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W^m Cash

1812/4013

1812/4013

Harancour Palace.

OR, THE

ORPHAN PROTECTED.

AN HISTORICAL TALE.

Founded on Events that have recently occurred in France,
and on which the popular Drama of

DEAF AND DUMB

IS ALSO FOUNDED.

INCLUDING

Some interesting Particulars

RESPECTING THE

ABBÉ DE L'ÉPÉE,

AND THE INSTITUTION FOUNDED BY HIM AT PARIS.

To which is added,

THE

Method of Educating the Deaf and Dumb,

As practised by that celebrated Philanthropist.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

Sommers Town :

Printed and published by A. NEIL, 30, Chilton-street ;
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Date

20 MAR 1964



Every body is happy.

"he uttered a piercing scream, and fell
breathless into my arms."

Page 37.

Published Nov. 1800 by A. Neil, Sommers Town.

Wm. Cash, Author



TO

MISS DE CAMP,

WHOSE INIMITABLE PERFORMANCE OF

JULIO,

IN THE POPULAR DRAMA OF

Deaf and Dumb, or, The Orphan Protected,

performed, with unbounded applause, at the

THEATRE-ROYAL, DRURY LANE,

Has so often afforded peculiar satisfaction to the Public, and suggested the idea of presenting them with the following

INTERESTING HISTORY;

THE SAME IS MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

By her obedient Servant,

The PUBLISHER.





HARANCOUR PALACE,

Et. Et.

IN the ancient city of Toulouſe, on the eaſtern ſide of St. George's Square, and near the foot of one of the fineſt bridges in Europe, ſtands a ſtately manſion, which, in point of architecture and elegance, might vie with the moſt ſumptuous palaces in the ſouthern provinces of France, while the benevolence of its poſſeſſors, the Count and Counteſs de Sola, rendered the *Palace of Harancour* renowned for its hoſpitality.

The Count de Sola and his lady, at the period when this hiſtory commences, had been married ſomewhat more than ſixteen years, and had ſeveral children; none of whom ſurvived, except one daughter, and a ſon, named JULIO, who, although he had the miſfortune to be born DEAF and DUMB, was, on account of his being their heir, the delight and hope of his noble parents. His form was elegant; and to an expreſſive countenance, (in which, even at the puerile age of four or five years, could be traced the characteristic of a noble diſpoſition), was added a lively and penetrating eyes.

Warr.

Warm in his affections, the most cordial friendship existed between him and ST. ALME, the only son of his father's brother, D'ARLEMONT, who was a reputable merchant in the same city. In short, St. Alme and the young Count were inseparable; they would frequently walk out together; and nothing seemed to give Julio greater pleasure, than when he was relieving the wants of the unfortunate. One day, as they were returning from an excursion, they passed a large farm, when a huge mastiff, which was walking in the yard, rushed on St. Alme, and would have torn him in pieces, but for the intervention of Julio, who kept the animal at bay, until assistance arrived. This instance of his bravery, however, cost him dear; as he received a deep wound on his arm, which with some difficulty was cured, but a scar remained that promised to accompany him to his grave.

The two young friends being constantly in the habit of visiting each other, the intimacy extended to the sister of Julio, whose name was Laurentia, which, as she and St. Alme grew up, ripened into a mutual and ardent affection. This was viewed with delight by their respective parents, who used every possible effort to promote their affection for each other; while Julio, unable to express his sentiments like the rest, plainly shewed, by his actions, the pleasure he derived from the hope of one day

day adding the endearing name of brother to that of friend. But Fortune, ever fickle and inconstant, now cast a gloom over a scene that so lately beamed with the bright effulgence of joy and happiness!—The Count de Sola and his amiable lady were seized with a violent fever, which baffled the skill of the most eminent physicians in the city. The whole palace seemed now the abode of sorrow, while anxious expectation was depicted on the faces of its dejected inhabitants;—so much were this amiable couple beloved, not only by their domestics, but the city in general; where the clemency and judgment displayed by the Count as First President, together with the protection he had afforded the oppressed, when brought before him, rendered his name revered by all who knew him.

The fatal hour at length arrived! They were given over by their physicians, and the Count having sent for proper persons, made his will, wherein he declared the youthful Julio his heir, appointing D'Arlemont as guardian over him and Laurentia; to the latter of whom he left a fortune of forty thousand livres, payable on the day of her marriage; and upon the will's being executed and signed, the Count desired that all would retire, except D'Arlemont, whom he addressed in the following words:—"Alas! my dear brother, the
leader

laden hand of Death is ready to seize me in its determined grasp. I hoped to have lived to see the closer union of our two families; but the grim messenger waits to conduct me and my faithful consort to that world from whence no one has ever been permitted to return."—Here, grown faint with exertion, he paused, while the big tears trickled down his pallid cheek; but at length recovering strength, he proceeded. "The hour, my dear brother," said he, "approaches, when my children will be deprived of the fostering care of their parents; it therefore became necessary to choose some person who should supply our place, and in whom affection and interest would unite, to render their welfare as dear to him as his own.—It was natural I should look upon you as that person; and I have accordingly named you as their guardian. To your care I commit them; and, oh! D'Arlemont, be thou a second parent to them;—watch over their rising years; and at the same time that you inculcate into their youthful minds the precepts of virtue and humanity, remind them that they once had parents, who, had they lived, would have gloried to see them become the station wherein fate allotted them to move."

D'Arlemont, though naturally of a ferocious disposition, seemed moved with the earnest manner in which the expiring Count his brother addressed him;

him; and, for the first time, the tear of sensibility was seen to fall from an eye that had hitherto sparkled with savage joy at the misfortunes of others. Ambition was a leading trait in his character; and in obedience to her dictates, he would perform the most atrocious deeds, and stop at nothing to attain the summit of his wishes. Nevertheless, as he was an adept in the art of dissimulation, his brother, naturally virtuous himself, did not once suspect the honour of D'Arlemont; and thus made no scruple of leaving the children under his protection.

The Countess, however, was not quite so credulous as her husband; a secret something made her shudder whenever the subtle D'Arlemont met her eye; and she therefore, on this occasion, seized the opportunity, when the Count had done speaking, to address him in the following words:—"D'Arlemont," said she, "no doubt you will excuse the anxious care of a fond mother, who, being on the point of bidding an eternal farewell to her belov'd offspring, wishes to receive an assurance, ere she dies, of their future safety; for, alas!" continued she, fixing her eyes steadfastly on D'Arlemont, "too many orphans have already fallen victims to the ambitious views of those who ought to have protected them." An address, at once so home and unexpected, staggered in some degree

degree the wonted confidence of D'Arlemont; but at length, recovering from his surprise, he called Heaven to witness the integrity of his intentions; adding, that if he wronged them either in word or deed, he sincerely wished his name might be branded with infamy amongst society; that the dearest wish of his heart might prove abortive; and finally, that he might be excluded from all happiness hereafter. An assurance so solemnly given quieted the apprehensions of the Countess and her Lord; who finding their end draw near, begged that their children might be called in, to receive the parting-kiss and their last blessing.

Julio and Laurentia were accordingly admitted, and falling on their knees by the bed-side, bathed the hands of their almost-exhausted parents with their tears; while the Count and Countess, breathing forth a prayer to Heaven for the preservation of their children, rendered up their immortal part into the hands of Him who gave it. Julio and his sister made the palace re-echo with their lamentations; nor could they for some time be prevailed on to quit the inanimate bodies of their deceased parents.

The necessary preparations were now set about, by D'Arlemont's orders, for the funeral of the Count and his Lady; which, in a few days after, was solemnized with all the pomp and grandeur suitable

suitable to their rank, when they were deposited in the family vault with their illustrious ancestors; while their loss was sincerely regretted by the widow and the orphan, who now dreaded the want of that protection which the late Count and Countess had so amply afforded them.

For some time after the decease of this benevolent pair, the subtle D'Arlemont seemed to mourn their loss with the most violent demonstrations of grief; while the whole of his time was devoted to the care of the young Count and his sister, whose grief he endeavoured to alleviate by the most tender signs and expressions. At length, he became more gloomy and reserved, and was observed to be frequently closeted with one of the old domestics, whose name was *Dupré*. This man had attended on the late Count from his infancy, and was literally grown grey in the service, of the family; by whom he had hitherto been esteemed not only for the goodness of his disposition, but also for his fidelity and honesty; the latter having almost become proverbial in the neighbourhood.—This circumstance, therefore, caused him to be selected as a confidant by the crafty D'Arlemont, who made no doubt, if Dupré did not prove invulnerable to the attractions of all-powerful gold, of obtaining an able assistant in the villanous projects he was forming.

