Contes choisis [microforme]

François Coppée

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Contes choisis [microforme]

Je doute du soleil, je ne crois plus aux roses, Et je vais le front bas Comme un homme hanté.

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Fais ce que dois, à dramatic episode in one act in verse, acted at the Odéon on October 21, 1871, was inspired by fervent patriotism, The poet showed not only talent, but remarkable Courage in speaking the sad truth about the war' to his fellow-countrymen at such a time.

In Z'Abandonnée there is not sufficient action, and the two acts are not properly connected, but Ze Rendez- Vous (1872) gave promise of better things. This promise was realised on the appearance of Ze Zufhier de Crémone (1876). In this play, which is one of his masterpieces, Coppée was happy in the choice of his subject, and more than happy in his interpretation of it. The characters live and move, the action is full of life and energy, and the situations are well contrived.

La Guerre de Cent Ans, à drama in five acts with Prologue and Epilogue, written in collaboration with M. Armand d'Artois, was never acted. It is epic as well as dramatic in style, full of patriotic inspiration, of real value as a work of art, but in execution inferior to its conception.

Ze Trésor is an anecdotic comedy with three characters, first acted in 1877. This was followed by two slight dramatic pieces, Za

Bataille d'Hernani and La Maison de Molière. Then comes Coppée's first great dramatic effort, first called Ze Psautier, and then Madame de Maintenon (1881). The attempt to depict so sphinx-like a character as that of Madame de Maintenon was more honourable to Coppée as a poet than fortunate to him as a dramatic author. It sufficed, however, to prove to him that he was capable of managing a play in five

acts in verse, and it was followed by his crowning success on the stage, Sezero Zorelli (1883). The scene is laid in the Italy of the Renaissance, and the action takes place in Pisa in 1494. Severo Torelli is one of the masterpieces of contemporary dramatic literature, its only fault in execution being a certain lack of cohesion between 'he acts. The language is powerful, energetic, and brilliant.

Al the poet's generous sentiments and noble ideals were expressed in Zes Jacobites (1885). From the dramatic point of view this play is inferior to Severo Zorelli, which it perhaps surpasses in its splendid poetry, on which account it holds a distinctive position in Contemporary literature. The heroic, typical, fateful characters remind us of the creations of Victor Hugo.

Le Justicier, afterwards called Pour la Couronne, describes the manners of Eastern Christendom in the fifteenth century. This play has been adapted for the English stage by Mr. John Davidson, but the verse of the original has been rendered partly in prose and partly in blank verse,

Olivier, 1874, is the only long poem Coppée has written. It is the Story of the psychological state of a young man, full of disillu-

sion and disappointment, who seeks to renew his life in the quiet scenes of the country. The elegiac portions have a finished charm of their own, but the Ilyrical parts are somewhat cold and constrained.

Les Récits et Les Élégies is dedicated to his sister Annette. In these short pieces he exhibits his double inspiration as à narrator and as an idealist. ‘They must be compared with Victor Hugc’s Za Légende des Sièches

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and Leconte de Lisle’s Poèmes Antiques; but his clearness of thought and conciseness of expression are all his own.

From 1880 to 1884 Coppée was employed as dramatic critic on the staff of the journal called Za Patrie. His sympathies naturally. went out to the idealistic, romantic school, but he always showed great freedom from shibboleths, together with the most refined taste in his literary judgments.

From 1871 to 1887 Coppée wrote his prose Zomans el Contes parisiens. His first attempt in this style was Une Idylle pendant Le Siège, first published in the Moniteur Universel in 1872. His

Contes en Prose are like the most delicate miniature paintings, a few lines contain a finished picture or a complete drama. The effect obtained is always vivid and in just proportion, the observation exhibited is exquisitely fine and minute. But in his prose, as in his Poetry, a distinct evolution can be traced ; his youthful recollections and descriptions of simple scenes or single emotions gradually lead to such dramatic and touching episodes as Zes Vices du Capitaine, Le Remplaçant, Mon Ami Meurtrier, etç. ; and in Vingt Contes Nouveaux the author appears as a perfect master of his style.

Contes en vers et Poésies diverses and Z'Arrière-Saison ef Les Paroles Sinières (1886-90) give us the flowers and fruit of his vigorous maturity.

Amongst Coppée's most recent works may be mentioned Aux Français à Alger and Ze Coup de Tampon, 1891; Contes Rapides (a further series of tales in the style af his earlier Contes en Prose), Henriette, Toute une

Jeunesse, and Les Vrais Æiches, 1892; Les Rivales and

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Longues et Brèves, 1893; Les Contes de Noël and Mon Franc Parier, 1894. Coppée's last collections of stories are distinguished by perfection of form, sureness and lightness of touch, delicate and just feeling, and experience in handling his tools. Seveial of these stories are slightly ironical in tone, but never sarcastic, and

the tinge of pessimism which is OCcasionaily perceptible never becomes too marked.

Le Coupable, 1897, differs in Character from the foregoing. It is written in prose, but is in the form of a novel. It again reveals Coppée's tenderness for es umb/ s and his dramatic instincts, but all traces of pessi .ism have vanished.

J « 1876 Coppée became : -ember of the Légion d'Honneur, On February 21, :84, he was elected a member of the Académie Française, in the place of the late Victor de Laprade. On December 18, 1884, he took his seat in the Académie, At this time he was

artistic skill in the choice and Manipulation of words : his thorough nodernité, that is to Say, love of the con:créte, the precise, the Personal ; and thirdly, his really remarkable power of Appealing to all classes of society.

NOTE. — Further Particulars as to Coppée's life and works may be found in M. '4e Lescure's François Coppée, L'homme, la vie et

l'œuvre, Paris, 1889, which has been taken as the basis of the above sketch, Also in Charles Gidel's Æisoire de la Littérature À française, deuxième partie, vol. v. PP. 330-7, and 419-20, Paris, 1891. See also the critical article by Jules Lemaître in Zes Contemporains, première série, 1890, pp. 83, 84, and Petit de Julleville, Histoire de la langue et de la littérature française, tome viii. pp. 32-41.

UN ACCIDENT

SAINT-MÉDARD," la vieille église de la rue Mouf tard," qu'ont jadis rendue si célèbre le diacre Pâris et les Convulsionnaires," est une très Pauvre paroisse. Le "Faubourg Marceau," comme on dit par là, n'a pas be coup de religion, et le conseil de fabrique doit avoir s assez de pzine à joindre les deux bouts. Le dimanche, aux heures des offices, il y a bien peu de monde, et rien que des femmes, ou Presque : une vingtaine de bourgeoises du quartier -' des sérvantes en bonnet rond. Comme hommes, c rencontre guère que trois ou quatre vieillards, à ve Ce paysans, qui s'agenouillent à cru sur la pierre, auprès d'un pilier, leur casquette sous le bras, et roulent un gros chapelet entre leurs doigts, en remuant les lèvres et en levant les yeux vers les ogives, avec des physionomies de donataires de vitrail. Mais en semaine, plus personne, Les jeudis d'hiver, les bascôtés résonnent un instant d'un chyfotis de galoches quand arrivent et s'en vont les élèves du caté aisme ; quelquefois encore, une pauvresse" à madras," traînant après elle un ou deux enfants et portant" un nourrisson sur les bras, vient faire brûler un petit cierge sur l'if de

* Words with an asterick are explained in the Notes.

la chapelle de la Vierge ; ou bien c'est, du côté des fonts baptismaux, des hurlements de nouveau-né qu'on baptise; ou, plus souvent, l'enterrement d'un misérable : une bière en sapin, recouverte d'un drap noir et posée sur deux s tréteaux, qu'un prêtre bénit à la hâte, devant un très petit groupe de femmes, les hommes étant libres penseurs et attendant la fin de la cérémonie devant le comptoir d'en face, où ils jouent des litres au tourniquet." Aussi le vieil abbé Faber, l'un des vicaires de la 10

paroisse, est-il sûr de ne pas trouver de pénitents, deux fois sur trois, auprès de son confessionnal, et n'a:t-il, la plupart du temps, à entendre que les aveux peu intéressants de quelques bonnes femmes. Mais c'est un homme de devoir, et'les mardis, jeudis et samedis, à sept heures 15 précises, il se rend régulièrement à la chapelle Saint-Jean, sauf à faire un bout de prière et à s'en retourner s'il n'y a personne.

Un soir de l'hiver dernier, luttant contre une bourrasque avec son parapluie ouvert, l'abbé Faber remontait 20 péniblement la rue Mouffetard poyr aller à la paroisse, et, presque certain de se déranger inutilement, il regrettait, à part lui, le bon feu qu'il venait de quitter dans son petit logement de la rue Lhomond et le Bollandiste" in-folio qu'il avait laissé ouvert sur la table, en posant 25 dessus sa paire de lunettes. Mais c'était un samedi soir, jour où les vieilles veuves, qui grignotent leurs petites rentes dans les pensions bourgeoises d'alentour, viennent quelquefois chercher labsol: tion pour communier le lendemain. Le brave' prêtre ne pouvait donc se dis- 30 penser de s'installer dans sa guérite de chêne et d'ouvrir,

caissier plein d'exactitude, ce guichet où les dévotes, pour qui la confession est une sorte de caisse d'épargne du paradis, font leur versement hebdomadaire de péchés véniels

L'abbé Faber était d'autant plus fâché de sortir que ce samedi-là était un samedi de Paye et qu'ordinairement alors la rue Mouffetard grouillait de monde, et d'un morde assez mal disposé pour sa soutane." On a beau être un saint homme, il est peu agréable d'être forcé de baisser les yeux devant les regards malveillants et

de se boucher les oreilles aux paroles injurieuses saisies au passage. Il y avait une certaine boutique de liquoriste que l'abbé redoutait particulièrement, une boutique toute flambante de gaz et lançant une odeur alcoolique par sa porte Ouverte, d'où l'on' pouvait voir une Perspective de tonneaux ornés d'étiquettes : Absinthe, Bitter, Madère, Vermouth, etc. Là, debout devant le " zinc, " se tenait toujours une bande de gaillards à longue blouse et à haute casquette, qui saluaient le pauvre abbé, filant vite sur le trottoir, d'un " croua ! croua !" tout à fait offensant,

Pourtant, ce soir-là, le mauvais temps faisant le désert dans la rue, l'abbé Faber arriva sans encombre à son église. Il mouilla son index au béñnitier, se signa, fit une brève révérence au maître-autel et se dirigea vers Son confessionnal. Du moins, il n'était Pas venu pour rien et un pénitent l'attendait.

Un pénitent mâle! c'était chose rare et exceptionnelle à Saint-Médard ; mais, en distinguant, à la lueur rouge' de la lampe pendue à l'ogive de la chapelle, le court bourgeron blanc et les semelles à gros clous de l'homme agenouiilé, l'abbé Faber Songea que c'était quelque 30

ouvrier ayant gardé sa foi de paysan et de bonnes habitudes de pratique religieuse. Sans doute la confession qu'il allait entendre serait aussi banale que celle de cette cuisinière de la rue Monge qui, après s'être accusée

: $ d'avoir fait danser l'anse du panier," se récriait toujours au seul mot de restitution. Le prêtre souriait même, en se souvenant de la formule sommaire employée par un faubourien qui venait lui demander un billet de confession pour se marier : " Je n'ai ni tué, ni volé. Fouillez dans

10 le reste.” Aussi le vicaire entra-til très tranquillement dans son confessionnal, et, après s'être accordé une copieuse prise de tabac, ouvrit-il sans aucune émouon le petit rideau de serge verte qui fermait le guichet.

— Monsieur le curé . . .—balbutia une voix rude

15 qui s’efforçait de parler bas.

— Je ne suis pas curé, mon ami . .. Dites votre Confiteor et appelez-moi : mon père.

L'homme, dont l'abbé Faber ne pouvait pas voir le visage baigné d'ombre, ânonna lentement la prière qu'il

20 semblait se rappeler avec difficulté, puis il reprit sourdement :

— Monsieur le curé . .. non . .. mon père . .. Enfin, excusez-moi si je ne parle pas comme il faut, mais je ne me suis pas confessé depuis vingt-cinq ans . ..

25 oui, depuis que j'ai quitté le pays . . . Vous savez ce que c’est . . . un homme, à Paris . . . Et puis je n'étais pas plus mauvais qu’un autre” et je me disais: Le bon Dieu doit être un bon enfant . . . Mais aujourd’hui, ce que j'ai sur la conscience est trop lourd à porter :out

30 seul, et il faut que vous m'écoutiez, monsieur le curé.

. . . J'ai tué un homme!

