

garters formed into tassels, completes the dress. The lower classes cover their feet with brogues of untanned leather, and their heads with a flat blue cap, or *bonnet*, as they call it, made of a particular kind of thick woollen stuff.

The dress of the Highland women consists of a petticoat and jerkin with close sleeves, over which they wear a plaid, fastened under the chin, and falling in graceful folds to the feet. Round the head they fold a kerchief, or piece of fine linen, in various forms; though the young women have rarely more than a ribband for this purpose. Shoes and stockings are little worn by the Highland females, except among the higher classes.

The habitations of the Highlanders are generally built in glens, or valleys, by the side of a lake, or near a river or stream, with a little arable land adjoining. The walls are of turf or stones, raised about six feet high, on the top of which is a roof, constructed with the branches of trees, and covered with turf, on which grass grows; so that a traveller, at a little distance, distinguishes with difficulty a hut from a green hillock. The interior is divided into three compartments, namely, the *butt*, or kitchen, the *benn*, or inner room, and the *byar*, or cattle-stall. The partition between these apartments is frequently no more than an old blanket, or a piece of sailcloth. In the kitchen, and sometimes in the inner room, are cupboard beds for the family; but more frequently, when the fire on the ground is extinguished, they

lay their bed of heath and blankets on the spot, on account of the earth being dry.

Dancing is a favorite amusement in this country; but little regard is paid to art or gracefulness; the whole consists in agility, and keeping time to their own tunes.

Those inhabitants of Scotland who live chiefly by pasturing sheep and cattle, have a natural vein for poetry and music. The beautiful simplicity of the Scottish tunes is relished by all true judges of the science, or admirers of nature. The favorite national instrument is the bagpipe, which was introduced into the country by the Norwegians at a very remote period.

## IRELAND.

THIS island, situated to the west of Great Britain, and separated from it only by a strait, constitutes a portion of the British empire. The government is consequently the same, and so is the authorized religion; but the majority of the people are Roman Catholics.

The Irish language is a dialect of the ancient Celtic, and nearly the same with that of the Scottish Highlanders. The use of it occasions among the common people a peculiar tone, or *brogue*, which has become so general, as to prevail even in the higher classes, though they do not understand Irish. The literature of Ireland has a claim to antiquity:



during the dark ages, Ireland was the Asylum of European learning: in modern times, she has produced numerous eminent men of letters; and few nations have given more undeniable proofs of a genius adapted to literary and scientific pursuits. The national music is chiefly of the plaintive kind; yet not altogether destitute of lively and exhilarating strains.

The Irish are in general of shorter stature than the English; and, among the lower classes, personal beauty is less diffused. This is attributed to the different modes of living in the two countries.

Dauntless valor, ardor of affection, incorruptible fidelity in keeping secrets, impatience of injury, implacability in resentment, unbounded hospitality, strong local attachment, parental and filial tenderness, insatiable inquisitiveness, endless loquacity, acuteness and shrewdness mixed with blundering precipitancy, mark the genuine Irishman, with whom everything is in extremes.

The higher classes are possessed of an overbearing pride. Every kind of business they despise, except that of a wine-merchant, in which some branches of the first families are engaged.

The common people are in a miserable state of poverty. In the country, they live in mean huts, or cabins, built of clay and straw, partitioned in the middle by a wall of the same materials. One of these apartments accommodates

the family, who live and sleep promiscuously, having their turf fire in the midst of the floor, with an opening through the roof for the escape of the smoke: the other is occupied by a cow, or such articles of lumber as are not in immediate use. Potatoes, with coarse bread, eggs, milk, and occasionally fish, constitute their food.

In all the cities of Ireland, there are districts called *Irish Towns*, occupied entirely by the poor, whose mud cabins, thatched with straw, are half buried amidst hills of dirt. These are usually found in the suburbs, and shelter a race of idle wretched beings, for whom the slow progress of improvement has not yet provided any adequate employment. In all this misery, however, with famine continually staring him in the face, the Irishman is always cheerful, and ready to share his morsel with his more destitute fellow-creatures.