He was obliged, however, to proceed with caution; as the main obstacle which stood in his way was the affection which this venerable domestic expressed for the offspring of his late master. But what will not the insinuations of the crafty, aided by the promise of a competency for life, perform!—Gold, like the apple which the arch fiend presented to our first parent, carries so alluring an appearance with it, that few minds are capable of withstanding its powers. Thus, as the plans which D'Arlemont required Dupré to assist in, did not bear the horrid name of murder, he therefore, in an unguarded moment, not only gave his assent, but took an oath of secrecy which D'Arlemont put to him, and became a villain!

In the mean time, St. Alme, whose very existence seemed to depend on that of his fair cousin Laurentia, was no less busily employed in endeavouring to dissipate the gloom which the death of her parents had occasioned; and in which he was ably seconded by the young Count Julio, who, though he was unable to speak, performed so many pleasant frolics, and studied so much the most trivial wishes of his sister, that their joint efforts soon subdued the violent grief which had hitherto oppressed her mind.

One morning, while they were thus engaged, St. Alme, who, to a knowledge of music added a pretty

pretty poetical genius, took up the harp, and having tuned it to his voice, sung the following stanza:

TO RESIGNATION.

SWEET Resignation! gentle maid,

Thou calmer of each woe!

Descend unto an orphan's aid,

Who mourns her friends laid low.

Bring mild Religion in thy train,

Content, and gentle Peace;

That Reason may her seat regain,

And ev'ry trouble cease.

She smiles assent—and with her see

Soft Patience wings her flight;

At whose approach dull sorrows flee

To realms of darkest night.

Then cheer, Laurentia—cease to grieve—

To mourn the dead, is vain;

Let Friendship's balm thy care relieve,

And deign to smile again.

The tender air and manner in which St. Alme sung those lines, while Julio, who had taken hold of her hand, seemed, by fixing his eyes upon her's, to implore her to acquiesce with the request, had, in some measure, the desired effect; and for the first time since the death of her noble parents, a smile decked the lovely face of the woe-worn Laurentia.

Laurentia; but it was like a gleam of sunshine on an April day—transient and weak. However, in a tone of voice rendered tremulous by grief and weakness, she thanked them for the kind attention they had paid her, and promised, for their sakes, that she would endeavour to bear with fortitude a loss that was irremediable; and that she would submit with patience to the will of Heaven.

At this moment D'Arlemont entered the apartment. Having overheard the subject of their conversation, he congratulated his niece on the resolution she had taken; and then, after discoursing with her on indifferent matters, proceeded as follows:—"My dear niece, I have with pain observed the immoderate grief which has hitherto oppressed you; and as I wish for nothing more than to promote your happiness, on which, I am certain, that of your brother Julio's also depends, I wrote a few lines to a friend of mine, who is Abbes of the Convent of St. Clara, at Paris, requesting her to permit you to spend a few months with her; to which I have this moment received an answer, wherein she expresses an ardent desire to see you."—"And will you go to Paris, then?" exclaimed St. Alme, addressing himself to Laurentia—" 'Tis the only means of dispelling the grief which hath hitherto overwhelmed her," interrupted D'Arlemont, giving his son a look of

disappro-

disapprobation; "and might I advise, she should not defer the journey longer than to-morrow; the change of air will be beneficial to her health, and she will have an opportunity of completing that education which she had begun under the auspices of her much-regretted father."

St. Alme looked at his father, with an air of inquiry into his motives for wishing to remove the fair object of his affection from the seat of her ancestors; but durst not venture to give vent to his curiosity, well knowing that the temper of his father would not suffer any person to pry into his secrets; he therefore waited with anxiety for the answer of Laurentia, who, ever obedient to the will of those whom the ties of nature had given authority over her, readily assented; for, possessed of sincerity herself, she did not suspect the want of it in others; and therefore concluding that her uncle's motives for sending her to the Convent, were in reality such as he stated them to be, readily gave into his measures.

The necessary preparations for Laurentia's journey were immediately set about; and they were, no sooner completed, than D'Arlemont set off with his fair ward for the convent of St. Clara; scarcely permitting her to take leave of St. Alme and her brother.

On

On their arrival at their convent, they were ushered into a neat parlour, where Madame Malin, the Abbess, soon joined them. She was remarkably large boned, tall, and of a meagre appearance; her eyes were hollow, and nearly devoid of speculation: while her discordant voice reminded one of the distasteful grating of some ruined castle's gate at midnight; but as the imperfections of her person were unavoidable, they might have been looked over, had she not possessed a disposition replete with ostentatious pride, superstition, and cruelty. Nevertheless, she was servile, even to meanness, where the interest of the sisterhood was concerned; and for this reason, she entered the parlour with a smiling countenance; and was no sooner informed of their business, than she broke out into a long and florid harangue on the peculiar advantages of a monastic education, and the pure and disinterested friendship which subsisted among the sisterhood.

Her oration being ended, D'Arlemont entered into an agreement with her for the board and lodging of Laurentia; which having settled, he delivered his ward into her care; and after embracing her, and promising to see her shortly again, he set off from the convent on his return to Toulouse. The fair Laurentia was now conducted to the room

room allotted her by the old Abbess; where she was soon joined by several of the novices; who all endeavoured to render themselves agreeable to their new associate, and whose friendship they sought to obtain, by a thousand obliging offices. Thus situated, we shall leave her for the present, and follow D'Arlemont to the *Palace of Harancour*; where, on his arrival, he had another interview with his confidant Dupré.

About this time, the institution for the relief and instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, became not only the general conversation of the Parisians, but its fame extended to the farthest extremities of the kingdom. This institution, so justly celebrated for its utility, was founded by the *Abbé de l'Épée*, who, although he possessed only an income of 14,000 livres (350*l.* sterling) per annum, defrayed the whole of the expence attendant thereon out of his own unassisted purse; never allowing himself more than 2000 livres annually for his own expence; frequently declaring that he looked on the remainder as the patrimony of his pupils; and at length, he carried his parsimonious, yet benevolent, resolution so far, that during the winter of 1788, which was remarkable for its severity, although he was then growing old, he even denied himself the use of fire-wood; till his house-keeper, attended by between forty and fifty of his deaf and

dumb pupils, all in tears, and making signs that he should preserve his health, were it but for their sakes, prevailed on him, as it were by force, to add about 300 livres (121.) to his usual expenditure. But the worthy old man frequently regretted this compliance; and when sporting with his children, (for so he called his pupils) he would say, "Ah, my dear little ones, I have robbed you of three hundred livres."

Neither could the Abbé be prevailed on to accept the least pecuniary assistance; for, when the Russian Ambassador, in the year 1780, paid him a visit, and, by order of the Empress, offered him a considerable present, he replied, "Tell her Imperial Majesty, Sir, that I never accept gold; but that if she wishes to add to the pleasure of my labours being thought worthy her esteem, she has only to send me a person born deaf and dumb."

The fame of this institution having reached Toulouse, afforded the perfidious D'Arlemont an opportunity of putting into execution a villanous project which he had long formed; and for this purpose, he persuaded his nephew to go with him to Paris, in order to be placed, for a short time, under the care of the worthy De l'Epée; which point being gained, he gave immediate orders for every thing to be got ready for their departure.

The

The parting between Julio and St. Alme was tender in the extreme; when poor Julio, although he could not speak, expressed, both by his countenance and actions, the tenderest adieu, he pressed St. Alme to his bosom, and squeezing his hand, looked him mournfully in the face, as though he would have said, "We shall meet no more!" Nor were the emotions of St. Almè less violent than those of Julio. The absence of Laurentia hung heavy on his mind; and the approaching loss of his friend threatened to leave him as a solitary hermit in the midst of society! As their separation was to take place early in the morning, they spent the preceding evening together till a late hour, when at length they retired to their respective apartments, offering up prayers for the preservation of each other to that Power who alone is capable of protecting us in the midst of danger.

After a night of restless anxiety, Julio arose; and the chariot being ready, he got into it, attended by D'Arlemont and Dupré, and drove off for Paris.