Un Accident 5

L'abbé sauta sur son banc. Un meurtrier! Il ne s'agissait plus” ici des distractions à l'office, des mauvais Propos contre le pro-

chain et autres bavardages de vieilles femmes qu'il écoutait" d'une oreille distraite et qu'il absolvait de confiance. Un meurtrier! Ce front qui était si ç près du sien avait Conçu et porté la pensée d'un crime ; ces mains jointes sur son confessionnal étaient peut-être éncore souillées de sang! Dans son trouble," où il y avait un peu de terreur, l'abbé Faber ne trouva que des paroles machinales : 10

— Confessez-vous, mon fils... [a miséricorde de Dieu est infinie.

— Écoutez donc toute l'histoire — dit l'homme, avec un accent où vibrait une profonde douleur.— Je suis Ouvrier maçon et je suis ve: : à Paris, il y a plus de vingt 15 ans, avec un "pays," un camarade d'enfance . . . Nous avions déniché des nids et appris à lire à l'école ensemble,

+ + . Quasiment un frère, quoi! . . . I] s'appelait Philippe . .. moi, je m'appelle Jacques . . , C'ét:it un grand et beau Barçon ; j'ai toujours été lourd et mal 2o bâti . .. Pas de meilleur ouvrier que lui, tandis que je ne suis qu'un "sabot" , .. et bon, et brave, et le cœur Sur la main ... J'étais fier d'etre son él, de ms cher à côté de lui, fier qu'il me tapât dans le dos en m'appelant grosse bête ... Je laimais Parce que je l'admirais, 25 enfin! Une fois ici, quelle chance ! on nous embauche tous les deux chez je même Patron . . . mais le soir, il me laissait seul, les trois quarts du temps; il allait s'amuser avec les Camarades . . . C'était bien naturel, à son âge . .. il aimait le plaisir, il était libre, il n'avait 30 pas de charges, au lieu que moi, je ne pouvais pas :.,

J'étais forcé d'épargner, car j'avais encore ma mère infirme au pays, à cette époque-là, et je lui envoyais mes économies . . . Pour

lors, je prends mes habitudes chez une fruitière de la maison où je demeurais et qui mettait s le pot-au-feu pour les maçons . .. Philippe ne dinait pas là, il s'était arrangé ailleurs, et, pour dire le vrai, la ‘ cuisine n'était pas fameuse . . . Mais la fruitière était une veuve, point heureuse, à qui je voyais que ma pratique rendait service ; et puis, il faut être franc, j'étais tout de 10 suite tombé #moureux de sa fille . . . Pauvre Catherine! Vous saurez tout à l'heure, monsieur le curé, ce qu'il en est advenu . . . Je suis resté trois ans sans pouvoir lui avouer que j'avais de l'amitié pour elle je vous l'ai dit, je ne suis qu'un médiocre ouvrier, et le peu que je 15 gagnais était à peine suffisant pour moi et pour ce que j'envoyais à la maman; pas moyen" de songer à s'établir. . . . Enfin, ma brave femme de mère s'en alla au ciel, je fus un peu moins gêné, je mis quelque argent de côté, et, quand il me sembla qu'il y en avait" assez pour me 20 mettre en ménage, je parlai à Catherine de mon senti-

ment. , . . Elle ne dit d'abord ni oui ni non. Parbleu!

je savais bien qu'on ne me sauterait pas au cou; je n'avais rien d'un séducteur' . . . Pourtant Catherine consulta sa mère, qui m'estimait comme ouvrier rangé, 25 comme Lon sujet, et le mariage fut convenu . . . Ah! j'ai eu quelques heureuses semaines. Je voyais que Catherine ne faisait que m'accepter, qu'elle n'était pas entraînée vers moi ; mais comme elle avait bon cœur, j'espérais bien me faire aimer d'elle un jour, à force, à 30 force! . . . Bien entendu que j'avais tout raconté à Philippe, que je voyais chaque jour sur le chantier, et,

quand Catherine fut ma promise, je voulus la lui faire connaitre . . . Vous avez peut-être déjà deviné Ja suite, monsieur le curé. .. Philippe était bel homme, très gai, très aimable, tout ce que je n'étais pas, et sans le faire exprès, bien innocemment, il rendit Catherine folle s dei... Abies un franc et honnête cœur que celui de Catherine, et dès qu'elle eut reconnu ce qu'elle éprouvait, elle me le dit tout de suite . .. Mais, là, tout de même, je n'oublierai jamais ce moment-là ! C'était le jour de la fête de Catherine, et, pour la Jui souhaiter, 10 j'avais acheté une Jeannette d'or que j'avais bien arrangée dans une boîte avec du coton .,. Nous étions seuls dans l'arrière-boutique et elle venait de me servir ma soupe. Je tirai ma boîte de ma poche, je l'ouvris et je lui montrai le bijou. Alors elle fondit en larmes. 15

— Pardonnez-moi," Jacques, — me dit-elle, —et gardez cela pour celle que vous épouserez . . Moi, je ne Peux plus devenir votre femme. J'en aime un autre, +++ J'aime Philippe!

Certes, j'ai eu du chagrin alors, monsieur le curé, j'en 20 ai eu tout mon soûl. Mais que Pouvais-je faire, puisque je les aimais tous les deux ? ce que" je croyais être leur bonheur, pardi ! les marier ensemble ; et comme Philippe avait toujours fait un peu la fête et qu'il était près de ses pièces, je lui ai prêté mon magot pour s'acheter des 25 meubles. |

Donc ils se marièrent et tout alla bien dans les premiers temps, et ils eurent un petit garçon, dont je fus le parrain et que je nommai Camille," en souvenir de ma mère, C'est peu après sa naissance que Philippe commenca à 30

se déranger. Je m'étais trompé sur son compte ; il n'était pas fait pour le mariage, il aimait trop le plaisir et la rigolade. Vous

vivez dans un quartier de pauvres gens, monsieur le curé, vous devez connaître par cœur cette 5 triste histoire-là . . . l'ouvrier qui glisse peu à peu dans la paresse et dans l'ivrognerie, qui tire des bordées de deux et trois jours, qui ne rapporte plus sa semaine et

qui ne rentre au logis, tout vanné par la noce, que pour :

faire des scènes et pour battre sa femme. Eh bien, en 10 moins de deux ans, Philippe était devenu un de ces malheureux-là.

Dans les commencements, j'ai essayé de lui faire de la morale, et quelquefois, rougissant de sa conduite, il a tâché de se corriger. Mais ça ne durait pas longtemps 15... et puis mes remontrances ont fini par l'agacer, et lorsque j'allais chez lui et qu'il surprenait mon regard triste sur la chambre démeublée par le Mont-de-Piété" et sur la pauvre Catherine, toute" amaigrie et pâlie par le chagrin, il devenait furieux . . . Un jour, il eut l'audace 20 de me faire, à propos de sa femme, qui est honnête comme la Bonne Vierge," une scène de jalousie, me rap: pelant que j'avais été amoureux d'elle autrefois, m'accusant de l'être encore, —des bêtises et des infamies," quoi! que j'aurais honte de répéter . .. Ah! ce jour-là, nous avons 25 failli nous sauter à la gorge! . .. Je fis ce que je devais faire ; je renonçai à voir Catherine et mon f'leul, et quant à Philippe, je ne le rencontrai plus que par hasard, quand nous avions du travail sur le même chantier.

Seulement, vous comprenez bien, j'avais trop d'añec- 30 tion pour Catherine et pour le petit Camille, je ne pouvais pas les perdre Je vue tout à fait. Le samedi soir, quand

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je savais que Philippe était parti avec des camarades pour boire sa paye, je rôdais dans le quartier," je rencontrais l'enfant, je le faisais causer, et, s'il y avait trop de misère à la maison, il ne revenait pas les mains vides, vous sentez. Je crois que ce misérable Philippe savait s que je v:nais en aide à sa femme, et qu'il fermait les yeux, et qu'il trouvait cela commode . . . Enfin, j'abrège, Car C'est trop affligeant, Des années ont passé, Philippe s'enfonçant toujours dans son vice ; mais Catherine, que j'ai secondée autant que j'ai pu, a élevé son fils, et c'est 10 maintenant un beau gars de vingt ans, bon et courageux comme elle ... Il n'est Pas ouvrier, lui ; il s'est instruit, il a appris à dessiner dans les écoles du soir, et il est maintenant chez un architecte, où il gagne d'assez bons gages. Aussi, quoique l'intérieur soit toujours bien 1 G attristé par la présence de l'ivrogne, ça va déjà mieux," car Camille est excellent pour sa mère ; et, depuis un an Ou deux, quand je rencontrais Catherine—elle est bien changée, la pauvre femme l-—au bras de son garçon habillé en monsieur, cela me réchauffait le cœur.

Mais, hier soir, en sortant de ma gargote, je rencontre Camille, et, en lui donnant une poignée de main,— oh ! il n'est pas fier et il ne rougit pas de ma blouse tachée de plâtre, —je lui trouve l'air tout chose.

— Voyons, qu'est-ce qu'il ya?

— Il y a qu'hier j'ai tiré au sort, —me répond-il, —que j'ai amené le numéro 10, un de ceux qui vous envoient créver de la fièvre

aux colonies avec les soldats de marine ; que, dans tous les cas, m'en voilà pour cinq ans," qu'il va falloir laisser maman seule, sans ressources, 30 avec le père, —et qu'il n'a jamais tant bu, qu'il n'a jamais

été plus méchant, et qu'elle en mourra,

que les pauvres gens sont maudits!

Ah! j'ai passé une horrible nuit ! Songez donc, monefforts de cette pauvre femme

sieur le curé, les vingt ans d' s détruits en une minute,

mon parrain, et

par la bêtise du hasard, parce'

qu'un enfant a fouillé dans un sac et y a pris un mauvais

dé de loto!

Aussi, ce matin, j'étais voûté comme un

vieux par une nuit blanche en me rendant à la maison /, que nous sommes en train de construire sur le boulevard On a beau avoir du chagrin, il faut travailler

10 Arago.

tout de même, n'est-ce haut, sur l'éc jusqu'au quatrième—et

moellons. Tout à coup,

15 C'était Philippe !

que par caprice, et il venait faire une de quei boire, apparemment.

dédit” à payer s'il ne finissait

fixe, acceptait le premier venu.

pas? Donc, je grimpe tout làhafaudage—nous avons déjà monté la maison’ je commence à poser mes je me sens frapper sur l'épaule.

+. + Îl ne travaillait plus maintenant journée pour gagner Mais le patron, ayant un pas la bâtisse à une date

Je n'avais pas vu Philippe depuis assez longtemps et

j'eus peine à le reconnaître. Brûlé et séché par l’eau-devie, la barbe toute grise, les mains tremblantes, ce n’était plus qu’un vieillard, une ruine.

— Eh bien, —lui dis-je, —lenfant a donc tiré un

25 Mauvais numéro ?

— Après ?—me répondit-il d’une voix rauque, avec un

méchant regard.

— Est-ce que tu vas aussi m’embêter

avec Ça, toi, comme Catherine et Camille? . 7

garçon fera comme les autres, il servira la patrie . 39 Parbleu! je sais bien ce qui les chiffonne, ma femme et «.:

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mon fils... Si j'étais mort, il ne partirait pas ... Mais, tant pis Pour eux! je suis encore solide au poste et Camille n'est pas fils de veuve."

Fils de veuve! ... Ah! monsieur Je curé, pourquoi a-t-il eu le malheur de dire ce mot-à? La mauvaise $ pensée m'est venue tout de suite, et elle ne m'a pas quitté pendant toute cette matinée où j'ai travaillé côte à côte avec ce malheureux. J'ai imaginé ce qu'allait souffrir la pauvre Catherine, quand elle n'aurait plus son 8arçon pour la nourrir et la Protéger et qu'elle resterait 10 toute seule avec ce misérable ivrogne, tout à fait abruti maintenant, devenu féroce, capable de tout . . . Onze heures sonnèrent à une horloge voisine, et les compa- &nons descendirent* tous Pour déjeuner. Nous étions restés les derniers, Philippe et moi ; Mais en s'engageant 15 Sur l'échelle pour descendre à son tour, ne voilà-til pas" qu'il me regarde en ricanant et qu'il me dit, avec sa voix éraillée par le fil-en-quatre' :

— Tu vois, on a toujours le pied marin . . . Camille n'est pas près" d'être fils de veuve, va | 20 Alors je reçus au Cérveau comme un coup de sang et

de colère! Je saisis dans mes deux mains les montants de l'échelle à laquelle Philippe s'accrochait en criant : "A moi!" et, d'un seul effort, je le fis basculer dans le der, 25

Il a été tué raide et l'on a cru à un accident, mais, maintenant, Camille est fils de veuve et il ne partira PE.

