TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN OF GOETHE.

PART I.

CHAPTER VI. (continued.) In many ways, therefore, the party had gained by Ottilie's arrival. The Captain and Edward kept regularly to the hours, even to the minutes, for their general meeting together. They never kept the others waiting for them either for dinner or tea, or for their walks; and they were in less haste. This did not escape Charlotte's observation; she watched them both, to see whether one more than the other was the occasion of it. But she could not perceive any difference. They Lad both become more companionable. In their conversation they seemed to consider what was best adapted to interest Ottilie; what was most on a level with her capacities and her general knowledge. If she left the room when they were reading or telling stories, they would wait till she returned. They had grown softer and altogether more united.

In return for this, Ottilie's anxiety to be of use increased every day; the more she came to understand the house, its inmates, and their circumstances, the more eagerly she entered into everything, caught every look, and every motion; half a word, a sound, was enough for her. With her calm attentiveness, and her easy, unexcited activity, she was always the same. Sitting, rising up, going, coming, fetching, carrying, returning to her place again, it was always in the most perfect repose; a constant change, a constant agreeable movement; while, at the same time, she went about so lightly that her step was almost inaudible.

This cheerful obligingness in Ottilie gave Charlotte the greatest pleasure. There was one thing, however, which she did not exactly like, of which she had to speak to her.

"It is very polite you," she said one day from their hand, to be so quick in stooping and picking it up for them; at the same time, it is a sort of confession that they have a right to require such attention, and in the world we are expected to he careful to whom we pay it. Towards women. I will not prescribe any rule as to how you should conduct yourself You are young. To those above, and old er than you, services of this sort are a duty; towards your equals they are polite; to those younger than yourself and your inferiors you may show yourself kind and good-natured by such things,only it is not becoming in a young lady to do them for men."

Ottilie: "I think, however, you will in the meantime forgive me my want of manners, when I tell you how I came by it. We were taught history at school; I have not gained as much out of it as I ought, for I never knew what use I was was to make of it; a few little things, however, made a deep impression upon me, among which was the following: When Charles the First of England was standing before his so called judges, the gold top came off the stick which he had in his hand, and fell down. Accustomed as he had been on such occasions to have everything done for him, he seemed to look round and expect that this time too some one would do this little service. No one stirred, and he stooped down for it himself. It struck me as so piteous; that from that moment I have never been able to see any one let a thing fall without myself picking it up. But, of course, as it is not always proper, and as I cannot," every time I do it, in future I will try and | I will not deny that I told her of it." contain myself."

In the meantime the fine arrangements which the two friends had been led to make for themselves, went uninterruptedly forward. Every day they found something new to think about and undertake.

One day as they were walking together through the village, they had to remark with dissatisfaction how far behindhand it was in order and cleanliness, compared to villages where the inhabitants were compelled by the expense of buildingground to be careful about such things.

"You remember a wish we once expressed when we were traveling together in Switzerland," said the Captain, "that we might have the laying out of some country park, and how beautiful we would make it by introducing into some village situated like this, not the Swiss style of building, but the Swiss order and | will treat it first problematically, and as neatness which so much improve it."

"And how well it would answer here! The hill on which the castle stands, slopes doing any good to another with his ar- transition was easy. rangements, but only hurting himself and the rest too. And then there is the road it, raising it to the level of the houses, tespecial reference to tile castle. I was to he humorous judge.

and so give themselves a fair open space in front, making the whole place clean, windows, and from it the spectator was and getting rid, once for all, in one good to be able to overlook both the castle and general work, of all their little trifling in the garden. effectual makeshifts."

and saw quickly what was to be done. "I can undertake nothing in company which was to be raised behind it."

with peasants and shopkeepers," replied Edward, "unless I may have unrestricted authority over them."

