

pas idée des crimes qui se commettent dans cette boîte. . . . Un beau livre à écrire. . . . Si vous voulez, je vous donnerai des notes. . . ." Et pendant une minute, la fixité de cet œil vert, sans pupille, m'inquiéta. Passant ensuite au motif qui l'amenait chez moi, il me demanda un titre pour un volume de souvenirs qu'il allait publier. Je lui donnai son titre et lui promis les quelque lignes d'en-tête dont il croyait avoir besoin. Là-dessus nous nous séparions, sans phrases, sur une poignée de main qui ne mentait pas.

"A bientôt, Gill?"

— Parbleu!"

Trois jours après, on le ramassait sur une route de campagne, jeté en travers d'un tas de pierres, l'épouvante dans les yeux, la bouche ouverte, le front vide, fou, refou,<sup>2</sup> jusqu'à la mort cette fois.

## NOTES.

### I.

#### TARTARIN DE TARASCON.

*Tartarin de Tarascon* was published in 1869 as a serial in *Le Petit Moniteur* and *Figaro*, and at first attracted but little attention. But when, in 1872, it appeared in book form, its value was at once recognized. Daudet had conceived the character of Tartarin during his tour in Algeria in the winter of 1861-62. He had found his prototype in a fellow-traveller, a native, however, not of Tarascon, but of a neighboring city.

While Daudet has given us in *Tartarin* a picture, somewhat exaggerated, of the typical Southern Frenchman, the *Méridional*, he has created a character which will stand, for clearness and originality, by the side of Pickwick. Indeed, in many respects the two characters are very similar: one is a typical London gentleman, drawn from an English point of view; the other is a typical Provençal, seen through a Parisian's eyes.

#### I. TARTARIN CHEZ LUI.

1. **Tarascon** lies on the east bank of the Rhone about thirteen miles below Avignon and eight miles above Arles. It is connected with Beaucaire by a suspension bridge. The jealous rivalry of these two towns gives rise to a vein of humor, which frequently crops out in Daudet's romances. Its name is traditionally derived from the *Tarasque*, a dragon-like monster which, in prehistoric times, ravaged the adjacent country.

2. **Savoyards**. The mountainous parts of Savoy between France, Switzerland, and Italy have been noted for centuries for the great number of musicians, small traders, and artisans who have gone thence to neighboring countries to earn a living.

3. **au bon soleil**: *in the blazing sunlight*.

4. **n'avait l'air de rien**: *was not specially noticeable*.

5. **coquin de sort.** A favorite expletive of Tartarin and his friends, like our *good gracious!*
6. **baobab:** *baobab.* See Eng. Dict. *Arbos gigantea:* Latin, a giant tree.
7. **nopal:** *cochineal cactus.*
8. **à se croire en pleine Afrique centrale:** *enough to make you think yourself in the very heart of Africa.*
9. **c'était déjà bien joli:** *it was quite remarkable.*
10. **mirifique:** *wonderful.*
11. **bien autre chose:** *quite another affair.* *Bien* often has merely an intensive force.
12. **tromblons:** *blunderbusses.*
13. **couteaux-revolvers:** *dirk-pistols;* a dagger with a single-barrelled pistol in the hilt.
14. **krish malais:** *Malay creeses.*
15. **flèches caraïbes:** *Carib arrows.*
16. **coups-de-poing:** *brass knuckles;* **casse-tête:** *clubs.*
17. **hottentotes:** *Hottentot;* **mexicains:** *Mexican.*
18. **est-ce que je sais:** *and what not.*
19. **par là-dessus:** *and over all.*
20. **yataganerie:** *warlike collection.* See Eng. Dict. *yataghan.*
21. **un petit écriteau bonhomme:** *an innocent-looking little notice.*
22. **méfiez-vous:** *look out.*
23. **Cook.** Capt. James Cook, the famous navigator, born in Scotland in 1728, killed at the Sandwich Islands in 1779.
24. **Cooper.** James Fenimore Cooper, the well-known American writer of Indian stories. He died in 1851 at the age of 62.
25. **Gustave Aimard.** A French writer of romance. He was born in 1818 and died in 1885. His writings were similar in subject and style to those of Cooper.
26. **chasseurs de chevelures:** *scalp-hunters.*
27. **qui donnait — bonasse:** *which gave to the kindly face of the little Tarasconian gentleman the same expression of mingled good nature and ferocity.*
28. **incomparable:** *peerless.*

## 2. LES CHASSEURS DE CASQUETTES.

1. **faisait les cent coups:** *made things lively.*
2. **il y a beau jour:** *that was long ago.*
3. **tremblement:** *bustle and din.*