Voilà ce que j'ai fait, monsieur le curé, et ce que j'avais besoin de dire à vous et au bon Dieu! Je m'en 30 Tépens et jen demande pardon, c'est clair . . . mais il

ne me faudrait pas voir passer Catherine. dans sa robe noire, toute heureuse au bras de son fils; je serais capable de ne plus regretter mon crime . . . Pour éviter ça, j'émigrerai, je m'embaucherai pour l'Amérique. 5 Quant à la pénitence . . . tenez, monsieur le curé, voici la jeannette d'or que.Catherine m'a refusée" quand elle m'a avoué qu'elle était amoureuse de Philippe ; je l'avais toujours gardée, en souvenir des seuls bons jours que j'aie eus dans ma vie . . . Prenez-la et vendez-la . . . 10 l'argent sera pour les pauvres.

Jacques se releva-t-il absous par l'abbé Faber? Ce qui est certain, c'est que le vieux prêtre n'a pas vendu la jeannette d'or. Après en avoir versé le prix ou à peu près" dans le tronc de l'église, il a suspendu le bijou,

15 Comme un ex-vofo, sur l'autel de la chapelle de la Vierge où il va souvent prier pour le pauvre maçon. |

LA MÉDAILLE

L'ORAGE matinal" a crevé depuis cinq minutes et la pluie chaude" fait de grosses bulles dans le ruisseau. Aussi la rue de Sèvres" est-elle devenue tout à coup déserte, et là-bas, le long du Square du Bon-Marché,* les petits

chevaux de la place de fiacres, immobiles et luisants 5

sous l'ondée, ressemblent aux animaux vernis d'une boîte de joujoux.

Mais l’omnibus” qui va de la Chaussée du Maine’ à Ja gare du Nord' vient de tourner l'angle de la rue de l'Abbé-Grégoire' ; les deux poitevins" gris-pommelés ont encore donné un bon Coup de collier en trottant dans les flaques d’eau ; €t, pareils à un peloton de légionnaires romains" s’abritant de leurs boucliers," les voyageurs, sortis du bureau d'attente, marchent à l'assaut” de la lourde voiture sous les parapluies criblés par l’averse,

— En avant, les “ Nord'”1 s'écrie le conducteur, Sans se douter de” l’audace de son ellipse, — Trois places à l'intérieur seulement . . . Le D. in.

trois . . . Personne ne répond . . . Le quatre . . , le cinq ...

— Voilà . .. quatre et Cinq, —dit une voix douce qui sort de la grande cornette blanche d’une sœur de Saint-Vincent de Paul.”

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T4 Contes Choisis

— Pas de correspondance ?

Et, après avoir fermé leurs énormes riflards de cotonnade bleue, — on n’en voit plus de semblables que dans les congrégations et dans les marchés de campagne, —

5 les deux Sœurs de charité montent dans l’omnibus.

— Encore une place, reprend le conducteur. — Allons! le six.

C'est encore une femme qr' carte’ la foule et présente son numéro—une femme du peuple, en bonnet de linge,

10 vieille à vingt-cinq ans, abritant de son mieux' sous un entout-cas troué le petit garçon aux yeux creux et à l'ai: malingre qu'elle porte sur son bras et qui se retient à son cou.

— Dites donc, la maman, — dit alors le contrôleur,

15 ruisselant sous son paletot de caoutchouc, — il a passé l'âge, ce "gosse-là ". . . il devrait payer sa place.

— Comment, monsieur ! — riposte la femme, tâchant d'avoir de l'aplomb. — Trois ans et demi ...

— Et les mois de nourricr, n'est-ce pas?. . . Enfin,

20 il fait un trop sale temps . . . Montez tout de même.

La pauvre femme, un peu honteuse, s'installe à la seule place libre, près de la porte de la voiture, en face des deux religieuses, avec son petit garçon debout entre ses jambes, et—ding ! ding! ding !—l'omnibus complet"

25 se remet en branle," avec un bruit assourdissant de ferrailles secouées et de vitres tremblantes.

Assises à côté l'une de l'autre et toutes pareilles par_ le costume, les deux Sœurs de charité ne se ressemblent guère.

30 La plus vieille, une commère d'une cinquantaine

d'années, a le solide embonpoint et les bonnes couleurs

d'une fermière. Après avoir remis au conducteur six gros sous" enveloppés dans un morceau de papier — c'est tout l'argent que les Pauvres filles ont sur elles, et la supéricure le leur a donné

tout à l'heure, en les chargeant d'une commission pour l'hôpital Lariboisière" — Ja grosse 5 * Sœur, avec un geste campagnard, a planté son grand panier sur ses genoux et croisé ses mains sur l'anse. C'est une servante du bon Dieu, — anci/la Domini, — mais une servante pour les vulgaires besognes, pour les gros ouvrages. 10

Sa compagne, au contraire, est encore bien jeune — vingt-trois ou vingt-quatre ans Peut-être — et toute sa Personne se recommande Par Ces nuances de délicatesse et d'aristocratie qui ne se Peuvent rendre que' par un mot: la race. Seul, le peintre des âmes, Philippe de Champaigne," aurait été capable de reproduire ce visage pâle où s'ouvrent de grands yeux couleur de noisette, visage émacié déjà, avec deux ombres légères sous les pommettes ; et elles" sont dignes d'une archiduchesse, : les mains transparentes aux doigts fuselés que la jeune 20 Sœur de Saint-Vincent de Paul appuie sur le bec de Corne de son vieux parapluie,

Cependant la femme du peuple — oh! Jes bonnes gens, 'les grands enfants, pleins de Confiance et d'abandon, qu'on excite, qu'on affole Par des flatteries ignobles et 25 imbéciles, mais que je connais, allez"! et qui sont pleins de cœur !—]a femme du peuple, la Pauvre mère, à tout de suite lié Conversation avec le conducteur, un petit sec à barbiche grise d'ancien" chasse: - je Vincennes, ayant Sur sa veste Je ruban déteint de la médaille de 30

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Crimée, et qui, tout en recevant les trente centimes de la voyageuse, a trouvé un sourire et un mot cordial pour le gamin à l'air maladif. —— — C'est vrai, — dit-elle, — qu'il a été bien malade, le

LA s pauvre loup, et, telle que vous me voyez, je viens de le retirer de l'Enfant-Jésus, où il est resté six semaines . . . Il a encore sa petite figure de papier mâché . . . Pourtant le vieux décoré, le médecin, qui vous parle comme à des chiens, mais qui a l'air bon enfant quand même, me 10 l'a encore répété tout à l'heure: "Six mois d'huile de foie de morue," qu'il" m'a dit, "et ce sera fini..." Pas vrai, Popol?... 11 s'appelle Léopold . . . Et tu ne feras pas la grimace, hein? et tu l'avaleras, ton huile de foie de morue?.. . Tu sais, tu l'as promis à maman. 15 Puis, changéant de ton brusquement et d'un air de malice sympathique :

— Vous avez des enfants, pas ? — demande-t-elle au

"# Lorpre vp ali 2457 a Étg he on 2 nécutt: 26 andre M

conducteur.

— Oui . . . trois, —répond l'ancien militaire. — Mais 20 des grands . . . Trois filles . . . Mon aînée est mariée depuis un an, et la cadette vient d'entrer en apprentissage.

— Alors, vous savez ce que c'est . . . Quand la santé du petit a commencé à nous donner de l'inquiétude, ça | 25 tombait mal . . . au mois de juillet, en pleine morte-saison.

... Mon mari est relieur, faut vous dire," il fait des car- " tonnages, des "bradels". . . Il travaille en chambre, il a une clientèle bourgeoïse . . . Mais voilà, pendant l'été, tout ce monde-là file, s'en va à la campagne, aux bains

30 de mer, est-ce que je sais'? Ça lui a pris, à mon pauvre

| pitit, la veille de la fête dr 14° . . . C'était à la suite"

d’un chaud et froid ; plaignait d’étouffer

ique..,

endemain — ah ! i]

ne s'agissait plus d’illuminer ! — Je médecin est venu,

il a fait la moue, et il a mis à ce Pauvre enfant un vésicatoire dans le dos, grand comme la main... Une 10

Dlurésie | Comprenez-vous Ça? Ason get... n’y

a pas de honte à la ênés, dans le

moment . ,.

notre chérubin . . .

Vinaigriers” et la Chambre à coucher donne sur + + + Alors le doctew: à dit :

ésus ; je vous do ierai un

de mes amis”, . ” Ah) Ça : été dur ! 20

Nous l'avons porté là dans un fiacre, même que” j'avais mis une paire de draps au Mont-de-Piété Pour payer la Course . . . Mais à Ja Porte de l’hôpital mon homrue a embrassé le

: Vas-y" 25 LA. Le » = 4 toute seule . .. J'ai pas” le Courage.” Je suis entrée ; les

mères, c’est fort ÿ Mais quand l’interne m'a pris Léopold des mains, j'ai cru qu'on m'arrachait Je cœur ! Alors je suis allée retrouver son père dehors, qui fumait en m'attendant. Quand il ma

vue revenir seule, avec 30 Ma couverture sous le bras, il a jeté sa Pipe sur le

serre

Rte Un

ETIENNE | FIRRNELEREMRINN ENT EPS LEE:

trottoir, où elle s'est cassée en vingt morceaux ; puis nous sommes revenus à pied en marchant à côté l'un de l'autre, sans nous rien dire . . . Ah! ces six semaines que Léopold a passées à l'hôpital, je ne les oublierai s jamais! C'était l'été, n'est-ce pas? il faisait beau . .. Eh bien! pendant toùt ce temps-là, il m'a semblé qu'il n'y avait plus de soleil! . . . Oui, je pouvais le voir le dimanche et le jeudi, et, malgré la consigne, je lui apportais des douceurs, des bêtises . . . comme ça, 10 cachées sous mon châle . . . et on me disait quil allait mieux, qu'il guérirait sûrement . . . Mais, une fois dans la rue" pour m'en retourner, va te promener, je pleurais comme une fontaine . Et il fallait les ravaler, ces larmes-là, et ne pas revenir à la maison avec les yeux 15 rouges, à cause de mon homme qui ne pouvait pas m'accompagner, car il avait retrouvé de l'ouvrage . . . Il souffrait autant que moi de l'absence du petit, voyezvous bien," tout en faisant" le brave . . . et, une fois que je revenais du marché, j'ai surpris mon pauvre mari qui 20 sanglotait devant un vieux mouton de carton à Léopold, qu'il avait posé sur son établi! . . . Enfin, c'est fini, c'est bien fini, toute cette misère ! —s'écrie la femme en mangeant son fils de baisers. — Et tu vas le revoir, ton papa ; ilest en train de nous préparer à déjeuner. Et 25 tu vas te bien porter, mon loup, et tu vas devenir gros et fort! . . . Il a déjà de bonnes petites joues . . . Et tu voudras bien de' ton huile de foie de morue, pour faire plai-

sir à ta mère . . . N'est-ce pas, mon roi? Pendant que la pauvre femme parle, dans l'abondance 30 de son cœur, le conducteur de l'omnibus— c'est un père

La Médaille 19

de famille —et la vieille Sœur de Saint-Vincent de Paul — C'est une bonne femme— J'éc

Outent avec un sourire EnCOUrageant. Mais à quoi son

sont unis pour le bonheur et s'aiment, et qui ont à eux un Petit enfant : elle songe qu'autrefois — oh ! Îl y a très longtemps, bien avant 10

Elle songe au passé, elle se souvient . . -

Elle s'appelait alors" Annette de Cardaillan* ; elle sortait du Sacré-Cœur," et, dans l'hôiel du duc, son père, la haute croisée de sa chambre de jeune fille s'ouvrait Sur le grand jardin. C'était au Printemps, et elle voyait l'intérieur d'un Marronnier fleuri, tout vibrant de chants d'oiseaux. Alors, son oncle l'archevêque avait parlé à ses parents de ce mariage . .. Lord Cavendale,* Ja plus + «+ . Et elle entend Je triste urka" hongroise que jouait

amant noir donnaient l'aspect royalement fatal d'un Valois*!. Douglas ! il se nommait Douglas! .. .- Et, pendant Six mois, elle 30

avait bien souvent Prononcé ce nom à demi-voix, pour

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elle seule, avec un sourire de tendresse . . . Zlle n'aimait pas, cependant, chez lui, — tout à coup, — ce regard trop hardi, ce mauvais rire . . . Puis, un jour,

brusquement, son père était parti avec elle pour un de

s ses châteaux, au fond de l'Auvergne." Elle avait enfin osé demander des nouvelles de son fiancé, et le vieux duc, pourpre de colère, lui avait seulement ordonné de ne plus prononcer ce nom devant lui . . . Elle avait obéi, avec douleur, sans comprendre, jusqu'au jour où ioun journal, tombé par grand hasard sous ses yeux, lui avait appris l'effroyable scandale, cette querelle dans un restaurant de nuit, ce duel pour une fille de théâtre, cet homme froidement tué par lord Cavendale d'un coup de spadassin, toute cette honte étalée en cour d'assises ! 15. . . Et les dates! les terribles dates! . . . Puis c'était sa longue maladie, et le nom de Douglas répété dans le délire, et l'étoile trouble de la veilleuse au fond des ténèbres de l'insomnie ; puis ses navrantes promenades de convalescente, en automne, devant le panorama des 20 montagnes," sur la terrasse du château que les platanes sTzur jonchaient de leurs grandes feuilles jaunes, et où elle se sentait si triste en suivant des yeux la fuite des nuages, chassés par le vent du nord-ouest, qui se déchiraient aux cimes . . . Enfin, elle prenait sa grande résolution, et, 25 malgré la douleur de son père, malgré les conseils de son oncle, Monseigneur de Cardaillan, accouru en hâte de son diocèse, elle prenait l'habit des Filles de la

Charité . . . Et, depuis six ans, elle pansait des plaies qui lui paraissaient moins incurables que celle de son 30 cœur, elle veillait des agonisants qu'elle enviait presque de partir" avant elle! ... Et voilà qu'elle se rappelait

La Médaille

tout à coup que, si morte au monde qu'elle" se crût, elle avait pourtant conservé, et portait encore à son cou, la petite médaille bénie* par le Pape que lord Cavendale lui

avait rapportée d'un court voyage en Italie O faible cœur !

