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**Joseph Marshall, Travels through Germany, Russia, and Poland, 1769-1770**

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CHAPTER VIII

*Silesia--Breslaw--Journey to Berlin--The Country--Agriculture--Description of Berlin--Present State of the King of Prussia's Forces, Revenues, &c.--Saxony--Leipsick--Dresden--State of the Electorate.*

NOTHING could be more striking, than the different appearance of Silesia from that of Poland. We entered it the 13th, and found the country full of villages, half of which at least were peopled with Poles; the land all cultivated, and much of it extremely well; the houses and cottages in good repair; with all the appearances of ease and happiness; which formed such a contrast to the wretchedness we had so lately seen, that the view had the effect of making Silesia appear a paradise. Much of this must certainly be occasioned by the great increase of population from such numbers of Poles, who fly to escape the miseries that every where desolate and lay waste their own country. The King of Prussia has officers appointed along all his frontiers, to see that all these poor people are received, and to provide cottages for them as fast as possible. In this

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work the King is at no expence; he only grants them permission to build cottages on any wastes or commons that are not absolute property; and his edict directs, that every neighbourhood should give all due assistance to the new settlers, and find them employment in husbandry or manufactures, after the rate of the country; and for the maintenance of such as do not find employment, he directs a tax to be laid on the district; but this cannot be lasting, as they have portions of land assigned them sufficient for their maintenance when brought into culture. Upon the wastes belonging to the crown, these portions are considerable enough to form, when cultivated, small farms, that hereafter will yield the crown a good rent. I saw many of these poor people, and it is hardly credible how much they seemed to enjoy themselves, on escaping the miseries of Poland, and finding such an humane protection in the territories of the neighbouring princes. I am informed that the Empress Queen receives them in the same manner in Moravia, Austria, and Hungary; many of them are in Transilvania. All the King of Prussia's long line of frontier, from the bottom of Silesia to Livonia, is open to them; and great numbers take refuge in every part of it. I before gave an account of

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the multitudes, to whom the Empress of Russia gave protection; if all this is considered, it must at once be apparent, that the kingdom of Poland must be amazingly depopulated, since it cannot be doubted but several millions of people, probably not less than three or four, are driven out of the country, or killed. Such a depopulation will take several ages to recover: and still this evil continues, without any appearance of its coming to an end; so that what the event will be, except leaving that country a mere desert, is very difficult to know.

We travelled thirty miles before we reached Breslaw. All this line of country is rich either in corn, meadow, or wood; the arable lands seemed very well cultivated; the wheat looked well, and the quantity of land occupied with it is considerable: they also cultivate rye: the barley was all coming up, and seemed to promise good crops: they do not sow any oats; but they cultivate many cabbages as winter food for their cattle, and they reckon them much better, and to last longer than turneps: potatoes they plant in large quantities for Breslaw, which city consumes great deal of all the products of the earth; a vast advantage to all the neighbouring country: the small potatoes they fatten their

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hogs with. The river Oder is navigable there, which is another great benefit to the country, always keeping the markets brisk, which of all other circumstances is the most certain means of introducing good husbandry. The ease and happiness of the peasants in this country is the more surprizing, as their taxes are very heavy, and carry as much into the King's coffers almost as into their own pockets. It can be attributed only to the regularity of his Prussian majesty's government; for that monarch looks so much into all his affairs, that there is no such thing in his dominions as irregular oppression: no minister, no officer dares to lay the hand of power on the defenceless poor; the King is their protector, and they had better be heavily taxed by him, than pay less, but be open with it to those numerous and accidental oppressions common in all other arbitrary governments.

Breslaw is a very extensive and well-built city: it is most advantageously situated on the Oder, upon the banks of which are some very fine streets; they are strait, well paved, and with many very well-built houses. There are several squares in it, and many public buildings, worthy the attention of a traveller; among which are several churches, the Jesuits college, the town-house, the arsenal, the

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quay, &c. It is a bishop's see, but the cathedral has nothing remarkable in it: also the seat of an university, which has for some time been in a flourishing situation. It was pretty strongly fortified in the last war; has a good wall, a double ditch, several bastions and

ravelins, and a strong citadel; but the works are so extensive, that they require an army to defend them. The King keeps a garrison here of ten thousand men; they are drawn up in the great square every day, and go through their exercises, being as well-disciplined regiments as any in the King's service. There certainly results from this strong garrison, and the others throughout Silesia, which are all proportionably numerous, great security; of which the last war was a very striking proof; for, undoubtedly, the King owed his preservation to the excellent order all his fortresses were in, and the numerous garrisons they were furnished with: had the Austrians met him unprepared, they would have at least wrested Silesia from him, and perhaps have made some impression upon his hereditary dominions. There are many churches and convents in the city; but I did not hear of any thing in them that was particularly worthy of attention. There is a great trade carried on here by means of

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the Oder, and especially since the canal was cut between that and the Elbe, which communicates with Hamburg. The articles in which this commerce is particularly carried on, are linen and flax, corn, timber, plank, &c. all which are staple commodities in Silesia, and produced in very great plenty. Most of the staves which form so great an export at Hamburg, come from this duchy; and the quantity of oak timber and plank, which is exported from it, is very considerable. Upon all these articles the King lays a duty on the exportation; which is a piece of wrong politics of so flagrant a nature, that would make one think his abilities those of a warrior alone. The trade of Breslaw has declined a little since the troubles broke out in Poland; for in times of tranquillity in that kingdom, this province exports large quantities of goods thither, particularly linens, of which the Poles buy more than any other nation; but since the commencement of the civil war, they have been too much impoverished to be able to purchase any quantity worth mentioning.

The manufacture of linen in Silesia is very considerable: it employs many thousands of people, enriches the whole duchy, and brings in a very considerable revenue to the King.

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Most of the linens which are bleached at Haerlam in Holland, and afterwards are so well known under the name of *Dutch*, are made in Silesia: formerly immense quantities were consumed in England; but since the great success which has attended the fabricks of Ireland and Scotland, this impolitic importation is come to nothing, and thereby vast sums saved to Great-Britain.----At this place I lessened my expences of travelling considerably, by paying off all my attendants, except my old Swiss, Martin, who has rode through the best part of Europe with me.

The 16th I left Breslew, taking a postchaise to Steinau, on the Oder; the distance thirty miles. This line of country is remarkably fine, fully cultivated, and in general well

peopled. Landed property here is much divided; here and there is found an old baron's estate of great extent, around an old castle with all the marks of antiquity and grandeur; but in general the lands belong to persons enriched by trade and manufactures, which has had one excellent effect, that of diffusing much more liberty among the peasants than they have in other parts. Upon these estates, the lands are let in farm, as in England, and the peasants, not being vassals to tenants, are

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hired in the manner of our day-labourers, which is the system of all others the most beneficial. A common rent, in their farms, is from seven to eleven shillings an acre: wheat yields two quarters an acre; barley three; buck-wheat four: the flax grounds are all inclosed by ditches, and they reckon an acre that yields three pounds a very good one. They keep all their cattle in winter in houses, and feed them with boiled cabbages and straw. They lay most of the manure they make upon their cabbage grounds, in the culture of which plant they seem to be very attentive. They make great use of mud from the Oder as a manure, and value it so much, that they go several miles for it. They plough their land with oxen; the structure of their ploughs is remarkable; they seem, from the height of the wheels, to be very well instructed in the doctrine of the lever.

The 17th I reached Grumberg, through forty-five miles of very indifferent road; dining at Glogau, a pretty town, agreeably situated on the Oder, very strongly fortified, and always garrisoned with two thousand men. It was anciently the residence of the dukes of Glogau, and there are remains of their palace in the castle. The cathedral is a very ancient

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and a fine building. They have some linen fabricks, and a good trade on the Oder. The country around it, and quite to Grumberg, is various, consisting of woods, arable, meadow, some waste, and also some marsh land. The villages are not very thick, and the peasants do not seem to be so well off as those nearer to Breslaw; what the reason is, I could not discover.

My next day's journey was thirty miles, through Crofton, to Frankfort on the Oder. Crofton is the capital of a territory of the same name: it is a very well-built town, having been rebuilt after a great fire which happened at the beginning of this century: the streets are strait, broad, and well paved: it is adorned with an handsome town-house, and five churches, one of which makes a good figure, being situated in the middle of a square.

Frankfort is in Brandenburg, and was once one of the most considerable cities in the Empire, being an hanse town, and an Imperial city; but it has lost most of its privileges. It is divided into the old and new town by the Oder, over which there is a handsome bridge, instead of an old wooden one which was burnt in the last war. The

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streets are handsome, and many of the houses make a good figure, especially those which have been built before the last war. Their trade is considerable, both with Berlin, Hamburgh, the Baltic, and all Silesia; and before the war raged in Poland, with that kingdom also; so that it is one of the richest places in the King's dominions. They have an university, but it is not very well stocked with students of any consequence, though they have two well-built colleges. The town-house is an handsome building; and the arsenal is large and well filled. The most agreeable part of the town is the great market-place, which is surrounded by the best houses in the place.

The soil around Frankfort is sandy, and not very well inhabited: there is much waste land, which might be cultivated to good profit, considering the near neighbourhood of so many navigations, but encouragement seems to be wanting. I made many enquiries concerning the depredations of the Russians here; and from the information I could get, I have reason to believe that the accounts we had in England were much exaggerated: the burnt some villages, and raised heavy contributions; but as to utterly destroying a whole track of

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country, it was not true. Another circumstance I should remark, which is, the mischief being all repaired which they did; for I have yet seen no signs of any of that ruin which fell from their hands: this is to be attributed to the good conduct of the King of Prussia, who, notwithstanding the general severity of his government, very widely favoured those parts of his dominions that suffered most by war, as soon as the peace was made.

