

mind by the company you keep, will remain. Do not expect to read all, or even a small part of what comes out<sup>1</sup> and is recommended in this age of books. You take up a book and read a chapter. How shall you know whether<sup>2</sup> it is worth your reading without reading it through? In the same way that you would know whether a cask of wine was good. If you draw one glass, or two, and find them stale and unpleasant, do you need to drink off the whole cask to decide that you do not want it? I have somewhat else to do, in the short day allotted to me, than to read whatever any one else may think it his duty to write. When I read, I wish to read to good purpose, and there are some books which contradict on the very face of them what appear to me to be first principles. You surely will not say : I am bound to read such books. If a man tells me he has a very elaborate argument to prove that two and two make five, I have something else to do than to attend to his argument. If I find the first mouthful of meat which I take from a fine-looking<sup>3</sup> joint on my table to be tainted, I need not eat through it to be convinced I ought to send it away. But there is a shorter route, and one every way more safe—and that is to treat books as you do medicines : have nothing to do with them till others have tried them, and can testify to their worth. There are always what are denominated *standard* works at hand, and about which there can be neither doubt nor mistake.

Verbes irréguliers<sup>4</sup> : *to read*; *to leave*; *to keep*; *to draw*; *to find*; *to think*; *to write*; *to bind*; *to eat*.

1. *To come out*, paraître.

2. *Whether*, si. Les Anglais emploient la conjonction *whether* quand elle est suivie de *or*, exprimé ou sous-entendu : *whether it is worth your reading (or no)*.

3. Voyez version 79, note 3.

4. Désormais nous omettrons les verbes irréguliers les plus usités, on doit maintenant les connaître.

## VERSION 82.

*Lettre d'un fils à sa mère.*

“My dear Mother,—Though I am now sitting with my back towards you, yet I love you none the less; and, what is quite as strange, I can see you just as plainly as if I stood peeping in upon you<sup>1</sup>. I can see you all, just as you sit round the family table. Tell me, if I do not see you. There is mother<sup>2</sup> on the right of the table, with her knitting, and a book open before her; and anon she glances her eyes from the work on the paper to that on her needles; now counts the stitches, and then puts her eye on the book, and starts off for another round. There is Mary, looking wise, and sewing with all her might, now and then stopping to give Sarah and Louisa a lift<sup>3</sup> in getting their lessons, and trying to initiate them into the mysteries of geography. She is on the left of the table. There, in the back-ground, is silent Joseph, with his slate<sup>4</sup>, now making a mark, and then biting his lip, or scratching his head, to see if the algebraic expression he wants may have hidden<sup>5</sup> in either of those places. George is in the kitchen, tinkering his skates, or contriving a trap for that old offender of a rat<sup>6</sup>, whose cunning has so long brought mortification upon all his boastings. I can now hear his hammer, and his

1. *To peep in upon*, regarder secrètement par la porte ou par la fenêtre.

2. *There is mother*, voilà mère.

3. *A lift*, un peu d'aide.

4. *Slate*, ardoise. Dans les écoles anglaises et américaines on se sert d'ardoises encadrées presque autant que du papier pour faire ses devoirs.

5. *May have hidden itself*, peut s'être caché.

6. *That old offender of a rat*, ce vieux délinquant, le rat. *Ce coquin de valet*, se dit de même, *that knave of a servant*. Quel chien de voleur ! *what a dog of a thief* !



whistle — that peculiar, sucking sort of whistle which always indicates a puzzled state of the brain. Little William and Henry are snug in bed, and if you will just open their bed-room door, you will barely hear them breathe. And now, mother has stopped, and is absent and thoughtful, and my heart tells me that she is thinking of her only absent child. Who can he be? Will you doubt any more that I have studied magic, and can see with my back turned to you, and many a hill and valley between us?"

Verbes irréguliers : *to sit*; *to stand*; *to bite*; *to hide*; *to bring*.

## VERSION 83.

*Lettre d'un fils à sa mère (suite).*

"You have been even kinder than I expected or you promised. I did not expect to hear from you till to-morrow at the earliest. But as I was walking, to-day, one of my class-mates cries, "A bundle for you at the stage office<sup>1</sup>!" And away I went as fast as the dignity of sophomore<sup>2</sup> would allow me. The bundle I seized, and muffled it under my cloak, though it made my arm ache; with as much speed as my "conditions"<sup>3</sup> would permit me, I reached my room. Out came my knife<sup>4</sup>, and forgetting all your good advice about "strings and fragments," the said bundle quickly owned me victor, and opened its very heart to me; and it had a warm heart too, for there were the stockings (they are now on my feet, *i. e.*

1. *At the stage office*, au bureau des voitures.