En ce moment," sa compagne lui touche le bras légèrement, la croyant endormie.

— Réveïllez-vous, ma Sœur . . . nous voilà tout à 'heure au boulevard Magenta."

Mlle Annette de Cardaillan, en religion sœur Sainte- Ursule," ouvre les Jeux et revoit tout d'abord devant elle cette femme avec son petit garçon sur les genoux, cause involontaire de sa rêverie. Vivement, elle porte la main à son cou, introduit avec quelque peine deux de ses

de là une petite médaille d'or, retenue Par un mince cordonnet que la religieuse brise d'un Coup sec; puis, mettant l'objet, encore moite de l2 chaleur de son sein, dans la main de la femme du peuple :

— Faites - moi le Plaisir, madame, — Jui dit-elle, — d'accepter ce souvenir et de le suspendre au cou de votre cher petit malade . . . C'est une médaille qui a

3 été bénie à Rome, il ya six ans, par notre Saint-Père le Pape.

Et, se dérobant aux remerciements embarrassés de = E ss . * .

la mère, la Sœur de charité suit sa grosse camarade, qui

est déjà descendue de lomnibus et qui trotte bravement dans la boue,

Le conducteur — il à un numéro de l'réransigeant" dans la poche de sa veste—aurait bien envie de lâcher 30

doigts sous le calicot empesé de sa guimpe et retire 15 Ÿ

quelque incongruité; mais c'est un ancien caporal de chasseurs à pied, qui a eu la moitié d'une oreille coupée par une balle russe à Balaclava, et qui respecte les dames. D'ailleurs, la pauvre mère regarde la médaille $ bénite d'un air sérieux et ému. " Français et militaire," comme dit la chanson," le conducteur se contente donc de sourire dans sa moustache grise, par égard pour le beau sexe.

NOUVELLE

PEU importe le nom de la petite ville de province où le 4 Capitaine Mercadier—trente-six ans de services, vingt- FE deux campagnes, trois blessures, —se retira quand il fut 51 mis à la retraite,

Elle était pareille à toutes les petites villes qui sollicitent, sans l'obtenir, un embranchement de chemin .de fer, comme si ce n'était pas l'unique distraction des indigènes d'aller tous les jours, à la même heure, sur la place de la Fontaine, voir arriver au grand galop la diligence, avec son bruit joyeux de claquements

de fouet 10 et de grelots. Elle comptait trois mille habitants, que la statistique" appelait ambitieusement des âmes, et tirait vanité de son titre de chef-lieu de canton." Elle possédait des remparts plantés d'arbres, une jolie rivière pour pêcher à la ligne, et une église de la charmante époque 15 du gothique" flamboyant," déshonorée par un affreux Chemin de Croix' venu tout droit du quartier Saint- Sulpice." Tous les lundis, elle s'émaillait des grands

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parapluies bleus ct rouges de son marché, et les gens de la campagne y venaient en charrettes et en berlingots'; mais, le reste de la semaine, elle se replongeait avec délices" dans le silence et dans la solitude qui la rendaient s chère à sa population de petits bourgeois Ses rues étaient pavées en têtes de chat; on y apercevait, par les fenêtres des rez-de-chaussée, des tableaux en cheveux et des bouquets de mariée sous un verre, et, par les demiportes des jardins, des statuettes de Napoléon en coquil- 10 lages. La principale auberge s'appelait naturellement L'Écu de France, et le receveur de l'enregistrement rimait des acrostiches pour les dames de la société. Le capitaine Mercadier avait choisi cette résidence de retraite par la raison frivole qu'il y avait autrefois vu le 15 jour, et que, dans sa tapageuse enfance, il y avait décroché les enseignes et maçonné les boutons de sonnettes. Pourtant, il ne venait retrouver là ni parents, ni amis, ni connaissances, et les souvenirs de son jeune âge ne lui retraçaient que des visages indignés de marchands 20 qui lui montraient le poing du seuil de leur boutique, un catéchisme où on le menaçait de l'enfer, une école où on lui prédisait l'échafaud, et, enfin, son dé-

part pour le régiment, hâté par une malédiction paternelle. Car ce n'était pas un saint homme que' le capitaine. 25 Son ancienne feuille de punitions était noire de jours de salle de police infligés pour actes d'indiscipline, absences aux appels et tapages nocturnes dans les chambrées. Bien des fois on avait dû lui arracher ses galons de caporal et de sergent, et il lui avait fallu tout le hasard 30 et toute la licence de la vie de campagne pour gagner enfin sa première épaulette. Dur et brave soldat, il

avait passé presque toute sa vie en Algérie, s'étant engagé dans le temps où nos fantassins portaient le haut képi .,,/ 5/4, droit, les buffleteries blanches et la grosse giberne. 1] avait eu Lamoricière" Pour commandant ; le duc de Nemours," près duquel il avait reçu sa première blessure, 5 l'avait décoré; et quand il était sergent-major, le père Bugeaud' l'appelait par son nom et lui tirait les oreilles. Il avait été prisonnier d"Abd-el-Kader,* portait les traces l'un coup de Yatagan sur la nuque, d'une balle dans l'épaule et d'une autre dans la cuisse ; et, malgré l'absinthe, les duels, les dettes de jeu, il avait péniblement conquis, à la pointe de la baïonnette* et du sabre, Son grade de capitaine au 1° régiment de tirailleurs.

Le capitaine Mercadier—trente-six ans de services, vingt-deux campagnes, trois blessures, — venait donc d'obtenir sa pension de retraite, pas tout à fait deux mille francs qui, joints aux deux cent cinquante francs" de sa croix," le mettaient dans cet état de misère honorable que l'État réserve à ses anciens serviteurs.

Son entrée dans sa ville natale fut exempte de faste." Il arriva, un matin, sur limpériale de la diligence, mâchonnant un cigare

éteint et déjà lié avec le conducteur à qui, pendant le trajet, il avait raconté le passage des Portes de Fer'; plein d'indulgence du reste pour les distractions de son auditeur, qui l'interrompait souvent par un blasphème ou par l'épithète de carcan adressée à la jument de droite. Quand la voiture s'arrêta, il lança Sur le trottoir sa vieille valise, maculée d'étiquettes de chemins de fer aussi nombreuses que les changements de garnison de son Propriétaire ; et les oisifs" d'alentour 3 furent absolument Stüpéfaits de voir un homme décoré—

chose encore rare en province—offrir le vin blanc au cocher sur le comptoir du prochain cabaret.

Il s'installa sommairement. Dans une maison de faubourg, où mugissaient deux vaches captives et où les s poules et les canards passaient et repassaient sous la porte charretière, une chambre meublée était à louer. Précédé d'une maritorne, le capitaine gravit un escalier à grosse rampe de bois, parfumé d'une forte odeur d'étable, et pénètra dans une vaste pièce carrelée que 10 tapissait" un papier bizarre, représentant, imprimée en bleu sur fond blanc et répétée à l'infini, l'image de Joseph Poniatowski' à cheval, sautant dans l'Elster.' Cette décoration monotone, mais qui rappelait nos gloires militaires, séduisit sans doute le capitaine, car, sans 15 s'inquiéter du peu de confortable" des chaises de paille, des meubles de noyer et du petit lit aux rideaux jaunis, il conclut sans hésitation. Un quart d'heure lui suffit pour vider sa malle, pendre ses habits, reléguer dans un coin ses bottes, et orner la muraille d'un trophée composé 20 de trois pipes, d'un sabre et d'une paire de pistolets. Après une visite à l'épicier d'en face, chez lequel il acheta une livre de bougies et une bouteille de rhum," il revint, " déposa son emplette sur la cheminée, et pro-

mena autour de lui le regard d'un homme très satisfait. Puis, avec la 25 promptitude des camps, il.se rasa sans miroir, brossa sa redingote, inclina son chapeau sur l'oreille, et s'alla promener" par la ville, en quête d'un café.

Les Vices du Capitaine

IT

LE séjour de l'estaminet était une habitude invétérée chez le capitaine. 11 y satisfaisait à la fois les trois vices égaux dans son cœur : le tabac, l'absinthe* et les cartes. Sa vie tout entière s'y était écoulée, et il aurait pu dresser de toutes les villes où il avait garnisonné un plan par s Cantines, marchands de tabac à comptoir, cafés et cercles militaires. Il ne se sentait vraiment à son aise qu'une fois assis sur le velours ras d'une banquette, devant un carré de drap vert près duquel s'amoncellent les chopes" et les soucoupes. Son cigare ne lui semblait bon que s'il avait frotté l'allumette sous le marbre de la table, et jamais il n'avait manqué, après avoir attaché son sabre et son képi à la patère et s'être installé en lâchant quelques

boutons de sa tunique, de pousser un profond soupir de soulagement et de s'écrier : 15

"Ça va mieux ! "

Son premier soin fut donc de rechercher l'établissement qu'il fréquenterait, et, après avoir fait un tour de ville sans rien trouver à sa convenance, il arrêta enfin son regard de connaisseur sur le café Prosper, situé 20 à l'angle de la place du Marché et de la rue de la Paroisse.

Ce n'était pas son idéal. L'extérieur offrait bien quelques détails par trop" provinciaux: ce garçon en tablier noir, par exemple, et ces petits ifs dans leurs

caisses vertes, et ces tabourets, et ces tables de bois recouvertes de toile cirée.

Mais l'intérieur plut au capitaine, Il fut :

joui, dès son entrée, par le bruit du

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timbre que toucha la grasse et fraiche dame du comptoir, en robe claire, avec un ruban ponceau dans ses chaveux bien pommadés. 11 salua galamment cette personne et jugea qu'elle occupait, avec une suffisante majesté, sa 5 place triomphale entre les deux édifices" de bols à punch,' congrûment couronnés par des billes de billard." Il constata que la salle était gaie, propre, également semée de sable jaune ; il en fit le tour, se regarda passer dans les glaces, apprécia les panneaux, où des mousquetaires 10 ct des amazones sablaient le champagne dans des paysages pleins de roses trémières," se fit servir," fuma, trouva le divan moelleux et l'absinthe savoureuse, et fut assez indulgent pour ne

pas se plaindre des mouches qui se baignaient dans les consommations avec une familiarité 15 toute campagnarde.

Huit jours après, il était devenu un pilier du café Prosper. On y connut bien vite ses habitudes ponctuelles, on prévint ses désirs, et il ne tarda point" à prendre ses repas 20 avec les patrons du lieu. Recrue précieuse pour les habitués, gens terrassés par le terrible ennui de la province et pour qui l'arrivée de ce nouveau venu,' passé maître à tous les jeux et racontant assez gaiement" ses guerres et ses amours, était une véritable bonne fortune ; le capitaine 25 fut lui-même enchanté de rencontrer des humains" encore ignorants de son répertoire. Il en avait donc pour six mois à dire ses razzias," ses chasses, ses batailles, la retraite de Constantine," la capture de Bou-Maza," et les réceptions d'officiers avec leur total effrayant de punchs 30 au kirsch.