The 18th carried me 36 miles to Berlin, through a continued track of sand, yet tolerably cultivated in some parts, but much of it a dreary waste, and very thinly peopled. They find that the only very profitable crop upon these lands is buck-wheat, which the sow in large quantities, and they get a product which equals the best soils applied to that grain: when a piece of land has been more carefully managed than ordinary, it will yield a good crop of rye; but as to wheat or barley, it is hardly to be seen.

As I designed to make some stay at Berlin, I hired private lodgings; of which I had as good for fifteen shillings a week, as would have cost me five and thirty at London. But this city is not peopled proportionably to its

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size; hence the general remark, that grass is seen in the streets, which is, however, only in one neglected quarter of the town; the other parts are very well built; the streets are remarkably spacious, long, and well paved; and the buildings in general are such as certainly rank it among the finest cities in Europe. Of the public edifices, those which are

usually visited by travellers are, the royal palace--the arsenal--the churches of Notre Dame, St. Nicholas, St. Martin, and the Roman chapel--the theatre--the equestrian statue of Frederick the first, &c. The palace is a magnificent but an unequal building, like all those that are raised at different times: some of the apartments are large, and well proportioned; but they by no means answered my expectations, either in dimensions, fitting up, or furniture. The immensity of silver remarked by Mr. Hanway, when he was here, was all melted in the late war, and very little of it is restored. Much of the furniture, for a royal palace, is very mean; but this we are not to be surprized at, as the King gives his attention to so much greater objects. Some of the pictures are fine. The front of the arsenal would be very beautiful, but, as the above-mentioned traveller justly observes, it is profusely

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loaded with ornaments. I viewed the contents, and was much entertained with them; for, very contrary to what is seen in most other buildings under this name, here are no useless arms, nothing but what is ready for immediate service. The train is a very fine one. The theatre is in a most grand stile, admirably contrived to give much magnificence to the representation of operas. A very few circumstances excepted, it deserves to be considered as a model for these buildings. The Romish chapel is a monster of disproportion, but the portico is elegant. The equestrian statue of Frederick the First is a fine performance; the horse is remarkably fine, and there is much spirit in the attitude of the figure.

The fortifications of Berlin are regular; but the city is of too great extent to have any thing of strength, if attacked by a powerful army. The number of inhabitants are reckoned at about an hundred thousand. There is always a garrison of from eight to twelve thousand men in it. Charlottenburgh is a small palace within a mile of Berlin; the rooms of which are small, but very elegant: it contains nothing that appears very striking to a traveller; the ball-room is handsome,

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but much exceeded by many others. The gardens here, as well as at Potsdam, have nothing in them but regularity, which is disgusting. Sans Souci is a detached apartment in a garden; but nothing of this fort that I have seen abroad is comparable to a number of places we have in England: nor do I think any of these palaces and boxes in the neighbourhood of Berlin are tolerable in taste: the only natural beauty they had was the river, and that is moulded into a canal for them: they have no verdure; the walks are sand, and the situations in general flats.

There is a good deal of commerce carried on at Berlin, by means of the canals which join the Spree and the Oder, and the Oder and the Elbe; by which means there is a most advantageous communication with Hamburgh, the Baltick, and all Silesia. This is of great consequence to the manufactures of Berlin, which are numerous and flourishing: they

have fabricks of silk, stuffs, woollen cloths of several forts, and in particular one which clothes most of the army; tapestry, laces, glass, a little hardware, &c. The King gives great encouragement to all manufactures, which has had a great effect in a place where he found many fabricks fixed by French

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refugees after the revocation of the edict of Nantes, whose posterity now carry on the principal trade of title city. Berlin supplies Silesia with great quantities of these goods; and before the civil war raged in Poland, that kingdom took off much. They have a small export to the Baltic; formerly to Sweden, but that is now no more.

I was twice or thrice at court, more to see the King, than for any other entertainment. I saw him about nine years ago, and was much surprized to find him so little altered. The immensity of fatigue, both of body and mind, which he went through during the last war, one would have apprehended must have entirely broke him; but he has, by a regular way of life, and great abstemiousness, both then and since, prevented any ill effects. Bodily fatigue may be physick, and mental labour not very destructive, but anxiety is the destroyer, against which it is very difficult to guard: for several years the King was uncertain of his fate; victories had little effect, defeats were ruinous, and he could scarcely conjecture whether he was to be stripped of several provinces, or even his whole dominions. In such a situation, we may easily conceive that anxiety must commit great ravages on

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him; and I must own myself surprized to see his health continue so good. His principal amusement is exercising his troops; to see them, is one of the most entertaining sights at Berlin. It is thought that the King himself has not so nice an eye as formerly to the *minuti* of the tactic, but his officers keep it up in the highest perfection. His army is at present more numerous, and better provided than ever; they do not fall short of one hundred and forty thousand men; and there is not a regiment in his service that is not ready for marching: his whole army, artillery, baggage, and all attendants, could be in the field upon a week's notice at any time; his fortresses are all in better order than before the last war, and some places made of great strength upon the frontiers of Silesia, which never before were fortified at all. His treasure is reported to be considerable, and he certainly is not encumbered with debts; for the last war, immense as it was to him, did not make him contract a shilling of debt, tho' it is certain his antagonist, the Queen of Hungary, anticipated many of her revenues. If all things are considered, it will appear very evident, that his power is better established than ever, and that he has no prospect

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of seeing another confederacy, which will bear so hard upon him as the last. Austria will not be eager to attack him, after having failed, with every possible advantage on her side. If she could not wrest Silesia from him, when France, Russia, Sweden, and Saxony were in alliance with her, and their power so actually brought to bear upon him, that he fought battles with them all; such a confederacy is not to be looked for in an age; and if it failed in its aim, that aim may be pronounced impracticable. Saxony, it cannot be expected will unite again, unless it be with Prussia, but the situation of it considered, if it proves an enemy, it will be an enemy swallowed up as in the last war, and the country made to contribute amply to pay the expence of it. Russia will scarcely unite against the King, with whom she is now in close alliance; it would be extremely contrary to her interest. France will always be found in full employment by England; she will not quickly send armies against Prussia. The King therefore has the satisfaction of enjoying peace.

These are the ideas of the Berlin politicians, who all declare the peace will be lasting, from the great jealousy of Austria, and Russia, either opposing or uniting with each

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other: every party is strongly armed, and looks on in silence, except Russia, who, knowing her own strength and fearless of consequences, carries on a most extensive war with Turkey and in Poland.

The King's revenues amount at present, to about a million and an half sterling; a sum which in England appears small; but if the different value of money there, and in Brandenburg be considered; and likewise, the uncommon exertions of 'conomy unequalled in any other court; this sum, I am confident, is in the King's hands as good as four millions, perhaps as five in England. The land-tax throughout his dominions is regular, and equals about nine shillings in the pound: the crown lands yield a considerable rent, and are as well managed to profit, as a private gentleman's estate. The customs are but a small article; they are gathered in his ports on the Baltick and at Embden. The excise is general on all the necessaries of life, and rises so high as forty per cent. These taxes are very heavy; but such is the regularity of his government, and so little oppression is met with from ministers and revenue-officers, that the people are beyond comparison happier than in the dominions of Saxony, Au-

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stria, or Bavaria. Much of his success in the late war, was doubtless owing to the subsidy he received from England: the discontinuance of which, and the breaking off all connections between the two courts, struck hard upon him; for it took him out of the hands of France, from whom he received a subsidy of three hundred thousand pounds a year, and left him without an equivalent from England. The treatment he received from the latter country, upon the change of that ministry which had conducted the war, made an impression upon him much against England, of whom he has often expressed himself



with some acrimony: what the result will be in future political arrangements, is not easy to say; but if the connection continuous between France and Austria, that between England and Prussia, must in the nature of things be renewed; for when one part of Europe throws itself into an alliance offensive to rest--a counter alliance must ever be formed, or all good ideas of politicks be absolutely given up.

The 1st of June I left Berlin, and got to Britzen, the distance thirty miles: all which track of country is very sandy, though tolerably populous, and some of it well cul-

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tivated. They sow much buck-wheat; and were now ploughing for turneps, which they sow the middle of this month: and I believe this root and buck-wheat, with a very little rye, to be all the products these poor lands yield, and yet they seem to be very well manured; for the countrymen house their cattle in winter, and raise by that means large quantities of dung, which they mix with a kind of stiff earth, which they dig from under the sand; a compost which I should suppose, must agree extremely well with such dry barren soils.

The 2d I advanced no further than Wittenburg, the distance only 15 miles. In this journey I passed from Brandenburg to Saxony, and the soil changes almost immediately for the better, and the population of the country also. The soil is a good loam, which yields tolerable crops of wheat; they have also barley, and I remarked a few pieces of flax. Wittenburg was noted before the last war for its cloth manufactories, and for dying better than at any other place in the electorate; the latter business is yet found here, though not near so much as formerly; but most of its fabricks are removed to Berlin, so that the

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place has not been able to recover the ruin it met with in the war. Martin Luther's church is yet standing, tho' three hundred years old, and has seen so many sieges, cannonades, and bombardments without any damage.

The 3d I went to Leipsick, the distance 30 miles, through a country naturally exceedingly fertile, but carries many marks of the miseries of the late war. Most of it has been well cultivated, but upon riding into several fields now in grass, and whose appearance indicates wretched management, I found they had been arable ones within a few years; and upon making enquiries, I had several spots pointed out to me, whereon stood small villages, consisting of farm-houses, now no more; and all the lands which belonged to them, and once yielded abundant crops of corn, are now little better than waste and common forest land, whereon the tenants of the same landlord turn their cattle. This is not the case with two or three places, but continues for many miles; and is owing to the nobles to whom the country belongs, having ruined themselves with paying military

contributions so often, that at last, they had nothing to pay when their buildings were burnt down, and themselves left too poor to erect

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new ones: This is generally the reason, why the feat of war is so very injurious to a country; for nothing is so great an evil, as land cultivated, formerly belonging to owners, too poor to raise the buildings necessary for bringing it again into culture. If the landlords of such a country would allow every thing to be destroyed the first campaign, they would be reduced it is true; but then they would be free from those enormous debts which not only carry their ruin with them to the graves of such as groan under them, but entail misery upon their children.