2. *Sophomore*, étudiant. Nom comique qu'on donne aux étudiants dans les universités des États-Unis.

3. *My conditions*, ma dignité.

4. *Out came my knife*, mon couteau fut bientôt dehors. L'adverbe placé ainsi avant le verbe dont il fait partie donne plus de vivacité à l'expression.

one pair), and there were the flannels, and the bosoms<sup>1</sup>, and the gloves, and the pin-cushion from Louisa, and the needle-book from Sarah, and the paper from Mary, and the letters and love from all of you. I spread open my treasures, and both my heart and my feet danced for joy while my hands actually rubbed each other out of sympathy. Thanks to you all, for bundle, and letters, and love. One corner of my eye is now moistened, while I say, "Thank ye all, gude<sup>2</sup> folks." I must not forget to mention the apples—"the six apples one from each"—and the beautiful little loaf of cake. I should not dare to call it little, if it had not brought the name from you. The apples I have smelled and the cake I have just nibbled a little, and pronounce it to be "in the finest taste".

Verbes irréguliers : *to hear*; *to forget*; *to spread*.

## VERSION 84.

*Lettre d'un fils à sa mère (suite).*

"Now, a word about your letters. I cannot say much, for I have only read mother's three times and Mary's twice. Those parts which relate to my own acts and doings greatly edify me. Right glad to find that the spectacles fitted mother's eyes so well. You wonder how I hit it. Why, have I not been told from my very babyhood, "you have your mother's eyes?" And what is plainer, than that if I have her eyes I can pick out glasses that will fit them? I am glad, too, that the new book is a favourite. I shall have to depend on you to read for me, for here I read nothing but my lexicon,

1. *The bosoms*, les plastrons de laine pour la poitrine.

2. *Gude*, écossais pour *good*. *Good folks*, bonnes gens.



and, peradventure, dip into mathematics. Joseph's knife shall be forthcoming; and the orders of William and Henry shall be honoured if the apothecary has the pigments. George is delighted with his new sled<sup>1</sup>—a cheering item; for my thumb has retired into his cot<sup>2</sup>, and growled and ached ever since, and even now, ever and anon, gives me a twinge, by way of recalling the feat of building the sled. And you really think the pigs have profited by my labours, and that, though they have forgotten me, yet they like the sty! If they do well, I shall be paid next fall<sup>3</sup>, whether they are grateful or not. Old Charley<sup>4</sup> should be kept warm. He has carried us too many miles to be neglected now. I am sorry I did not have his condition more in mind when at home. Poor fellow! I enjoyed his aid, and helped to make him grow old. And old Rover, let him have his new kennel warm; and if he thinks so much of me as to "go to my room" after me, let him have my old wrapper. One member more—tell Sukey<sup>5</sup> that, though I mention her after horses and dogs, it is not out of any want of respect, I will wear the mittens which she knit and sent, and, in return, though I cannot approve, will send as much, at least, of "real Scotch"<sup>6</sup> as will fill her box."

Verbes irréguliers : *to hit* ; *to build* ; *to pay* ; *to keep* ; *to grow old* ; *to wear*.

1. *Sled, sleigh*, et plus souvent *sledge*, traîneau.
2. *Cot*, chaumière. *Has retired into his cot*, a dû se mettre à l'abri.
3. *Fall*, chute (des feuilles), l'automne.
4. *Old Charley*, le vieux Charlot ; nom d'un vieux cheval.
5. *Sukey*, Suzanne, la servante.
6. *Real Scotch*, de l'écossais pur, tabac à priser.

## VERSION 85.

*Lettre d'un fils à sa mère (suite et fin).*

"I suppose the pond is all frozen over, and the skating good. I know it is foolish; yet, if mother and Mary had skated as many "moony" nights as I have, they would sigh, not at the thought, but at the fact that skating days are over<sup>2</sup>. Never was a face more bright and beautiful than the face of that pond in a clear, cold night, under a full moon. Do the boys go down by my willow still? and do they still have the flag on the little island in the centre, where I used to rear the flag-staff once a year? I was going to tell you all about college; but when I think I will begin, pop!—my thoughts are all at home. What a place home is! I would not now exchange ours for wealth enough to make you all kings and queens.

"I am warm, well, and comfortable : we all study some<sup>3</sup>, and dull fellows like me have to confess that we study hard. We have no genius to help us. My chum<sup>4</sup> is a good fellow;—he now sits in yonder corner—his feet poised upon the stove in such a way that the dullness seems to have all run out of his heels into his head, for he is fast asleep.