The time now passed heavily with St. Alme, who no longer had any one near him, whom he could with propriety confide in; while, to add to his grief, the letters which he had written to his beloved Laurentia still remained unanswered; till at length, the uncertainty of her welfare, and grief for

for the absence of his friend, rendered his situation truly wretched. A victim to melancholy, he chose the most unfrequented parts of the garden to walk in; where he amused himself with engraving the names of his absent friends on the trunk of an old ash, beneath which he had spent many a cheerful hour in their company.

At length D'Arlemont and Dupré returned from Paris; when, although their viſages bespoke the melancholy tidings they had to deliver, it was with the utmost astonishment and grief that St. Alme received the following information from Dupré, the crafty D'Arlemont affecting to be too much overcome with grief to relate the story himself.

"Immediately on our arrival at Paris," said Dupré, addressing himself to St. Alme, "we hired a lodging at a grand hotel in the Rue St. Honore, and the next morning went with the Count to the Deaf and Dumb Institution; and were received with the greatest politeness by the worthy Abbé, who promised to do every thing in his power to remove the infirmity which my young master laboured under. But, alas!" continued he, pulling out a handkerchief, in order to wipe away his tears, "he had not been there many days, when he sunk beneath the exertions used to promote his recovery. Never shall I forget," continued Dupré, "with what

what fervent devotion he raised his eyes to Heaven, and seemed to call down a blessing on those friends whom the grim tyrant was about to separate him from for ever; then, after squeezing the hand of your father with the utmost tenderness, he sunk into my arms, and expired without a groan; while your dear father and myself hung over the lifeless body in an agony of grief. At length, our emotions having a little subsided, we quitted the chamber; and the next morning my master gave the necessary orders for the funeral, which, in three days afterwards, was solemnized with every honour due to his rank, when the remains of my dear lamented young master were deposited in the Church of Notre Dame."

Here ended the *honest* Dupré, leaving St. Alme absorbed in grief, who, unable to speak, bowed a mournful welcome to his father, and retired to his chamber, in order to give vent to the sorrow which oppressed him.

The *Palace of Harancour* was now, in reality, the house of mourning; as St. Alme and the old domestics regretted the loss of the young Count with the most sincere sorrow; nor did D'Arlemont and his hoary confidant fall far short of them in the excess of their feigned affliction.

D'Arlemont at length became more moderate in his grief; and as the death of his nephew rendered

him

him the next heir to the vast estates and title of *De Sola*, he began to take the proper measures for attaining the possession of an honour he had long wished for ; and which, upon producing a certificate of the young Count's death, attested by Dupré and another infamous witness, he easily obtained.

From that moment, the natural character of D'Arlemont began to develope itself. Ostentatious in the extreme, he looked upon those who had formerly been his equals with an eye of supercilious contempt ; and despising the family to which he was indebted for the honours he had now obtained, and to whom he owed his being, he resolved to set aside the intended union between Laurentia and his son, and seek some other alliance that might at once aggrandize the family, and render his interest too great for the voice of justice, unassisted by power, to impeach his conduct.

The first step he took, on coming to his usurped title, was to discharge the old servants who were grown grey in the service of the Count his brother, without so much as allowing them a suit of mourning, or the smallest trifle to assist them in the decline of life ; by which many of them were reduced to the necessity of depending on the benevolence of the neighbouring gentry for support ; as the trifle they had saved during their servitude, was not sufficient to procure them those comforts which
are

are necessary to support the infirmities of old age. D'Arlemont now began to look out for some lady of rank and fortune, as a partner for his son ; when at length the only daughter of the Marquis de Larville, who had succeeded the late Count as Chief President, fixed his attention ; to whom he immediately made overtures, without once consulting the inclination of St. Alme.

The proposition was readily accepted on the part of the Marquis her father ; who, naturally avaricious, was lured by the profuse dowry which D'Arlemont promised to pay into his hands on the day that his daughter should become the Countess de Sola ; as he also intended, he said, when the marriage should take place, to resign his title and the greater part of his estates, in favour of his son !

While these matters were on the tapis, St. Alme used every means to discover the retreat of his beloved Laurentia, (whom his father, on his assuming the title, forbade him to think of more,) but in vain ; for, owing to his having forgot the name of the convent in which she was placed, all his endeavours to obtain an interview with her proved abortive ; which adding to the grief that overwhelmed him for the loss of her brother Julio, his much-regretted friend, reduced him, as it were to a shadow of his former self.

When,

When, one day, his inexorable father, who had observed the great alteration in his person, with no small degree of chagrin, expostulated with him on the absurdity of his conduct, in giving way to a passion for one whom the decree of fate had sunk so considerably beneath him in point of fortune, in vain did St. Alme trace out to him the origin of the passion he had conceived for his fair but injured cousin; and that in their infancy their respective parents had always encouraged their growing fondness.

D'Arlemont only smiled at the effusions of a love-sick boy, as he termed them; and commanding him to prepare for the acceptance of a partner whom he had now chosen for him, left St. Alme to reflect at leisure on the mutability of fortune.

At this time, the behaviour of Dupré, together with his being frequently closeted with D'Arlemont, drew the eyes of all his fellow servants on him, who concluded that his being so favoured could not proceed from any common motive; while the incoherent words which he would now and then drop, as he passed the portrait of the young Count Julio, which hung up in the great hall, gave them reason to suspect that there was something more than they were acquainted with in the mysterious and sudden death of the unfortunate Julio.

Frequently

Frequently would they surprize Dupré gazing, with an air of terror and remorse, on the inanimate portrait, while he would break out into such broken sentences as—"Ah, hapless youth!—thy misfortunes, instead of procuring thee pity and protection, has—Oh! fatal night—Alas! I once was innocent, but—Oh, gold! thou antidote to virtue!—I yielded to the suggestions of—But I have sworn—Pardon, Oh, pardon."—Then turning from the object of his emotion, he would hurry through the hall, and having gained his chamber, lock himself in, and remain there for several hours.

This strange behaviour of Dupré's soon reached the ears of his wily master; who, although he began to dread a discovery, through the unguarded conduct of his hoary accomplice, treated the information that was given him with the greatest unconcern; artfully insinuating, at the same time, that the infirmities of old age had disordered the brain of Dupré; and that in consequence thereof, the strange expressions he might make use of, were only to be regarded as the idle wanderings of a frenzied dotard; adding, with a feigned sigh, that the recollection of his long and faithful services in the family of his late brother, made him resolve to bear with his humour; as he could not think of discharging him at his advanced time of life.

D'Arlemont

D'Arlemont having thus artfully calmed, in some degree, the suspicions of his domestics, he ordered Dupré to attend him in his study.——When his confidant entered the room, he immediately locked the door; and in a mild tone expostulated with him on the folly of a conduct, which, if given way to, might at length divulge a secret that, when he reflected on the oath he had taken, ought for ever to be buried in oblivion.——Here he paused for a reply; but Dupré gave him no other than a deep sigh of compunction.——D'Arlemont now became enraged; and furiously exclaimed, “What means these sudden starts, thou half-formed villain!—Is it not enough, that from the humble station of a low-born slave, I raised thee to a footing with myself—made you my confidant—and to make your future life comfortable, settled a handsome annuity on you—but you must, with these fits and starts of conscience, undo my peace of mind!——Go, villain, broach the secret abroad, if thou wilt; but remember, that the name of D'Arlemont is raised too high, for a low-born weed like thee to hurt its fame.”——“Alas!” replied Dupré, “’tis now late.——Plunged into the dark abyfs of guilt, there remains no way for us to escape; and the names of D'Arlemont and Dupré will be handed down to posterity,

ity, branded with the sanguinary crimes of perjury, fraud, and”——

Here D'Arlemont, who found that the harsh manner in which he had treated Dupré, only served to increase his despondency, interrupted him; and after soothing him with promises of future reward and friendship, dismissed him, with a strict charge to conceal his emotions from the rest of the family.

This sudden remorse, and alteration in the conduct of Dupré, induced D'Arlemont to resolve on hastening the match he conceived he had so happily agreed on with the Marquis de Lanville; and therefore, the next morning, ordered his son to attend him in his study, as he had something of importance to communicate.