Faiblesse humaine ! il n'était pas fâché d'être un peu

Les Vices du Capitaine 29

oracle quelque part, lui dont les petits sous-lieutenants, arrivant de Saint-Cyr, fuyaient naguère les trop longues histoires,

Ses auditeurs ordinaires étaient le maître du café, gros sac à bière silencieux et stupide, toujours en manches de $ veste et remarquable seulement par ses pipes à sujets ; l'huissier-priseur, Personnage goguenard et vêtu de noir, méprisé pour son habitude peu élégante d'emporter le reste de son sucre; le receveur de l'enregistrement, — celui des acrostiches, —être très doux et d'une constitution 10 faible, qui envoyait aux journaux illustrés la solution des mots carrés' et des rébus" ; et enfin le vétérinaire du canton, le seul qui, en sa qualité d'athée et de démocrate, se permit' quelquefois de contredire le capitaine. Ce praticien, homme

à favoris touffus et à pince-nez, présidait rs le comité radical aux époques d'élections, et, lorsque le curé faisait une petite collecte parmi ses dévotes pour orner son église de quelque horrible statue en plâtre doré et enluminé, dénonçait p2r une lettre au Siècle" la cupidité des fils de Loyola." 20

Le capitaine étant un soir sorti Pour aller chercher des cigares, après une discussion politique assez vive, le susdit vétérinaire grommela quelques phrases sourdes et irritées où il était question de "dire son fait," de "traîneur de sabre," et de "couper la figure." Mais, l'objet de 25 ces menaces vagues étant rentré soudain," en sifflant une marche et en faisant le moulinet avec Sa canne, l'incident n'eut pas de suites,

En somme, le groupe vivait en bonne intelligence et se laissait volontiers présider par le nouvel habitué, dont 30 la tête martiale et la barbiche blanche étaient vraiment

assez imposantes ; et la petite ville, qui était déjà fière de bien des choses, pouvait l'être aussi de son capitaine en retraite.

Le bonheur parfait n'existe pas, et le capitaine Mercadier, 5 qui croyait l'avoir rencontré au café Prosper, dut bientôt revenir de cette illusion.

Le fait est que le lundi, jour de marché, l'estaminet n'était pas tenable.

Dès l'aube, il était envahi par les maraichers, les

10 fermiers, le. -narchands de cochons, les marchands de volailles ; gens à 'grosse voix, à gros cous rouges, à gros fouet à la main, portant la blouse neuve et la casquette de loutre, concluant

leurs affaires autour d'un litre, tapant du pied, frappant du poing, tutoyant le garçon

15 et crevant le billard. :

Quand le capitaine arrivait à onze heures pour absorber" sa première absinthe, il trouvait tout ce monde déjà gris et commandant des déjeuners considérables. Sa place ordinaire était prise ; on le servait lentement et mal. Le

20 timbre du comptoir ne cessait de retentir ; le patron et le garçon, la serviette sous le bras, couraient, affolés. Bref, c'était un jour néfaste et qui bouleversait son existence.

Or, un lundi matin qu'il était resté chez lui, sûr d'avance que le café serait trop bruyant et trop encombré,

25 un doux rayon de soleil d'automne l'engagea à descendre s'asseoir sur le banc de pierre placé à côté de la porte de la maison. Il était là, assez mélancolique et fumant un

cigare humide, quand il vit venir du bout de la rue— c'était une ruelle mal pavée et aboutissant à Ja campagne — une demi-douzaine d'oies, que chassait devant elle avec une gaule une petite fille de huit ou dix ans.

Le capitaine, en arrêtant SOn regard distrait sur cette 5 enfant, s'aperçut qu'elle avait une jambe de bois.

Il n'y avait rien de paternel dans le cœur de ce

* soudard. C'était celui d'un célibataire endurci. Lorsque

jadis, dan: les rues d'Alger," les petits mendiants arabes” le poursuivaient de leurs prières importunes, le Capitaine 10 les avait souvent chassés d’un coup de cravache ; et les rares fois qu’il avait pénétré dans le ménage nomade d’un Camarade marié et père de famille, il était parti en

maugréant contre les bambins criards et malpropres qui : +1:

avaient touché avec leurs mains grasses aux dorures de 15 son uniforme.

Mais la vue de cette infirmité particulière, qui lui rappelait le douloureux Spectacle des blessures et des amputations, émut Cependant le vieux soldat. I] éprouva Presque un serrement de cœur devant cette chétive 20 créature, à peine vêtue d’un jupon en loques et d’une mauvaise chemise, et qui courait bravement derrière ses oies, son pied nu’ dans la poussière, en boïitant sur son pilon mal équarri.

Les volailles, reconnaissant leur domicile, entrèrent 25 dans la cour de la laiterie, et la petite se disposait à les suivre quand le Capitaine l’arrêta par cette question :

“Eh! fillette, comment t'appelles-tu ?

— Pierrette, monsieur, pour vous servir, répondit-elle en fixant sur lui ses grands yeux noirs, et en écartant de 30 son front sa chevelure en désordre.

— Tu es donc de la maison ? Je ne t'avais pas encore vue.

— Oui-da, et je vous connais bien, allez‘! Car je couche sous l'escalier, et vous me réveillez, en entrant, s tous les soirs.

— Vraiment, petiote? Eh bien! on marchera sur ses pointes, à l'avenir. Et quel âge as-tu ?

— Neuf ans, monsieur, vienne" la Toussaint." — La patronne d'ici est-elle ta parente ?

10 — Non, monsieur, je suis en service.

— On te donne? ...

— La soupe et le lit sous l'escalier.

— Et qu'est-ce qui t'a arrangée comme cela, ma pauvre petite ?

15 — Un coup de pied de vache, quand j'avais cinq ans. — Âs-tu ton père et ta mère P

L'enfant rougit sous son hâle. La.

brève." 20 Puis, ayant gauchement salué, elle rentra dans la

maison en claudicant ; et le capitaine entendit s'éloigner, ::-

sur le pavé de la cour, le bruit sec de la petite jambe de bois.

'Nom de nom! songea:t-il en reprenant machinale- 25 ment le chemin du café, voilà qui" n'est pas réglementaire. Un soldat," du moins," on le flanque aux Invalides," avec l'argent de sa médaille pour s'acheter du tabac. Un officier, on lui colle une perception, et il se marie dans sa province. Mais, à cette gamine, une pareille infirmité ! 30 Voilà qui n'est pas réglementaire." Ayant constaté en ces termes l'injustice de la destinée,

Les Vices du Capitaine

le capitaine vint jusqu'au seuil de ÿ aperçut une telle cohue de blous un tel brouhaha de gros rires rentra chez lui, plein

d’humeur.

Sa chambre—c’était

Son cher café; mais il es bleues, il y entendit et de Carambolages, qu'il : PE me

tous les meubles.

Il contempla quelque temps les murailles où le sublime lancier” de Leïpsick trouvait cent fois un glorieux trépas” ; puis, pour se désennuyer, il pas Ce fut une lamentable série chaussettes à jour, de chemises sans bouton.

“Il me faudrait une servante !” se dit-il.

Puis il songea à la petite boiteuse.

“Voilà. Je louerais Je cabinet voisin. et la petite doit geler sous l'escalier.

mes vêtements, mon linge, Un brosseur, quoi !”

Mais un nuage assombrit ce tableau confortable, Le Capitaine se souvena

it que l'échéance de son trimestre était encore lointaine

> Et Que sa note prenait des proportions inquiétantes au café Prosper.

«— - h “. + ras assez ric € ! rêvai

L'hiver vient, Elle surveillerait nettoierait le Casernement. 20

t-il en monologuant. Et Cépendant on me vole là-bas, c’est positif. La pension

est beaucoup trop coûteuse ; et ce barbu de vétérinaire -_ joue comme feu" Bésigue* Voilà huit jours que je paie “ Sa Consommation. Qui sait? je ferais Peut-être mieux 30 de charger la petite de l’ordinaire, La soupe au café le D

fatel lt matin, le pot-au-feu à midi et un rata tous les soirs. Les 2.

vivres de campagne, enfin. (Ça me connaît." ” Décidément, il était tenté. En sortant, il vit justement la maîtresse de la maison, grosse paysanne brutale, s et la petite invalide, qui, toutes deux,’ la fourche à la main,” remuaient le fumier dans la cour.

“Sait-elle coudre, savonner, faire la soupe? demandat-il brusquement.

— Qui? Pierrette? Pourquoi donc?

10 — Sait-elle un peu de tout cela?

— Dame! elle sort de l’hosnice, où l’on apprend à se servir soi-même.

— Dis-moi, fillette, ajouta le capitaine en s’adressant à l'enfant, je ne te fais pas peur! Non, n'est-ce pas? 15 Et vous, la mère, voulez-vous me la céder? J'ai besoin d’une domestique.

— Si vous vous chargez de son entretien.

— Alors c’est dit.” Voilà vingt francs. Qu’elle ait,” ce soir, une robe et un soulier ! Demain nous arrangerons 20 le reste.” = Et, après avoir donné une petite tape ainicale sur la joue de Pierrette, le capitaine s’éloigna, enchanté de ce qu’il venait de conclure.

cutsit “Ilfaudra peut-être rogner quelques bocks et quelques 25 absinthes, pensait-il, et se méfier du bésigue du vétérinaire. Mais il n’y a pas à dire, ce sera bien plus réglementaire.”

“ Capitaine, vous êtes un lâcheur.” dune

Telle fut l’apostrophe dont les cariatides” du café |: Prosper saluèrent désormais les entrées du capitaine, de 30 jour en jour plus rares.

Les Vices du Capitaine 35

1ñ AT

Car le pauvre homme n

Conséquences de sa bonne action.

l'absi

dépenses imprévues $ core

de son ménage de garçon !

petite fille voulait la Prouver par son zèle. Déjà la chambre avait changé d'aspect. Les meubles étaient

‘4 rangés et astiqués, le foyer décent, le carreau verni, et #{, les araignées ne filaient plus leurs toiles sur les Morts de Poniatowski" placées dans les coins. Quand le Capitaine revenait, la soupe aux choux l'invitait Par son parfum dès” l'escalier, et ja vue des plats fumants sur la nappe, grossière mais blanche, auprès d’une assiette à fleurs et d’un couvert reluisant, achevait de le mettre en appétit. 15 Pierrette profitait alors de la bonne humeur de son maître pour avouer quelque secrète ambition. I] fallait des chenets pour la cheminée, où elle fais

4 du feu, un moule pour les

bien. Et le Capitaine,

Certes, la lutte fut longue ; elle fut cruelle.

fois, vers l'heure d'un a

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LÆ di

NRA à RE ROUE | VER LR ALAN D CURE — La sm 7j: E EN

presque toujours, il rentrait courageusement chez lui; et comme il aimait davantage Pierrette à chaque sacrifice qu'il lui faisait, il l'embrassait mieux ces jours-là. Car il l'embrassait. Ce n'était plus sa servante. Une fois s qu'elle se tenait debout près de la table, l'appelant : Monsieur ! et toute respectueuse, il n'y put tenir," il lui prit les deux mains et il lui dit avec fureur :

" Embrasse-moi d'abord, et puis assieds-toi et faismoi le plaisir de me tutoyer, mille tonnerres" ! "

to Aujourd'hui c'est fini. La rencontre d'un enfant a sauvé cet homme d'une vieillesse ignominieuse. Il a substitué à ses vieux vices une jeune passion ; il adore ce petit être infirme qui sautille autour de lui, dans la chambre comniode et bien meublée.

15 Déjà il a appris à lire à Pierrette, et voici que, se rappelant sa calligraphie de sergent-major, il lui trace des exemples d'écriture. Sa plus grande joie, c'est lorsque l'enfant, attentive devant son papier et faisant parfois un pâté qu'elle enlève vivement avec sa langue, est parvenue

20 à copier toutes les lettres d'un interminable adverbe en ment Son inquiétude, c'est de songer qu'il devient vieux et qu'il n'a rien à laisser à son adoptée.

Aussi voilà qu'il est presque avare ; il thésaurise ; il hot veut se sevrer de tabac, bien que Pierrette lui bourre sa

25 pipe et la lui allume. Il compte épargner sur son faible revenu de quoi acheter plus tard un petit fonds de mercerie. C'est là que, lorsqu'il sera mort, elle vivra obscure et paisible, gardant accrochée quelque part, dans l'arrière-boutique, une vieille croix d'honneur qui la fera

30 se souvenir du capitaine.