Leipsick, the suburbs included, is one of the most considerable cities in this part of Germany, notwithstanding its having suffered very severely in the two last wars, and felt some heavy strokes, which are not yet recovered. It has been the theatre of almost every war that has happened in Germany. In the famous one of thirty years, it was very often taken and retaken by the Swedes, and Imperialists; no less than five times in two years: It felt the weight of Charles XII's invasion of Saxony, than whom there have been few more brutal invaders. And the two last wars succeeded each other very quickly; its trade and buildings much declined in

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them. The city itself is not an agreeable place, from the narrowness of the streets, and the height of the houses, which rise to eight or nine stories; but the suburbs are much more spacious and better built; they are also pleasant, from the number of areas, and gardens in them; and from the conflux of three small rivers. They have not many publick buildings at Leipsick that much deserve a stranger's attention; the best among them is St. Nicholas Church, which is a very fine edifice. The townhouse is an old but a good structure; the exchange is another: and around the great market place are many houses of private merchants, which make an uncommon figure for buildings of that sort; but there are several traders in the city, that have made considerable fortunes, and before the last war treble the number; but the greatest among them upon the breaking out of it, removed themselves and their effects to Hamburgh. The university is one of the most famous in Germany, and much frequented by students of family and fortune; but this also declined much in the last war.

Trade is the soul of Leipsick: Considering that it is an inland place, and without the advantage even of a navigable river, the great-

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ness of its commerce is very surprizing; but it is owing to its fairs, of which they have three very considerable ones every year. To them merchants bring or send goods of all sorts from every part of Europe: all the manufactures of Germany, France, Italy, England, Holland, and Flanders are met with here: Vast magazines are formed of East India goods of all sorts; of West India commodities; of wines, brandies, fruits, silk, hemp, flax, iron, and in a word all sorts of products: And purchasers resort hither from every part of Germany and the North. These fairs also carry off great quantities of the fabricks which are made at Leipsick, of which there are several sorts; such as silk, cotton and woollen manufactures, paper, gold, and silver laces, &c. but all these suffered much from the last war; nor have they recovered themselves to any thing like their former success: Indeed, I observed in conversation with several merchants here, that they had all a distrust that they were by no means secure from fresh visits of the Prussians; and while this is the case, (at which we cannot be surprized) it is not to be wondered that commerce and manufactures do not thrive. The injury the whole Electorate

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sustained last war, in the destruction of its manufactures and trade; the ruin of its agriculture, and the decline of its population, was of an exceedingly great amount, and such as cannot be recovered without the most unremitting attention, and political conduct of half a century; before which time it will probably see in some cause or other, a renewal of its calamities. If these circumstances are considered, with the oppressive government of all the German princes that have an absolute authority, we shall have reason to wonder at any trade at all being found in Saxony.

The 6th, I travelled thirty miles to Meissen, through the finest part of Saxony; and which, notwithstanding the fury of the late war, is now a populous and a well cultivated country; there is a great deal of arable land, and very fine champain fields, covered with corn; many villages, and the people seemed to be active, and quite alive in their business. Part of the females were collected in small knots in the villages spinning wool; others drove the horses and oxen that drew the ploughs; this employment of the women is an excellent sign, where the men do not, in consequence, indulge in idleness, which is the case in some countries. They cultivate a great deal of wheat and barley, and were now sowing some

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buck-wheat; but it is a grain for which their lands are too good, the poorest sands will rival them: They cultivate turneps, cabbages; and also cabbages for feeding themselves and their cattle; their herds are numerous; they feed them not only in their meadows, but also upon clover, of which I saw several large pieces, a thing I had not remarked of a long time. I enquired into their management of it; they sow it with barley, and in the succeeding year, either mow it twice for hay, thrice sometimes; or else feed sheep, young cattle, cows, oxen, and horses upon it: the hay they prefer to meadow hay. They keep it

two years upon the ground, and after that plough it up for any sort of crop, but do not seem to consider it as a peculiar preparation for wheats, which is the idea in England: It has not been long cultivated here, but spreads very fast, from their finding the profit of it to be great. The lands here are cultivated by both the landlords and peasants; the latter are in general farmers, and not of very little spots, but they are bound to apply a part of their time with their teams, &c. to cultivate those parts of the estate, which the landlord holds in his own hands, and which are usually pretty considerable.

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Meissen is a little town, weakly fortified, but with a strong castle on the Elbe; it is only remarkable (the Dresden Porcelane excepted) for a covered bridge of wood over that river; the cathedral I had been told was a fine building, with many fine electoral monuments in it, but I found it worthy of very little observation. The manufacture of Porcelane, was once more famous here, than at any other place in Europe, but the last war almost ruined it; upon the King of Prussia's irruption into Saxony, most of the workmen, and the materials were removed; but the war continuing so long, and Saxony remaining in the hands of the Prussians, some of the people died, and others were lost; some the King of Prussia secured, and sent them to Berlin; where he attempted to establish a similar manufactory, but he has executed nothing comparable to the old Dresden pieces. Upon the establishment of peace, the works at Meissen were restored, and a fresh set of workmen, with some old ones, resumed the manufactory: I have seen the best pieces they have made, and shall venture to assert, that the manufacture is lost; for they are not in the clearness of the white, to be compared with the metal formerly made; as to fine painting, it is any where to be had, and there-

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fore not peculiar to the Dresden ware. This is a great loss to the curious, and lovers of fine Porcelane all over Europe; and the more so, as none of the numerous fabricks set up in England, France, or Holland, have come near equal to it.

The 17th I reached Dresden, which is only fifteen miles from Meissen, through the most beautiful line of country I have seen in Germany; it is all hill and dale, corn, vines, and meadows along the banks of the Elbe a continued picture; the river is every where seen to advantage, with the beautiful circumstance of the banks being high and woody; a more entertaining picturesque scene can hardly be viewed.

Dresden I can easily conceive, was before the destruction of the suburbs, one of the finest cities in Europe; but the Prussians have much reduced its beauty, by burning down a great part of the most beautiful quarters of it. The old city is fortified in a regular manner; the bastions are of stone; and there is a double ditch, but yet the strength of it is nothing, unless the garrison be very numerous: The river Elbe divides it into two cities, the old

and the new. The bridge over that river which is built of stone, is reckoned the finest in Germany; but no person who has

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seen that at Westminster, will think there either beauty or magnificence in it. It is five hundred and forty feet long, thirty six broad, and consists of nineteen arches. The electoral palace is not a very striking building for the beauties of architecture; but there are many very fine and spacious apartments in it very splendidly furnished; much of it done since the war; for some of the best furniture was ruined by the Prussians, and a vast number of curiosities carried off. The King it is supposed, did not design to touch any thing, and no commander keeps a more regular discipline, but in so long a war so full of events, and those remarkably severe; a place of curiosities, must necessarily fare but badly. The stables form a magnificent building, being very spacious, and were once filled with some of the finest horses in Germany, but many of the stalls are now unoccupied; indeed the revenues of the electorate suffered to so great a degree in the late war, that Dresden has ever since exhibited a very different appearance; the court is no longer what it was, and all those circumstances which flow from great revenues, have sunk proportionably to the decline, which the Saxon income has experienced. No court in Germany was so profuse; but there is an economy in it now,

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which promises a much happier administration of affairs than has been experienced in the two last.

The Romish chappel is one of the finest edifices at Dresden; it is a well-proportioned and magnificent building; most highly ornamented: It was built for the private use of the late King and his court.

The chamber of curiosities, have yet a great many very beautiful models, and toys, which cannot fail entertaining any traveller; and the collection which they call the Kunts-kammar, which is chiefly of natural rarities, equal to any thing that can be seen; but as the particulars of these things have been published by more than one traveller, I shall not swell these pages with a recital of them. The gallery of pictures, is equal to most that are to be seen in Italy; and are kept in admirable preservation. The pieces by Correggio are to be equalled no where but in Parma. A very magnificent work, containing plates of all the pictures this gallery, was published at Dresden, under the direct inspection of the late King.

The Indian palace, of which several writers have given long accounts, is in my opinion a very silly affair; and by no means even elegant. Count Bruhl's famous palace suf-

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ferred most severely in the war, at which nobody was concerned, from the foundation of all his grandeur being laid in the miseries of the Saxons; and from his being the principal plotter, and adviser of that war, which ruined his master. The picture gallery is one of the finest rooms I have any where seen.

From the best accounts I could get while at Dresden, the decline in all the affairs of consequence throughout the government of Saxony, upon account of the late war, is much greater than has been thought by some authors who have written lately. Before the war, the revenues of the electorate, by means however of very great oppression, amounted to a million and an half sterling; but I was assured, that they do not at this day, although near seven years of peace have intervened, rise to seven hundred thousand pounds, and yet the government is burthened with a very heavy debt. Saxony, before the war, contained near two millions of people; it has not now much above one: In Dresden were an hundred and ten thousand people, but at present it would be difficult to find half the number; such strong marks of decline are not to be mistaken, they shew the severity of the late war, in the most striking colours; and prove

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clearly that if it had continued much longer, the whole electorate would have been made a desert.