"I have got it framed, and there it hangs—the picture of my father! I never look up without seeing it and I never see it without thinking that my mother is a widow, and that I am her eldest son. What more I think I will not be fool enough to say ; you will imagine it better than I can say it.

1. *Moony*, pour *moonshiny*, éclairé par la lune ; au clair de lune.
2. *Are over*, sont finis.
3. *Some*, un peu.
4. *My chum*, mon camarade de chambre



"I need not say, Write, write; for I know that some of you will at the end of three weeks. But love to you all, and much too. I shall tell you of my methods of economy in my next.

"Your affectionate son, etc."

J.-B.

Verbes irréguliers : *to freeze over; to begin; to sit; to run; to hang.*

VERSION 86.

*Le "steward" d'un bateau à vapeur turc.*

Our steward is a genuine Oriental in a place of trust. Oil is not softer, air not more buoyant than his spirits. No noise disturbs him; no sarcasm stings him; no shout, no threat ever ruffles the calm good nature of his smiling face. For one who smokes in bed, and breaks his fast on<sup>2</sup> pickles, he has a roundness in his cheek, a music in his laugh, which tell you he belongs to that happy band of men whose dreams agree with them<sup>3</sup>. Ring, and rave as you list, this easy man, snug in his sheets, will not only forgive the noise you make, but he will take no eager and unkindly notice of your passion of tongue and feet. Why should he? Does he not send you a cup of tea at seven; serve up a meal of sardines, pickles, and uncooked swine at eight; indulge you with a refresher of rusk and cheese, and a dash of cognac in your drink about the hour of noon; provide a table of twelve good dishes and one poor wine at four, produce a kettle, a

1. *Steward*, celui qui est chargé des provisions à bord du bateau à vapeur, le restaurateur. Il vaut mieux garder le mot anglais.

2. *On pickles*, avec des "pickles," des légumes confits.

3. *Whose dreams agree with them*, dont les rêves leur font du bien; traduisez : qui n'ont que des rêves heureux. On dit de ce qu'on mange ou de ce qu'on boit : *coffee does not agree with me*, le café m'est contraire.

lemon, and a familiar spirit<sup>1</sup> about nine; amuse you with chess and books, and put out your lamp at ten? What more would you have? Such is your bill of the feast. Nothing can be added, nothing can be changed, unless (a word in your ear, Eccellenza), you would like to arrange with him for some acts of friendship by a *privatæ tip*<sup>2</sup>. A steward who does his duty from seven in the morning till ten at night ought not to be disturbed in his dreams, except by the chink of *zwanzigers*<sup>3</sup> and francs.

Verbes irréguliers : *to sting; to break; to ring; to forgive.*

VERSION 87.

*Mise à l'eau du Great-Eastern.*

At the beginning of the year 1858, a ship six times as large as any structure of human ingenuity that had ever before been floated upon the water, was lying on the bank of the River Thames, a few miles below London, in the ship-yard where it had been built, rivet by rivet, and plate by plate<sup>4</sup>, with its iron scales, "shut up together" as with a close seal, one so near to another that no air can come between them."

This modern Leviathan<sup>6</sup> which, spite of its enormous weight of 12,000 tons, M. Brunel<sup>7</sup> undertook to draw

1. *A familiar spirit*, un esprit familier, des spiritueux.

2. *A private tip*, un cadeau à part.

3. *Zwanziger*, mot allemand, pièce de 20 (kreutzers).

4. *Rivet by rivet, and plate by plate*, rivet à rivet, et plaque à plaque.

5. *Shut up together*, pressées l'une contre l'autre.

6. *Leviathan*, Léviathan, nom donné par l'Écriture Sainte au plus grand habitant des eaux, probablement la baleine.

7. M. Brunel, fils de Brunel, ingénieur français, qui construisit le *Thames tunnel*, ou tunnel sous la Tamise, prédécesseur du tunnel sous le mont-Cenis et de celui plus hardi encore qu'on propose de creuser sous le Pas-de-Calais.



into the water by a hook, proved to be a very refractory<sup>1</sup> individual to deal with. Day after day, and week after week, for ten long weeks, was the effort renewed, and the struggle carried on. Only by inches was its determined and obstinate resistance to be<sup>2</sup> overcome. Iron cables, as thick as a man's thigh, were broken by the strain of the conflict, as if they had been pack-thread. Oaken beams, seventeen inches square, crumpled up<sup>3</sup> and bounded into the air, as if they had been reeds. Water perspired, under the exertion, in drops, through walls of iron six and eight inches thick; and these walls, seemingly as inflexible as doom<sup>4</sup>, were torn like so much parchment. Still the resolute engineer persevered in his purpose, and the work went on. Steam engines tugged at huge warps<sup>5</sup> laid out to moorings<sup>6</sup> in the river on one side. Hydraulic rams, propped up against gigantic piers, butted on the other. And an army of two thousand workmen hovered, like ants, about the dire and inscrutable powers which were thus constrained to do the will of the master.

