

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

Sardinian majesty's continental population, it has been observed; the Piedmontese are a cunning, sharp, and passionate race, with more sense than the Savoyards, but less sincerity. The inhabitants of Mount Aosta are exceptions to this character, and are farther distinguished by large wens.

The Savoyards are good-natured, gentle, plain in their manners, simple in their affections, faithful, and honest. Improvidence is a striking feature in their character, and as powerful in the nobleman as the peasant. Numbers of the mountaineers of both sexes are subject to wens, or goiters, in their throats, which very much disfigure them. The Savoyards are very fond of itinerating in search of employment in foreign countries, especially in France, where they are water-carriers, shoeblacks, musicians, showmen, &c.

CORSICA.

NORTH of Sardinia is the island of Corsica, which belongs to France, and was the birth-place of Napoleon Buonaparte. It is inhabited by a poor though brave and hardy race; destitute of manufactures, possessing little trade, and scarcely raising sufficient grain for their subsistence. They, however, breed silkworms, the raw produce of which they send to Lyons and Genoa. They have the general characteristics of Italians, with a strong tincture of French manners; and are accused of idleness.

MALTA.

THE little isle of Malta, which belongs to Great Britain, and is situate to the south of Sicily, is no better than a rock, covered with a light soil, which the industry of the natives has so improved, that few spots of equal extent can vie with it for vegetation and beauty. The inhabitants are a mixed breed of Phœnicians, Arabs, and Europeans; and, whether regarded as sailors, agriculturists, fishermen, manufacturers, or merchants, deserve the title of the most industrious people of the Mediterranean. The men are of the middle stature, with swarthy complexions; but the women preserve the fairness of the northern climes, combined with the sparkling black eyes and animated countenances of the oriental beauties.

Persons of superior rank about the port, wear an English dress, with broad cocked hats and large silver buckles in their shoes. The lower orders of men wear a red or black cap, called *berretta*; a checked shirt, with the sleeves commonly rolled up to the elbows; a coarse cotton waistcoat and trowsers, ornamented with globular silver buttons; a girdle of various colours, goes round the loins; and the feet are either bare, or protected by a rude species of sandal. In the cold season, they put on a shaggy great coat, called *grego*, with a hood to it. Females are exempt from

all laborious occupations; and, when uncorrupted by the manners of the town, are exemplary in their conduct.

HUNGARY.

THE kingdom of Hungary constitutes an important part of the Austrian empire. The Hungarians are a mixed race, descended from the ancient Huns, Sclavonians, Germans, Turks, and a wandering people called *Zigduns*, supposed to be the same with the Gypsies. They are tall and well shaped; brave, of a sanguine disposition, revengeful, and more addicted to arms, martial exercises, and hunting, than to arts, commerce, agriculture, and learning. The nobility, who, in the court language, are alone considered the Hungarian people, have many and great privileges, which they watch over with scrupulous jealousy; but the lower orders are in a most abject state of poverty, degradation, and ignorance, not one in twenty being able to read. Several dialects are used in the different parts of the country; and the real Hungarian, which is said to be of Scythian origin, has very little affinity with any other European language.

Many of the nobility, who are very numerous, pass their time chiefly in hunting, martial exercises, and sensual gratifications. They affect much pomp and magnificence, and particularly delight in feasting. The ladies are reckoned handsomer than those of Austria; and their sable dress, with long sleeves fitting close upon their arms, and stays

fastened in front with small buttons of gold, pearl, or diamonds, gives them a graceful aspect.

The appearance of the peasants is wretched: obliged to work like slaves for the lords of the soil, they have no stimulus to invention, no excitement to industry, beyond what they are obliged to perform. From a small hat covered with straw, falls the peasant's long black matted hair, negligently platted, or tied in knots; and over his dirty jacket and trowsers is wrapped a coarse woollen cloak, or a sheepskin still retaining its wool. In summer as well as winter, on the Sunday as on the working day, he keeps on this covering; and is never seen but in heavy boots. In all the habitations, a perfect uniformity of design is observable. A village consists of two rows of clay cottages, one on each side of a wide muddy road: the roofs are covered with a thick thatch; the walls are white-washed, and pierced towards the road by two small windows.

Intermingled with these humble dwellings are seen the marble palaces of the nobility, surrounded by gardens, fountains, and terraces; and decorated with fountains, grottoes, statues, and costly pictures: a contrast of extreme poverty with great riches.

TURKEY IN EUROPE.

THIS country, situated at the south-eastern extremity of Europe, derives its modern name from the Turks, an Asiatic

people, who established themselves here in the fifteenth century. It comprehends the countries between ancient Greece and the Danube. Here is a fine country subjected to a horrible despotism and an unrelenting superstition. The sovereign is usually styled *Sultan*, or *Grand Signor*; but he has other titles. His will alone is law, and he disposes of the property and lives of his subjects at pleasure.

Mohammedanism is the religion of the Turks, who despise all other modes of faith, and have frequently attempted to extirpate them by the sword.

The Turkish language is harmonious, regular, and delicate, in its expressions; but intricate in construction, and defective in scientific and philosophical terms. Literature is at a very low ebb among the Turks, as are also the arts and sciences.

In their persons, the Turks are generally stout, well made, and robust: their complexions are naturally fair, and their features handsome: their hair is a dark auburn, or chestnut, sometimes black, of which last colour are their eyes. The females are well proportioned and inclined to corpulency; whilst young, they are beautiful; but they look old at thirty.