The present government conducts all things in a very sensible and political manner; they find the wretched state of the country will admit of nothing but an economy which has not been practiced in this country for a long while; the people see and know the publick distress, and do not repine at the taxes they are forced to pay, as all did when the amount was squandered by count Bruhl, and the King, in cloaths, toys, and gewgaws. Only fifteen thousand regular troops are kept up, but they have five or six thousand militia regularly disciplined. This is certainly acting with prudence; for the whole country is so impoverished, that if they raised by taxes a revenue to do otherwise, it must be by the ruin of the people. They must have time not only to recruit their losses, but also their numbers. The soil is in general fertile, and the Saxons are industrious enough to bring it into culture, if they have time given them, without making even peace itself too burthensome, by taxation, and without hurrying them into another war, which could not fail of being ruinous to the whole electorate. Some encouragement has been given to agriculture

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and manufactures since the peace; particularly by an exemption from taxes in certain cases wherein they would be extremely burthensome; but the essential foundation of tolerable cultivation, or activity in carrying on fabricks, is wanting, which is wealth, or at

least easy circumstances in the undertakers; but this electorate, the Prussians exhausted to so great a degree, that they left scarcely any wealth in it; the lands are in the hands of nobility so reduced, that they can scarcely live; much less are able to carry on improvements in the manner requisite at present, for being effectual in reviving husbandry in their country; and when this is the case, such a renovation must be left to common causes, the increase of the people, and of industry among the lower classes, which is always of most slow operation.

The amazing difference of the event of the war to Brandenburg and Saxony, is striking. The latter is so ruined and exhausted, as to lye almost at the mercy of any invader; without people, trade, revenues, or forces, on a comparison with what all those articles were before the war: on the contrary, the King of Prussia is in possession of as great an income as ever; a finer army, than when he began the war: his dominions suffered indeed, but the

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wounds seem to have been but skin-deep: certainly his country was not made the seat of war in the manner he made that of the Elector of Saxony. The contrast indeed is so striking, that if ever a new war breaks out between Prussia and Austria, Saxony most undoubtedly will not join the latter.

The 12th I set out from Dresden, and got to Lentmeritz, in Bohemia, in two days, passing through Pirna, and by the famous castle of Koningstein. Pirna is a little place among the mountains, and Koningstein is a castle situated on the top of a rock, three hundred feet high, and half a mile in circumference. The way to it is so difficult, that a company is sufficient to defend it against an army. In it is a well, above sixteen hundred feet deep, which supplies the garrison with water. In the labyrinth of these rocks and mountains, the King of Prussia caught the Saxon army and made them prisoners. The country is in general very wild and romantic, and the views of the Elbe running through such a region of mountains extremely grotesque: There are some vineyards planted upon southern spots of these mountains, where the grapes ripen tolerably, but the wine is not drinkable to those who have been used to that which is good.

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## CHAPTER IX

*Journey across Bohemia--Prague--Description of the country--The people--Nobility--Husbandry--Manufactures--Moravia--Olmutz--Brinn--Journey to Vienna--Description of the capital.*

LENTMERITZ is a small town in Bohemia, situated on the river Elbe; it has some fortifications, but none of any great strength: near this place the King of Prussia gained a great victory over the Austrians in the last war. The neighbouring country was several

times the seat of war, and suffered much: part of the mischiefs done, are not yet recovered; for there are several tracks of land belonging to a Bohemian nobleman, who resides at Vienna, which were once arable, but are now over-run with grass and weeds, and still have by no means near a stock of cattle proper for the land; and some villages are of a very poor appearance with several houses almost burnt down, that have not yet been repaired. The country that is cultivated, does not seem to be managed in an able man-

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ner; and the peasants are much worse treated than they are in Saxony.

The 18th I reached Prague, the capital of Bohemia, and one of the largest cities in Europe. The country through which the road runs is various; much of it is of a fruitful soil, and tolerably cultivated in some parts, but there are in every track many marks of bad husbandry and inattention, greatly owing I suppose to a want of industry, and partly to the oppression which the peasants experience: They have some tolerable crops of wheat, but I never saw worse barley, or any corn more full of weeds; and they value it so little, that on various pieces of barley and pease I saw cattle feeding, which made me enquire if they were sown with intention to be eat green; but that was not the case; it is a mere instance of stupid neglect. I observed one or two pieces of flax, which looked very well. The winter food of their cattle is principally the cabbage, turnep, and red cabbage, which they cultivate in large quantities. I saw several young plantations of them, but they do not seem to manage them well.

Prague is very well situated on the river Muldaw, it is divided into two cities by that river. The fortifications are regular, and

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much superior to what they were before the last war; but the city is of so great an extent, that it requires an army to defend it. It suffered very much by the siege it stood in the beginning of the war against the King of Prussia, who cannonaded and bombarded it in so severe a manner, that not many buildings escaped; whole quarters were beat down, or burnt, and I was shewn several very large gardens and young orchards, which before that siege were entirely covered with houses, then destroyed, and the people are too poor to rebuild them in a place where there are yet more houses than are occupied: scarcely any of the publick buildings escaped damage at the same siege. The university is one of the most famous in Germany, and has a vast number of students; the people at Prague talk of five thousand; what they might be formerly I know not, but at present they are short of three thousand. In 1409, when John Huss was rector, it is a fact that there were thirty thousand students here. The Jesuits college is one of the finest buildings in the city, but it suffered by several unlucky cannon balls, and is not yet thoroughly repaired. The bridge,



which joins the old and the new town, is fifteen hundred and eighty feet long, by thirty broad, and has seventeen arches, and

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is all of stone; it is a solid edifice, has nothing of elegance in it; and when a traveller hears that it was an hundred and fifty years a building, he will suppose it must have been in an age extremely poor, or been undertaken by a prince of little spirit. The finest edifices in the world are rarely those which were so long in raising. St. Peter's at Rome is an instance against me, but St. Paul's at London, and the bridge at Westminster, are strong ones in my favour, and many more might be quoted. The royal palace, and the cathedral, are very mean buildings that contain scarcely any thing worthy of notice. What at Prague are much the best worth seeing, are the palaces of the nobility; some of which are very noble edifices, that would make a great figure in the best built cities of Italy; several of them are of very great size, with most spacious apartments, and very magnificent furniture. Those of the princes Lobcowitz, and Ischarnan, and the counts Galas, Straka, Czaslaw, and Manstein, deserve particular attention; they contain many apartments that are worthy of sovereign princes, but the number of very good pictures is trifling.

Most of the Bohemian nobility, who are a numerous body, keep their residence in winter at Prague, and in summer on their estates.

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None of them resort to Vienna, but such as are in office in the court, which is a very uncommon instance. It is their presence in this city that alone supports it; for without their resort, and the garrison, which is generally pretty numerous, the city would be a desert; being utterly destitute of both trade and manufactures: the university does something, but not much. All the lower classes here are poor; the burghers are treated by the nobles very contemptuously, to a degree not common elsewhere; if the place was ever so well situated for trade, or manufacture, this would be a sure means of damping their progress.

The 16th I left Prague, and went to Nymburg, a small town twenty five miles distant; the country various, but much of it pretty tolerably cultivated; rather better than the track to the north of Prague. The peasants are treated in a wretched manner; they have hovels of the worst sort to live in, little better than those in Westphalia; being loose stones laid on one another for the walls, and the crevices filled with mud, and the covering some strong poles, with turf spread on them, and a hole at top in the middle is all the chimney that any of them have; adjoining is their barn, built of the same materials, in which they stow their little corn, and keep their

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cattle winter; each cottage has a few acres of land around it, with a cow or two, and a miserable pair either of horses or oxen for ploughing their land. In general, Sunday is the only day in the week which they are allowed for cultivating this land, in order to raise provisions for subsisting on the whole week; but in feed-time and harvest their lords indulge them with another: When I speak therefore of the husbandry of the country, I do not mean of the peasants, nor of the farmers, for there is scarcely any such thing, but of the nobility, and other landlords, who all cultivate their own estates by means of their agents and stewards. The peasants in every respect resemble nearly those of Poland, than whom they are not favoured more.

At first sight it may appear, that landlords, who act upon this system, must make far more of their estates, than those who let them, in the English manner, to farmers, because here the profit of the farmer is consolidated with that of the landlord; but, from the repeated observations which I have often had occasion of making, I am convinced that the case is the very contrary. If any estate was only of such a size as to form a good farm, it would be very true; but estates are thus cul-

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tivated whose extent is from twenty to thirty thousand acres of cultivated land, either meadow, pasture, arable, sheep-walk, or woods, all in some culture or other, and a vast track arable. To be forced to cultivate such immense farms, they are obliged to have swarms of bailiffs and agents. In every place where a farm-house should be, is a bailiff's house, who manages a certain track of land. Thus the landlord is at the monstrous expence of stocking his whole estate, and running all the chances of that stock, and at the same time has to keep as many bailiffs as if they were farmers, and who all live out of the land before he has his clear profit, as much as if they were farmers; with this great distinction, that being merely servants, they have little interest in the success of their husbandry, and consequently the master suffers all the usual inconveniences of such a situation: his agents of all sorts cost him as much as farmers would make for themselves, supposing them honest; and if they turn out otherwise, a great deal more. Thus he gets none of the farmers profit, at the same time that he loses the interest of all the money employed in stocking, and the chances to which that stock is liable. From which state of the affair, I think it is very evident, how

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much more beneficial it is to let out an estate to farmers, for them to find the stock, cultivate the land, and employ the peasants, not only in mere profit of the year, but with a view to future improvements, which must always be conducted with far more effect by the people who work for their own interest, than by others who do it for a master, and a master perhaps who is always absent, or, if present, who understands nothing of the

matter. What great improvements have been made in England by tenants, who enjoy the benefit during their lease, and then pay a fresh rent to their landlords on account of those very improvements! In population also the prince would reap a very great benefit; for when men are working for themselves, their industry will be very different from that of servants; and in proportion to the general industry, must population be: the peasants would likewise meet with less oppression, and consequently increase more.

They sow a good deal of wheat in this line of country; but their principal crop is barley. I observed many plantations of hops in the warm vales, where the soil is rich and deep: it is a common culture in most parts of Bohemia, I am told; and when the spot chosen for a hop-garden is suitable, they find it more

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profitably applied than for any other crop. Beer is a very great article of trade throughout the kingdom, much being exported to all the surrounding countries; this makes barley and hops particularly advantageous. Saffron is another crop, which I saw now and then: they prefer a light, dry loam on a stratum of rock for it; they think it very profitable; an acre of good saffron is worth about three pounds here. Turneps and cabbages they have in large quantities for the winter support of their cattle: they prefer the latter in general: I saw many crops somewhat advanced in growth, but they do not seem to be attentive to keeping them free from weeds.