Verbes irréguliers : *to lie*; *to undertake*; *to draw*.

#### VERSION 88.

##### *Mise à l'eau du Great-Eastern (suite).*

On the 29th of January 1858, the huge structure had, by this dogged determination and perseverance, been pushed and dragged so far, that it was within six feet of the end of the sloping way<sup>7</sup>, and its keel was plunged

1. *Refractory*, indocile.
2. *Was.... to be*, pouvait être.
3. *Crumpled up*, se rétrécissaient.
4. *Doom*, le jugement dernier.
5. *Warps*, câbles.
6. *Moorings*, points d'amarrage.
7. *Sloping way*, plan incliné.

ten or eleven feet into the water. It was now conceived that the victory was within reach<sup>1</sup>, and that upon the rise of the tide, the noble ship might be towed off into the middle of the stream. Four sturdy little steam-tugs panted<sup>2</sup> close at hand, ready to take charge of the monster, when once it was afloat upon the wave. But alas! yet another disappointment was at hand for the much tried<sup>3</sup> engineer. At the last moment, and upon the apparent margin<sup>4</sup> of success, a new and unlooked for antagonist presented itself, and put a decided stop to all progress. This was the more<sup>5</sup> provoking, too, since the antagonist, although of sufficient strength to set at nought hydraulic rams and steam-engines, was, nevertheless, so treacherous and subtle, in its own nature, that it could not be seen. With all its energy of resistance it kept itself well out of sight. On the 29th of January, when the Leviathan appeared to be on the point of sliding into the water, a heavy gale of wind began to blow directly on shore<sup>6</sup>, and it was found that the pressure of this gale upon the broadly expanded surface of the ship, as it lay sideways<sup>7</sup> to the river, was three times as great as the moving power<sup>8</sup> which had been provided to carry it off into the stream. It was not until this subtle and invisible antagonist had withdrawn its opposition, until the strong westerly gale had subsided on the morrow, that the magnificent Leviathan steam-ship, the Great Eastern could be dragged

1. *Within reach*, à leur portée; assurée.
2. *Panted*, haletaient.
3. *Much tried*, tant éprouvé.
4. *Margin*, bord; *on the apparent margin*, au moment même.
5. *The more provoking*, d'autant plus contrariant.
6. *On shore*, sur le rivage; il faut traduire : se mit à souffler du côté de la rivière.
7. *Sideways*, de côté, c'est-à-dire présentant le flanc.
8. *The moving power*, la force motrice.

Versions anglaises.



off from the platform on which it had been cradled, and launched into its watery<sup>1</sup> life.

## VERSION 89.

*La force de l'air.*

The vigorous antagonist which could, for a season, laugh to scorn all the skill and power of the expert engineer, and which could, single-handed<sup>2</sup>, hold back the enormous mass of moulded iron hanging upon its slippery slope, and urged downwards<sup>3</sup> by terrific force, was Moving Air<sup>4</sup> or Wind; that soft and gentle element which scarcely stirs the down of a feather when not roused into activity<sup>5</sup>; which can hardly be felt when the hand is thrust through it; and which cannot be seen, even when the delicate sense of the eye is sharpened by the wonderful aid of the microscope. Air is of so exquisite and refined a nature when at rest and still, that the men of old who first pried into the secrets of nature, believed that it really was not possessed of material being<sup>6</sup>, and called it "spirit," to distinguish it from more coarsely substantial existence. Now, however, it is known that this seeming "nothingness" of the air is altogether an illusion dependent upon the imperfection, or more correctly speaking, the "shortness" of man's power of seeing<sup>7</sup>.