When one of the lower class of Irish would appear dressed, at a fair, or on a holiday, he puts on his whole stock of apparel: and at such seasons it is not uncommon to see him, though in the hottest part of the summer, toiling under the weight of a couple of shaggy great coats. When inspired by whiskey, of which they are immoderately fond, the men become very quarrelsome; and if this happens where numbers are assembled, old quarrels are renewed; not a few broken heads are the consequence (for the Irishman always goes armed with a bludgeon,) and, too often, death ensues.



The Irish expend large sums upon funerals; and such is their ambition for pageantry and show on these occasions, that the poor often begin to collect money for defraying the expense before the person is dead. They have also the practice of *waking the dead*; and employ hired mourners, called *keeners*. The lowest price for one of these *keeners* is five shillings; and when he has given what he considers the worth of his hire, he retires from his station at the head of the corpse; the cries of the company cease, and eating and drinking commence; after which, amusements of various kinds are resorted to, dancing not excepted. On the day of the funeral, the coffin is placed upon a common car, drawn by a single horse, surrounded and followed by a vast concourse of people, in long blue cloaks, giving loud utterance to their grief. As the funeral proceeds, the cavalcade is augmented from the villages near which it passes, and the noise is proportionally increased: but as the crowd usually consists of strangers, the symbols of real grief are not observable in their countenances.

## FRANCE.

THE government of France is called a constitutional monarchy; but it is rather a democracy, with a magistrate called *King of the French* at its head. The established religion is Roman Catholic; and though all modes of Chris-

tian worship, as well as Judaism, are nominally tolerated, Protestants are continually exposed to insults from the bigoted populace.

The French language, which is known and spoken in all parts of civilized Europe, is chiefly derived from the Latin, but intermixed with many words and idioms of Celtic and Gothic origin. It is peculiarly adapted to the lighter species of writing. The education of all classes is extensively promoted in establishments, public and private, of every degree.

France has long been looked up to, as the standard from which there is no appeal in all matters of taste, or fashion, whether as regards dress or cookery, and it must be owned, that the French have earned their reputation in this respect, by the unremitting attention which they have bestowed upon these subjects. Fashion in France, is a despot, whose laws are blindly obeyed. For each of the seasons, there is a costume, and a deviation from the mode is looked upon, as a violation of moral duty. But it is not among the higher classes alone, that dress is considered a matter of importance in France. Every station has its peculiar costume. The wife of a shopkeeper, or a milliner's girl, wears a dress equally distinct from that of a peasant, or of a lady.

The peasants, in the different departments of France, have a costume peculiar to themselves. The women of Upper Normandy, wear a cap of starched muslin, which is



from half a yard, to a yard in height. It stands up nearly perpendicularly, and is ornamented with long lace lappets, called *coquilles*. The hair is braided in front, and gathered up in a mass behind. In Lower Normandy, the peasants' dress is nearly the same, with the exception of the cap, which is low and flat in the crown.

In the other departments, there are different varieties of costume; and in some places, such as the neighborhood of Lyons, the peasant women wear a flat, round, black hat, either of cloth or velvet, and not unlike those worn in some parts of Switzerland. The men are dressed pretty much as the laboring classes in England, or the United States. The village dandy is shaved and curled on Sunday, and holydays, and at other times usually wears a garment of blue stuff, like a waggoner's frock, buckled at the waist, and embroidered in white at the wrists and collar.

The French are more sensible to impressions of joy, than of sorrow. This produces a facility of adaptation to circumstances, that enables them to bear reverses better than any other people, and that makes them feel at home, wherever they are. It is well known in America, that the French settler in the forest, sooner than any other European, becomes identified with the Indian. The forms and spirit of politeness pervade all classes. Beggars take off their hats to salute each other, and if two porters jostle each other in the street, the first impulse of each is to beg

the other's pardon; whereas in England, a similar rencontre would give occasion for at least hard words.