The 17th I reached Leutmyssel, at the distance of forty-five miles, passing through two or three pretty towns upon the banks of the Elbe. This country is more beautiful than the preceding, and of a richer soil; in some parts there are hills, but not so great as to be unprofitable land, while the vales form some very rich arable and meadow land; most of which is pretty well cultivated, under wheat, barley, and beans, which are much sown here: wheat yields from two, to two and an half quarter per acre; barley something more; beans four quarters; they choose for these their stiffest wet soils. They feed on their mea-

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dows large herds of cows and oxen; and keep many sheep, but do not manufacture the wool; most of it is sold to Silesia and Saxony, both of which are much more industrious countries: They work up however some of their own flax into the same sort of linnens, as are made in Silesia, which is an employment of the poor people in many of the little towns in this kingdom; their earnings at this work are very small; a weaver in Silesia will earn about three and sixpence a week; but in Bohemia not more than half a crown: But provisions of all sorts are very cheap in both these countries. I saw two or three country seats belonging to noblemen; they are all built in the castle form, with a moat round, and seem to be extremely spacious; a nobleman of great fortune in this country, has seldom less than two or three hundred servants about him, when at his castle in the country; and he is an absolute monarch upon his estate, with power over every thing but life and death,

and the royal revenue officers. This kind of dominion over all the lower classes, flatters the vanity and pride of the great, more than the amount of the advantages they would gain by the peasants being free; it is like the contrast of absolute authority to the limited power possessed by some kings; the latter

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makes their people happy and rich, and might have the same effect upon themselves, but they are all hunting after the former.

The 18th I got to Olmutz, the capital of Moravia, the distance forty miles; crossing the mountains which separate the two countries, these are not very lofty, nor craggy, but they fill a track of country, of several miles broad; they exhibit, a wild territory, but little of which is cultivated: The peasants that inhabit there hills, are a rough intractable set of men, that will not submit to the oppressions under which their brethren of the plains groan; they have been often in rebellion, not against the sovereign, but the lords to whom they are vassals, they are in many respects treated much better; and their houses and little farms make a much better appearance; they have more and better cattle; some of them are in possession of small pieces of land which they have purchased, and all are extremely tenacious of this kind of property; they do not work for their masters more than three days in a week. It is always to be remarked, that the gradations of freedom are ever to be found in mountainous countries; in general such are free; but even under absolute monarchs they enjoy more liberty, than the subjects of the same prince who inhabit

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plain countries: To live in hilly countries, requires more activity and vigour of body; the very moving from one place to another is laborious, the cold and blustering climates found in them, contribute to bracing up the human body, and to make it hardy. It is the same effect as is seen in cold climates, compared with hot ones, in whatever parts of the world they may be found. After the mountains are passed that separate the two countries, I went through a great extent of forest, and marsh land, very little of which is cultivated; and not much of it would pay for culture, unless the country in general was richer than it is.

Olmütz is a small but very well built city, prettily situated on the little river Moravia. It is a strong place both by nature and art: so that the King of Prussia, when he made the famous irruption into Moravia, and laid siege to it, did not seem to have had good intelligence of the state of the town, or the garrison. The streets are regular and well paved, and there are many good houses in it; the only publick buildings of any note, are the Jesuits college, the bishop's palace, and the townhouse; the market place is surrounded by several well built houses. It is an agreeable town, and the inhabitants seem to be a very sociable

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people, with more activity and industry, than is to be found among the Bohemians. Provisions are very cheap here: I lived at the Empress's Arms inn, two days, upon exceeding good fish and fowl, and good Hungarian wine, and when I paid my reckoning, I found that six shillings went to the full, as far as a guinea in England. Beef is only three half pence a pound; mutton is sometimes sold at a penny; and a fat turkey is to be bought for fourteen pence.

The 21st I left Olmutz, and proceeded to Brinn, the distance thirty miles, through a much more fertile country than north of Olmutz; it is better peopled, and much more of it cultivated: They do not sow much wheat here, but a great deal of rye, barley, pease, and beans; and the crops in general, carried a good appearance; they keep great herds of cattle, feeding them in winter on cabbages, turneps, and straw; all the latter, which they give to their cattle, they cut almost as small as chaff, with an engine made on purpose; very different from the chaff-cutter used in England. They chop the turneps, or cabbages into small pieces, and give them with chopt straw, and find that they go much the farther, and nourish the cattle much better. I never heard of any thing of this fort

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being practiced in England; yet I should apprehend that it could not fail of answering extremely; it is certainly much worth the trial. They have vast herds of swine, which find their own subsistence in woods, and swampy grounds for most part of the year. They fatten them on beans, pease, and potatoes, which they cultivate on purpose: selling great quantities of bacon to Vienna, &c.

Brinn is well situated on the confluence of two rivers, and is reckoned the strongest place in Moravia; it has a castle that is very strong; the Austrians have usually a good garrison here; several new fortifications have been added both to this place, and to Olmutz since the last war, which I suppose were occasioned by the King of Prussia's bold march into this country, which alarmed them excessively at Vienna. There are about six thousand inhabitants in Brinn; the streets are narrow and crooked, but many of the houses very well built, and some of the publick edifices make a tolerable appearance, particularly the Jesuits college, and the churches of St. James, and St. Thomas.

The 22d I reached Laba, a little town thirty miles from Brinn; the country between them is better than the preceding; has less waste land, fewer forests and marshes; and

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the arable land beyond comparison better cultivated. This is in a great measure owing to the attention given to husbandry-improvements by the court of Vienna. They were at the

expencc some years ago, of bringing several Flemish farmers from the country, between Ostend and Bruges; three of them were settled in this country, being supplied with all sorts of implements, cattle, houses, land, &c. by the Empress Queen, and fixed upon some waste, but very fertile lands belonging to the crown. They have had a large succession of Moravian peasants, regularly working under them, in order to be instructed in the Flemish husbandry; who being discharged when fresh ones are taken, have much spread several excellent customs, and will in all probability, much improve the agriculture of the greatest part of the province. The effect has already been very considerable; for though these Flemings do not occupy a thousand acres of land in all, yet their methods already spread over a country near fifteen miles long; all the husbandry of which is by their means much improved. They have introduced clover here, which turns out one of the most beneficial crops that can be sown; they have also made this culture of clover a preparation for wheat, so that they have almost entirely

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banished the custom of fallowing for wheat which was the common method in Moravia. Spurry they also brought with them, with which they feed cows. To them likewise the Moravians are indebted for a much more systematic management of manure, than what they formerly followed: They form composts of dung, rotten vegetables, vast quantities of leaves, swept up on purpose in the open forests, turf, ashes, and other materials, which they mix together several times, and spread upon their clover fields--and on their cabbage grounds: They have also made them abundantly more attentive in keeping all their crops clear from weeds and in good order, by hoeing and weeding; all the cabbages I saw in this district, which has been profited thus from the example of the Flemings, were in very fine order, both in respect to pulverized soil, and a clearness from weeds.

I saw the castle of baron Skulitz, who had been extremely attentive in spreading this good Flemish husbandry. He resides constantly on his estate, and makes agriculture not only his business, but also his amusement: Immediately on their exhibiting a culture, superior to the old management of the Moravians, he followed it with so much intelligence and spirit that he has advanced the va-

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lue of his estate considerably: He entered presently into all their views, and introduced the best husbandry of the Austrian provinces upon his own lands. Falling into discourse on the road with one of his bailiffs, he pointed out to me several large tracks of land, which not long ago were entirely waste, but are now by this worthy nobleman's attention, better cultivated than most of the province. He has introduced various new branches of husbandry, which answer better than common crops; among these, hops and saffron he brought from Bohemia; madder from Silesia; and he raises both hemp and flax in large quantities: All these crops he is remarkably attentive to, and gives them such uncommon fair play, that his first trials, contrary to what is generally met with, turned out greatly

successful, from whence he has been induced to continue them ever since, and greatly to enlarge all his plantations of them, by which, and various other means, he has improved his revenues in a surprizing manner.

The owners of extensive landed estates, in poor countries, have all such an opportunity of increasing their income; and it is very amazing they do not oftener take advantage of it. If, like the nobleman here mentioned,

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they would reside upon their estates, instead of spending all their time in the capital, squandering their revenues in a gulf of luxury, the measure of which is never full, and which cannot fail of impoverishing them, and bringing them into the most slavish dependence upon the will of the court; if they would act thus, they would find money flow into their coffers in a far greater abundance than they can ever hope to receive from the smiles of ministers; at the same time that they would reside where a shilling goes as far as a pound. In the profusion of a capital, the greatest estates are spent without making any unusual figure; but in the country, half the income would enable them to build and furnish costly palaces, and raise whole cities around them to be witnesses of their splendor.--I have, in the course of my travels, met with several instances, which shew, in the clearest light, the enjoyment and undoubted happiness which this kind of life confers, even upon noblemen, whose rank and revenue would allow them all the amusements of any metropolis. It is a most happy thing to any country, when a sovereign gives all the encouragement in his power to promote this rural attention in nobles, which cannot fail

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of turning out highly beneficial to the whole community.

The 23d I got to Vienna, which is five-and-twenty miles from Laba, through a country that is very unequal, part of it being very rich, populous, and well cultivated, and much of it hilly, wild, and to appearance barren. In the cultivated tracks are many noblemen's seats; and the husbandry around them is visibly much better than elsewhere, which is owing to their drawing the peasants, as it were, into a string around them. They plant great quantities of saffron, which they reckon the most profitable crop they have: they have also plenty of good crops of wheat and barley; and their extensive meadows and pastures feed large herds of cattle, which from the neighbourhood of Vienna turn to very good account. I saw several crops of the turnep cabbage for cattle. But husbandry suffers much in all this country, and indeed through most parts of Germany, for want of inclosures: they might easily make them, and at a small expence, but neglect the work entirely, which must be for want of fully understanding the advantages of them: Indeed, labour is of so little value, that every sort of cattle has always a keeper with them, tho'

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the herd is ever so small, yet corn and saffron often suffer.