1. Watery, au sein des flots.

2. Single-handed, seul, avec sa seule force.

3. Urged downwards, poussée vers l'eau.

4. Moving air, l'air en mouvement. Le vent n'est que de l'air en mouvement.

5. Roused into activity, ne le met en mouvement.

6. Material being, les propriétés de la matière. Le mot latin spiritus signifie souffle.

7. Shortness of seeing, faiblesse de vision.

## VERSION 90.

*La pesanteur de l'air.*

If the eye were acute enough to perceive what is before it when it looks into the thin and transparent air, it would take note of a countless multitude of little material particles, dancing about as the motes do in a sun-beam, and mingling harmoniously together, in extended space<sup>1</sup>. These motelike particles are piled higher and higher up towards the sky, some seventy or eighty miles at least above the tops of the highest mountains. Even in its calmest mood, this far-stretching<sup>2</sup> invisible air has a strength and power of its own<sup>3</sup>. It presses down, even when at rest, upon bodies lying beneath it with an enormous weight. The moving air, acting upon six thousand square yards of outspread canvass, will be able to drive the twenty-five thousand tons<sup>4</sup> of the loaded Leviathan steam-ship over the sea, with a speed of some nine or ten miles<sup>5</sup> an hour, without any assistance from steamworked<sup>6</sup> machinery. The same air at rest will press perpendicularly upon its broad deck, as it lies motionless, but fully loaded, at its moorings, in the middle of the Thames, as a burthen of not less than<sup>7</sup> the entire weight of the ship and its cargo. Every square foot of the plank of its deck will sustain rather more than half a ton of unseen and invisible air.

1. In extended space, dans l'immensité de l'espace.

2. Far-stretching, qui s'étend au loin, vaste.

3. Of its own, à lui.

4. Le ton anglais pèse vingt quintaux anglais ou 1015 kilogrammes.

5. Le mile anglais mesure près de 1610 mètres.

6. Steamworked, mû par la vapeur.

7. As a burthen of not less than, d'un poids égal à.



## VERSION 91.

*Les deux langues. 1° Le franco-normand.*

The proud Norman was not successful in imposing his own tongue upon the subjugated nation, when the fatal day of Hastings placed the British realm in the hands of his race. In vain was Norman-French spoken from throne, pulpit, and judgment-seat; in vain did the Norman nobles long disdain to learn the language of the enslaved Saxon. For a time the two idioms lived side by side, though in very different conditions; the one, the language of the master, at court and in the castles of the soldiers who had become noble lords and powerful barons; the other, the language of the conquered, spoken only in the lowly hut of the subjugated people. The Norman altered and increased the latter, but he could not extirpate it. To defend<sup>1</sup> his conquest, he took possession of the country; and, master of the soil, he erected fortresses and castles, and attempted to introduce new terms<sup>2</sup>. The universe and the firmament, the planets, comets and meteors, the atmosphere and the seasons, all were impressed with the seal of the conqueror. Hills became mountains<sup>3</sup>, and dales valleys;

1. Dans ce morceau et dans celui qui le suit nous avons essayé de faire comprendre la nature des deux dialectes dont la combinaison a formé la langue anglaise, et l'emploi pour ainsi dire spécial aux mots empruntés à chacun d'eux : les mots tirés du français étant réservés pour exprimer les idées dérivées de la vie policée, civilisée, ou pour faire double emploi avec les mots saxons; ceux-ci, au contraire, exprimant les objets et les sentiments de la vie de famille, les choses de tous les jours et qui existent de tout temps. Pour mieux faire ressortir cette différence, nous avons souligné les mots franco-normands dans le premier morceau et les mots saxons dans le second.

2. To introduce new terms, de donner aux objets de nouveaux noms.

3. Hills became mountains, le nom saxon de la colline fut remplacé par le mot franco-normand montagne.

streams were called *rivers*, and brooks *rivulets*; waterfalls changed into *cascades*, and woods into *forests*. The deer, the ox, the calf, the swine and the sheep appeared on his sumptuous table, as *venison*, *beef*, *veal*, *pork* and *mutton*. *Salmon*, *sturgeon*, *lamprey* and *trout* became known as *delicacies*; *serpents* and *lizards*, *squirrels*, *falcons* and *herons*, *cocks*, *pigeons* and *mules* were added to the animal kingdom. Earls and lords were placed in rank below his *dukes* and *marquises*. New titles and dignities, of *viscount*<sup>1</sup>, *baron* and *baronet*, *squire* and *master*, were created; and the mayor presided over the Saxon aldermen and sheriff; the chancellor and the peer, the ambassador and the chamberlain, the general and the admiral headed the list of the officers of the government. The king alone retained his name<sup>2</sup>, but the state and the court became French; the administration was carried on according to the constitution; treaties were concluded by the ministers in their cabinet, and submitted for approval to the sovereign; the privy council was consulted on the affairs of the empire, and loyal subjects sent representatives to parliament. Here the members debated on matters of grave importance, on peace and war<sup>3</sup>, ordered the army and the navy, disposed of the national treasury, contracted debts, and had their sessions and their parties. At brilliant feasts and splendid tournaments collected<sup>4</sup> the flower of chivalry; magnificent balls, where beauty and delicious music enchanted the assembled nobles, gave new splendour to society, polished the manners and excited the admiration of the ancient inhabitants, who charmed by such elegance, recognized in their conquerors