"You are not so wrong in that," returned the Captain; "I have experienced too much trouble myself in life in matters of that kind. How difficult it is to prevail on a man to venture boldly on making a sacrifice for an after advantage! How hard to get him to desire an end, and not hesitate at the means! So many people confuse means with ends; they keep hanging over the first, without having the other before their eyes. Every evil is to be cured at the place where it comes to the surface, and they will not trouble themselves to look for the cause which produ ces it or the remote effect which results from it. This is why it is so difficult to get advice listened to, especially among the many; they can see clearly enough from day to day, but their scope seldom reaches beyond the morrow; and if it comes to a point where with some general arrangement one person will gain while another will lose, there is no prevailing on them to strike a balance. Works of public advantage can only be carried through by an uncontrolled absolute au-

ing, a man came up and begged of them. He looked more impudent than really in want, and Edward, who was annoyed at being interrupted, after two or three fruitless attempts to get rid of him by a gentler refusal, spoke sharply to him. she came to know him better, was suffi The fellow began to grumble and mutter abusively: he-went off with short steps, talking about th right of beggars. It was all very well to refuse them an alms, but that was no reason why they should be insulted. A beggar, and everybody else, too, was as much under God's protection as to her, "when people let anything fall alord It put Edward out of all patience.

The Captain, to pacify him, said: "Let us make use of this as an occasion for extending our rural police arrangements to such cases. We are bound to give away money, but we do better in not giving in person, especially at home. We should be moderate and uniform in everything, in charities as in all else; too great liberality attracts beggars instead of helping them on their way. At the same time there is no harm when one is on a journey, or passing through a strange place, in appearing to a poor man in the street in the form of a chance deity of fortune, and make him some present which shall surprise him. The position "I will try to forget the habit," replied of the village and of the castle makes it easy for us to put our charities here on a proper footing. I have thought about it before. The public-house is at one end of the village, a respectable old couple live at the other. At each of these places deposit a small sum of money, and let cure for him, and to keep away whatever every beggar, not as he comes in, but as he goes out, receive something. Both houses lie on the road which leads to the castle, so that any one who goes there can be referred to one or the other."

"Come," said Edward, "we will settle that on the spot. The exact sum can be made up another time."

They went to the innkeeper, and to the old couple, and the thing was done.

"I know very well," Elward said, as they walking up the hill to the castle together, "that everything in this world depends on distinctness of idea and firmness of purpose. Your judgment of what my wife has been doing in the park was entirely right; and you have already givshe continued, smiling, "tell my story en me a hint how it might be improved.

"So I have been led to suspect," replied the Captain: and I could not approve of your having done so. You have perplex ed her. She has left off doing anything; and on this one subject she is vexed with us. She avoids speaking of it. She has never since invited us to go with her to the summer-house, although at odd hours she goes up there with Ottilie."

"We must not allow ourselves to be deterred by that," answered Edward. "If I am once convinced about anything good. which could and should be done, I can never rest till I see it done. We are clever enough at other times in introducing what we want, into the general conversation; suppose we have out some descriptions of English parks, with copperplates, for our evening's amusement. Then we can follow with your plan. We if we were only in jest. There will be no difficulty in passing into earnest."

The scheme was concerted, and the down to that projecting angle. The vil- books were opened. In each group of lage, you see, is built in a semicircle, reg. designs they first saw a ground-plan of ularly enough, just opposite to it. The the spot, with the general character of the brook runs between. It is liable to floods; landscape, drawn in its rude, natura • and do observe the way the people set state. Then followed others, showing the about protecting themselves from them; changes which had been produced by art. one with stones, another with stakes; the to employ and set off the natural advannext puts up a boarding, and a fourth | tages of the locality. From these to their ties beams and planks; no one, of course, own property and their own grounds, the

Everybody was pleased. The chart which the Captain had sketched was going along just in the clumsiest way pos- brought and spread out. The only diffisible-up hill and down, through the wa- culty was, that they could not entirely ter, and over the stones. If the people free themselves of the plan in which would only lay their hands to the busi Charlotte had begun. However, an easness together, it would cost them nothing | ier way up the hill was found a lodge but a little labor to run a semicircular was suggested to be built on the height at wall along here, take the road in behind the edge of the cliff, which was to have an

form a conspicuous object from the castle

The Captain had thought it all carefu!-"Let us try it," said the Captain, as he ly over, and taken his measurements; and ran his eyes over the lay of the ground, now he brought up again his village road and the wall by the brook, and the g round

"Here you see," said he, "while I make this charming walk up the height, I gain exactly the quantity of stone which I re. Pianos & Organs. quire for that wall. Let one piece of work help the other, and both will be carried out most satisfactorily and most rapidly."