Vienna is situated on the south side of the Danube, but has not the advantage of that great river running through it; for it stands on a small branch of it, there being several islands formed here, by the river dividing itself. If the suburbs are included, it is a very large city, but within the walls and fortifications it is only three miles in circumference. It is regularly fortified, but has so few outworks, as to be a place of small strength, and only defended by a small army. At the siege in 1683, the Turks shewed themselves to be extremely ignorant in the art of conducting such an enterprise; and their engineers were miserable ones, else they might have taken the city some time before the King of Poland raised the siege; and had that event happened, Hungary had now been in possession of the Ottomans.

Vienna within the walls makes a most inelegant appearance, from the narrowness of the streets. I am one who would not give sixpence for a fine building, if there is not a sufficient area to view it from. The English boast of the church of St. Paul's at London; and will sometimes assert it equal to St. Peter's at Rome; but if it were doubly finer, I should

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prefer St Peter's, from the opportunity one has of viewing it; and the area around a great building, ought to be so much esteemed a part of it, as to be criticized with it; and the architect's abilities called in question for faults in it, as much as if he blundered in the proportion of the cupola. Thus in Vienna, there are many palaces (of which I had read and heard much,) in streets as narrow as old Bristol; and at the same time all the houses are five, six, seven, and some of them eight stories high; and it is aid, they have almost as many stories of cellars under ground, as of floors above. Formerly all the windows were grated with iron bars like prisons, from the street to the upper floor, and vast numbers of houses are so now, but I see it is left off in the principal palaces.

The imperial palace is a structure that will answer to none that sees it; it consists of several courts, surrounded with irregular buildings; though, notwithstanding some late additions, it makes but a very mean appearance; the apartments are neither spacious, nor furnished in the manner one would expect, for a court long famed as one of the most expensive in Europe. The library is supposed to rank among the first in Europe; the number of

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volumes are not less than ninety thousand; and the collection of manuscripts, supposed to be extremely valuable. I was shewn several great curiosities, but upon these occasions



there never is time allowed for any useful examination, and if there were, it would signify little to the unlearned in the oriental tongues, in which the most valuable manuscripts are written.

Many of the palaces of the nobility, are most magnificent structures; that of the great Eugene with his famous library and collections I had most pleasure in viewing; the Mansfield palace, and that of count Daun, are also great edifices, with several others, in which the painting, gilding; carving, and furniture are as rich as possible.

The university of Vienna, is very famous in Germany and Hungary; the number of students is considerable, and they have good accommodations for those of fortune, and many valuable privileges.

There is not much worth seeing in the churches of Vienna; the cathedral is the principal, and it is a large building; but nothing is uncommon in it but the height of its spire, which, since Strasburg, is become French, is the highest in the empire. The Jesuits church is a fine building; and the convents of

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Carmelites, Franciscans, Benedictines, and Austin Friars, are visited by those who take any delight in viewing these sort of buildings; for my part, I have an aversion at seeing such useless edifices filled with tribes of pernicious orders of lazy priests, who do nothing to gain their livelihood, but are maintained by the industry of every body else: It is amazing, that Roman catholick princes do not find out that every monk in their dominions might be a soldier, without the country suffering a whit the more: and in many cases the soldier would pay well for his maintenance; but as to the monk, he is subsisted in the most unuseful of all species of idleness.--But there are other instances of the catholick piety of Vienna, besides her monks and nuns; in one of the squares, is a very large and costly statue of the Trinity, representing the Deity clasping Christ in his arms, and the Holy Ghost hovering over them. This was erected by the Emperor Leopold, instead of an equestrian statue, which in other cities would have been erected to the sovereign. To this famous piece of folly, all the Roman catholicks bow as they pass. Religious prejudices should certainly be laid aside by all travellers but is it possible for a man of sense not to rejoice, that education has not enslaved him to

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an observance of, or veneration for such mummery? In many instances, religion makes Roman catholick countries extremely disagreeable to travel through.

I brought several letters of recommendation to Vienna, to persons from whose conversation, I expected some valuable information concerning the general state of all the Austrian dominions at present, in respect of agriculture, manufactures, commerce,

revenues, and military power; but I was strangely disappointed: there is a haughty reserve in every man of the least consequence here, which not only precludes any information of this fort; but at the same time renders a residence in any but a publick character very disagreeable at Vienna. But after all my letters had failed, that is, introduced me only to people who thought that I had no business with any thing but eating, drinking, going to court, and playing at cards, a life by no means agreeable to me; after this I fell accidentally into company with a field-officer in their service, a native of Milan: this gentleman was extremely communicative, very sensible, and had travelled often through most of the dominions of the Empress Queen. He gave me a very rational, and candid account of things, as appeared by his manner, and

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the confirmations I had afterwards from several persons in other parts of Europe. To agriculture this gentleman had not at all attended; he could give me no more account of its general state in the countries he had been in, than with that of the moon. I found from him however, that the manufactures which have lately been established in Hungary, flourish very much; the Empress Queen, and her ministers, have long been eager to cloath her troops with her subjects manufactures; instead of selling all their wool unmanufactured. Hungary, as well as Austria, Bohemia, and Moravia, feed many sheep, especially Hungary, a great part of which is a continued and fertile sheep-walk. Great numbers of Hungarians have been et to work upon this wool; and weavers, spinners, reelers, &c. brought from Flanders, to teach the natives to work it; and many of them have proved very docile in learning: so that at present, woollen goods are made to the amount of near an hundred thousand pounds a year, which is a very great thing in Hungary-- where, before these exertions, were no manufactures at all--They are established in most of the populous towns of that kingdom; and if they are brought, to employ the poor people in them, who have no other em-

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ployment, it will be an immense acquisition, and save the export of very great sums of money. As to trade, the inland situation of the Austrian dominions, is such as allows of very little foreign commerce. Attempts were made at Triest, but they were so languid, and suffered such interruptions during the war, that the commerce of the port is yet nothing that deserves mention; notwithstanding that an active prince, liberal in useful expence, and attentive to such improvements, might have made Triest the seat of a considerable commerce; but all these circumstances have been wanting.

The revenues of the dominions of the house of Austria, are considerable; the following account of them was given to this gentleman, by a person who had many opportunities of being well informed.

Bohemia	£ 700,000
Moravia	190,000
Hungary	400,000
Austria	400,000
Transilvania	50,000
Sclavonia and Croatia	100,000
Stria, Curinthia, and Carniola	200,000
Tyroll, Brixen, Trent	160,000
The countries of Swabia	20,000
The Netherlands	150,000
Milan and Mantua	400,000
Tuscany	500,000
Total	3,270,000

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The Netherlands Milan, and Mantua Tuscany Total 150,000 400,000 500,000 æ3,270,000  
 What degree of accuracy there is in this table; I am not able to ascertain, but from the information I have received from other hands, I believe the total to be near the truth: but Tuscany must not be reckoned: the common idea at Vienna coincides with these particulars; which makes the Imperial revenue near three millions: though there are some sanguine politicians, who insist on it's amounting to five; but that is much exaggerated. The revenues of all these countries might be very much improved; nobody doubts but a better system of taxation, and a more 'conomical collection would raise five millions, with very near as much ease to the people as three at present; but the lower classes of the people throughout most of these dominions are miserably fleeced, and pillaged, while the nobility escape with paying a much less proportion than they ought. The Netherlands might in particular yield a very considerable revenue, and prove the finest and most profitable pro-

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vinces belonging to the house of Austria; but in order to that, great changes should be made in the constitutions of the cities; manufactures should receive encouragement, and commerce be re- established in the ports; all which might be easily done, and the revenues of the sovereign become wonderfully improved; whereas at present they yield no more than might be expected if they were situated no better than Austria, or Moravia, instead of being the finest spot in Europe, in every respect; and inhabited by a people naturally as industrious as any in the world. Flanders, since the Dutch were masters of the navigation of Antwerp has wanted a port; but Ostend, for an hundred thousand pounds, might be made as good a one as any in Europe for merchantmen.

The many improvements, which have been talked of by the court of Vienna for the hereditary dominions, in agriculture, manufactures, and commerce, were they put in

execution, would at the same time much improve the revenue, and in a manner free the country of those evils, which usually flow from increasing the publick income of a crown. But there is a dilatoriness and a languor in every thing transacted at this court, even in its own most intricate concerns, that damp the spirit

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of all improvement, so that any object of this sort, upon a moderate computation, will be talked of half a century, before it is executed; this was the case with the establishment of the woollen manufacture in Hungary, and with every thing else: so that it is not thought the Austrian revenues, however they would admit of it, will for a long time be put upon a better footing than they are, or have any other improvements than what results from oppressing the lower classes of the people still more: than which no measure can give a greater stab to all general national improvements. Was the King of Prussia possessed of the Austrian dominions in exchange for his own, we should soon see them make a very different appearance; he would raise much greater revenues, with far greater ease to the people; and would throw such a vigour into all the transactions which the possession of Flanders, and the Italian dominions would introduce him to, that the importance of them would speedily appear in a very different light from what they do at present.

The great object of attention at Vienna, is the army; this is so far reprehensible in politicks, as it increases the necessity of laying a foundation previous to every superstructure: it is the revenue that pays and supports the army,

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and all increase of the latter must depend on a foregoing increase of the former: to raise a great revenue is much more essential, than to raise a great army; but the soldiers have a peculiar faculty of swallowing up a revenue, they have none at creating it. That prince therefore, who would be truly formidable, should attend to the prosperity of his income, before he thinks of greatly increasing his troops.

The following are the particulars of the present standing forces of the house of Austria. I insert them on the same authority as the above paper of the revenue; believing from other information which I have received, that it is near the truth; though I should remark, that all lists of armies are apt to exceed the reality, rather than fall beneath it.