St. Alme instantly obeyed the summons; and on entering the study, with a submissive bow, seated himself in a chair opposite to his father; when D'Arlemont, after some preliminary discourse, proceeded to inform him of the marriage he had contracted for him with the only daughter of the Marquis de Lanville; and that the writings being all completed, he expected him to conduct that lady to the altar within three days at farthest. St. Alme remained for some moments petrified, as it were, with astonishment; till at length recovering himself, he fell on his knees, and in the most

most submissive manner implored his father to forbear speaking on a subject, which, plighted as his vows were to the absent Laurentia, he could not listen to.

Enraged at this reply, D'Arlemont rose hastily from his seat, and in an angry tone reprimanded St. Alme for giving way to an idle passion, which he had been so often forbade to think of; and at the same time charging him, on pain of his displeasure, to accept the offer he had made him.

St. Alme now clasped his father's knees, in an agony of grief, and with tears entreated him to break off the intended match. "Yes, my dear father," continued he, "give up but this hated marriage, and do with me what you will. In all things else I will yield a tacit compliance to your wishes; but to resign all pretensions to the dear companion of my youth, my beloved Laurentia, is impossible; our vows are registered in Heaven, and life might be easier part with than the soothing hope of one day calling the fair Laurentia mine."

Unable to bear this repulse, the cruel D'Arlemont spurned his son from him; and swelling with rage and disappointment, was about to leave the apartment, when a servant entered, and giving a packet into his hand, bowed in silence, and retired.

D'Arlemont

D'Arlemont hastily broke open the seal, and finding that it came from the Abbess of the Convent, he perused the contents in silence. Then turning to St. Alme, "Pray, Sir," said he, "let me crave your attention, while I read this letter to you;" which he did, as follows:

"DEAR COUNT,

" 'Tis with the greatest affliction that I find myself under the necessity of informing you, that your niece Laurentia, whom you did me the honour of placing under my care, has found means to elope from our convent; and as a young officer of distinction, the brother of one of our boarders, (who, from conversing frequently with his sister at the grate, had also an opportunity of speaking to Laurentia) was seen hovering about the convent, we have every reason to conclude that your deluded niece is gone off with him. Every possible means has been used to discover her retreat, but in vain. Adieu, my Lord. That St. Denis, the sacred patron of our nation, may support you in a station you were designed by Heaven to fill, is the fervent prayer of your

Devoted humble servant,

JOSEPHINE MALIN."

Convent of St. Clara."

D'Arlemont

D'Arlemont had no sooner finished reading the letter, than, with an air of exultation and reproach, he demanded of St. Alme, who had sunk on a sofa, overwhelmed with grief and despair, whether he was still resolved to remain constant to a mistress, who, notwithstanding their "vows were registered in heaven," had thought fit thus to desert him?

St. Alme rose from his seat, and, in a tone of irresolution, told his father, that since fate seemed inclined to assist his desire of rendering him unhappy, he now yielded to her decree, and was ready to attend him at the time appointed; saying which, he heaved a deep sigh, and hastened out of the apartment, in order to conceal his emotions.

The news of Laurentia's flight excited, at first, no small degree of alarm in the breast of D'Arlemont; but when he reflected on the advantage which rank and fortune gave him over the unprotected claims of deserted orphans, he became more composed, and fully resolved to hasten the marriage between St. Alme and the daughter of the First President; whereby he should acquire an additional interest, that would render him invulnerable to all attempts that might be made to wrest from him the title and possessions he had so unjustly usurped.

While

While matters were thus going on at the Palace of Harancour, a circumstance of greater importance took place at the mansion of M. *Franval*, an eminent Counsellor, who resided on the opposite side of the Square.

This gentleman, whose integrity and abilities gained him a pre-eminence over the rest of his profession, was the only son of the Seneschal *Franval*, whose benevolent disposition had so reduced his circumstances, that on his death he left only the scanty pittance of about 2000 livres per annum, for the support of his lady, with the above-mentioned son, and a daughter, named *Celestina*. The emoluments, however, of young *Franval's* profession, added to this small sum, enabled them to enjoy a comfortable subsistence.

One day, while this amiable family were seated at dinner, one of their servants informed them that a venerable gentleman, who had the appearance of a clergyman, accompanied by a youth, of a most interesting figure, desired to speak with his master on particular business.—The description which the servant had given of the strangers, excited the curiosity of *Franval*, who desired that they might be immediately admitted. But his surprise was considerably augmented, when, on entering the room, the elderly gentleman saluted him by his name, and requested
a few

a few moments' conversation with him. Franval requested the gentlemen to be seated; and the ladies, who supposed his business might be of a private nature, were about to retire, which the stranger perceiving, requested them not to withdraw, as he wished, if possible, to make the whole city acquainted with the story he had to relate; "which, I am confident," said he, "must interest every feeling heart in behalf of the hapless youth whom I have taken under my protection."—Then turning to Franval, he addressed him as follows:

"Tis now, Sir, about eight years since, early in the month of November, an officer of the Police at Paris, from which city I am lately arrived, brought me, one night, this youth, whom I have every reason to believe, was born deaf and dumb. The officer informed me, that he had been found by the watch, wandering on the Pont Neuf, about the dusk of evening. There was a certain interest and dignity in his countenance and manner, which not only influenced me in his favour, but seemed to speak him of illustrious lineage; while, on the other hand, his ragged habiliments would naturally have led one to conclude that extreme penury and want had reduced his parents to abandon him to the world. The } doors

doors of De l'Épée, however, were never shut against the unfortunate. I——"

"De l'Épée!" hastily interrupted Franval, "the founder of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb?"

"The same, Sir," replied the Abbé.

"Believe me, Sir," returned Franval, "no one can be more interested in the success of your labours—no one can feel a greater respect for your name, than I do. Pray, Sir, proceed."

De l'Épée modestly bowed, and continued his narrative.

"I made no scruple," said he, "of placing the youth among the rest of my pupils. The next day, I could perceive that he looked on the rags he was clothed in, with a mixture of pride and astonishment; from whence I concluded that he had been disguised in that manner and lost, through the designing artifice and villany of some one who ought to have protected him. Prepossessed with this idea, I advertised him in the public prints, giving a full description of his person, but in vain; for the victims of fraud are always carefully avoided by those who have injured them.

"Finding my researches in this way likely to prove fruitless, I resolved on endeavouring to obtain information from himself. I therefore gave him the name of Theodore, and placed him among

among my pupils, where he improved to rapidly, that, in the space of about two years, he became, as it were, regenerated; and from that moment the remembrance of past occurrences rushed on his mind.

"As I had taught him, in common with my other pupils, to converse by signs, we conveyed our ideas to each other with the rapidity of thought. I frequently took him out; and one day, Sir, as we were passing the Courts of Justice, he no sooner saw the Chief Magistrate alight from his carriage, than he started; and catching hold of me, gave me to understand, by his actions, that he had often been carested by a man dressed in a familiar manner to the Judge we had now seen; by which I immediately surmised that he must be either the son or near relation of some magistrate of distinction, belonging to a superior court; and therefore that the place of his birth must have been a capital town: in which opinion I was still more strongly confirmed, when, on another day, the funeral procession of a person of quality passing the school-room window, I observed the countenance of Theodore to change, particularly when the coffin approached; which no sooner met his eye, than he gave a cry of horror, and sunk into the arms of a youth who stood next to him, in a state of insensibility!

"When

"When he had recovered from his swoon," continued De l'Épée, "he informed me, by signs, that about a twelvemonth before he was brought to Paris, he had, dressed in a suit of black, followed the coffin of the Magistrate, to whom he before alluded.

"Well, Sir, from these strong circumstances I became almost convinced that he was an orphan, and perhaps heir to a large fortune; but that his relations, taking advantage of his infirmity, had contrived thus to get rid of him, in order to possess themselves of his lawful property.

"Resolving, therefore, if possible, to reinstate him in his rights, I questioned him concerning what recollection he had of the way by which he entered Paris; when he assured me it was so impressed upon his mind, that he was certain he could point out the very gate. Accordingly, the next day, Theodore and I took a tour round the city, in order to view the several gates; when, on approaching the *Barrière d'Enfer*, he made signs to me that he perfectly recollected it; that after the baggage had been inspected there, he had, together with the two persons who accompanied him, alighted from a carriage, and entered the city in the night. This account, together with the number of nights, which he reckoned on his fingers, as having passed on the road, made me instantly

Instantly conjecture that he must have been brought from a principal town in the south of France.”——

“Amazing genius!” exclaimed Franval; “but what cannot that man perform, who, governed by the dictates of humanity, makes it his constant study to alleviate and reform the defects and misfortunes of his brethren!”