1. Viscount, vicomte; prononcez : vaï'kaoun'te.

2. Retained his name, retint son nom saxon.

3. War, guerre : comparez warrant et g[u]jarant, ward et g[u]jarde, wages, gages, etc., etc.

4. Collected, se rassemblait.



persons of superior intelligence, admired them, and exerted themselves to imitate their fashions.

## VERSION 92.

*Les deux langues (suite). 2° L'anglo-saxon.*

But the dominion of the Norman did not extend to the home<sup>1</sup> of the Saxon; it stopped at the threshold of his house: there, around the fireside in his kitchen and the hearth in his room, he met his beloved kindred; the bride, the wife, and the husband, sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, linked to each other by love, friendship and kind feelings, knew nothing dearer than their own sweet home. The Saxon's flocks, still grazing in his fields and meadows, gave him milk and butter, meat and wool; the herdsman watched them in spring and summer; the ploughman drew his furrows and used his harrows, and in harvest, the cart and the flail; the reaper plied his scythe, heaped up sheaves, and hauled his wheat, oats and rye to the barn. The waggoner drove his wain, with its wheels, fellows<sup>2</sup>, spokes, and nave, and his team bent heavily under their yoke. In his trade by land and sea, he still bought and sold, in the store or the stall, the market or the street, he cheapened his goods and had all his dealings, as pedlar or weaver, baker or cooper, saddler, miller or tanner. He lent or borrowed, trusted his neighbour, and with skill and care thrived and grew wealthy. Later, when he longed once more for freedom, his warriors took their weapons, their axes, swords and spears, or their dreaded bow and arrow. They leaped without stirrup into the saddle, and killed with shaft

1. Il va sans dire que nous n'avons pas souligné les mots de la grammaire, articles, pronoms, prépositions, adverbes, qui sont tous pour ainsi dire d'origine saxonne.

2. Fellow ou felly, jante (de roue).

and gavelock<sup>1</sup>. At other times they launched their boats and ships, which were still pure Anglo-Saxon from keel to deck, and from the helm or the rudder to the top of the mast, afloat and ashore, with sail or with oar. As his fathers had done before him in the land of his birth the Saxon would not merely eat, drink and sleep, or spend his time in playing the harp and the fiddle, but by walking, riding, fishing and hunting, he kept young and healthy; while his lady and his children were busy teaching or learning how to read and to write, to sing and to draw. Even needlework was not forgotten, as their writers say that "by this they shone most in the world." The wisdom of later ages was not known then, but they had their homespun<sup>2</sup> sayings which by all mankind are yet looked upon as true wisdom, such as: God helps them that help themselves; lost time is never found again; when sorrow is asleep, wake it not!

## VERSION 93.

*Un incident de la peste de Londres.*

It is said that it was a blind piper; but, as John told me, the fellow was not blind, but an ignorant, poor weak man, and usually went his rounds about ten o'clock at night, and went piping along from door to door, and the people usually took him in at public-houses where they knew him, and would give him drink and victuals and sometimes farthings; and he in return would<sup>3</sup> pipe and sing, and talk simply<sup>4</sup>, which diverted the people, and thus he lived. It was but a very bad

1. Gavelock, barre de fer, masse d'armes, aujourd'hui pince en fer.

2. Homespun, filé à la maison, simple.

3. Would pipe and sing, jouait et chantait; c'est l'imparfait fréquentatif.

4. Simply, naïvement.



time for this diversion, yet the poor fellow went about as usual, but was almost starved; and when anybody asked how he did, he would answer, that the dead cart had not taken him yet, but that they had promised to call<sup>1</sup> for him next week.

It happened one night that this poor fellow, whether somebody had given him too much drink or no, or had given him a little more victuals than ordinary, and the poor fellow, not having usually had a bellyful, or perhaps not for a good while, had laid himself all along fast asleep at a door, in the street near London Wall, towards Cripplegate; and that the people of one of the adjoining houses, hearing a bell, which they always rang before the cart came, had laid a body really dead of the plague just by him, thinking too that this poor fellow had been a dead body as the other was, and had been laid there by some of the neighbours.

Accordingly when John Hayward with his bell and the cart<sup>2</sup> came along, finding two dead bodies lie upon the stall, they took them up with the instrument they used, and threw them into the cart, and all this while the piper slept soundly.