The cheerfulness of the French is not boisterous, or occasional; it is constant and connected with great kindness of feeling. It is a common and delightful sight, to see a whole family group come out and enjoy themselves together on some holiday or fête. The very terms, by which they address each other, shew a mingled simplicity and kindness of heart. The grandsire is called *le bon papa*, or the good father, and the grandmother, *la bonne mamar*. The wife speaks of the husband as *notre mari* our husband; the children are called *petit*, or *petite*, 'little'. Wherever the French congregate, there is a spirit of enjoyment spread over them; there is joy and animation in every face. Wrangling or intoxication, that are so often seen in an English, or American concourse, are almost unknown in France. Dancing is as much the expression of joy, as weeping is of grief; and a traveller cannot go far in France, without beholding a village dance, to which, as there are no refreshments, the national cheerfulness is the only incentive. In other countries, it is not common to see the aged even sitting to behold the dances of the young; but in France, the aged have scarcely less vivacity than the youthful.

In France, the condition of females is peculiar. In the fields they labor, and perhaps even more than in England,



with the men; but it is not the toil of compulsion, or of poverty. They are allowed to feel at least an equal interest in all matters of property, and in many cases, they have the entire management; the shops of Paris are under the charge of females, and in these, their realms, the husband is little more than a subject.

In France, the peasantry are a respectable body. They constitute a great majority of the people, and their condition has been exceedingly improved by the Revolution. They have many comforts, and poverty is seldom so extreme among them, as to harden the heart, or depress the spirits. There is a cow to every cottage. The garden produces a variety of flowers, for which there is a national taste. In the season, every body has a *boquet*, and the children stand ready to toss bundles of the flowers into the passing coaches, with the good wish of *bon voyage*.

In the south of France, on the sea-coast, is a desert called the 'Laudez. It is a bed of sand, flat, and abounding with pine woods. The road is through the sand, unaltered by art, except where it is so loose, and deep, as to require the trunks of fir-trees to be laid across, to give it firmness. The villages and hamlets stand on spots of fertile ground, scattered like islands among the sands.

The shepherds, who inhabit this district, are mounted on stilts, and stride like storks, along the flat. These stilts raise them from three to five feet. The foot rests on a

surface adapted to its sole, carved out of the solid wood, a flat part clasped to the outside of the leg, and reaching to below the knee, is strapped round the calf and ankle. On these stilts they move with perfect freedom, and astonishing rapidity, and they have their balance so completely, that they run, jump, stoop and even dance, with ease and safety. They cannot stand quite still without the aid of a large staff, which they always carry in their hands. This guards them against accidental trips, and when they wish to be at rest, forms a third leg, and keeps them steady. The habit of using stilts is acquired early, and it appears that the smaller the boy is, the longer it is necessary to have his stilts. By means of these odd additions to the natural leg, the feet are kept out of the water which lies deep during the winter, and from the heated sand, during the summer.

When Napoleon was on a journey through the south of France, he travelled faster than his guard, which these shepherds observing, two hundred of them assembled about his carriage, formed a guard of honor, and kept pace with it on stilts at the rate of seven miles an hour for two hours together.

## SWITZERLAND.

This country lies on the east of France, and is the seat of honest simplicity and invincible attachment to liberty.



The government is a federative republic; that is, each of the twenty-two provinces, or cantons as they are called, of which the state consists, is independent as to its internal affairs; but they are united for their mutual protection. Some of the cantons are aristocratical, others democratical, and in a few a mixture of both forms prevails. So, also, in some of the cantons the Protestant religion is established, in others Roman Catholicism; in the remainder both are professed. A dialect of the German is the language chiefly spoken in Switzerland; but the French and Italian are used in the districts which border on France and Italy; and in the country of the Grisons, the Romanese, a derivation from the Latin is the common dialect. Education has long been an object of care in this country.

The Swiss are generally tall, well proportioned, active, and laborious; distinguished for their honesty, steadiness, and bravery. They display a fund of original humour, and are remarkable for great quickness at repartee and sallies of wit, which render their conversation agreeable and interesting.

The dress of the Swiss peasants is very particular. They have little round hats; coats and waistcoats of a kind of coarse black cloth; breeches of coarse linen, somewhat like sailors' trowsers, but drawn together in plaits below the knees; and stockings of the same sort of stuff. The women wear short jackets, with a profusion of buttons, and petti-

coats reaching to the middle of the leg. Unmarried females set a value on the length of the hair, which they separate into two divisions, and allow to hang at full length, braided with ribands. After marriage, these tresses are twisted round the head in spiral lines, and fixed at the crown with silver pins. Both single and married women wear straw hats, ornamented with black ribands.