4. **si bêtes que soient les bêtes:** *stupid as animals are.*
5. **cul-blanc:** *snipe.*
6. **tentantes, i. e.,** to small game.
7. **collinettes:** *little hills;* diminutive of *colline.*
8. **qui s'échelonnent:** *lying in terraces.*
9. **la Camargue.** The marshy, pond-studded delta of the Rhone, a few miles away to the southward. For a sketch of this country, its scenery, and people, see *En Camargue* in Daudet's *Lettres de mon Moulin.*
10. **septembrisades:** *indiscriminate massacres.* This word originated in an allusion to the massacre of political prisoners at Paris, September 2, 1792. See Carlyle's *History of the French Revolution*, Book IV., chaps. 4, 5, 6.
11. **enragés:** *enthusiasts.*
12. **Eh mon Dieu! Why!** A literal translation of this oft-recurring phrase would be inelegant, and much more forcible than the French equivalent.
13. **saucissot:** *sausage;* an archaic form of *saucisson.*
14. **lesté:** *filled;* literally, *ballasted.*
15. **la tire au vol avec du 5, du 6, etc.:** *shoots it on the fly with number 5 or 6 shot, according to agreement.*
16. **birman:** *Birmese.*
17. **justicier cynégétique:** *authority on hunting.*
18. **Nemrod doublé de Salomon.** See Genesis x:9, and I. Kings iv:29, 30.

## 3. LE TARASCON MUSICAL.

1. **vieilleries sentimentales:** *hackneyed sentimental songs, sentimental "chestnuts."*
2. **receveur d'enregistrement:** *register of deeds.* In France, however, this officer registers not only deeds, but notes, mortgages, receipts, bonds, contracts of all kinds, and orders of courts.
3. **si j'étais-t-invisible.** The euphonic "t" is introduced for comic effect. Such ungrammatical combinations are often made by the illiterate in the conscious striving after correctness; as, in English, we sometimes hear *garding* for *garden.*
4. **et pourtant vous pensez s'ils doivent les connaître depuis quarante ans qu'ils se les chantent:** *and yet you can imagine how well they must know them after singing them to each other for forty years.*
5. **c'était le diable pour les lui faire chanter:** *it was a deuce of a task to get him to sing them.*
6. **faire le joli cœur:** *to appear gracious.*

7. Nîmes. Seventeen miles west of Tarascon. See Preface.
8. *entre deux bougies*. Pianos in Europe are generally provided with two brackets on the front to hold candles for lighting the music rack.
9. *après s'être bien fait prier*: *after having waited to be urgently invited*.
10. *Robert le Diable*. The famous opera by Meyerbeer.
11. *devanture*: *show-window*. The little back parlor opens directly into the shop.
12. *en bon Méridional*: *like a true Southerner*.
13. *et le plus fort, c'est qu'il le croyait*: *and strangest of all, he believed it*.

## 4. ILS!

1. *prendre tout le monde*: *to be popular with everybody*.
2. *capitaine d'habillement en retraite*: *retired quartermaster*.
3. *c'est un lapin!* *he's a smart fellow*. In African folk-lore, as well, "Brer Rabbit" is the slyest of animals.
4. *après en avoir tant habillé*. Alluding to his duties as quartermaster.
5. *la magistrature*: *the bench*.
6. *cheval de trompette*: *bugler's horse*.
7. *gros sous*. Ten-centime pieces, worth two cents each.
8. *Lord Seymour*. Lord Henry Seymour was a well-known English spendthrift in fashionable life at Paris from 1840 to 1860. His name became a by-word for prodigality.
9. *le Roi des Halles*. François de Vendôme, Duc de Beaufort, born 1616, died 1669, was grandson of Henry IV. In the war of the Fronde he espoused the cause of the popular party, and was, therefore, called *le Roi des Halles*, *les Halles* being the great central market of Paris.
10. *biceps*: *biceps*. See Eng. Dict.
11. *pampas*: *pampas*. See Eng. Dict.
12. *faire une battue à la casquette*: *go cap-shooting*.
13. *il y aurait eu de quoi le faire mourir*: *it would have been enough to kill him*. Compare the syntax of *le* in this passage with that of *lui* in *pour les lui faire chanter*, chap. 3, note 5.
14. *Don Quichotte*. *Don Quixote*, the hero of Cervantes' famous romance, having filled his mind with tales of knightly adventure, donned a suit of armor, and with his fat and jolly little squire, Sancho Panza, rode up and down his native Spain in imitation of his models of chivalry.
15. *Indien Sioux*. The Sioux Indians, of the northern border of the United States.

16. *Touareg*. The Tuaregs are a clan inhabiting a large series of oases in the Sahara south of Algeria.
17. *Abruzzes*. *The Abruzzi*, a mountainous district of central Italy, was long noted as a resort of bandits.
18. *Pécaire! qu'est-ce qu'ils seraient venus faire?* *What in the world would they have expected to do?* *Pécaire* is a Provençal exclamation, marking either surprise or pity. See *La Chèvre de M. Seguin*, note 17.