“Wonderful, indeed!” said Celestina; “and future generations will surely remember, with respect and veneration, the name of De l’Epée.—But we interrupt you, Sir; pray, proceed, and inform us of the conclusion of an adventure, which is so exceedingly interesting.”

De L’Epée returned his acknowledgments for the compliment they paid him, and proceeded as follows:

“After writing to different correspondents, and making other innumerable enquiries, in all the chief towns in the south, without effect, I at length determined to visit them myself, with my injured Theodore, whose recollection of the circumstances of his journey seemed too strong, to have forgotten the place of his birth. The enterprize promised to be long and laborious, and there was little hopes of success unless we travelled on foot; yet though I am an old and rather infirm man, Heaven inspired me with vigour. I there-
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fore packed up a few necessities, and, about two months ago, Theodore and I left Paris, by the Barriere d’Enfer, where I invoked Heaven to prosper our exertions.

“Thus, Sir, after traversing all the principal towns, of which Theodore had not the smallest recollection, my strength began to fail me, and I had nearly abandoned all hopes of success; when at length, on entering the gates of Toulouse yesterday morning, my pupil seized my hand, and, in the greatest agitation, informed me that he recollected the place. Every step we advanced, his countenance and gestures became animated; and on entering this Square, he suddenly prostrated himself, raised his hands to Heaven, and informed me that he had found out his birth-place!

“You will readily believe me, Sir,” continued De l’Epée, “when I tell you, that this assertion overwhelmed me with joy, and caused me to forget the fatigues of our journey.—Theodore arose; and we traversed a great part of the square, till at length perceiving the grand palace opposite your house, he uttered a piercing scream, and fell breathless into my arms.—[See the *frontispiece*.]—On recovering, he gave me to understand that he was born in that house!——When his emotions were somewhat subsided, I led him to an hotel in the neighbourhood, where we procured a lodging-
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ing. This morning, I made inquiry concerning the palace which Theodore had thus wonderfully recognised, and found that it had originally belonged to the family of D'Harancour, (of whom I have every reason to believe that my pupil is the only remaining branch) and that the *Palace of Harancour*, together with its vast estates, are now in the hands of a Monsieur D'Arlemont, uncle and guardian to my poor Theodore, who obtained possession of them by means of a certificate of his nephew's death.—Convinced of the justice of the cause I had undertaken, I instantly enquired for a respectable gentleman, whose skill in the law might best direct us how to proceed; when I was directed to you, Sir, as the most eminent of your profession. The Divine Author of our being threw the hapless Theodore in my way, as it were, to complete the formation of his mind, and, in some degree, repair the defects of nature; I now entrust to your protection the fruit of eight years labour, in the hope that you will be able to reinstate him in his honours and possessions, and procure him a legitimate and respectable name in society."

Thus ended the venerable Abbé; and Franval, glowing with enthusiastic feeling, promised him that no exertion should be wanting, on his part, to

to compel D'Arlemont to make restitution of what it now appeared he had so unjustly possessed himself.

De l'Epée having acquainted Julio with the promise which M. Franval had made to restore him to his rights, the youth immediately got up, and taking Franval's hand, expressed his thanks, by signs, which his tutor interpreted, and that his heart should always retain a grateful sense of gratitude.

During De l'Epée's narrative, Julio kept his eyes almost continually fixed on Celestina, with an air of admiration and delight; and on expressing her surprise thereat to the Abbé, he replied, "It is by no means singular, Madam. Whatever presents to him a true picture of beauty, strongly impresses his mind. Nature has, in some degree, recompensed these unfortunate beings for her injustice towards them, with an uncommon delicacy of instinct and rapidity of imagination; thus, when their intellect is once unfolded, it goes even beyond ours. I assure you, Madam, that among my pupils are profound mathematicians, elegant historians, and persons of distinguished literary talents. My Theodore obtained, last winter, a prize for one of his essays, and was crowned in a celebrated Lyceum, to the great astonishment of all his competitors."

"But,

"But, Sir," said Celestina, "it appears to me, though scarcely credible, that you understand each other so well, as even to interpret your expressions?"—"Undoubtedly we do, Madam," replied De l'Épée; "of which I will give you an example, if you please to ask him any question, no matter what; he will write it from the signs I shall make, and immediately subjoin his answer."

After some little deliberation, Celestina proposed the following—"Who is, in your opinion, the greatest man now alive in France?"

Julio having seated himself at Franval's desk, took up a pen, and, by signs from De l'Épée, wrote the question correctly; for a moment he appeared in contemplation; but gradually became more animated, and then wrote the answer; which having done, he presented the paper to Celestina, with a bow; and placed himself near his worthy tutor, looking at him with an air of affection, while Celestina read as follows:

"*Question.—Who is, in your opinion, the greatest man now alive in France? — Answer.—Nature would perhaps name Buffon; Science, d'Alembert; Sentiment and Truth, Rousseau; Intellect and Talents would plead for Voltaire;—but Humanity, Genius, and Virtue, loudly proclaim De l'Épée.*"

Celestina having read these lines, Julio threw himself into the arms of De l'Épée; while the good

good old man pressed him to his bosom, with the affection of an enraptured parent; at the same time modestly ascribing the partiality which Julio had shewn for him, in the answer to Celestina's question, to his enthusiastic gratitude.

When their emotions had subsided, De l'Épée returned thanks for the attention that had been paid to them; and was about to take his leave, with Julio, when Madame Franval entreated, with great politeness, that, while he remained in Toulouse, they would make her house their home; De l'Épée gratefully accepted the invitation; and promising on the next morning to become her guests, they retired to the hotel where they had lodged the preceding night.

The next morning, De l'Épée and Julio arose betimes, and arrived at Franval's as the family were preparing for breakfast; which being over, the Abbé and Franval set out for Harancour Palace; where, with some difficulty, they were admitted to the presence of the ostentatious D'Arlemont; who, in an austere manner, demanded their business? Upon which, De l'Épée proceeded to inform him, that the nephew, whom he had so cruelly abandoned, had fell by chance under his protection, and although the youth was *deaf and dumb*, he had empowered him to demand, in his name, the restitution of the title and estates, which,

which, as heir of the late Count de Sola, he is lawfully entitled to.—D'Arlemont affected a considerable degree of surprise and passion; and the better to conceal his real emotions, he arose from his seat, and traversed the room with hasty steps. At length, becoming more calm, he replied, that had he not been present with his nephew during his last moments, he might at first have been deceived by the plausibility of their story; but as he had not only his own ocular proof, but a certificate, attested by two witnesses, of the death of Julio, he must look on their assertions as an idle fiction, invented only to defraud him out of his lawful possessions; “and I must insist on knowing,” continued he, “by what right you have thus intruded on my privacy?”

“By the right of eight years’ care and anxiety,” retorted De l’Epée, “and that natural impulse which induces the feeling heart to assist an orphan in distress?—Providence, Sir, having so miraculously deputed me the guardian of Julio de Sola, I shall perform my duty, although you abandoned your’s, and assert the cause of my injured boy.”

“Nor is my right to assist him in the undertaking less sacred,” added Franval. “Tis the duty of my profession to protect the weak from the oppressive tyranny of the strong;—a privilege which, in this instance, I should not wish to fore-

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go, since it has procured me the confidence of a man like *De l’Epée*; and I declare myself proud of being chosen to complete the most meritorious act ever undertaken by humanity.”

Upon Franval’s mentioning the name of *De l’Epée*, they observed a change in the countenance of D’Arlemont, and that he looked rather confused; they therefore used every means to prevail on him to acknowledge the perfidy of which he had been guilty; but without effect. Inured to guilt, he remained unshaken; and at length, breaking from them, dared them, with the most unparalleled audacity, to put it to the trial; adding, that, armed as he was with incontrovertible proof, he defied their utmost malice; then waving his hand for them to quit the apartment, Franval with dignity and firmness, assured him, that however he might hope to conceal the villany he had been guilty of, behind the clouds of mystery and darkness, and trust to the influence and power he was now possessed of, as a shield of defence, yet the sword of unerring justice would not fail to cleave it asunder, and compel him to restore the title and possessions he had usurped to their lawful owner.