"But now," said Charlotte, "comes my side of the business. A certain definite outlay of money will have to be made. We ought to know how much will be wanted for such a purpose, and then we can apportion it out—so much work, and so much money, if not by weeks, at least by months. The cash-box is under my charge. I pay the bills, I keep the accounts."

"You do not appear to have overmuch confidence in us," said Edward.

"I have not much in arbitrary matters," Charlotte answered. "Where it is a case of inclination, we women know better how to control ourselves than you."

It was settled; the dispositions were

made, and the work was begun at once. The Captain being always on the spot, Charlotte was almost a daily witness to the strength and clearness of his understanding. He, too, learnt to know her better; and it became easy for them both to work together, and thus bring some-"While they were standing and talk- thing to completeness. It is work as with dancing; persons who keep the same step must grow indispensable to one another. Out of this mutual kindly feeling will necessarily arise; and Charlotte had a real kind feeling towards the Captain, after ciently proved by her allowing him to destroy her pretty seat, which in her first plans she had taken such pains in ornamenting, because it was it was in the way of his own, without experiencing the slightest feeling about matter.

> CHAPTER VII. Now that Charlotte was occupied with the Captain, it was a natural consequence that Edward should attach himself more to Ottilie. Independently of this, indeed, for some time past he had begun to feel a silent kind of attraction towards her. Obliging and attentive she was to everyone, but his self-love whispered that towards him she was particularly so. She had observed his little fancies about his food. She knew exactly what things he liked, and the way in which he liked them to be prepared; the quantity of sugar which liked in his tea; and so on. Moreover, she was particularly careful to prevent draughts, about which he was excessively sensitive, and, indeed, about which, with his wife, who could never have air enough, he was often at variance. So, too, she had come to know about fruitgardens, and flower-gardens; whatever he liked, it was her constant effort to proannoyed him; so that very soon she grew indispensable to him—she became like his guardian angel, and he felt it keenly whenever she was absent. Besides all this, too, she appeared to grow more open and conversable as soon as they were alone

Edward, as he had advanced in life, had retained something childish about himself, which corresponded singularly well with the youthfulness of Ottilie. They liked talking of early times, when they had first seen each other; and these reminiscences led them up to the first epoch of Edward's affection for Charlotte. Ot tilie declared that she remembered them both as the handsomest pair about the court; and when Edward would question the possibility of this, when she must have been so exceedingly young, she insisted that she recollected one particular incident as clearly as possible. He had come into the room where her aunt was, oo and she had hid her face in Charlotte's oo lap-not from fear, but from a childish surprise. She might have added, because he had made so strong and impression upon her—because she had liked him so

While they were occupied in this way, much of the business which the two friends had undertaken together* had come to a stand still; so that they found it necessary to inspect how things were going on-to work up a few designs and get letters written. For this purpose, they betook themselves to their office. where they found their old copyist at his desk. They set themselves to their work, and soon gave the old man enough to do, without observing that they were laying many things on his shoulders which at other times they had always done themselves. At the same time, the first design the Captain tried would not answer, and Edward was as unsuccessful with his first oooo letter. They fretted for a while, planning and erasing, till at last Edward, who was getting on the worst, asked what o'clock it was. And then it appeared that the Captain had forgotten; for the first time for many years, to wind up his chronometer; and they seemed, if not to feel, at least to have a dim perception, that time was beginning to be indifferent

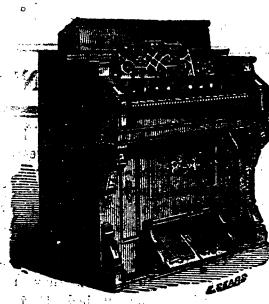
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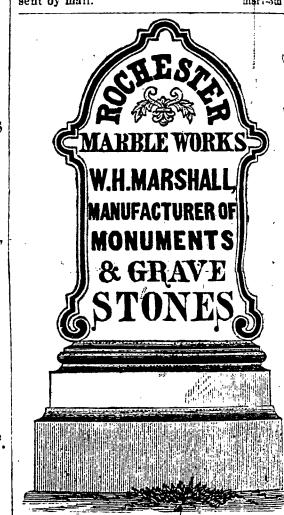
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