## 5. QUAND TARTARIN ALLAIT AU CERCLE.

1. *chevalier du Temple*. The Knights of the Temple were an order instituted in 1118 for the defence of Palestine against the Turks and Saracens; the order was disbanded in 1312.
2. *l'infidèle*. This term refers here to the Saracens; the Saracens applied the same epithet to their Christian opponents.
3. *tigre chinois*. A soldier of the Chinese imperial guard.
4. *comanche*. The Comanche Indians live in the southwestern part of the United States.
5. *cercle*: *club*.
6. *les clairons de la retraite*: *evening bugle-call*.
7. *Branle-bas de combat!* *Clear the decks for action*.
8. *par exemple*: *you may depend*.
9. *se fendait, tirait au mur*: *practised lunging and thrusting at the wall*.
10. *fermait la porte à double tour et vivement*: *quickly shut and carefully locked the gate*.
11. *éteintes*: *darkened*.
12. *le Cours*. A broad avenue on the edge of the city; a common feature of French towns. See *Tartarin sur les Alpes*, page 40.
13. *prenant le vent*: *sniffing the wind*. The term is used of a dog when hunting.
14. *Té! vé! c'est Tartarin*: *Hello! there's Tartarin*. *Té, vé* are Provençal forms of *tenez, venez*, used as exclamations.
15. *faire son bésigue*: *play his rubber of bezique*.

## 6. LES DEUX TARTARINS.

1. *de diable au vert*: *for getting far away*. The château of Vauvert in the southern suburbs of medieval Paris was given up by Louis IX. to the monks of a neighboring cloister because it was supposed to be haunted by a demon. As this establishment was far from the center of

the city, *aller au diable de Vauvert* came into use as a popular expression for "going a long way off"; *diable de Vauvert* was afterwards corrupted into *diable au vert*.

2. **Marseille.** Only sixty-two miles away on the shore of the Mediterranean.

3. **ce diable de pont:** "that cursed bridge," a Yankee would say.

4. **Je sens deux hommes en moi.** See *Romans* vii: 19-25.

5. **hidalgo:** *nobleman*; a Spanish word. The allusion is to Don Quixote.

6. **un brave homme de corps:** *a very respectable sort of body*.

7. **geignard:** *a grumbler*.

8. **Sancho Pança.** Sancho Panza, Don Quixote's faithful squire.

9. **quel mauvais ménage ils y devaient faire!** *what a dog's life they must have led together!*

10. **Lucien:** *Lucian*; a Greek essayist and satirist of the second century.

11. **St. Évremond.** A somewhat satirical French writer who lived from 1613 to 1703.

12. **à deux coups:** *double-barreled*. The usual expression is *à deux canons*.

13. **mocassins:** *moccasins*.

14. **genouillères:** *lap-robbers*.

15. **sonnant la bonne:** *ringing for his maid-servant*.

16. **moiré:** *shimmering*; like watered silk.

#### 7. LE MIRAGE.

1. **avait failli partir:** *came near going away*.

2. **Shang-Hai:** *Shanghai*; one of the principal ports of China.

3. **la Russie, la Perse, la Turquie d'Asie:** *Russia, Persia, Asiatic Turkey*.

4. **Haut Commerce:** *wholesale importing business*.

5. **d'une hauteur:** *grandiloquent enough*.

6. **Tartares.** The Manchu Tartars have been the ruling race in China since 1644.

7. **pan! pan!:** *bang! bang!*

8. **c'était tout comme:** *it was all the same thing*.

9. **Toulouse.** The largest city of the south central part of France.

10. **mirage:** *mirage*. See Eng. Dict.

11. **ce diable de pays:** *this bewitched country*.

12. **Provence.** The southeastern corner of France was called by the Romans *Provincia Nostra*. During the Middle Ages it was governed by the counts of Provence, but in 1486 it was united to the Kingdom of France by Charles VIII. The Provençal language, which retains a closer affinity to the Latin than the French, is the common colloquial language of Languedoc, west of the Rhone, as of Provence east of that river. Indeed, in various dialects it is spoken as far north as the Loire in France, in Northwestern Italy, and in Northeastern Spain. The national characteristics of the two old provinces are also so nearly alike that Daudet uses indifferently the adjectives *Provençal* and *Méridional* in speaking of the popular peculiarities of the southern French.

13. **la butte Montmartre.** A hill, three hundred feet high, on the northern edge of Paris now closely built over.

14. **la Maison carrée de Nîmes.** The little Roman temple at Nîmes, though very well preserved, considering its age of 1900 years, is only 82 feet long by 40 wide. The cathedral of Notre Dame at Paris, built in the thirteenth century, is more than five times as long as the Maison carrée, and covers about forty times as much ground.

15. **bijou d'étagère:** *a bit of bric-à-brac for a cabinet*.

16. **Sparte, Athènes:** *Sparta, Athens*, the two most powerful cities of Ancient Greece.

17. **bourgade:** *little town*.

18. **sous-préfecture:** *county-town*. France is divided for administration into *départements*, each presided over by a *préfet*; and each *département* is divided into *arrondissements*, each under a *sous-préfet*; their central offices and chief towns would be called respectively *préfectures* and *sous-préfectures*. In general, therefore, the *départements* and *arrondissements* would correspond to *states* and *counties* in this country.

#### 8. LA MÉNAGERIE MITAINE.

1. **laurier séculaire:** *everlasting renown*. A wreath of laurel was a prize in the Pythian games in Greece.

2. **fusil à aiguille:** *needle-gun*. The use of this gun gave the Prussians a great advantage over the Austrians in 1866.

3. **croise la baïonnette:** *stand at "charge bayonet."*

4. **boas:** *boas*.

5. **l'Atlas.** The high mountain system of Northwestern Africa; ranges of it run through Algeria.