As soon as *De l’Epée* and Franval had withdrawn, D’Arlemont began to weigh in his mind the possibility of the young Count’s wresting from

him the title and estates, and saw there was but one way to avoid the impending ruin and disgrace with which he was threatened; which was, to conclude the projected marriage, with all possible speed, between his son and the First President's daughter. He therefore immediately enquired for St. Alme, in order that he might accompany him to the Marquis de Lanville's; but he was informed that his son had gone out on a hunting party. D'Arlemont, however, as the situation of his affairs would admit of no delay, repaired to the President's; leaving strict orders with St. Alme's servant, that the moment his master came home, he should be desired to follow him to the Marquis's on business of great moment.

St. Alme, in order to divert the melancholy which oppressed him, had joined, early that morning, some of the neighbouring gentry in the pleasures of the chase. By some mischance, he was separated from the rest of his company, and found himself in the midst of an extensive forest; in vain did he endeavour to trace out the path he had quitted. At length, he discovered an opening in the wood, and at no great distance stood a small cottage; approaching which, in order to enquire his way, he perceived a young female, seated beneath a tuft of trees, perusing a book. Alarmed at his sudden appearance, she gave a scream, and fled

fled into the cottage. St. Alme immediately rode up to the door, and in the features of its venerable owner he recognised those of the widow of the old porter at the Palace of Harancour, who died of a broken heart soon after D'Arlemont had discharged him and the other domestics of the late Count.

The poor woman instantly recollected St. Alme, and having requested him to alight, and honour her humble cottage with his presence, she placed a chair for him next the fire, which she replenished with fresh fuel, and placed before him such homely fare as her circumstances afforded.

While St. Alme was partaking of this repast, he took the first opportunity of enquiring about the female who had so suddenly fled before him into the cottage; to which the old woman was about to reply, when the door of an inner apartment opened, and presented to his astonished view the long-lost Laurentia!—St. Alme started up, and as he hastily approached her, she gave a scream, and fell senseless into his open arms.

After a short interval she recovered, and, with artless accents of innocence, expressed her joy at beholding once more the beloved companion of her youthful days; and enquired, with eager anxiety, after the welfare of her brother Julio.—At this question St. Alme turned pale; and dread-

ing to renew her agitation, endeavoured to divert her attention to another subject. *Laurentia*, however, still persisting in her inquiry, he was constrained, though with reluctance, to inform her of his death, which he did with the utmost caution and tenderness. Inured to affliction, *Laurentia* received the melancholy tidings with becoming fortitude; and having paid the briny tribute to the memory of her beloved brother, *St. Alme* expressed a desire that she would give him an account of what befel her since they parted, especially as he understood that she had eloped from the convent with an officer; and therefore wishing to be satisfied particularly on that head, *Laurentia* yielded to his entreaty, and gave him the following narrative:

"You remember, no doubt, *St. Alme*," said she, "the fatal morning when I left the Palace of Harancour, accompanied by my uncle, your father, on my journey to the Convent of *St. Clara*, at Paris, in order, as we understood, to complete my education. Alas! little did I think that I was to be separated from all I held dear—from the beloved companions of my youth!—Ah, no; I flattered myself with the pleasure I should derive from the epistolary intercourse that would take place between us; while my fancy also painted, in the liveliest colours, the reception I should meet with

with on my return. In this state of mind I arrived at the convent; where *D'Arlemont* having agreed with the Abbess for my board and lodging, as I then thought, took his leave, and returned for *Toulouse*. For several days, the Abbess, and the rest of the community, seemed to exert themselves in endeavouring to anticipate my wishes, and render my situation agreeable. But, alas! this attention was but of short duration; for, one day, while I was writing a letter to you, *Madame Malin*, the Abbess, entered my room; and no sooner saw what I was doing, than she seized the letter, and tore it to pieces!—Amazed at this behaviour, I ventured to expostulate with her; and demanded the reason of her acting in this extraordinary manner? To which she made no answer; but darting a look of malignity and anger, rendered still more dreadful by the natural deformity of her visage, she threw a paper on my table, and retired; leaving me overwhelmed with terror and surprise!

"On recovering from the emotions which this singular circumstance had occasioned, I ventured to peruse the paper she had left me; when I found, that instead of my being placed in the convent to finish my education, your cruel father—pardon the expression—had doomed me to lead a monastic life; in order, as he said, the better to enable my

my brother to live with that splendor suitable to his rank; and at the same time insinuating, that, as the estate was greatly encumbered, the payment of my dowry would considerably embarrass the young Count's finances!

"Overwhelmed with astonishment and chagrin, I spent the remainder of the day in gloomy solitude; and as soon as the shades of evening darkened the atmosphere, retired to my bed; but sleep was a stranger to my eyes. After a night of painful anxiety, I arose with the morning, intending to walk in the garden, in order to dissipate, if possible, the melancholy that oppressed me; but I found that the door of my apartment was fastened on the outside. I recoiled back with indignant horror; and unable to support my trembling limbs, threw myself on the bed in an agony of despair. I had not long remained in this situation, before I heard my chamber-door unlocked, and saw the Abbess enter, attended by an old friar, who made a long exordium on the calm pleasures which attended the monastic life, and the necessity of submitting to the decrees of fate with patience; in which address he was seconded by Madame Malin, who assured me that I must prepare to take the veil on the ensuing festival of St. Clara, which was but a few days distant; observing, that if I resisted this measure, she should be under the necessity of having recourse to the authority

authority which my friends had given her over me; saying which, they left me, and locked the door as before.

"Unable to support the horrid idea of being torn from the world and my friends, and being now convinced of the perfidy of him who should have protected me, I resolved, if possible, to make my escape from the convent; but all the plans I had formed proved abortive; and the evening previous to the fatal day arrived, without my being able to settle on any scheme to effect my purpose. The Abbess visited me on that evening; and with threats and promises endeavoured to prevail on me to accept the veil; but finding me remain inflexible, she left me, vowing vengeance for my obstinacy. I now threw myself on the bed; and, wearied with grief, I sunk into a sound sleep; during which, methought that my honoured mother appeared to me, and with a smile pushed a pannel aside in the room, telling me, that through the passage which then presented itself to my view, lay the road to future happiness!—The singularity of this dream was so strongly imprinted on my mind, that when I awoke, I instinctively, as it were, examined every part of my chamber; when at length, to my utter astonishment, I discovered the identical pannel that was represented to me in my sleep!—I pushed it aside, and instantly resolved to explore the subterranean passage.

Having

* Having packed up a few necessities in my handkerchief, and taking a small lamp, I entered the vault, and closing the pannel after me, walked softly along the passage, till I came to a door, which with difficulty I unbolted, and opening it with the greatest caution, while the discordant creaking of its rusty hinges chilled my blood, I now found myself in a ruinous part of the chapel, which I explored with eager anxiety, in hopes of discovering some outlet whereby I might be enabled to escape from the vengeance of my persecutors; and at length discovered a hole, about three feet from the ground, in the wall on the eastern side, which I flattered myself with very little trouble I could make sufficiently large to admit of my passing through; however, I resolved to conceal myself behind some of the ruins till the approach of night, as most favourable to my purpose. I had scarcely formed this resolution, when the sound of distant footsteps alarmed me; and soon after, I could perceive the old friar, who had visited me with the Abbess, enter the chapel, attended by two others! They passed me several times, in their search, vowing that the most severe penance should be inflicted on me, in case I was retaken: but at length, finding their endeavours fruitless, they left the chapel; while the old friar muttered a number of curses on me as they retired.

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“The long-wished for night at length arrived, and with very little trouble I effected my escape. Immediately on finding myself at large, I fell on my knees, and returned thanks to that Divine Power on whom alone the orphan can depend for protection.

“This duty performed, I proceeded on my journey towards Toulouse, intending to seek an asylum among some of the dependants of my late father, travelling at night, and concealing myself in the day, to avoid the pursuit which I was apprehensive would be made after me. After a tedious and painful journey, I arrived on the borders of the forest, and soon discovered this cottage; which, on entering, you may guess my surprise at beholding, in the owner, my dear Claudine, who had so often borne me and my brother in her fond arms. I have taken up my residence in her humble dwelling, where I support myself by my own industry; and, as a little relaxation, I sometimes amuse myself with a book in the spot where you surprised me;—a circumstance which has so fortunately brought about a meeting, which I have always so earnestly wished for.”

