other materials and were as diversified in their colors. In the time of Elizabeth the common people wore woollen caps, and some acts were passed in her

reign to encourage the manufacture of them. The broad brims were introduced by the cardinals to their scarlet hats, and followed by the clergy. The inconvenience of the broad brims all round, caused the turning of one side, then two sides were turned up, and, at last, turned up three sides introduced the cocked hat. The high crowned hat was first worn in the time of Elizabeth, and declined in the reign of Charles II. Mr. Repton then noticed the ornaments of hats, such as feathers, brooches, and bands. Henry VIII. is described, on his entry into Calais, as wearing feathers from India four feet long; and men wore feathers in their hats as late as the reign of Queen Anne. Yew is mentioned as placed in the hat to denote mourning for a deceased relative and friend. The paper contained numerous curious and amusing quotations on the subject from a great variety of authors.

**A NEW HYDROMETER.**—A new instrument to measure the degree of moisture in the atmosphere, of which the following is a description, has been recently invented by M. Baptise Lendi, of St. Gall. In a white flint bottle is suspended a piece of metal about the size of a hazel nut, which not only looks extremely beautiful, and contributes to the ornament of a room, but likewise predicts every possible change of weather twelve or fourteen hours before it occurs. As soon as the metal is suspended in the bottle with water, it begins to increase in bulk, and in 10 or twelve days, forms an admirable pyramid, which resembles polished brass; and it undergoes several changes till it has attained its full dimensions. In rainy weather this pyramid is constantly covered with pearly drops of water; in case of thunder or hail, it will change the finest red, and throw out rays; in case of wind or fog, it will appear dull and spotted; and previously to snow, it will look quite muddy. If placed in a moderate temperature, it will require no other trouble than to pour out a common tumbler full of water, and put in the same quantity of fresh

### HISTORICAL.

"As Morality is the science of human life, so History may be defined to be morality taught by example."

It may not be uninteresting here to pause a moment, for the purpose of inquiring into the manner in which the ancient government of Egypt was administered. Possessed of the finest country in the world, we might, perhaps, expect to find the Egyptians enervated by luxury, and bending beneath the iron ceptre of tyranny. For it has often happened, that when heaven profusely showers down her blessings on mankind, he completely defeats the object for which they appear to have been sent, and giving greater scope to the vile passions of his nature, converts them into curses.

In the earlier ages, it was not so with the Egyptians. The historian, speaking of their kings, observes, "the royal dignity was hereditary; yet their princes