6. **de mémoire d'homme:** *within the memory of man*.

7. *s'était vue*: *had been seen*. This passive use of the reflexive verb is not uncommon.

8. *mille dieux!* *Great heavens!*

9. *Hé! bé!* *Well! well!* a Provençal ejaculation.

10. *emboitant fièrement le pas*: *bravely following close behind him*.

11. *Kabyle*. The Kabyles are tribes of Berbers living in the north-eastern part of Algeria.

12. *pensionnaires*: *boarders*; referring to her animals.

13. *le jarret tendu*: *his leg firmly set*.

14. *leur baillant au nez à tous*: *yawning in the face of them all*; *à tous* is appositive to *leur*.

15. *cette terrible moue*. See page 3.

16. *Ça, oui, c'est une chasse*: *There now, such game as that would be worth hunting*.

17. *le cours*: *the promenade*. See chap. 5, note 12.

18. *Et autrement — au moins*: *By the way — don't you?* The translation of these two phrases must be determined by the context wherever they occur.

19. *sonnaient à faire trembler les vitres*: *were noisy enough to shake the very windows*.

20. *grisé par le succès*: *intoxicated with the popularity*.

21. *avant peu*: *very soon*.

22. *sérénade aux flambeaux*: *serenade by torchlight*.

23. *il fit à Tartarin-Quichotte une scène effroyable*: *he had a frightful time with Tartarin-Quixote*.

24. *par le menu*: *in detail*.

25. *fièvres chaudes, peste noire, éléphantiasis*: *brain fever, black plague, elephantiasis*. See Eng. Dict.

26. *feu Cambyse*: *the late Cambyses*. Cambyses, king of Persia, soon after his conquest of Egypt, in 525 B.C., sent an army of fifty thousand men to occupy the oasis of Ammon, but they nearly all perished on the way.

27. *ne parvint à l'apaiser un peu qu'en lui expliquant que ce n'était pas pour tout de suite*: *succeeded in quieting him a little only by explaining that he was not going at once*.

28. *Il faut savoir où l'on va, que diable!* *Good gracious! a man must know where he is going*.

29. *Mungo Park* was born in Scotland in 1771. He made his first expedition to the River Niger in 1795-6, and lost his life in a second expedition to the same country in 1805.

30. *Caillé*. René Caillé, a Frenchman, was born in 1799, and died in 1838. He travelled over the same part of Africa as Park did, and was the first to bring back to Europe authentic news of the fate of Park and his party.

31. *Livingstone*. David Livingstone, the most famous of African explorers, was born in Scotland in 1813; he died in Africa in 1873. He traversed the southern portion of that country repeatedly during the last thirty-three years of his life.

32. *Henri Duveyrier*. Henri Duveyrier, who was born in 1840, has travelled extensively in Northern Africa, and has published several books of his tours.

33. *de longue main*: *a long time ahead*.

34. *ail*. Daudet delights in rallying the Provençals on their fondness for garlic.

35. *vous pensez si le pauvre Sancho fit la grimace*: *you may imagine what a wry face poor Sancho made*.

36. *faire son tour de ville*. See *Tartarin sur les Alpes*, page 40.

37. *la place du Château*. The square in front of the castle of King René. See *Défense de Tarascon*, note 53.

#### 9. AVANT LE DÉPART.

1. *et de se faire expliquer*: *and to get him to explain to them*.

2. *Jules Gérard*. The most famous of the lion-hunters of Algeria; he was born in 1817 and was drowned in Africa in 1864. He killed in all twenty-five lions. His two books, *La chasse au lion* and *Gérard le tueur de lions*, appeared in 1855 and 1856.

3. *connaissait la chasse au lion sur le bout du doigt, comme s'il l'avait faite*: *had at his tongue's end all that could be known of lion-hunting, as if he had been personally engaged in the sport*.

4. *que*: *when*.

5. *moka*: *Mocha coffee*.

6. *laurier-rose*: *oleander*.

7. *neiges*. The Atlas mountains are never entirely free from snow. Some of them are over 11,000 feet high.

8. *scorpions*: *scorpions*.

9. *phénoménale*: *extraordinary*.

10. *une balle explosible*. A bullet arranged like a bomb, to explode after entering the body of the victim.

11. *garçonnetts*: *urchins*; diminutive of *garçons*.

12. *bien réellement*: *really*; *bien* merely strengthens *réellement*.

13. toujours est-il que: *the fact remains that*. Notice that the verb and the pronoun in declarative expressions sometimes occur in inverted order. This is regularly so after *toujours, aussi, à peine, peut-être*.

14. fait une malle: *packed a trunk*.

15. fit fureur: *was all the rage*.

16. Et autremain, pour quand ce voyage? *By the way, when do you start?*

17. qui faisait volontiers deux doigts de cour: *took pleasure in paying some slight court*.

18. la langue du cru: *the vernacular*.

19. devait: *was expected*.

20. en un tour de main: *in less than no time*.

21. Lou fusioù de mestre Gervai  
Toujou lou cargon, part jamai:

The French equivalent for this Provençal, "*Le fusil de maître Gervais: toujours on le charge, il ne part jamais*," is made sufficiently clear in the text.