Here Laurentia ended her narrative; when St. Alme, expressing his regret for the unmerited hardships she encountered, and the too apparent perfidy of D’Arlemont, was constrained to take his leave for

for the present, as his father never sat down to dinner without his company; he therefore tenderly embraced *Laurentia*, and promising to see her again as soon as possible, set off for *Harancour Palace*; where, on his arrival, he was informed that his father had desired he should attend him at the *Président de Lanville's*. *St. Alme* immediately repaired thither, and found *D'Arlemont* closeted with that nobleman, anxiously waiting his arrival. — The *Président* informed him, that his father and himself having fixed on the ensuing morning for the union between him and his daughter, *St. Alme* bowed, and acknowledged the honour which the *Marquis* intended to confer on him; but at the same time declared himself unable to accept of it, as his vows were plighted to another, whose constancy he had been led to suspect, through a fabricated report, injuriously raised against her; but that a circumstance had just occurred, which convinced him of her honour and fidelity, and served to fix his resolution never to become another's. — Then throwing himself at his father's feet, who was almost frantic with anger, he implored his forgiveness. *D'Arlemont* would not listen to *St. Alme*; but apologizing to the *Marquis* for having solicited the hand of his daughter for one so undeserving the honour, he left the chamber, overwhelmed with disappointment and vexation.

D'Arlemont

D'Arlemont was no sooner gone, than *St. Alme* arose, and addressing himself to the *Marquis*, received an assurance from that nobleman, that he would endeavour to prevail on his father to consent to the marriage between him and the lady to whom he was pre-engaged. Upon which, *St. Alme* took his leave, and with trembling steps followed his enraged father.

In the mean time, *Dupré* having been informed by *D'Arlemont* of the interview between him and *De l'Epée*, he took the advantage of his master's absence, and repaired to the house of *Franval*, in order to be convinced of the identity of *Theodore's* being the young Count de *Sola*; whose loss he had long regretted with the deepest remorse, as well as the guilty part he had acted in concert with his unnatural uncle. On being conducted into *Julio's* presence, he immediately recognised him, and fell on his knees, and in the most fervent manner implored his pardon. He then informed *De l'Epée*, that on the night of his arrival at Paris, with *D'Arlemont* and the young Count, whom he had accompanied thither from *Toulon*, he received orders from the former (who had won him over to his purpose by promising him an handsome annuity for life) to procure the clothes of some beggar-boy, and dress the young Count therein. Having done as he was ordered, *D'Arlemont* took the unsuspect-

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ing Julio with him in an hired chariot, and in about three hours afterwards returned without him. On Dupré's expressing a wish to know what was become of the young Count, D'Arlemont informed him, that he had now effected a scheme which he had long projected—that of losing his nephew in the streets of Paris!—"That point accomplished," continued Dupré, "his next step, in order to enable him to obtain possession of the title and estates, was to procure a certificate of his death; but for which purpose two witnesses were necessary. One he was already sure of, in me, and for the second he chose the master of the hotel where we lodged, whose evidence he easily purchased.

"This settled, he took us to the Church of Notre Dame, where we signed the entry of my young master's death, and a few days after D'Arlemont and I returned to Toulouse. From that fatal day I have not enjoyed a moment's peace of mind;—but, thank Heaven!" exclaimed the old man, "the injured youth lives, and the only means now left, by which I can atone for my crime, is to make a public confession of the whole transaction in open court. I know the punishment that awaits me; but I regard it not, if it shall be the means of repairing the injury I have assisted in, and restoring the rightful heir to the possessions of his ancestors."

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Here ended Dupré; and Franval having taken his deposition in writing, De l'Épée demanded if he would now accompany them to the Palace of Harancour, and confront his accomplice D'Arlemont? To which he readily acquiesced.

Accordingly, they reached the Palace soon after D'Arlemont had returned from the Marquis de Lanville's; and upon Franval and De l'Épée being ushered into an apartment, where D'Arlemont was seated in a musing posture, he started up, on their entrance, in the greatest confusion; but endeavouring to conceal his emotions, he demanded, in an imperious tone, what they had now to say to him, since he had given them his answer at the former interview?—Upon which, De l'Épée, in a calm and collected manner, informed him of the discovery Dupré had made; and that it was vain to persist in the denial of a crime which was now so apparent. But D'Arlemont still continuing obdurate, Franval called in Dupré, (whom they had left with Julio in an outer apartment) and requested him to acknowledge, before his master, the truth of the deposition he held in his hand.—Franval was then about to read Dupré's confession, but was interrupted by D'Arlemont, who, with a contemptuous smile, congratulated them on having obtained the evidence of a man whom age and infirmity had rendered childish and insane; and that they

they had extorted from him a confession of crimes which he had never committed. "You will therefore please," continued he, "no longer thus to disturb my repose, but be gone from my house;" saying which, he again seated himself.

De l'Épée now slept out, and returned leading Julio by the hand. D'Arlemont, on seeing his nephew enter, fell back on the sofa, and concealing his face with his hands, exclaimed, "Oh, Heavens!—Remove that horrid spectre!"—while Julio, on the other hand, having fixed his eyes on D'Arlemont, gave a loud scream, and recoiled into the arms of De l'Épée, making signs that he knew his uncle, and pointing to him.

D'Arlemont, in a short time, became more collected; and again accused them of endeavouring to impose on his credulity. "Whence that involuntary exclamation," replied De l'Épée, "which escaped you, when you first beheld the Count?—Why, then, do you thus shudder through your whole frame?—You cannot even bear to look at him.—Come, come, Sir, it is in vain you thus struggle with Nature; she herself has pronounced your condemnation. Acknowledge your nephew, and all shall be—"

"I disown him, I tell you," hastily interrupted D'Arlemont, "and shall for ever disown him, till by legal proof—"

At

At this moment St. Alme entered the apartment, and seeing D'Arlemont in confusion, eagerly made towards him, and exclaimed, "Who is it, my dear father, that thus insults you?"—Then turning his face towards Julio, "Heavens!" exclaimed he, "what do I see! Is—" —"Your cousin Julio," interrupted Fraval.

Julio, who recognized St. Alme, flew to him, with a cry of joy, and embraced him. "Is it possible!" said St. Alme. D'Arlemont took him by the hand, and cautioned him not to be deceived!—"Impossible!" replied St. Alme; "though time has somewhat altered his features, yet my heart tells me—Besides, it is easy to convince ourselves—Saying which, he turned up the sleeve of Julio's right arm, and perceiving the scar, he embraced him, and exclaimed, "Yes, 'tis he, 'tis he!—Yes, here is the wound to which I am indebted for my life—'twas he that preserved it."—Then turning to D'Arlemont, who had seated himself, full of rage and confusion, with his back to the rest, "My dear father," said he, "it is Julio; you cannot doubt it."

A proof so positive silenced the audacity of D'Arlemont; who, starting from his seat, rushed out of the apartment, imprecating the vengeance of Heaven on himself and the whole creation!

St. Alme would have followed, in order to con-

real the grief and shame with which the discovery of his father's guilt had overwhelmed him; but Julio seized him by the hand, and in the most earnest manner, as well as it was in the power of action to express, entreated him to stay; in which request he was joined by De l'Épée, who remarked, that the sensible part of mankind would never attach the crimes of the father to a son whose every action had been conformable to the strictest rules of honour. St. Alme bowed, and, in compliance with their request, resumed his seat.

A servant at this moment entered, and handed a paper to Franval, which he read as follows:

"I hereby acknowledge the deaf and dumb pupil of the Abbé De l'Épée, whom he called Theodore, to be Julio de Sola, to whom I am ready to restore all his rights."

"D'ARLEMONT."

The surprise occasioned by this sudden avowal, may easily be conceived. De l'Épée, lifting up his hands, exclaimed, "Thank Heaven, we have succeeded!"—Then taking the paper out of Franval's hand, he gave it to Julio; who having perused it, flew and threw himself at De l'Épée's feet; then rising, he embraced St. Alme; and hurrying to a table, wrote the following, under the lines of D'Arlemont:

"The

"The names of St. Alme and Julio have ever been entwined together on the stem of friendship. Thus accustomed, from our infancy, to live as brothers, till we were cruelly separated, I cannot now enjoy happiness without his participation. I therefore give up a third of my estate to Charles Frederick St. Alme. He must not refuse it."

JULIO DE SOLA."

He now gave the paper to De l'Épée, who read it aloud, and then pressing Julio to his bosom, he exclaimed, "This single act repays me all I have done for him!"