Tous les jours, il va se promener avec elle sur le

Les Vices du Capitaine 37

rempart. Quel à la ville, qui j

ae later MP datant tr tu:

SA LME eva its:

PasSsants murmure en s'éloignant :

"Pauvre père ! sa fille est Pourtant jolie ! "

LE REMPLAÇANT

IL avait dix ans à peine quand on l'arrêta, une première

fois, pour vagabondage.

Il dit aux juges ceci :

‘ Je m'appelle Jean-François Leturc, et voilà six mois sque je suis auprès de l’homme qui chante, entre deux lanternes, sur la place de la Bastille, en frottant une corde à boyau.” Je dis le refrain en même temps que lui, et ensuite c’est moi qui crie: “ rm ee de chansons nouvelles, dix centimes, deux sous” !” Il 10 était toujours en ribote et me battait; voilà pourquoi les agents m'ont trouvé, l’autre nuit, dans les démolitions. Avant, j'étais avec celui qui vend du poil à gratter. Ma mère était blanchisseuse, elle se nommait Adèle. Autrefois un monsieur l’avait établie dans un rez-de-chaussée, i5à Montmartre. C'était une bonne ouvrière et qui m'aimait bien. Elle gagnait de l’argent parce qu’elle avait la clientèle des garçons de café, et que ces gens-là ont besoin de beaucoup de linge. Le dimanche, elle me couchait de bonne heure, pour aller au bal; mais, 20 en semaine, elle m’envoyait chez les Frères” où j'ai appris à lire. Enfin, voilà.” Le sergent de ville qui battait son quart dans notre rue s’arrêtait toujours devant la fenêtre

pour lui parler. Un bel homme, avec la médaille de Crimée.” Ils se sont mariés, et tou: a marché de travers, Il m'avait pris en grippe et excitait maman contre moi, Tout le monde me flanquait des calottes,” et c’est alors que, pour fuir la maison, j'ai passé des journées entières s sur la place Clichy," où jai connu les saltimbanques. Mon beau-père perdit sa place, maman ses pratiques ; elle alla au lavoir Pour nourrir son homme. C'est là qu’elle est devenue poitrinaire, rapport à‘ la buée. Elle est morte à Lariboisière.* C'était une bonne femme, 10 Depuis ce temps-là,

j'ai vécu avec le marchand de poil à gratter et le racleur de corde à boyau."— Est-ce qu'on va me mettre en prison ? ”

Il parla ainsi carrément, Cyniquement, comme un

homme. C'était un petit galopin déguenillé, haut comme 15 /

une botte,” le front caché Sous une étrange tignasse jaune.

Personne ne le réclamant, on le mit aux Jeunes Détenus.* Peu intelligent, Paresseux, surtout maladroit : de ses mains, il ne put apprendre là qu'un mauvais métier, rempailleur 20 de chaises.” Pourtant il était obéissant, d'un naturel passif et taciturne, et ne semblait pas trop profondément Corrompu dans cette école de vice. Mais lorsque, arrivé à sa dix- septième année,” il fut relancé sur Je pavé” parisien, il y retrouva, pour son malheur, ses camarades 25 de prison, tous affreux drôles exerçant les professions de la boue. C'étaient des éleveurs de dogues pour la chasse aux rats dans les égouts” ; des cireurs de souliers, les nuits de bal, dans le Passage de l'Opéra'; des lutteurs amateurs se laissant volontairement omber par les 30 hercules" de foire ; des pêcheurs à la ligne, en plein

Li à | EM IT ARTE La aide dé a dt Be ve.

soleil, sur les trains de bois. Il fit un peu d= tout cela, et, quelques mois après sa sortie de la maison de correction, il fut de nouveau arrêté pour un petit vol : une paire de vieux souliers enlevée à un étalage. Ré-

s Sultat: un an de prison à Sainte-Pélagie, où il servit de brosseur aux détenus politiques.

Il vécut, étonné, dans ce groupe de prisonniers, tous très jeunes et négligemment vêtus, qui parlaient à voix haute et portaient la tête d'une façon si solennelle. Ils

10 se réunissaient dans la cellule du plus âgé d'entre eux, garçon d'une trentaine d'années, incarcéré depuis longtemps déjà et comme installé à Sainte-Pélagie: une grande cellule, tapissée de caricatures coloriées, et par la fenêtre de laquelle on voyait tout Paris, ses toits, ses

15 clochers et ses dômes, et, là-bas, la ligne lointaine des coteaux, bleue et vague sur le ciel. Il y avait aux murailles quelques planches chargées de volumes et

tout un vieil attirail de salle d'armes: masques crevés, :, Les vb fleurets rouillés, plastrons et gants perdant leur étoupe.

"20 C'est là que les po/ifigues dinaient ensemble, ajoutant à

1 77 limmuable "soupe et le bœuf" des fruits, du fromage,

et des litres de vin que Jean-François allait acheter à la cantine : repas tumultueux, interrompus de violentes disputes, où l'on chantait en chœur au dessert la 25 Carmagnok et le Ça ira! On prenait cependant un air de dignité les jours où l'on faisait place à un nouveau venu, traité d'abord gravement de citoyen," mais dès le lendemain tutoyé et appelé par son petit nom. Il se disait là de grands mots: Corporation, Solidarité, et 30 des phrases tout à fait inintelligibles pour Jean-François, telles que celle-ci, par exemple, qu'il entendit une fois

'4: fit tant d'honneur à son chétif individu, il avait un dossier een

:< le condamné Leturc.

Le Remplaçant 41

proférer impérieusement Par un affreux petit bossu qui noircissait du papier toutes les nuits :

“C'est dit. Le cabinet est ainsi composé : Raymond à l'instruction publique, Martial à l'intérieur, et moi aux affaires étrangères.”

Son temps fait, il erra de nouveau à travers Paris, surveillé de loin par la police, à la façon de ces hannetons que les enfants cruels font voler au bout d'un fil 11 devenait un de ces êtres fuyants et craintifs que la loi, avec une sorte de Coquetter'e, arrête et relâche tour à ro tour, un peu comme ces pêcheurs platoniques qui, pour | ne pas dépeupler leur vivier, rejettent bien vite à l’eau #1 le poisson sortant à peine du filet. Sans se douter qu’on

un DU TUNER rar latente

A PSE

ait tits euireu Da toner

spécial dans les mystérieux cartons de la rue de Jérusalem, 15 #: ses nom et prénoms étaient écrits en belle bâtarde sur : | le papier gris de la couverture, et les notes et rapports, soigneusement classés, lui donnaient ces appellations graduées : le nommé Leturc, l’inculpé Leturc, ét enfin

Il resta deux ans hors de prison, dinant à la Californie,” couchant dans les garnis à la nuit et quelquefois dans les fours à chaux, et prenant Part, avec ses semblables,

à d'interminables parties de bouchon sur les boulevards, près des barrières." I] portait la casquette grasse en 25 arrière, les pantoufles de tapisserie et la courte blouse blanche. Quand il avait cinq sous, il se faisait friser.

Il dansait chez Constant," à Montparnasse," achetait deux SOUS, pour le revendre quatre, à la porte de Bobino, le valet de cœur ou l'as de trèfle servant de Contremarque, 30. Ouvrait à l'occasion une portière de voiture, entrainait

6410 | FMPRDA TT abat dès be sb HR dau Es

des rosses au marché aux chevaux." Tous les malheurs !

il tira au sort et amena un bon numéro.

Qui sait si

l'atmosphère d'honneur qu'on respire au régiment, si la discipline militaire, ne l'auraient pas sauvé? Repris, s dans un coup de filet, avec de jeunes rôdeurs qui dévalisaient les ivrognes endormis sur les trottoirs, il se défendit très énergiquement d'avoir pris part à leurs

expéditions.

C'était peut-être vrai. Mais ses anté-

cédents lui tinrent lieu de preuve, et il fut envoyé pour 10 trois ans à Poissy. Là, il fabriqua de grossiers jouets d'enfant, se fit tatouer les pectoraux et apprit l'argot et le Code pénal. Nouvelle libération, nouveau plongeon dans le cloaque parisien, mais bien court, cette fois, car au bout de six semaines tout au plus il fut de nouveau 15 compromis dans un vol nocturne, aggravé d'escalade et d'effraction, affaire ténébreuse où il avait joué un rôle obscur,

moitié dupe et moitié receleur. En somme, sa complicité parut évidente, et il fut condamné à cinq

années de travaux forcés.

Son chagrin, dans cette

20 aventure, fut surtout d'être séparé d'un vieux chien qu'il avait ramassé sur un tas d'ordures et guéri de la gale. >:

Cette bête l'avait aimé.

Toulon," le boulet au pied," le travail dans le port, les coups de bâton, les sabots sans paille, la soupe aux 25 gourganes datant de Trafalgar, pas d'argent pour le tabac, et l'horrible sommeil du lit de camp grouillant 5° de forçats, voilà ce qu'il connut pendant cinq étés torrides et cinq hivers souffletés par le mistral. Il sortit de là ahuri, fut envoyé en surveillance à Vernon, où il 30 travailla quelque temps sur la rivière ; puis, vagabond

incorrigible, il rompit son ban et revint encore à Paris.

Le Remplaçant 43

Il avait sa masse, Cinquante-six francs, c'est-à-dire le temps de la réflexion. Pendant sa longue absence, ses anciens et horribles ca es s'étaient dispersés. I] était bien caché et couctan dans une soupente, chez une vieille femme à qui il s'était donné comme uns marin las de la mer, ayant perdu ses papiers dans un récent naufrage, et qui voulait essayer d'un autre état. Sa face hâlée, ses mains Calleuses et quelq -s termes -4de bord qu'il lâchait de temps à autre, r daient ce TOMan assez vraisemblable.

Un jour qu'il s'était risqué à flâner par les rues, et que le hasard de la marche l'avait conduit jusque dans ce Montmartre" où

il était né, un souvenir inattendu l'arrêta devant la porte de l'école des Frères dans laquelle il avait appris à lire. Comme il faisait très chaud, cette 15 porte était ouverte, et, d'un seul regard, le farouche Passant put reconnaître la Paisible salle d'étude. Rien n'était changé: ni la lumière crue tombant par le grand châssis, ni le crucifix au-dessus de la chaire, ni les gradins réguliers avec les planchettes garnies d'encriers de plomb, 20 ni le tableau des poids et mesures, ni la carte géographique Sur laquelle étaient même encore piquées les épingles indiquant les Opérations d'une ancienne guerre. Distrait, et sans réfléchir, Jean - François lut, sur la planche noircie, cette parole de l'Évangile qu'une main savante 25 y avait tracée comme exemple d'écriture : "I] y a plus de joie au ciel Pour un pécheur qui se repent que pour cent justes qui persévèrent.*" C'était sans doute l'heure de la récréation, car le F rère professeur avait quitté sa cathèdre, et, assis sur Je bord d'une table, il semblait 30 Conter une histoire à Lous les gamins qui l'entouraient,

attentifs et levant les yeux. Quelle physionomie in-

nocente et gaie que celle' de ce jeune homme imberbe, .«:4/

en longue robe noire, en rabat blanc, en gros vilains souliers, et dont les cheveux bruns mal coupés se re-

s troussaient par derrière! Toutes ces figures pâlottes

d'enfants du peuple qui le regardaient paraissaient moins enfantines que la sienne, surtout lorsque, charmé d'une candide plaisanterie de prêtre qu'il venait de faire, il partait d'un bon et franc éclat de rire qui montrait ses

10 dents saines et bien rangées, et si communicatif que

tous les écoliers éclataient bruyamment à leur tour. Et c'était simple et doux, ce groupe dans ce rayon joyeux qui faisait étinceler les yeux clairs et les boucles blondes.

Jean-François le considéra quelque temps en silence,

15 et, pour la première fois, dans cette nature sauvage, toute

d'instinct et d'appétit, s'éveilla une mystérieuse et douce

émotion. Son cœur, ce rude cœur cuirassé, que la trique rer] * aws4du chiourme ou la lourde poigne de l'argousin tombant?!

sur l'épaule ne faisait plus tressaillir, battit re

20 l'oppression. Devant ce spectacle, où il revoyait son

enfance, ses paupières se fermèrent douloureusement, et, contenant un geste violent, en proie à la torture du regret, il s'éloigna à grands pas. Les mots écrits sur le tableau noir lui revinrent alors à la pensée.

25 "S'il n'était pas trop tard, après tout? murmurat-il.