22. cela se chantait. This reflexive is equivalent to an impersonal expression.

23. lui glisser dans la main: *slipping from his grasp*.

24. fit: *said*. *Fit* is frequently used for *dit* when it introduces an exclamation.

25. l'encadrement de la porte: *the doorway*.

26. clos: *cozy*.

27. stores: *window-shades*.

28. conserves alimentaires: *canned provisions*.

29. pemmican: *pemmican*. See Eng. Dict.

30. une tente-abri — se montant et se démontant à la minute: *a shelter-tent capable of being pitched or struck in a minute*.

31. arnica: *arnica*.

32. vinaigre des quatre-voleurs: *thieves'-vinegar*. See Eng. Dict. It was carried in a small bottle about the person as a charm to ward off contagious diseases.

33. ne décolérait: *did not cease nagging him*.

#### 10. LE DÉPART.

1. ourdisseuses: *warpers*. See Eng. Dict.

2. taffetassières: *taffeta-makers*. See Eng. Dict.

3. bâches: *awnings*.

4. flots: *tassels*.

5. grelots, sonnettes. The *grelot* is spherical and hollow, and contains a free ball; the *sonnette* is of the ordinary bell shape and contains a swinging tongue.

6. venues en croupe de leur galant: *riding behind their sweethearts*.

7. Mésomopotamie: *Mesopotamia*; strictly that part of Asiatic Turkey between the Euphrates and the Tigris rivers.

8. traçant sur leur passage comme des sillons glorieux: *leaving ripples of admiration as they passed*.

9. il se fit: *there began*.

10. chechia. *Chechia* is the Algerian name for the fez, a close-fitting, visorless, red woolen cap, ornamented with a long blue tassel, *flot*. It is the common head-covering worn in all countries along the eastern and southern shores of the Mediterranean.

11. d'une longueur: *of great length*.

12. qui venait là bien à propos pour corriger ce qu'il y avait d'un peu trop farouche: *which were just the things to tone down the somewhat excessive fierceness*.

13. chez lui: *home*.

14. embarcadère: *station*.

15. chef de gare: *station-master*.

16. un vieil Africain de 1830: *a veteran of the Algerian war of 1830*.

17. salles d'attente: *waiting-rooms*.

18. encombrement: *crowd*.

19. Socrate. *Socrates*, the Athenian philosopher, was condemned to death in 469 B.C., on a charge of impiety. He conversed calmly with his friends up to the last moment, when he drank the decoction of hemlock which ended his life.

20. hommes d'équipe: *railway porters*.

21. En voiture! *All aboard!*

#### II. TARTARIN ET BOMBONNEL.

Tartarin finds the luxurious attractions of the provincial capital, Algiers, so powerful that he forgets for a time his proposed hunting trip. Aroused after a time to a recollection of his purpose, he starts for the interior of the country to find lions. The following scene occurs in the stage-coach.

1. buée: *mist*.

2. de petits soldats de plomb faisaient l'exercice: *little stiff soldiers were drilling*. They reminded the writer of leaden toy soldiers.

3. ne sentait pas encore le lion : *gave as yet no promise of lions.*
4. serviette : *portfolio.*
5. une insistance gênante : *an annoying stare.*
6. regardait toujours Tartarin : *kept his eyes on Tartarin.*
7. trappiste : *trappist.* See Eng. Dict.
8. Orléansville. A large town, 120 miles south-west of Algiers.
9. et toute la diligence de rire en regardant : *and all the passengers smiled as they noticed.* This elliptical use of the infinitive with *de* is not uncommon.
10. Cadet Roussel. A comic character on the French stage in 1792. Everything about his dress was arranged by threes, including three tufts of hair in his wig.

"Cadet Roussel a trois cheveux,  
Deux pour la face, un pour la queue."

11. Tê! pardi . . . si je le connais : *What! I know him?*
12. tout juste : *exactly so.*
13. Chassaing. Jacques Chassaing, born in 1821, died in 1871, was a famous lion hunter. His "*Mes chasses aux lions*" was published in 1870.

## II.

### TARTARIN SUR LES ALPES.

TARTARIN SUR LES ALPES appeared in 1886, fourteen years after *Tartarin de Tarascon*. The hero, who has been for some years President of the Alpine Club of Tarascon, finds his popularity on the wane, and in order to strengthen his candidacy in the approaching election, in which he has a formidable rival, he decides to prove his fitness for the place by climbing some of the highest of the Alps. His adventures in this expedition furnish an opportunity to Daudet for caricaturing Alpinism in general.