When the emotions which this generosity had excited in the bosom of St. Alme had a little subsided, he informed them of the singular circumstance of Laurentia's escape, and the place of her concealment. A messenger was instantly dispatched for her; and preparations made for their nuptials, which was solemnized a few days afterwards; when the *ci-devant* Theodore, now the Count de Sola, was also united to Celestina, the lovely sister of Franval, whose engaging manners, during his residence at the house of Madame Franval, had made an impression on his heart.

The Count would now have liberally rewarded De l'Épée; but that good old man could only be prevailed on, with difficulty, to permit an annuity of 2000 livres being settled on the institution he had

had founded at Paris; whither he repaired shortly after the celebration of the nuptials of his late pupil; declaring, that he feared his dear children now required his preference and protection!

D'Arlemont, unable to bear the sight of those to whom he had proved so unnatural, retired to a small estate he possessed in Montpelier, in order to spend the remainder of his days in penitence and contrition; while the young Count and Countess de Sola, by their amiable and benevolent dispositions, gained the esteem of their neighbours, and rendered HARANCOUR PALACE once more renowned for its hospitality.



We acknowledge ourselves indebted, for the following interesting Extracts, to a Work, entitled "The Method of Educating the Deaf and Dumb, confirmed by long experience. By the Abbé de l'Epée. Translated from the French and Latin." Published by Cadell and Davies, and Longman & Rees, price 7s. 6d.

METHOD

OF

EDUCATING THE DEAF AND DUMB,

AS PRACTISED

BY THE ABBÉ DE L'EPÉE.

[Written by Himself.]

EXTRACTS.

The Manner in which the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb is to commence.

"IT is not by the mere pronunciation of words, in any language, that we are taught their signification. The words *door, window, &c. &c.* in our own, might have been repeated to us hundreds of times in vain; we should never have attached an idea to them, had not the objects designated by these names been shewn to us at the same time. A sign of the hand or of the eye has been the only means by which we learned to unite the idea of these sounds that struck our ear. Whenever we heard these sounds, the same ideas arose in our minds, because we recollected the signs made to us when they were pronounced.

"Exactly similar must be our measures with the deaf and dumb. Their tuition commences with teaching them a manual alphabet, such as boys at school make use of to hold conversation at one end of a form with their companions at the other. The various figures of these letters strike forcibly the eyes of deaf and dumb persons, who no more confound them, than we confound the various sounds that strike our ears."

"We next write," says the Abbe, " (I say *we*, because in the operations with my deaf and dumb pupils, I frequently have assistance) in large characters with a white crayon, upon

upon a black table, these two words, *the door*, and we *show* them the door. They immediately apply their manual alphabet five or six times to each of the letters composing the word *door*, (they spell it with their fingers) and impress on their memory the number of letters and arrangement of them; this done, they efface the word, and taking the crayon themselves, write it down in characters, no matter whether well or ill formed; afterwards they will write it, as often as you show them the same object.

"It will be the same with respect to every thing else pointed out to them, the name being previously written down; which being first done on the table in large characters, may afterwards be inscribed in characters of ordinary size, upon different cards; and these being given to them, they amuse themselves in examining one another's proficiency, and ridicule those that blunder. Experience has manifested, that a deaf and dumb person, possessing any mental powers, will acquire by this method upwards of eighty words in less than three days.

"Take some cards, having suitable inscriptions thereon, and deliver them one by one to your pupil: he will carry his hand successively to every part of his body conformably to the name on the card delivered him. Mix and shuffle the cards as you please, he will make no mistake; or if you chuse to write down any of these names on the table, you will see him, in like manner, distinguish with his finger every object whose name is so offered him; and thus clearly prove that he comprehends the meaning of every one.

"By this process the pupil will obtain, in a very few days, a knowledge of all the words which express the different parts of our frame, from head to foot, as well as of those that express the various objects which surround us, on being properly pointed out to him as you write their names down on the table, or on cards put into his hands."

How the Deaf and Dumb may be brought to understand, in some measure, what it is to hear, auribus audire.

"IN attempting to explain this article to the deaf and dumb, I go to work as follows:

"I direct a large pan to be brought, and order it to be filled with water. The water being perfectly settled, I take an ivory ball, or something similar, and drop it perpendicularly in. I make my pupil observe the undulation produced in the water, which would be much greater in a pond or

or river; but the deaf and dumb having seen it in both, call it to mind very easily. Then I write down as follows: 'I drop the ball into the water; the water being displaced, runs up and strikes the edge of the pan.' Not a word of this is unintelligible to my pupils.

"Next I take up a screen, or something similar, and flapping it in my hand, the curtain flutters, and leaves of paper fly about. I blow upon the hands of one of my pupils with my mouth; and I call all that *air*. Then I write down further: 'The room is full of air, as the pan is full of water; I strike upon the table, the air is displaced, and strikes against the walls of the room, in the same manner as the water is displaced and strikes against the edges of the pan.'

"I now take out my alarum watch, and setting it properly, I make each of my pupils feel the little hammer which strikes against his finger with great rapidity. I then tell them that we have all a little hammer in the ear; that the air being displaced in making its way towards the walls of the room, meets our ear, which it enters, and causes the little hammer there to move in the same way that I make the corner of my handkerchief move with my breath.

—(This is the language I hold with them, and I think it right not to alter it here.)—After this, I get a person who hears, to stand with his face against the wall, and his back towards me, requesting him to turn round and come forward as soon as he hears me strike upon the table. I strike; and the rest is executed as agreed upon. I show that the air met with his ear, and having entered it, caused his little hammer to move, the sensation of which made him turn round and come forward.

"I afterwards send the same person into another room: I strike, and he comes back directly. I declare that the same operation has taken place in his ear, and served him for a signal to come back. It is thus we show that sound is propagated by means of undulating air (we explain also why this propagation is slower than that of light.) As to what really takes place in the interior of the ear, anatomists will please to reflect that we are addressing ourselves to persons who are deaf and dumb, consequently that physical exactness is out of the case.

"We now inform our students, that if they do not hear, it is because they have not in their ears this hammer; or else because it is too much enveloped for the motion of the air to make an impression; or, lastly, because, if it does move and strike, the part upon which it acts is in a manner paralytic.

"The explications I have given at various times on this subject, have produced very different effects upon different pupils;

pupils; some being highly gratified at knowing what it is to hear, others dejected at not having the hammer in their ears, or at its being enveloped. The first two that attended this lecture, having given an account of it at home, could not suppress their chagrin, upon learning that the house cat and canary-bird had both the little hammer in their ears.

"From the above, it will be easy to guess the notion which the deaf and dumb form respecting our faculty of hearing.

"When all my scholars are in my study, their whole attention engrossed by a picture which they have not seen before, if I stamp on the floor, every one, without exception, whatever their number, immediately turns round; the pulsation they feel at their feet being a sufficient notice that I desire them to look towards me.

"A few minutes after, I let them know that twenty persons are in my antichamber, who cannot perceive me, nor I them, whom nevertheless I shall cause to enter, that they may have the pleasure of looking at the same picture. I call them aloud, and they enter immediately. The deaf and dumb comprehend that these persons have experienced a vibration in the ear something similar to what they themselves felt in the feet when I stamped upon the floor.

"The faculty of hearing, therefore, appears to them an internal disposition of our ears, rendering us capable of sensations there, of which their own ears are incapable, because the door is shut so as to prevent the air from penetrating, or because they are without the little hammer to strike, or without the drum which it is to strike upon; and as they perceive that the stamping of the foot on the floor produces more or less motion at their feet, in proportion to the force of the stroke, so they conceive that the motion produced in our ears is more or less felt in proportion to the degree of violence with which the air enters: they have nearly the same idea of it as of a wind blowing with more or less strength.

"But as we can give no distinct idea of the difference of colours to a person born blind, neither can we give the deaf and dumb a distinct idea of the difference of sounds produced in our ears by the different articulation of letters."

FINIS.

A. NEIL, Printer, Chalton-street, Somerset Town.

and Buller in their small possession now being by virtue of
of these presents conveyed before intended for his own
Edgcombe otherwise called Edgcombe containing by ash
in Sargent her Assignee or Assignee afterwards in the Tenure of
late of Richard Edgcombe the Brother of the said Thomas Edgcombe
called or commonly known by the name or names of Willm or Edgcombe
Edgcombe the father his Tenant or Tenants late of the said Richard
Edgcombe seized and still being in the Villages of Alton