Most of the houses in Switzerland are built of wood, with staircases on the outside; large, solid, and compact; and great penthouse roofs, reaching very low, and projecting beyond the area of the foundation. This peculiar structure is designed to keep off the snow, and is in unison with the beautiful wildness of the country. The houses of the principal burghers are of the same materials, but larger.

The cleanliness of the people and their houses is peculiarly striking; and altogether their manners and customs afford strong points of contrast with those nations which labour under the oppression of despotism and tyranny.

The Swiss dinner is usually served at twelve o'clock; in the afternoon, the gentlemen assemble in clubs, or small societies, in the town, during winter, and at their respective villas in the summer. They frequently smoke, partake of wine, fruit, cakes, and other refreshments. The women, for the most part employed in domestic occupations, or the improvement of their children, are not fond of visiting.



## SPAIN.

ON the south of France is a vast ridge of mountains, called the Pyrenées; and on the other side is an extensive peninsula, the greater part of which is occupied by the kingdom of Spain. The government is a harsh and miserable despotism, which, instead of securing the happiness of the people, is the source of innumerable misfortunes to them; and the established religion is the Roman Catholic, in its most hideous form, by which the minds of an otherwise noble race are degraded to so low a degree of superstition and bigotry, as to permit the existence of the *court of inquisition*, whose dark shades spread like a shroud over the country, and infuse a death-like principle into the best energies of the human soul.

The language of Spain, in which the Latin prevails, with a large admixture of the Gothic and Moorish dialects, is rich and sonorous, well adapted to poetry, naturally grave, yet easily admitting of pleasantry. Education has not been neglected in Spain, though its effects are less evident than in most other European countries. Spain once excelled in history, poetry, and romance; but she has descended from her eminence, and sunk below her neighbors; so that the arts and sciences, of which numerous monuments remain to attest their former vigor, are, from the same cause, equally depressed.

The Spaniards are derived from an intermixture of Celts, Carthaginians, Romans, Goths, Saracens, and Moors, who by turns have had dominion in the country. As some of these settled in one quarter, and some in another, the population is much diversified in the different provinces. The general appearance of the Spaniards is good, the shape delicate, the head finely formed, and the countenance intelligent; the eyes are quick and animated, the features regular, and the teeth even; the complexion is swarthy, yet varying in degrees of darkness, and sometimes exhibiting an olive hue. The Castilians appear delicate, but are strong, and have a manly frankness in their countenance and manners.

The Spanish women are generally small and slender, and take great pains to acquire and preserve a genteel shape. They have a peculiar grace or suppleness in their motions. Their conversation, which is lively and easy, is full of choice expressions. They are violent in their passions, ardent in imagination, but generous, and capable of sincere attachment.

The Spaniards are remarkable for great gravity of deportment and taciturnity. A pensive kind of dignity uniformly marks their mien and air; and their pace is so extremely slow, that, at a little distance, it is scarcely possible to determine whether they are in motion or not. They hold their priests in so much veneration, that they kiss the very



hem of their garments; and they entertain an unreasonable contempt of other nations, especially if Protestant.

Few of the higher classes wear the ancient costume of black cloaks, short jerkins, slashed breeches, and long Toledo swords, except on particular occasions; but it is still generally worn by the lower orders, and varies in almost every province. Both men and women are very extravagant in dress and personal ornament.

Fruits and vegetables form the principal food, even at the best tables; chocolate is the most common beverage of all ranks; at dinner, the ladies drink water, and the gentlemen but very little wine.

Spaniards are so much addicted to smoking, that they have always a cigar in the mouth, in the streets and public walks, in coffee-houses, at cards, at balls, in the interior of families, and even at parties in presence of the ladies: physicians smoke at their consultations, statesmen at their councils, the judge upon the bench, and the culprit at the bar.