#### I. LE CLUB DES ALPINES.

1. en fanfare : *like a flourish of trumpets.*
2. Paris-Lyon-Méditerranée. The official name of the railway system of Southeastern France.
3. vibrant : *quivering.*
4. voyons un peu Tarascon : *let's get a glimpse of Tarascon.*

5. proprette : *tidy.*
6. cocasseries délirantes : *side-splitting jokes.*
7. fait la popularité de l'endroit : *makes everybody curious to see the place.*
8. en des pages. Of *Tartarin de Tarascon*.
9. vie de cercle : *club life.*
10. la guerre. The Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71.
11. dit : *described*; in *La Défense de Tarascon*.
12. esplanade torpillée : *the public square planted with torpedoes.*
13. franches : *volunteer.*
14. s'aborder : *approach each other.*
15. toutes. Notice that *toutes* agrees with *sociétés*.
16. bâton : *quarter-staff.*
17. chaussons : *fencing-shoes.*
18. luttés à main plate : *boxing with the open palm.*
19. bouillotte. A game of cards.
20. Alpine Club. This club, the oldest of its class, and probably the most exacting in its requirements for admission to membership, was organized in London in 1858.
21. méchantes : *ugly.* *Les Alpines* are about 7 miles east of Tarascon.
22. pic : *alpenstock.*
23. Himalaya. The highest mountains in the world, on the northern border of India.
24. résumé : *represents.*
25. belles fêlures : *pleasing oddities.*
26. odyssee : *epic*; described in the second part of *Tartarin de Tarascon*, and compared, by the use of this word, with the famous wanderings of Ulysses. See Eng. Dict. *Odyssey*.
27. garenne — choux : *of the warren, — of the cabbage-garden*; *i. e.*, wild — tame.
28. tisanier : *fond of dosing.* See *tisane*.
29. Regina montium : *queen of mountains.* Tartarin begins his tour of the Alps by the ascent of the Rigi, which rises to the height of 5905 feet, close beside Lake Lucerne, in central Switzerland.
30. de son état : *by occupation.*
31. aux méplats fripés, meurtris comme à coups de marteau : *with cheeks as flat as if beaten down by a hammer.*
32. Tibère — Caracalla. The Roman emperor Tiberius reigned from A.D. 14 to 37, and Caracalla from 211 to 217.
33. termite : *termite.* See Eng. Dict.

34. *ses affûts au lion*. See second part of *Tartarin de Tarascon*.  
 35. *pas moins*. An idiomatic exclamation, peculiar to Tartarin and his neighbors; equivalent here to "What about them?"  
 36. *Té! pardi*: *But, good gracious!*  
 37. *et autrement*: *well, what of it?* See *Tartarin de Tarascon*, page 21.  
 38. *mais l'Alpiniste chez lui prêtait à toutes les critiques*: *but the Alpinist in him exposed him to all sorts of criticism*.  
 39. *que l'âge enlourdissait visiblement*: *who was plainly growing clumsy from age*.  
 40. *V. P. C. A.*: *Vice-Président du club des Alpes*.  
 41. *travaillait si bien la place*: *electioneered so well*.  
 42. *sauterait*: *would fail of reelection, would be "bounced"*.  
 43. *chez les Volsques*. An allusion to Coriolanus. See any History of Rome.  
 44. *P. C. A.*: *Président du club des Alpes*.

## 2. TARTARIN PART POUR LA SUISSE.

1. *par exemple*. For *par exemple*, in the brogue of Tarascon. In another place Daudet quotes *ézagéré* for *exagéré*.  
 2. *la Jungfrau, le Mont-Blanc*. The former is one of the most imposing mountains of Switzerland, rising to the height of 13,670 feet in the Bernese Oberland. The latter, the highest summit of the Alps, 15,730 feet, stands on the boundary of France and Italy.  
 3. *les Escalades de Whymper*. Edward Whymper, author of "Scrambles Among the Alps," and John Tyndall, author of "Glaciers of the Alps," both Englishmen, and two of the most noted Alpinists of the world. The former has also published "The Ascent of the Matterhorn" and "Travels Among the Great Andes of the Equator." He is at present mountaineering among the Himalayas. Prof. Tyndall, best known perhaps as a scientist, has also published "Hours of Exercise in the Alps." Stéphen d'Arve is the *nom de guerre* of E. de Catelin, author of *Les fastes du Mont-Blanc*.  
 4. *cheminées, couloirs, moulins, névés, séracs, moraines, rotures*. With the exception that *cheminée* sometimes appears as *chimney*, these words continually occur, untranslated, in English Alpine literature. A *cheminée* or *couloir* is a very narrow, steep gully generally swept by frequently-falling masses of ice and snow. A *moulin* is a deep pit in a glacier, into which a surface stream passes. *Névé* is snow hardened by pressure nearly into ice. *Séracs* are the most jagged portions of a