	<i>Men.</i>
Dragoons	23,846
Curiassers	16,000
Hussars, and Croats	14,640
Hunters	6,300
Free Troops	8,000

Infantry	164,386
Artillery	2,800
Total	235,972

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The whole army, whatever the total maybe, is certainly in excellent order; the regiments full, and well officered, their cloathing regularly delivered, their arms much better than ever; the artillery very numerous; and no expence has been spared informing engineers; the magazines of ammunition and all sorts of military stores, full, and in good order: these attentions have occupied the court ever since the peace, and they have been indefatigable in them. Now, that all these particulars are compleated, they are employed in repairing all the fortifications in Bohemia, Moravia, Austria, Hungary, and Transilvania; new ones are in some places erecting, and many old ones greatly improved; this is a work of immense expence, and consequently it goes on slowly. In every one of these particulars, the Austrians strength is greater than at the breaking out of the last war. I before remarked, that the case was the same with the King of Prussia. These potentates are certainly jealous of each other; but I believe in no respect that threatens a fresh war: but the state of affairs in other parts, makes it necessary for them to be strongly armed. The aspect of affairs in Prussia and Poland, fills the house of Austria with uneasiness; and although Prussia espouses in her manifestos the same cause in Polish affairs as

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the Russian Empress, still it can only be, because the power of that empire is too great for him to break with. Most certainly the increase of the formidableness of Russia, ought in good politicks to fill both Prussia, and Austria with the deepest jealousy; future alliances with it, in case of a new war in Germany, must be very uncertain; and against whoever she declares, her weight will probably fall too heavy to be resisted. The opportunity of the war between the Russians and Turks, has generally been taken by the Austrians for attacking the Porte: such a measure now would insure the restoration of Belgrade and Servia, and perhaps yet greater advantages; but not making use of it, may be owing to two reasons: first, in return for the Turks not playing the same game when the Empress Queen was at war with Prussia; and secondly, because such a conduct would give greater advantages to the arms of Russia, than the house of Austria wishes to see.

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## CHAPTER X

*Journey from Vienna through Austria--Description of the Archdutchy--Bavaria--Munich--  
- Revenues and forces.--*

JULY 1st, I left Vienna, and that day travelled forty miles to St. Poltu, through a very various country. Near Vienna, it is very gay, being lightly adorned with villas, which have extensive gardens, and planted groves about them, but all in a miserable taste. I stopped to view one pretty near the road, which the postilions told me belonged to a great nobleman at court; a description of the ground before the house will give a tolerable idea of the taste most prevalent here in ornamenting their country seats. A canal with a small bridge over it in the center, parted the area before the house from the road; from the bridge to the house door was about a hundred yards; a broad stone-way led from one to the other; on each side ranged in exact order a statue, an urn, and a cross interchangeably; these were on a slip of grass: on the other side two canals nicely laid out, like the former, by rule, and at each corner of the three, a statue. The ground on each side was formed

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into a grass-plot, surrounded by a parterre of flowers, and in the center of each plot, a small fountain. From these particulars of the approach to a rural villa, all unseen may be very exactly guessed; and it evidently appears that the Austrians are at least one hundred years behind us in the art of gardening. It is the same with the French, and all the other nations of Europe. In some gardens I was shewn when in Italy, before I was told that they were executed in imitation of nature, upon the plan of my countryman Brown, whose fame had reached there; and it is not easy to be conceived how ridiculous every thing was; the least deviations from line and compass work, amidst a great deal of it, were esteemed exertions, in the art of imitating nature. A more ridiculous jumble was never seen; much worse than those made purely artificial.

Ornamenting a piece of ground, in the manner of our great gardener, and in the taste yet superior, in which some private gentlemen in England have laid out their grounds, is an art that requires genius, and more attention than will ever be given to it, in countries where they reside ten months out of the twelve in the capital, and very many, the other two also: where this is the case, the expence will not be spared, which we see in every thing that re-

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lates to the country; no article about a nobleman while he resides in the country in England, but what infinitely exceeds the same with any foreign nobleman of equal fortune. Their wealth is all expended upon their town houses, and their town residence; it is not therefore to be wondered at any more, that the English have not such fine palaces in London, as that the French and Italians have not such fine country seats.

These forty miles do not exhibit an agriculture that is very flourishing; yet the country is not much in want of people, for the towns and villages are thick. The soil is in general very good; but they do not seem to have any ideas of cultivating it with neatness; wild shrubbery grounds are suffered to break into the corn, in ragged borders, and small waste

spots, where the plough, upon account of some hillock, or hole, does not go, are left covered with weeds, to blow all over their fallows; they have no idea of cleaning such spots by way of prevention, and such numbers of them, as I saw in this day's journey, would not be met with in half an English county. They sow large quantities of saffron, which they reckon a profitable culture, an acre yielding a produce of about three pounds, if the crop is good. There are many vineyards,

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but the wine sells so badly, that they assured me, corn and saffron stand in general much better; and they do not confine their vines to tracks improper for ploughing.

Wheat, barley, rye, pease and beans, are commonly cultivated, but no oats; the crops are but middling. Turneps, turnep cabbages, cabbages, and potatoes, are cultivated in large quantities; the former for cattle, and the potatoes for fattening hogs, for which they boil them. They have large herds of swine, which feed all summer long in the woods, many of which are extensive. Horned cattle are also very plentiful here, and as they house them in the winter, they raise large quantities of dung, which ought to ensure a much better husbandry than theirs. I passed a small farm, near St. Poltu, that was cut out of a waste, and to appearance a barren common, on the side of a large hill; disposed into ten fields by beautiful quick hedges, which put me in mind of the best cultivated part of England: the inclosures rising one above another, on the side of the hill, were seen distinctly from the road; they were covered with various crops, which appeared much superior to those of the cultivated parts of the country I had passed; the house was small, but extremely neat. As soon as I had looked attentively at this very agreeable sight, I was go-

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ing to make up to it; but recollecting that I should be in the dark, I determined to go on to the stage, and come next morning to view that farm, which seemed a creation in the midst of a desert.

I accordingly put my intention in execution, the morning of the 2d, and returned about three miles to the place, and asking for the master of it, he appeared immediately; a fine tall open countenanced soldier, in an old suit of regimentals. I desired to see his farm, upon which he very readily walked with me into it. I went through all the ten inclosures; the hedges were regularly planted, and had each of them a ditch; the gates were all in good order, and every thing carried an appearance of neatness, most uncommon in Germany. He had three meadows, each of them watered by a small stream he had brought from the hill above his farm; it filled a little pond for watering the cattle, and might be conducted at pleasure in the proper season, over all parts of the fields for manuring them, which he practices in winter and spring. He had a field of wheat, another of barley, two of clover, and three of turneps and cabbages; and his fields were all much of the same size,

being each about six English acres. Turneps and cabbages he grew on his fallow for cleaning the

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land; succeeded them with barley, and then took clover, upon which he sows his wheat. This husbandry, which nearly resembles the best of Flanders, surprized me in the midst of Austria, where nothing of the kind is to be found. He keeps a dairy of cows; a small flock of sheep on the neighbouring waste, and oxen for ploughing and carting; he houses all his cattle in winter; his sheep every night in sheep houses; and litters every thing well with fern, which he cuts upon the waste. He is extremely attentive to raising large quantities of dung, which he manages by keeping as many cattle as he possibly can, and by mixing turf, and virgin earth with his dung as the cattle make it all winter long; by this means he is enabled to manure three fields, or eighteen acres very richly every year; but what gives a virtue to his dunghill, superior to any thing else is his bringing all the human ordure away from the little town of Poltu, for which, some of the inhabitants ignorant of its value, give a trifle for taking it away; he is at the expence of cleaning all the necessaries there, and of carting it to his farm; he mixes it up with his dung and virgin earth, and assures me that it forms the richest compost in the world; all the manure he raises in this manner, being applied to his turnep and cabbage grounds, he

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gets prodigious crops of those vegetables; and I remarked that they were kept perfectly free from weeds by hoeing: his cabbages are all planted in regular rows on ridges, and the spaces between the rows ploughed several times while growing, as well to kill the weeds as to keep the land in good tillage, all which appeared to me to be an excellent system. His crops of wheat yield four quarters an acre; his barley five, his clover gives four tons of hay at two mowings; and his turneps and cabbages maintain a vast flock: an acre of the former he reckons sufficient to winter-feed two oxen or cows; one of cabbages will winter three or four; but the expences of them are higher. All these crops I suppose are equal to the best cultivated parts of England.

Upon returning to his house he gave me his history. He was a corporal in a regiment of foot, quartered, during six years; in Flanders, and Brabant, where, as he had always a strong bent towards husbandry, he remarked very minutely their practices, and often worked in the fields for Flemish farmers. Upon the war breaking out with the king of Prussia, he was early in that service, and made a serjeant, in which capacity he behaved so much to Marshal Daun's satisfaction at the battle of Hockchirken, in sight of him, that he gave him pro-

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mises upon the spot, of promotion; but these were not thought of afterwards, till being presented by another person to the Empress Queen, and allowed by count Daun, she personally asked him in the presence of the whole court, if he had any particular request to make: upon which he asked his discharge, and a piece of this waste to cultivate, being born in the parish. It was granted at once; and further, his sovereign built him the house and offices directly, and gave him an hundred pounds to stock the farm with. With this small beginning he went to work directly, and in nine years has raised every thing to the state I saw. His industry is unbounded: though a continued success has attended all his undertakings, and his crops prove as fine as possible, bringing him in large sums of money, yet he continues to work with the same severity as ever, and does much the greatest part of all the business of his farm with his own hands; he has a son about twenty-five who executes the rest. The Empress has been twice to see him, and expressed the highest approbation of his conduct, and made him a handsome present. His methods have been put in execution under his own direction upon the estates of two noblemen in the neighbourhood, and with good success; so that this

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worthy soldier is like to be of more benefit to his country than half a dozen generals; and shews that nothing is of more importance than to establish such examples as these in various parts of a dominion: for although they may spread slowly, yet they certainly will spread, and that they cannot do without being of very great public benefit.