These people are habitually grave and indolent; and require strong excitements to rouse them to action; but they are easily provoked, and then they become furious and uncontrollable. In the hour of actual battle, the Turk

is all energy; but the incessant fatigues of the field soon dishearten him.

The Turks wear long beards, except those who are employed in the seraglio; these wear whiskers only. They shave their heads, leaving only a lock upon the crown, and cover them with a white turban, which they lay aside only when they sleep. Their shirts, without collars or wristbands, have loose sleeves, and over them they wear a long vest, which is tied with a sash, and above this they throw a loose robe somewhat shorter than the vest. Their trowsers are of a piece with their stockings; and instead of shoes, they wear slippers, which they put off on entering a house or mosque. None but Turks are permitted to wear the white turban.

The dress of the women, in the middle and lower ranks of society, differs little from that of the men. Ladies wear very fanciful and costly habiliments; but when they appear abroad, are so muffled up, as not to be recognized by their nearest relations.

The Turks sit cross-legged on sofas, cushions, or mattresses, as well at meals as in company. Their ideas seldom extend beyond the walls of their own houses. They are strangers to wit and agreeable conversation; have few printed books, and rarely read any other than the Koran, and the comments upon it. They dine about eleven in the forenoon, and sup at five in the winter, or six in the sum-

mer: the latter is their principal meal. The dishes are served up one by one; but they have neither knives nor forks, and their religion prohibits the use of gold or silver spoons. Their victuals are always highly seasoned. Rice is the ordinary food of the lower orders; and sometimes it is boiled up with gravy; but their favourite dish is *pilau*, which consists of a highly-seasoned soup, made of mutton and fowl boiled to rags, and poured upon rice that has been boiled quite dry. They are temperate and sober; their religion forbidding them the use of wine; yet, in private, many of them indulge in it. The pernicious practice of swallowing opium is common among voluptuaries; it occasions powerful intoxication, and if persevered in, leaves its infatuated victim a miserable paralytic.

The Turks sit to work at every art or handicraft which can possibly admit of it: even carpenters perform the greater part of their labour sitting: by use, their toes acquire such a degree of flexibility and strength, that they hold a board upright and firmly with them, whilst with their hands they saw it, sitting the whole time.

GREEKS.

THESE people form a prominent feature in the population of European Turkey; and, though fallen from the political eminence of their forefathers, are nevertheless interesting. The religion of the Greeks is of the church named after

them, when the separation took place between the eastern and western hierarchies. They deny the Pope's supremacy, and abhor the worship of images; but admit a multitude of pictures of saints into their churches. Like their ancestors, they are extremely credulous, attached to auguries, fearful of prodigies, omens, and dreams; and still have their venerated caverns, their sacred forests, or groves, and their consecrated springs.

The Greek, handsome in his figure, carries his head high, and his body erect; he is dignified in his carriage, easy in his manners, and nimble in his gait. His countenance is open, his eyes are full of vivacity, and his address is agreeable and prepossessing; but he is fickle, insincere, and sometimes treacherous. Neat and even elegant in his clothing, he has a taste for dress, and for whatever is beautiful. His activity and industry are finely contrasted with the indolence and sloth of the Turks. He speaks with ease, expresses himself with warmth, is acquainted with the language of the passions, and astonishes by his natural eloquence. He loves the arts, and is skilful and cunning in trade; in which, however, he does not always conduct himself with frankness.

The Greek women have a finely formed oval face, which, contrary to the practice of the Turkish women, they keep uncovered. Their eyes are black, as are also their eyebrows, to which, and to their eyelids, they pay particular

attention, and give them a deeper hue by rubbing them with a lead ore. When young, they are beautiful and sprightly, but their beauty is of short duration, for marks of decrepitude appear soon after twenty-five, and they are short-lived.

The houses of the Greeks have each only one story, and generally a large garden. Large rooms are appropriated to the mistress, where, with her female attendants, she carries on embroidery and other needle works.

The modern Greeks still retain many of the ancient nuptial ceremonies. On the eve of the wedding-day, the bride is led by her female acquaintance in triumph to the bath, attended with music. She proceeds at a solemn pace, profusely adorned, and covered with a red veil. The bridegroom and bride, before their presentation at the altar, have each a crown or chaplet, put on their heads, which, during the ceremony, are interchanged by the priest. The bride is accompanied home by her friends, who sedulously prevent her from touching the threshold as she enters the house, which would be reckoned unlucky.

A Grecian funeral is attended by the nearest relatives and friends of the deceased; the women with their hair dishevelled, and weeping; they cry, indeed, from the moment the death occurs, and refuse both nourishment and sleep till nature is completely exhausted.

ALBANIA.

BETWEEN the Adriatic Sea and Macedonia, is a province, called *Albania* by the Italians, and *Arnaut Laros* by the Turks. The inhabitants, descended from the ancient Scythians, are strong, large, courageous, and good horsemen, but much given to dishonesty. They generally use the Greek language, and live after the Grecian fashion. The inhabitants of the north are Roman Catholics; those of the south adhere to the Greek Church. These people, who fight better on horseback than on foot, are armed with a sword and cimeter, and a wooden buckler covered with iron studs; their carbine is slung over their shoulders with a cord instead of a leathern belt. As soon as they have given their first fire, they fly upon the enemy with incredible intrepidity. They also use darts, which they throw with great force and precision.