- glacier, lifted and broken by pressure from behind, and falling forward upon the smoother ice-stream below. For *moraine*, see Eng. Dict. A *roture* is a deep crevasse, a Savoyard term from the Italian *rottura*.  
 5. *crevasses*: *crevasses*. See Eng. Dict.  
 6. *des arêtes de glace embrochaient son corps au passage*: *ice arêtes split him in two as he tried to pass over them*. An *arête* is a sharp mountain-ridge. In passing along one that is quite covered with snow or ice, it is sometimes necessary to sit astride the ridge and work one's way forward with feet and hands.  
 7. *entraînement*: *training*.  
 8. *cyprins*: *gold-fish*.  
 9. *lenticilles d'eau*: *duckweed*.  
 10. *manigances*: *strange antics*.  
 11. *en*. A local idiom for *à*.  
 12. *piolet système Kennedy*: *a Kennedy ice-axe*. The ice-axe specially approved by the English Alpinist, E. S. Kennedy, differs from others in the manner in which the head is fastened to the shaft.  
 13. *lampe à chalumeau*: *portable cooking-lamp*.  
 14. *prépare un coup*: *is arranging a master-stroke*.  
 15. *ethnographique*: *ethnographic*. See Eng. Dict.  
 16. *calumets, narghilés*. See same words in Eng. Dict.  
 17. *pipettes*: *little pipes*; with small bowls.  
 18. *kif*. A mixture of opium and hasheesh.  
 19. *mansuétude*: *benignity*.  
 20. *péchère*: *alas!* another form of *pécaire*.  
 21. *différemment*: *well, now!* a Tarasconian exclamation, like *autrement*.  
 22. *trois lettres*. *P. C. A.*  
 23. *paraphé*: *signed with his own flourish*.  
 24. *Turenne*. The most famous French general of his time. He was born at Sedan in 1611, and was killed by a cannon-ball at Sasbach in 1675.  
 25. *jacquemart*. A figure of a man in metal, arranged to strike the hours on a bell with a hammer. The word is from the name of the supposed inventor, *Jacques Marc*.  
 26. *placette*: *little square*; diminutive of *place*.  
 27. *Codex*. The collection of formulas adopted by the medical faculty of Paris.  
 28. *tarasconnade*: *Tarasconian subterfuge*. Compare English *gasconnade*.  
 29. *sonnette de secours*: *night bell*.



30. dont l'apothicairerie ne le gardait pas: *from which his profession of apothecary could not shield him.*
31. ipéca . . : *ipecac.* See Eng. Dict.
32. qué: for *que*. Translate, *But, deuce take it, why don't you listen to me?*
33. à qui l'on a fait manquer son entrée: *who has not been given his cue.*
34. Bé. Provençal for *bien*.
35. d'avant la conquête. Algiers was taken by the French in 1830, but the country was not wholly subdued until 1855.
36. romaines, sarrazines: *Roman, Saracenic.* As Southern France was for a long time ruled by the Romans, and afterwards repeatedly overrun by the Moors, it is possible that the types referred to are relics of that occupation. Note that the adjectives are feminine, referring to *îles*.
37. ultra-pacifiques: *most peaceful.*
38. conquistador: *conqueror*; a Spanish word.
39. Pizarro. Francisco Pizarro, the Spanish discoverer and conqueror of Peru, was born about 1471. He was assassinated at Lima in 1541 by his rivals for the control of the country which he had conquered only twelve years before.
40. sanguinède: *Sanguinède*; a Provençal family name, used to designate the brand of licorice.
41. sirupus gummi: *gum syrup*; a mixture of gum arabic, sugar, and water.
42. coquin de sort! *confound it!* a favorite oath of Tartarin's.
43. tics: *unconscious habits.*
44. élixir de Garus: *Garus' cordial.* Garus and Sanguinède are pharmacists of Southern France, locally well-known.
45. Calabre: *Calabria*; a province of Southern Italy.
46. sols. Pronounced like *sous* and having the same meaning.
47. bavait sur: *contemptuously ridiculed.*
48. en raffolent: *enjoy the joke hugely.* *En* is explained by *ce sirop de cadavre.*
49. libations. See *libations* in Eng. Dict.
50. comme l'auvent de la porte était mis: *as the upper half of the door was closed for the night.* The lower half is only about a yard high. The upper part, entirely independent of the lower, is covered at night with shutters, which are fastened to the door-frame.
51. à quatre pattes: *on all fours.*
52. C'étaient les épreuves du voyage qui commençaient: *Thus began the trials of his tour.*

## III.

## LA DÉFENSE DE TARASCON.

This sketch dates from the siege of Paris, which lasted from the middle of September, 1870 to the end of January, 1871. During that period Daudet remained in the city and formed one of the home-guard. His *Contes du Lundi*, from which this selection is taken, is made up mostly of war sketches.

1. l'exaltation: *excitability.*
2. Strasbourg. *Strasburg*, the largest city of Northeastern France, capitulated September 27, 1870, after a most destructive bombardment. It has since then belonged to Germany.
3. Châteaudun. This small town lies eighty-four miles south-west of Paris; it was burned by the advancing Germans, October 10, 1870.
4. Laon. *Laon*, eighty-seven miles north-east of Paris, was badly damaged by the explosion of its powder-magazine, which a French engineer fired just as the victorious Germans were entering the fortifications.
5. du bon soleil plein ses rues: *its streets full of cheerful sunlight.*
6. Gardez-vous de croire pourtant: *Don't imagine, however.*
7. Sedan. At the battle of Sedan, 170 miles north-east of Paris, September 1, 1870, the army of Napoleon III. was badly beaten and made prisoner.
8. Alpilles. The same as *Alpines.* See *Tartarin sur les Alpes*, page 36.
9. le 4 septembre. The French Republic was proclaimed September 4, 1870, as soon as the news of the disaster at Sedan had become known at Paris.
10. Attila: *Attila*, the savage king of the Huns, was the terror of Southern Europe from 434 to his death in 453. He is here taken as the type of the German army.
11. manifestation d'orphéonistes: *demonstration of choral societies.*
12. orphéon de St. Christophe: *society of St. Christopher*; *orphéon* denotes the society, and *orphéoniste*, a member.
13. barcarolle. Venetian boat-song.
14. la Marseillaise. This song and air were composed by Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle, a soldier of the French army at Strasbourg in 1792. It was called at first *Chant de l'armée du Rhin*; but as it was

first sung at Paris by a corps of Provençals from Marseilles, its name was changed to *la Marseillaise*.