Si je pouvais encore, comme les autres, mordre honnêtement dans mon pain bis, dormir mon somme sans

cauchemar? Bien malin le mouchard qui me recon-/*'

naîtrait! Ma barbe, que je rasais là-bas, a repoussé

1} 30 maintenant drue et forte. On peut se terrer dans la

grande fourmilière, et la besogne n'y manque pas.

Le k -

Le Remplaçant 45

Quiconque ne crève point tout de suite dans l'enfer du bagne en sort agile et robuste, et j'y ai appris à monter aux cordages avec des charges sur le dos. On bâtit partout ici, ct les maçons ont besoin d'aides. Trois francs Par jour, je n’en ai jamais tant gagné. 5 Qu'on m'oublie, c’est tout ce que je demande.”

Il suivit sa Courageuse résolution, il y fut fidèle, et, trois mois après, c'était un autre homme. Le maître Pour lequel il travaillait Je citait comme so

COMmpagnon. Après Ja longue journée passée sur 10 l'échelle,

repasser à l’homme placé au-d rentrait manger la soupe à la gargote, éreinté, les jambes lourdes, les mains brûlantes et les cils collés par le plâtre, mais content de lui et portant son argent bien gagné dans le nœud de son mouchoir. Il sortait maintenant sans rien craindre, car son masque blanc le rendait méconnaissable, et puis il avait observé que le 20 regard méfiant du policier s’arrête peu sur le vrai travailleur. Il était silencieux et sobre. Il dormait le bon sommeil de la bonne fatigue. I] était libre. Enfin, récompense suprême ! il eut un ami.

C'était un garçon maçon comme lui, nommé Savinien, 25 un petit paysan limousin," aux joues rouges, venu à Paris le bâton sur l'épaule, avec le Paquet au bout, qui fuyait le marchand de vin et allait à la messe’ Je dimanche, Jean-François l’"aima Pour sa santé, pour sa candeur, Pour son honnêteté, pour tout ce q perdu, et depuis si longtemps. C

ue lui-même avait 30 € fut une passion

profonde, contenue, qui se traduisait par des soins et des prévenances de père. Savinien, lui, nature mobile et égoiste, se laissait faire, satisfait seulement d'avoir trouvé un camarade qui partageait son horreur du s cabaret. Les deux amis logeaient ensemble dans un garni assez propre, mais leurs ressources étant très bornées, ils avaient dû admettre dans leur chambre un troisième compagnon, vieil Auvergnat" sombre et rapace, qui trouvait encore moyen d'économiser, sur son maigre 10 salaire, de quoi acheter du bien' dans son pays. Jean-François et Savinien ne se quittaient presque pas. Les jours de repos, ils allaient faire ensembie de longues promenades aux environs de Paris et diner sous la tonnelle, dans:une de ces guinguettes où il y a beau- 15 coup de champignons dans les sauces et d'innocents rébus au fond des assiettes. Jean-François se faisait alors conter par son ami tout ce qu'ignorent ceux qui sont nés dans les villes. Il apprenait le nom des arbres, des fleurs et des plantes, l'époque des différentes récoltes ; 20 il écoutait avidement les mille détails du grand labeur bucolique : les semailles d'automne, le labourage d'hiver, vus | les fêtes splendides de la moisson et de la vendange, et les fléaux battant le sol, et le bruit des moulins au bord de l'eau, et les chevaux las menés à l'abreuvoir, et les 25 chasses matinales dans le brouillard, et surtout les | longues veillées autour du feu de sarment, abrégées parwn: * les histoires merveilleuses. Il découvrait en lui-même une source d'imagination jusqu'alors inconnue, trouvant une volupté singulière au seul récit de ces choses douces, 30 calmes et monotones.

Une crainte le troublait pourtant, celle que Savinien

ne vint" à connaître son passé. Parfois il lui échappait

un mot ténébreux d’ar ot, un geste ignoble, vestiges de at Te 8 8 8

son horrible existence d'autrefois, et il éprouvait la douleur d’un homme de qui les anciennes blessures se Touvren:, d'autant plus qu’il croyait voir alors, chez Savinien, s’éveiller une curiosité malsaine. Quand le jeune homme, déjà tenté par les plaisirs que Paris offre aux plus pauvres, l'interrogeait sur les mystères de Ja grande ville, Jean - François feignait l'ignorance et détournait l'entretien ÿ Mais il concevait alors sur 10 l'avenir de son ami une vague inquiétude.

Elle n’était point sans fondement, et Savinien ne devait pas rester longtemps le naïf Campagnard qu'il était lors de son arrivée à Paris. Si les joies grossières et bruyantes du cabaret lui répugnaient toujours, il 15 était profondément troublé par d’autres désirs pleins de dangers pour l’inexpérience de ses vingt ans. Quand vint le printemps, il Commença à chercher la solitude et erra d’abord devant l'entrée illuminée des bals de barrières,” qu’il” voyait franchir par les couples de fillettes 20 en cheveux, se tenant par la taille et se parlant tout bas. Puis, un soir que les lilas embaumaient et que l'appel des quadrilles était plus entraînant, il franchit le seuil, et, dès lors, Jean-François le vit changer peu à peu de mœurs et de physionomie. Savinien devint plus 25 coquet, plus dépensier ; souvent il empruntait à son ami sa misérable épargne, qu’il oubliait de lui rendre. Jean-François, se sentant abandonné, à la fois indulgent et jaloux, souffrait et se taisait, Il ne se croyait pas je droit" d'adresser des reproches; mais son amitié pénétrante 30 avait de cruels, d'insurmontables Pressentiments,

s rs pue tobts

PT dE a 8 LS

Dune CE en je ist

Un soir qu'il gravissait l'escalier de son garni, absorbé dans ses préoccupations, il entendit, dans la chambre Li où il allait entrer, un dialogue de voix irritées parmi

lesquelles il reconinut celle du vieil Auvergnat qui logeait $ avec lui et Savinien. Une ancienne habitude de méfiance le fit s'arrêter sur le palier, et il écouta pour connaître la cause de ce trouble.

" Oui, disait l'Auvergnat avec colère, je suis sûr qu'on a ouvert ma malle et qu'on y a volé les trois louis" que 10 j'avais cachés dans une petite boîte ; et celui qui a fait le coup ne peut être qu'un des deux compagnons qui couchent ici, à moins que' ce ne soit Maria, la servante. La chose vous regarde autant que moi, puisque vous êtes le maître de la maison, et c'est vous que je traînerai 15 en justice si vous ne me laissez pas tout de suite chambarder les valises des deux maçons. Mon pauvre /...4. magot ! il était encore hier à sa place, et je vais vous dire comment il est fait, pour que, si nous le retrouvons, on ne m'accuse pas encore d'avoir menti. Oh! je les 20 connais, mes trois belles pièces d'or, et je les vois comme je vous vois. Il y en a une plus usée que les autres, d'un or un peu vert, et c'est le portrait du grand Empereur ; l'autre, c'est celui d'un gros vieux' qui a une queue et des épaulettes ; et la troisième, où il ya 25 dessus un Philippe" en favoris, je l'ai marquée avec mes dents. C'est qu'on ne me triche pas, moi." Savez-vous qu'il ne m'en fallait plus que deux autres comme ça pour payer ma vigne? Allons! fouiilez avec moi dans

les nippes des camarades, ou je vais appeler la garde, 30 fouchtra !

— Soit ! répondit la voix du patron de l'hôtel, nous

theme dr arr tess ter fes tttètt sas serres on

Le Remplaçant

allons chercher avec Maria. Tant pis si vous ne trouvez rien et si les maçons se fâchent. C'est vous qui m'aurez forcé."

Jean-François avait l'âme remplie d'épouvante, Il

Cependant il ne voulait Pas croire à un vol. I] entendait l'Auvergnat haleter, dans l'ardeur de sa recherche, et il serrait ses Poings fermés contre sa poitrine, Pour comprimer les battements de son cœur.

"Les voilà! hurl

comme

a tout à coup l'avare victorieux.

Les voilà! mes louis, mon cher trésor! Et dans le gilet des dimanches de ce petit hypocrite de Limousin, Voyez, patron! ils sont bien comme je vous ai dit. Voilà le Napoléon, et l'homme à la queue, et le Philippe 15 que jai mordu. Regardez l'encoche.

gueux ! avec son air de Sainte-nitouche.

soupçonné l'autre. Ah! Je scélérat ! fau au bagne."

Ah! le petit dra qu'il aille

En ce moment, Jean-François entendit le pas bien 20 Connu de Savinien qui montait lentement l'escalier.

“IT va se trahir, pensatil Trois étages." J'ai le temps.”

Et, poussant la porte, il entra, pâle comn.e un mort, dans la chambre, où il vit l’hôtelier et la bonne stupé- 25 faite, dans un coin, et l’Auvergnat à genoux parmi les hardes en désordre, qui baisait amoureusement ses pièces d’or.

“En voilà assez, fit-il d’une voix sourde. C'est moi qui ai pris l'argent et qui l'ai mis dans la malle’ du z Camarade. Mais cest Trop dégoûtant.

Je suis un

J'aurais plutôt :4::44 once 0

voleur et non pas un Judas. Allez chercher la police, Je ne me sauverai pas. Seulement, il faut que je dise un mot en particulier à Savinien, que voilà.”

Le petit Limousin” venait en effet d'arriver, et, voyant

5 son crime découvert, se croyant perdu, il restait là, les yeux fixes, les bras ballants.

Jean-François lui sauta violemment au cou, comme pour l’embrasser; il colla sa bouche à l'oreille de Savinien, et lui dit d’une voix basse et suppliante :

10 “Taistoi!”

Puis, se tournant vers les autres :

“ Laissez-moi seul avec lui. Je ne m'en irai pas, vous dis-je. Enfermez-nous, si vous voulez, mais laissez-nous seuls.”

15 Et, d’un geste qui commandait, il leur montra la porte. Ils sortirent.

Savinien, brisé par l’angoisse, s'était assis sur un lit et baissait les yeux sans comprendre.

«“ Écoute, dit Jean-François, qui vint lui prendre les

20 mains. Je devine. Tu as volé les trois pièces d’or pour acheter quelque chiffon à une fille. Cela t’aurait valu six mois de prison. Mais on ne sort de là que pour y rentrer, et tu serais devenu un pilier de correctionnelles,” et de cours d'assises. Je m'y entends. J'ai

25 fait sept ans aux Jeunes Détenus, un an à Sainte-Pélagie, trois ans à Poissy, cinq ans à Toulon. Maintenant, n’aie pas peur. Tout est arrangé. J'ai mis l'affaire sur mon dos.

— Malheureux ! s’écria Savinien ; mais l'espérance

30 renaissait déjà dans ce lâche cœur.

— Quand le frère aîné est sous les drapeaux, le

Lee

Le Remplaçant st

cadet ne part pas, reprit Jean-François. Je suis ton remplaçant, voilà tout. Tu m'aimes un peu, n'est-ce pas? Je suis Payé. Pas d'enfantillage. Ne refuse Pas. On m'aurait bouclé un de ces jours ; car je suis en rupture de ban. Et Puis, vois-tu, cette vie-là, ce s sera moins dur pour moi que pour toi; ça me connaît,”

Pour rien et si tu me jures que tu ne le feras plus. Savinien, je t'ai bien aimé, et ton amitié m'a rendu bien heureux, car c'est grâce à elle que; tant que je t'ai connu, 10 je suis resté honnête et pur, et tel que j'aurais toujours été, peut-être, si j'avais eu comme toi un père pour me mettre un outil dans la main, une mère Pour m'apprendre mes prières. Mon seul regret, C'était de t'être inutile et de te tromper sur mon compte." Aujourd'hui, je me 15 démasque en te sauvant. Tout est bien. Allons, adieu ! ne pleurniche pas, et embrasse-moi, car j'entends déjà les grosses bottes" sur l'escalier. Ils reviennent avec la rousse, et il ne faut Pas que nous ayons l'air de nous Connaître si bien devant ces gens-là." 20

Il serra brusquement Savinien contre sa poitrine ; puis il le repoussa loin de lui, lorsque la Porte se rouvrit toute grande.