## VERSION 94.

*Un incident de la peste de Londres (suite).*

From hence they passed along, and took in other dead bodies, till, as honest John Hayward told me, they almost buried him alive in the cart, yet all this while he slept soundly; at length the cart came to the place where the bodies were to be thrown into the ground; and as the cart usually stopped some time before they were

1. *To call for him*, venir le chercher.

2. *Cart*, tombereau. John Hayward, le fossoyeur, ou plutôt, dans ces jours malheureux, l'ensevelisseur.

ready to shoot out the melancholy load they had in it, as soon as the cart stopped, the fellow<sup>1</sup> awaked, and struggled a little to get his head out from among the dead bodies, when, raising himself up in the cart, he called out, "Hey! where am I?"

This frightened the fellow that attended about the work, but, after some pause, John Hayward, recovering himself, said: "Lord bless us! there's somebody in the cart not quite dead." So<sup>2</sup> another called to him, and said "Who are you?" The fellow answered, "I am the poor piper. Where am I?"—"Where are you?" says John Hayward; "why, you are in the dead cart, and we are going to bury you."—"But I an't dead though<sup>3</sup>, am I?" says the piper; which made them laugh a little, though, as John said, they were heartily frightened at first: so they helped the poor fellow down, and he went about his business<sup>4</sup>.

I know the story goes, he set up<sup>5</sup> his pipes in the cart, and frightened the bearers and others, so that they ran away; but John Hayward did not tell the story so, nor say anything of his piping at all; but that he was a poor piper, and that he was carried away as above, I am fully satisfied of the truth of<sup>6</sup>.

1. *The fellow*, l'homme, l'individu. *Fellow*, est pris en bonne ou en mauvaise part selon l'adjectif qui y est joint. Employé sans adjectif, *fellow* comporte toujours une idée de mépris ou de pitié méprisante, l'individu, le drôle, le pauvre diable.

2. *So*, alors.

3. *Though*, dont le sens ordinaire est *quoique*, *bien que*, *malgré que*, a le sens de *cependant* quand il est placé ainsi à la fin de la phrase.

4. *To go about one's business*, aller vaquer à ses affaires, s'en aller.

5. *(That) he set up*, qu'il se mit à jouer de.

6. *I am fully satisfied of the truth of*, c'est un fait de la vérité duquel je suis pleinement persuadé. *Satisfied*, satisfait, content, a souvent en anglais le sens de *convaincu*, *persuadé*.



## VERSION 95.

*Les changements de nos jours.*

The good of ancient times let others state,  
I think it lucky I was born so late.

Mr Editor<sup>1</sup>—It is of some importance at what period a man is born. A young man, alive at this period, hardly knows to what improvements in human life he has been introduced; and I would bring before his notice the following eighteen changes which have taken place in England since I first began to breathe in it the breath of life—a period amounting now to nearly seventy-three years<sup>2</sup>.

Gas<sup>3</sup> was unknown: I groped about the streets of London in all but the utter darkness of a twinkling oil lamp, under the protection of watchmen<sup>4</sup> in their grand climacteric<sup>5</sup> and exposed to every species of depredation and insult.

I have been nine hours in sailing from Dover to Calais before the invention of steam. It took me nine hours to go from Taunton to Bath<sup>6</sup>, before the invention of railroads, and I now go from Taunton to London in six hours<sup>7</sup>! In going from Taunton to Bath, I suffered between ten and twelve thousand severe contusions before stone-breaking Macadam<sup>8</sup> was born.

1. Mr Editor, Monsieur le Rédacteur.

2. Sidney Smith, auteur de cette lettre écrite en 1841, naquit en 1768.

3. Un Allemand nommé Wintzer prit le premier un brevet pour l'éclairage au gaz en 1804.

4. Watchmen, les veilleurs de nuit.

5. Climacteric, houppe-lande.

6. Taunton et Bath, villes du comté de Somerset. La distance n'est que de dix milles ou environ seize kilomètres à vol d'oiseau.

7. Aujourd'hui on fait le voyage de Paris à Londres en dix heures.

8. Macadam (1753-1836), inventeur des routes ainsi appelées.

I paid fifteen pounds in a single year for repairs of carriage springs on the pavement of London; and I now glide without noise or fracture on wooden pavements.

I can walk, by the assistance of the police, from one end of London to the other without molestation; or, if tired, get into a cheap and active cab, instead of those cottages on wheels, which the hackney-coaches were at the beginning of my life.