By night, I reached a little town called Munsbery, being half way to Lintz, at the distance of thirty miles from Poltu, through a country that is cultivated in a very different manner from the soldier's farm I had left, whose name (by the way) is Picco. The crops are in general bad and very full of weeds; and they seem to plough the soil very badly, although their ploughs are drawn by six oxen, and they have two men, or a man and a lad to drive them, with another man to hold the plough; it is evident from this that the price of labour is low, or the farmer, that is the nobility, could not allow such a superfluity of hands; but while the time of the peasants belongs to their lords, without any pay, such instances will be very common; but the whole system makes a very different figure from my friend Picco's, whose farm is a contrast to the whole archdutchy. They cultivate many hops, saffron, and vines, and these articles exhaust all their

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lands applied to common husbandry, of the dung which they ought to have, without yielding a return proportioned. Picco, when I asked him why he did not cultivate these articles, assured me that none of them equalled common crops in profit, provided the latter were managed in the manner they ought to be; and of this I have no doubt, for all these uncommon articles require a great deal of attention, and an infinity of labour, especially vines, while the produce is of such a bad sort, that the returns are inconsiderable. Near Lintz, the country improves much, being in itself finely variegated

with hills and dales, wood and water; it is also better cultivated; there is a very little waste land, and many seats of the nobility are scattered about it, attracted I suppose by the agreeableness of the country.

Lintz is extremely well situated on the banks of the Danube: It is small, well built, and a neat place; the streets well paved, and kept very clean. What sets off the buildings in an unusual manner, is the materials of which they are raised; being a white stone that preserves its colour. The market-place is large and handsome; and is adorned with two fountains. The Empress has a palace here, well furnished, which from an high situation overlooks the course of the Danube very

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beautifully; she used to come here often, but has not of late years. The Jesuits college is one of the best buildings in the place, and the library has the reputation of being remarkably well chosen. This place is the capital of upper Austria; for the states assemble no where else. For its size, it is very populous, which is owing to some manufactures they have that are flourishing; particularly that of woollen goods, and of silk and worsted; also gun-barrels, for which they are famous. The wool they work up is that of Austria, and much comes from Bohemia; all these fabricks employ six or seven hundred hands.

The 5th I got to Newberg in Bavaria, the distance forty miles. This line of country is all very agreeable; from the inequalities of the ground, and its open groves, with many rivers; nor is it wanting in numerous little towns and villages, the neighbourhood of the Danube drawing many inhabitants, by the constant trade carried on upon it; and by the numerous boats, barges, sloops, &c. which pass and repass upon all sorts of business. I observed hops, saffron, and vines were common culture, and some flax, which is made into coarse linnens in the neighbouring towns. Newberg is a little place, but very well built, and remarkably clean. The Elector Palatine is sovereign of the dutchy, of which it is the

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capital and, has a small palace here, which however contains nothing worth seeing. The Jesuits church is the best publick edifice in the place. The only trade of Newberg is wine; but very little of it is good; several sorts are sold so cheap as three halfpence a quart.

The 6th I reached Muldorf, the distance fifty miles, through a very fine, populous, and well cultivated country, being part of the Electorate of Bavaria. There seems through this line of country, to be more industry, activity and happiness, than in any I had passed for a long while, and yet the peasants are in a state of villainage as well as elsewhere, but they are treated in a kinder manner; have more property and better houses; and many of them are also farmers, who by industry and frugality have saved money; and find out the means of disposing of it to good advantage. Much of this country is enclosed, than which there cannot be any improvement of so much consequence; and the present Elector has

given many privileges and encouragements to all who enclose their farms, as well as exempting them from antient customs and rights, which were extremely injurious to open lands. There are many vineyards in this country, and the wine is better than that of Austria. Sheep seem to be a principal article in their husbandry; they keep great numbers, and of a better

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breed than common; which I am told was originally owing to procuring some rams from Flanders. They yield large fleeces, and there are many manufactories for working up the wool, which receive great encouragement from the government. Every farm of any size, (that is, every division of an estate that is under a distinct steward or bailiff) has a large sheep house, with a roof, but open on one side to the south; in this house they fold their sheep every night the whole year round, and depend on it principally for manuring their lands: when they begin to fold, they spread over the floor light virgin soil, turf, sand, or peat earth, and fold upon it till it is very moist and dirty; then they make a fresh layer, and so go on; but to every eighteen inches of depth, (for they remove the heap but once a year) they litter with straw; and in extreme wet or snowy weather they do the same. This is upon the whole an excellent system for raising manure, and is a Flemish custom, though with one or two variations: but I should think the sheep lying upon such a dunghill, would be prejudicial to their health; however, the Bavarians assert the contrary, and say that the health of the animal does not suffer in the least; and that the wool is much better than it would be if the sheep were exposed to the weather.

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Muldorf is a little town, agreeably situated, and regularly fortified, but it is not a place of any great strength; the streets are broad, strait, and well built, and the market-place spacious, and surrounded with several buildings that are a great ornament to it. There are several churches and convents, but none that contain any thing remarkable.

The 7th I got to Munich, the distance seven and thirty miles, and the country agreeable and well cultivated; there are many more nobility who reside constantly on their lands in this country, than in any I have seen in Germany, and to this I attribute the advantage of the superior cultivation: for as the nobles are the farmers, it is no wonder that estates there are managed better under the manager's eye, than in his absence. Although there are not many of them that are proficient in agriculture, yet a life passed in the midst of its business, must yield a greater knowledge of its circumstances than one which is entirely employed in the parade of a court. Besides, there can be little doubt but the nobles themselves treat their peasants better than the race of bailiffs, agents, &c. who usually oppress and squeeze them the more, in order to have the better opportunity of enriching themselves; and I find it evident, wherever I have been in Germany, that the landlords are the richest,

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and their estates the best cultivated, where the peasants are allowed some degree of liberty and property. The happier that race of people, the better for the nobles; the latter will not in all cases be brought to believe this, but nothing admits of clearer proof.

Their corn through this track of country looked very well; and I observed particularly, that their fallows intended for next year were well ploughed, and clean; whereas they are full of weeds in many parts of Germany, and much such bad management as I had seen in Austria. The soil here is a rich loam, with some light tracks: they plough chiefly with oxen. They fallow their lands for wheat; and then sow barley; after the barley, they take pease or buck-wheat, and then turneps, or cabbages; but they do not sow any clover, which the Austrian soldier, and all Flanders and Brabant find so profitable. Wheat yields two quarters and an half per acre, barley three, and buck- wheat four; and their turneps and cabbages are applied to feeding their cattle and sheep; but all are housed in winter.

Munich I think without exception, the finest city in Germany; Dresden, while in its grandeur, I am told surpassed it; and some parts of Berlin are very beautiful, and all things considered, they now yield to this place. It is situated on the river Iser; which dividing

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into several channels, waters all parts of the town: so that little streams run through many of the streets, confined in stone channels, which has a most clean and agreeable effect. The streets, squares, and courts are spacious, and airy; which sets off all the buildings much, and makes them appear finer than others much more costly in other cities. The streets in particular, are so strait, that many of them intersect each other at right-angles, and are very broad, and extremely well built. There are sixteen churches and monasteries in it, many of them very handsome edifices; these with the electoral palace, and other publickings, take up near half the city: so that it may easily be supposed the place is in general very well built.

The principal of all these publick edifices, is the electoral palace, which is rather a convenient than an elegant building. It is very large; having four courts in it, and all of them large, but there is a want of finishing in the insides of all the places in Germany, that cannot fail disgusting an Englishman, who has been used to see the houses of the nobility in his own country finished to the garrets, as compleatly as a snuff-box; and certainly it is a most agreeable circumstance. In the palace of Munich, the finest room, which is the grand hall, being an hundred and eighteen feet

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long by fifty two broad, is open to the roof, so as entirely to destroy the effect which would result from such a size if finished: birds fly about in it as in a barn, and drop their favours on the heads of the company as they pass. I have in Germany seen many instances of unfinished equal to this. There is a great profusion of marble in the several apartments, but it is not wrought in an agreeable manner. The furniture is in general old; it has been very rich, but has nothing in it striking; nor is the collection of pictures comparable to many others in Germany. The Museum is well filled with many curiosities; of which as Keyfler gives a list, I shall therefore say no more of them.--The Jesuits college is among the finest buildings belonging to the church: it is very spacious. The great church, and the Franciscans monastery, are also worth seeing; the latter order is possessed of very great revenues. Several palaces of the nobility make a very good figure, and the town-house is better than many I have seen. The number of inhabitants is computed at fifty thousand.

The palaces most worth seeing are the Elector's country ones of Sleifheim and Nymphenburg, near Munich. Sleifheim is a fine building, and much better finished than that of Munich; the portico supported by marble pillars is fine; in the apartments, which are

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furnished in an agreeable manner, is a very good collection of pictures, but they are chiefly by Flemish masters. Nymphenburg exhibits the German taste of gardening in perfection; the Bavarians holding them to be the finest in the empire; the situation, wood, and water would admit of something beautiful, but here is nothing but the old-fashioned fountains, statues, monsters, &c.

It is thought by most persons at Munich, as well as in other parts of Germany, the electorate of Bavaria has thoroughly recovered the mischiefs it suffered in the war of 1744, and is now as rich and populous as ever. The electoral revenues are reckoned to amount to six hundred thousand pounds a year, and are improving: the standing army consists of eleven thousand foot, and three thousand horse; but the Bavarians say, their prince could bring forty thousand men into the field; however, it is certain that, if he could bring them there he could not maintain them, without their being in the pay of foreigners. While the house of Bavaria continues on good terms with that of Austria, there is no danger of its suffering by the electorate being again made the seat of war.

*FINIS.*

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