Dancing is a favorite amusement of the whole nation; young and old equally engage in it with enthusiasm. Nocturnal serenades of vocal or instrumental music are given by the young men under the windows of their mistresses. *Romaries*, or pilgrimages, to celebrated chapels, or hermitages, on the eve of the festival of the patron saint, are very

fashionable, and present living scenes as grotesque as that described by Chaucer.

In all the provinces of Spain, particularly those of the south, a distinct class of people, called *Gitanos*, or *Gypsies*, are numerous. Though admitted to the privileges of Spaniards by Charles III. who allowed them to bear the honorable appellation of *New Castilians*, they are the same erratic race, and bear the same physiognomy that distinguishes them in other countries.

There is a ruinous degree of gaming in Spain which the government encourages by its lotteries. The tickets are hawked about the streets by the blind, who are supposed to attract to them the favor of fortune.

The bull-fights are derived from the Romans, and there are several amphitheatres in existence of great magnificence. The arrival of a "bull-day" convulses the whole city, and dense crowds collect around the arena, too poor to pay for admission, but too zealous altogether to relinquish the amusement. They learn the events within, and echo the cheers of the more happy spectators. The fights are only held in summer, as the arenas are open, and the bull has then greater courage. In some places the public square is the arena; the streets are shut and balconies are erected along the houses. When the combatants have entered the arena, it is cleared, and the door is thrown open for the bull to come forth, when he is received with deafening shouts.



He advances to the centre and stands amazed. He has little time however left for wonder. The combatants on horseback wait for him with their long lances. Sometimes the bull darts upon them; at others it is necessary to excite him to rage. He braves the wounds in his neck and attacks the innocent horse who still continues the combat, though he may be gored so dreadfully that he treads upon his own entrails. The horse and rider are often overthrown, when the combatants on foot divert the bull's attention by shaking before him pieces of colored cloth. Sometimes however, the animal pursues them, and then they require the best of their speed, they leap the barrier, six feet in height, but a moment before the bull dashes his horns against it. The animal often attempts to clear the barrier, and he sometimes succeeds. This is the signal for speedy retreat to the spectators, some of whom however, have been killed. Sometimes several horses are killed beneath the same rider.

The next act in the tragedy is commenced by the combatants on foot, who are called *banderillios*. They go before the bull, and when he plunges at them, step a little aside, and stick into his neck little darts, containing fulminating powders, which explode and drive the persecuted animal to frenzy. This is a dangerous part to perform, as the horns of the bull in his plunges, passes within a few inches of the combatant's breast. Exhausted at length by

the loss of blood, that streams from numerous wounds, the last moment of the brave animal approaches, for the laws of the circus are, that he shall not go forth alive.

The president gives the signal for death, and the *matador* advances with a long dart in one hand, and in the other a flag which he waves before his adversary. Both stop and gaze several minutes at each other, and the concourse are silent as the grave. The fight is now to become a single combat, in which one party, at least, must die. The animal recalls his energies, makes a last desperate plunge at the *matador* who steps lightly aside and strikes his dagger into his adversary's neck with so true an aim that the spine is divided, and the animal falls bleeding upon his knees.

The music of Spain has been described as being grave, and decent, like the dances of ancient chivalry. The songs of the Spaniards are mingled with romance, devotion and glory. Music is not cultivated as in Italy, but it is the amusement of all classes and conditions. The muleteer sings to beguile the long hours as he speeds on his way; the peasants sing as they dance; the cavalier joins his voice to the music of his guitar.

## PORTUGAL.

This kingdom occupies the western banks of the Spanish peninsula, and is under a despotic government. The



Roman Catholic is the established religion. The language is a kindred dialect to the Spanish, but more intermixed with French words and phrases. Literature, the arts, and science generally, are here in a very depressed state.

The Portuguese resemble the Spaniards in many respects; but the higher classes have less knowledge with more voluptuousness; and the lower orders are more lively, industrious, and intelligent. In general, they are not so tall, nor so well made, as the Spaniards. The women are small, with brown complexions, but regular features and dark expressive eyes. Sensibility and modesty are characteristic of the Portuguese females. Their usual dress is a kind of black garment, over a petticoat of the same color, except in Lisbon, where the women wear black silk *mantos*, a kind of garment that covers the head and the upper part of the body. The form of the female attire does not undergo a change once in an age; and milliners and fancy dress makers are as much unknown in Lisbon as they were in ancient Sparta.