15. **Chant du départ.** This patriotic song, like the Marseillaise, had its origin in the Revolution. The words were written by Joseph Chénier, and the music by Méhul in 1793.

16. **chaises.** The small, rush-bottomed chairs in public parks in French cities are generally let for a cent or two during the concerts given by military or other bands.

17. **cavalcades historiques:** *historical processions.*

18. **quêter:** *soliciting.*

19. **filets à papillons:** *butterfly-nets*; the riders use them to collect contributions from people at the upper windows along the route.

20. **François Ier.** At the battle of Pavia in North Italy, February 24, 1525, Francis I. of France was completely defeated by the Imperialists and Spaniards and taken prisoner.

21. **esplanade:** *esplanade.* See Eng. Dict.

22. **écus d'armes:** *escutcheons.*

23. **cimiers:** *helmet-crests.*

24. **miroirs aux alouettes.** A concave mirror, made of many small ones set in a frame, is sometimes used for catching birds by attracting them to the reflected sunlight.

25. **un grand coup de mistral:** *a violent mistral.* See *mistral*, Eng. Dict.

26. **reîtres:** *knights.* A French form of the German *Reiter*.

27. **tout est perdu fors l'honneur.** An exclamation commonly supposed to have been used by Francis I. on his capture; a similar expression occurs in a letter written by him to his mother a few days after the battle.

28. **Digo-li qué vengué, moun bon** (= *Dis-lui qu'il vienne mon bon*): *Tell him to come, my boy*; a piece of Provençal slang used as a boastful challenge.

29. **il n'en fallait pas plus pour monter les têtes:** *nothing more was needed to arouse an excitement.*

30. **exaltation:** *enthusiasm.*

31. **tron de Dieu de général Trochu:** *General Bombastes Trochu.* General Louis Jules Trochu was in command of Paris during the siege. He was 55 years old at that time. *Tron de Dieu* is a vulgarism for *tonnerre de Dieu*.

32. **coquin de bon sort:** *good gracious!* See *Tartarin de Tarascon*, chap. 1, note 5.

33. **vin des Papes.** See *La Mule du Pape*, page 74.

34. **de la sauce jusqu'aux oreilles:** *up to their ears in gravy.*

35. **et qu'ils avaient bien raison:** *and good right they had to say so.*

36. **gagnait:** *spread.*

37. **Dijon rendu.** Dijon, the ancient capital of Burgundy, in the east central part of France, surrendered to the Germans October 31, 1870.

38. **Lyon.** Lyons is about 158 miles north of Tarascon at the junction of the Rhone and the Saône.

39. **uhlans.** The uhlans are a body of mounted troops in the German army, armed with sabres and lances.

40. **chassepot:** *chassepot*; the rifle used in the French army from 1866 to 1874. It was named from its inventor.

41. **franc-tireurs:** *sharpshooters.*

42. **Narbonnais.** The country about Narbonne southwest of Tarascon.

43. **Espingoliers:** *blunderbuss-corps.* *Espingole* means *blunderbuss*.

44. **centaurées:** *bluets.*

45. **ceintures d'une largeur:** *wide belts, or voluminous sashes.*

46. **Abruzzes.** See *Tartarin de Tarascon*, chap. 4, note 17.

47. **le diable, c'est que:** *the deuce of it was that —.*

48. **le décret de Bordeaux:** Bordeaux, the most important city of Southwestern France, was the seat of the provisional French government from December 9, 1870 to March 10, 1871.

49. **triumvirs.** See *triumvir* in Eng. Dict. The reference here is to Léon Gambetta, Jules Favre, and Jules Simon, the three principal members of the French ministry at that time.

50. **de marche, — sédentaires:** *for active service, — for reserves.*

51. **lapins de garenne et lapins de choux.** See *Tartarin sur les Alpes*, chap. 1, note 27.

52. **gros lézard empaillé.** The people of Tarascon kept a huge stuffed figure of the dragon-like Tarasque from which their city was supposed to have derived its name. It was carried about the streets annually in procession. For the subsequent history of the Tarasque, see Daudet's *Port-Tarascon*, Book I, chap. 4, and Book III, chap. 1.

53. **fauconneaux:** *falconets*; small cannon used in the sixteenth century.

54. **bon roi René.** No prince was ever more kindly remembered by his people than René, Count of Provence, Duke of Anjou, and King of Naples. He died in 1480. His castle at Tarascon is the most conspicuous edifice in the town.

55. **à ces malheureux lapins.** *A* is not translated, it merely introduces the phrase *ces malheureux lapins* explanatory of *leur*. Compare the expression *mon ami à moi*, my friend.