I had no umbrella! they were little used and very dear. There were no waterproof hats, and my hat has often been reduced by rain into its primitive pulp<sup>1</sup>.

I could not keep my smallclothes<sup>2</sup> in their proper place, for braces were unknown. If I had the gout, there was no colchicum. If I was bilious, there was no calomel. If I was attacked by ague, there was no quinine. There were filthy coffee-houses instead of elegant clubs. Game could not be bought<sup>3</sup>. Quarrels about all sorts of questions of Church and State were endless. The corruption of Parliament, before the Reform bill, was most disgraceful. There were no banks to receive the savings of the poor<sup>4</sup>. The poor-laws were gradually sapping the vitals of the country; and whatever miseries I suffered, I had no post to whisk my complaints for a single penny<sup>5</sup> to the remotest corners of the king-

domées de cailloux concassés. Ce système consiste en un empiérement de cailloux de six centimètres cubes environ.

1. Pulp, pâte.

2. Smallclothes, pantalon, culotte, mot poli pour breeches, qui n'est pas bien reçu.

3. La vente du gibier était prohibée.

4. Les premières caisses d'épargne furent établies en Angleterre en 1798, mais ne réussirent pas tout d'abord, elles ne furent solidement établies, du moins à Londres, qu'en 1816. Celle de Paris fut instituée en 1818 par le duc de La Rochefoucauld-Liancourt, auquel succéda comme président M. Benjamin Delessert. Depuis lors cette excellente institution s'est répandue dans le pays tout entier, et commence même à s'introduire jusque dans les plus petites écoles, sous le titre de « le sou des écoles ».

5. Le penny postage fut établi en Angleterre en 1840. Si Sidney Smith pouvait écrire de nos jours, combien d'autres inventions



dom ; and yet, in spite of all these privations, I lived on quietly, and am now ashamed that I was not more discontented, and utterly surprised that all these changes and inventions did not occur two centuries ago.

## VERSION 96.

*Citations.*

Good name, in man and woman, dear my lord,  
Is the immediate<sup>1</sup> jewel of their souls.  
Who steals my purse, steals trash; 't is something, nothing;  
'T was mine, 't is his, and has been slave to thousands :  
But he that filches from me my good name,  
Robs me of that which not enriches<sup>2</sup> him,  
And makes me poor indeed.

There is a tide in the affairs of men,  
Which, taken at the flood<sup>3</sup>, leads on to fortune;  
Omitted<sup>4</sup>, all the voyage of their life  
Is bound in shallows, and in miseries :  
And we must take the current when it serves,  
Or lose our ventures<sup>5</sup>.

The good man hath a daily beauty in his life ;  
He hath an ear for pity, and a hand  
Open as day for melting charity.

n'aurait-il pas eu à enregistrer, le télégraphe électrique, la photographie la machine à coudre, le téléphone, etc., etc.

1. *Immédiate*, le plus précieux.
2. *Which not enriches him pour which does not enrich him.*
3. *At the flood*, au moment du flux.
4. *Omitted*, qu'on la laisse passer, et....
5. *Our ventures*, toutes nos chances; c'est-à-dire tout ce que nous avons aventuré.

## VERSION 97.

*Le calife et la veuve.*

When the Cross in Spain was broken,  
And the Moors her sceptre<sup>1</sup> swayed,  
In his royal town a caliph  
A fair stately palace made.  
Pleasant was the wide-arched mansion  
With its quaintly-figured walls,  
And the silver-sprinkling fountains  
In its marble paven<sup>2</sup> halls.  
Arabesques filled every chamber  
With a wild fantastic grace,  
And the Koran's golden ciphers<sup>3</sup>  
Made a mystery of the place;  
Rich the tracery of each lattice  
Carven<sup>4</sup> sharp with master-craft,  
And the mouldings wrought like lace-work  
On each tall and tender shaft.  
Sudden glimpses of trees waving,  
With a freshness to the eye,  
Came through pillared courts all open  
To the soft blue summer sky.  
And around it were sweet<sup>5</sup> gardens,  
Sunny clumps of scented bloom<sup>6</sup>,  
Dusky umbrage-shadowing alleys,  
With a cool delicious gloom.  
Near the palace a poor Widow

1. *Her sceptre*, son sceptre; en tenaient le sceptre. *Her* se rapporte à l'Espagne.
2. *Paven* pour *paved*.
3. *Ciphers*, lettres.
4. *Carven* pour *carved*; *carven sharp*, délicatement taillé.
5. *Sweet gardens*, de riants jardins.
6. *Clumps of bloom*, des touffes de fleurs.