The men have generally adopted the English and French costumes, over which they throw a large cloak, called a *capote*, and this is used at all seasons. The straw mantle worn by the Spanish shepherds of Leon is also used by the Portuguese peasants, and a high conical cap frequently supplies the place of a hat. About the waist they wear a party-coloured sash, in which is carried a dirk, or long knife.

Their favorite instrument of music is the bagpipe, which they adorn with ribands as do the Scottish Highlanders; and to the sound of this, two or three of them dance a kind of reel; or, if the tune be slow or solemn, the piper walks backwards and forwards as he plays amidst a silent and attentive crowd. In their lively dances, they raise their hands above the head, and keep time with castenets.

To the enterprising spirit of the Portuguese of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, we are indebted for the discovery of the Guinea coast, the Cape of Good Hope, and the passage by sea to the East Indies. They were the most adventurous and most mercantile people of their day. But the modern Portuguese have none of their spirit.

The fare of the Portuguese peasantry is of the coarsest kind; though they are surrounded by the luxuries of nature, a piece of black bread and a salted pilchard, or a head of garlic, constitute their chief diet; or, if they can sometimes procure a salt cod, they consider it a feast. Their dwellings are miserable huts, with scarcely any furniture in them; and, like the Moors, they sit cross-legged on the ground.

In the metropolis, a taste prevails for pomp and parade; but it is accompanied by great hospitality to strangers. Amusement is sought with much eagerness; and music, balls, theatres, billiards, cards, dice, bull-fights, and church



festivals, occupy the thoughts of all who are not compelled to labor for daily subsistence.

Beggars are a formidable class in this country; they infest every place, not entreating, but demanding alms.

Among the peculiarities of the Portuguese, the following are very conspicuous. Corn, instead of being threshed, is trodden from the husk by oxen. Women, when they ride, sit with the left side towards the horse's head; and a postillion rides on the left horse. Footmen play at cards whilst waiting for their masters. Tailors sit at their work like shoemakers. Hairdressers appear on Sundays with a sword, a cockade, and two watches, or at least two watch-chains. A tavern is known by a vine bush; a house to be let, by a piece of blank paper: and a Jew, by his extra catholic devotion. Fishwomen are seen with trinkets of gold and silver about the neck and wrists; and the custom of wearing boots and black conical caps is peculiar to fruit women.

## ITALY.

THIS celebrated country, on account of its diversity of scenery, the luxuriance of its produce, and the salubrity of its climate, has justly obtained the title of "the garden of Europe." In ancient times, it was the seat of the most extensive and renowned empire on record; and in later

periods, it has been the seat of an ecclesiastical supremacy, of which the influence has been more or less felt in every quarter of the world. The reader will readily conceive that the empire was the Roman, and the supremacy that of the Pope.

This country, which consists of a very prolonged peninsula in the Mediterranean, is divided into various states; but with little difference as to the persons, dispositions, and dress of the inhabitants. The government is generally of the despotic character, and the religion is the Roman Catholic. The language, derived from the Latin, is elegant and melodious; and literature, though much depressed in comparison with what it has been, is still respectable. Italy was once the seat of the fine arts; but these have long since declined. The Italian music has carried the harmony of sounds to the highest pitch of perfection hitherto attained, and may be said to have tuned every delicate ear in Europe.

The Italians, in general, are well proportioned, active, and comely. The ladies are remarkably handsome. In their external deportment, these people have a grave solemnity of manner, which is sometimes thought to arise from natural gloominess of disposition; but they are nevertheless cheerful, and give themselves up with ardor to every pleasure, even the most trifling.

The best quality of the modern Italian is sobriety; the immoderate use of strong liquors being almost universally



discountenanced. They conceal their political sentiments by a rigid silence. With great taciturnity, however, they discover but little reflection; and they feel with greater accuracy than they reason; being more apt to mislead themselves when they take time to deliberate, than when they act from the impulse of the moment. Duplicity is a striking characteristic of these people; and, to gain a particular object, they will fawn upon strangers, and condescend to acts of disgusting meanness. A sense of past injuries remains long in their recollection; and assassination, accompanied with treachery, is too often the consequence.

The native Romans form an exception to the general characteristics of the Italians; they are sullen, pale, spiritless, and morose; possessed of few ideas, and apparently tired of existence. They are rarely seen to smile; brood over injuries with inveterate malice; and scarcely ever speak, except to beg alms; which when tendered, they absolutely tear from the giver, without thanks.

In dress, the Italians observe a medium between the French and Spanish modes. The Florentines, who are more ostentatious than their neighbours, are extremely vain in this respect, as they are also of their eating: yet their politeness, language, and manners, render them very agreeable to strangers.

The Venetians, a lively and ingenious people, are remarkably sober, obliging to strangers, and gentle in their inter-

course with each other. The nobles wear a robe of black cloth, or baize, something like the gown of an English barrister. In winter, the robe is faced with fur, and bound about the waist with a girdle. In lieu of a hat, a woollen cap, in form of a deep crown of a hat, is used, but more commonly under the arm than on the head. The noble ladies are allowed but little finery, and are obliged to wear black, without any jewels, except in the first year after marriage.

The Italians compute their day from sunset, and count their hours from one to twenty in succession.

## NAPLES.

THIS country forms the southern extremity of the Italian peninsula, and with the neighbouring island of Sicily constitutes what is usually called the *Kingdom of the Two Sicilies*. The government is an absolute monarchy in Naples; but in Sicily a constitutional form, upon the plan of that of Great Britain, has been established. The religion is the Roman Catholic; but, although there are few countries in which a *profession* of religion is more prominently displayed, there are none where its power is less obvious; the Neapolitans being the greatest sensualists in Europe.

The population of Naples is very dense: this arises from the extraordinary serenity of the climate, the riches of the soil, and the manners of the country. People live at a



small expense; they subsist on little, and live a long time. Iced water and lemonade are among the luxuries of the lowest people, who never inflame themselves with spirituous liquors: but gluttony is a common vice.

The number of Neapolitan nobility is very great; about one hundred bear the title of Prince, and a still greater number that of Duke; but they are, for the most part, very poor. They are nevertheless excessively fond of show and splendour; and the finest carriages are painted, gilt, varnished, and lined, in a richer and more beautiful manner than is customary in England or France. The peasants, on the contrary, are in a very abject state; dependent upon the caprice of their lords, they have nothing to hope for, and they pass their days in a state of listlessness, delighting only to bask in the sun and do nothing.

The Neapolitan women are so passionately fond of finery, that they scruple not to sacrifice every other consideration to its attainment.

The Lazzaroni, who constitute a considerable portion of the city of Naples, have scarcely any dwelling-houses, but sleep every night under porticoes, piazzas, or any shelter they can find. Such as have wives and children, live in the suburbs, in huts, or caverns or chambers dug out of the mountains. Some gain a livelihood by fishing; others, by carrying burdens, or by running on errands. They are all half naked, and, notwithstanding the facility with which

the light food of the country is obtained, generally half famished: they are also treated with the greatest tyranny by the nobility, and even by livery servants, who scruple not to apply the cane to their shoulders, if they happen to stand in the way: yet they endure privation and insult with an astonishing degree of patience.

## SARDINIA.

THE island of Sardinia lies in the Mediterranean, about midway between Europe and Africa. Its government is monarchical, and its sovereign has a large portion of the north-west of Italy under his sway. The religion is the Roman Catholic; and the dialects, which are all derived from the Italian (except among the Savoyards,) differ so much from each other in the several parts of the kingdom, that they might almost be taken for distinct languages.

The Sardinians are scarcely civilized: the feudal system still exists among them, and titles and estates go together, so that the purchaser of one becomes possessed of the other. The common people wear linen shirts, fastened at the collar with a pair of silver buttons, like hawks' bills; and their upper dress usually consists of goats' skin, with the hair outwards: some few, of the better sort, wear tanned leather coats. Next to the Spaniards, with whom they have had long intercourse, the English are their favourites.

Of the two nations which constitute the great body of his