C'était l'hôtelier et l'Auvergnat qui amenaient les sergents de ville. Jean-F rançois s'élança sur le palier, 25 tendit ses mains aux menottes et s'écria en riant: En Toute, mauvaise troupe ! "

Aujourd'hui il est à Cayenne," condamné à perpétuité, comme récidiviste,

ai cat se

LE PARRAIN

UN homme ennuyé, — j'adoucis l'expression, — ce fut iremwweraun l'ancien quincaillier, M. Matoussaint, le soir où, après lui avoir servi le dessert, sa servante Caroline, les yeux pudiquement baissés et pliant le bas de son tablier comme

s pour y faire un ourlet, annonça au célibataire qu’elle

allait se marier avec le petit serrurier en boutique de’ la

rue du Pas-de-la-Mule.” Rien n'est désagréable comme un changement de domestique, surtout pour un horme à habitudes, pour ioun vieux garçon de cinquante-cinq ans. Retiré de la quincaillerie avec quinze mille livres de rente, M. Matoussaint était satisfait de la façon dont il avait arrangé sa vie—depuis dix-huit ans, Aéjà |—dans son petit logement, si gai et si clair, du boulevard Beaumarchais." 15 Caroline était entrée chez lui le jour même de son installation et l'avait toujours servi avec zèle et fidélité. De plus, fine cuisinière —M. Matoussaint était ua peu sur sa bouche'—et ne craignant personne dans l'art de confectionner le soufflé au fromage. Enfin, une 2erk! so — Eh bien, ma fille, vous faites une bêtise, —s’écria brutalement M. Matoussaint en jetant sa serviette.—Je le connais de vue, votre serrurier . . . Un homme pius

jeune que vous . .

battra ,

ont oublié

mademoiselle veut devenir

établie .

Pourtant,

bonne de se fond, bien qu’un peu la robe de noce et s

Dix mois

Pour savoir s’il pieuvrait, dont il était enchanté, e

et à propos d'un coup doute «1 Revillcd, l'emballeur de la rue Amel il faut être juste, —l'ancien quincailli déclara à son adversaire, famille, doux comme un oui, lui, Matoussaint, qua il avait eu une querelle, dragons, et qu'on s qu'il ne fallait pas lu

Le Parrain

leur clef?

petit café d'habitués où il

M. Matoussaint ne pouvait

*.. Maiss bourgeoise, faire la femme - . Si vous étiez restée ici, Caroline, je vous aurais couchée sur mon testament :

regarde, ma pauvre enfant — vous faites une bêtise.

Et, ce soir-là, au pipe au râtelier, M.

crante,

. . Enfin, ça vous + Mais, je vous le répète,

avait sa

Matoussaint fut d'une humeur massaux au billard, —M.

ot" avait " queuté," ér entra en fureur et 15 —un homme marié et père de agneau, —que dans sa jeunesse, nd il voyageait pour son article,

à Sens," avec un sous-officier de 'était rafraîchi d'un cofip de sabre, et 29 i échauffer les oreilles, ah ! mais! .. .

pas empêcher sa

marier, et, comme il était bonhomme au

après,

égoïste, le vieux garçon ! il paya e fendit" même de trois couverts 25

un matin que M. Matoussaint, en robe de chambre, était en train de tapoter son baromètre Euphrasie, sa nouvelle bonne, ntre parenthèses (ma foi!

s'il 30

avait su qu'il pourrait si facilement remplacer Caroline, il ne se serait pas fait tant de mauvais sang), Euphrasie donc entra et lui dit que son ancienne cuisinière était là avec son nouveau-né sur les bras, et demandait à lui s parler.

M. Matoussaint était de bonne humeur—le baromètre avait monté—et il accueillit gaiement Caroline. — Le voilà donc, ce bébé! . .. J'espère que' vous n'avez pas perdu de temps.

10 Caroline a mis sa robe des dimanches, sa belle robe bleue. Il y a de quoi gagner une ophtalmie à regarder ce bleu-là. Avec le geste délicat et prudent des mères

cachent son enfant, et, toute fière, le montre à M. 15 Matoussaint.

— Il s'appelle Vincent, —dit-elle.—N'est-ce pas qu'il est beau ?

Vincent est affreux, rouge comme cuivre ; sa bouche édentée se ferme dans une moue de vieillard et son 20 bonnet lui descend jusque sur les yeux. A peine sa mère a-t-elle exposé son visage à la lumière, que ses paupières dépourvues de cils s'entr'ouvrent ;

et le noui veau-né fixe sur le vieux garçon le regard vaguement ; sévère de ses yeux faïence.” 25 — Monsieur, —reprend Caroline, —si vous vouliez bien nous faire un grand honneur, à Constant et à moi ... Constant, c’est mon mari . . . eh bien, ce serait . .. ce serait d’être le parrain de notre petit garçon. Franchement, M. Matoussaint s'attendait un peu à 30 cette requête ; il s'était même dit d'avance : “ Je ne peux pas refuser cela . . . Ce sera l'affaire” d’une centaine de

et des nourrices, elle écarte le voile et la capeline qui ;-

Le Parrain ss

francs.” Mais, pour le moment, il ne pense pas au baptême; il considère, avec un étonnement mêlé d’épouvante, le nouveau-né qui vient de faire une grimace horrible et de baver sur sa collerette, et il se demande comment on peut aimer un monstre pareil. $

— Très volontiers, Caroline. Et quel jour, la cérémonie” ?

— Dimanche prochain, monsieur, à une heure, entre messe et vêpres," à Saint-Paul.

— Et ma commère’ ?

— C'est la mère de mon mari . . . Dame, faudra

l’:xcuser, monsieur . . . Vous savez , . . une femme de la campagne.’

M. Matoussaint a bien fait les choses.” Ila repassé son Credo et l'a récité fort convenablement, tandis que 15 le prêtre versait l’eau baptismale sur la tête de Vincent, ronde et chauve comme une pomme d'escalier. Ensuite il a offert une belle boîte bleue au

curé, donné son bras à la maman en bonnet de paysanne, jeté tout pêle-mêle des dragées, des sous et des haricots' aux gamins groupés 20 au seuil de l'église, qui le saluaient du cri traditionnel : "A la crasse! à la crasse!" Puis il a ramené les gens du baptême manger un morceau chez lui.

C'est un "lunch"; il y a des gâteaux, des sandwichs, une bouteille de vin de Champagne. Le serrurier Je 25 boit à petites gorgées, en clignant de l'œil d'un air de connaisseur ; mais, au fond, il se demande si l'ancien Patron de sa femme le croit malade, pour lui donner de la tisane. Quant à la vieille Maman, Ayant pris dans sa main, avec respect, sa serviette à thé, elle l'examine z

curieusement, comme un objet singulier et d'un usage inconnu dans le monde civilisé,

Mais M. Matoussaint regarde son filleul, que Caroline tient sur ses genoux, tout démailloté, et qui lève en l'air

s ses petites jambes arquées, en frottant ses pieds avec fu force. C'est étrange! M. Matoussaint ne le trouve pas si laid que l'autre foiss Comme c'est mignon tout de même, ce corps si tendre, si frais des petits enfants! Et voilà qu'il songe, à présent, qu'il a dû être comme cela,

10 lui aussi, et qu'il a eu une mère, une bonne mère, qui. devait le tenir ainsi sur ses genoux et lui embrasser les cuisses à pleine bouche, avec un râle de plaisir, comme fait Caroline à son bébé. Et lorsque la toilette de l'enfant est finie et que la femme du serrurier le remet

15 sur ses bras, le vieux célibataire présente son gros doigt au tout petit, qui le saisit dans sa menotte, et il ébauche un sourire

attendri dans sa barbe grise.

Ce soir-là, à son café, l'ancien quincaillier fit preuve d'une patience inaccoutumée ; et l'emballeur de la rue

20 Amelot eut beau faire une série de raccrocs et annoncer, 1h, 4

E : d'une voix ironique: "Seize à quinze' . . . Dix-sept à

IE: quinze . . . Dix-huit à quinze . . " M. Matoussaint

le regarda caramboler, tranquillement, la pipe aux lèvres,

en mettant du blanc à son procédé.

25 — Comment va mon filleul ?—demande M. Matoussaint, en entrant dans la forge, quand il passe rue du Pas-de-la-Mule," et il y passe exprès, depuis bien longtemps.

Mais, un jour, le serrurier laisse tomber sur l'enclume

30 son marteau et sa barre de fer rougie, il s'essuie la main

Le Parrain 5?

après" sa cotte pour la tendre au bourgeois et répond à sa demande habituelle :

— Mais, pas trop bien, malheureusement, monsieur Matoussaint . , . Eh! Zidore, laisse là le soufflet et monte là-haut dire à ma femme qu'elle descende.

— Qu'est-ce qu'il a? qu'est-ce qu'il a ? — interroge vivement le quincaillier.

— Est-ce qu'on sait jamais, avec ces mioches? .., Il tousse, il use , , . et puis, il est trop rouge, je n'aime pas x |]; €, nOnsieur Matoussaint, vous 10 êtes bien he::eux de ne pas vous être marié et de n'avoir pas d'enta. * LOST un rtouin de tous les diables. ++. Enfin, ie réecin dit 'ncore revenir cette aprèsmidi.

Mais voiià Carine, toute dépeignée, en camisole, qui revient avec V6. (Juels yeux battus! Elle a passé la nuit, biea sur.

— Eh bien, commsnt va.t-il ?—demande le père.

— Pas plus mal, où te le répète depuis ce matin, — répond la pauvre femme d'un ton douloureux et im- 20 patienté.

— Je vais monter le voir. Menez-moi,—dit M.

Matoussaint dont la voix s'inquiète,

Mais Caroline entraîne son ancien maître dans la cour.

— Vous ne pouvez pas le voir, monsieur, —s'écrie-t-elle 25 en éclatant en sanglots.—Le médecin l'a défendu .

Il a peur que ce soit" le Croup . . . Je n'ai pas encore osé le dire à son père ; il le saura toujours trop tôt, je Pauvre homme . . . Ah! mon bon monsieur, mon bon maître! Quelle nuit! quelle auit! .., Un si bel 30 enfant! .,, Si fort déjà, à deux ans...

Et elle parle, elle parle, elle parle, répétant toujours les mêmes choses, comme une folle ; et le vieux garçon, qui lui a pris les mains, sent tomber snr les siennes les larmes de la pauvre mère, lourdes 21 chaudes comme les

s premières gouttes d'une pluie d'orage.

— Dites-moi, Revillod,—dit ce soir-là M. Matoussaint à son adversaire au billard, qui vient d'exécuter un quatrebandes magnifique, —est-ce qu'un de vos enfants a jamais eu le croup?

10 —- Oui, ma petite Louise . . . Nous avons eu assez de peine à la sauver.

Et, poussant un soupir d'espoir à la pensée que les enfants ne meurent pas toujours de l'horrible mal, M. Matoussaint rate un coup tout fait, un "coup d'épicier," où il n'y avait qu'à suivre.

15 Ilest guéri! il est guéri!

M. Matoussaint les a invités tous les trois à déjeuner, —le père, la mère et l'enfant,—pour célébrer cette grande joie. Les huîtres sont sur la table, et le bonhomme vient de placer avec précaution entre ses jambes, pour la

20 déboucher, une vieille bouteille de chablis.

— Euphrasie, on sonne . . . Ce sont eux...

Allez ouvrir.

Mais le serrurier endimanché entre seul, portant son garçon encore un peu pâlot.

25 — Comment, Caroline ne vient pas ?

— Excusez-la, monsieur Matoussaint. Elle est au lit à son tour, la pauvre femme . . . Mais ce n'est rien . . . Un peu de fatigue, voilà tout, après la maladie du petit.

Il faut le dire," le vieux garçon se console tout de suite

de l'absence de la mère. Il a son filleul, son petit Vincent, cela lui suffit. Il n'aime plus que cet enfant au monde, ce qui est encore une façon d'être égoïste.

— Mets-oi là, mon chéri l--s'écriet-il en installant le bébé sur une chaise haute, qu'il est allé acheter la veille ç (oui, en personne), à la Ménagère

Et comme le petit homme empoigne sa cuiller et frappe bruyamment sur son assiette :

— Bébé! bébé !—_dit Je père en faisant les gros yeux.

— Laissez-le donc l-s'exclame M. Matoussaint, qui, 10 oubliant sa douzaine d'huîtres, a d'abord pris 12 nlus beau rognon, dans le plat, mijotant sur un réchaud, et a servi Sim Vincent le premier.

Cette fois, le serrurier proteste.

— Ah! monsieur Matoussaint, nous allons nous : $ fâcher . .. Vous le gâtez trop aussi,

Mais le célibataire se tourne alors vers son hôte avec une fureur comique, et lui crie, bien en face :

— Vous, le papa, vous :ll:z nous ficher la paix! Suis-je son parrain, ou n£ le suis-je pas ? 20 Puis, revenant à son filleul, il prend un couteau et une fourchette, il se penche sur l'assiette de l'enfant, et— révélant toute sa tendresse dans ce soin maternel —i] lui

Coupe sa viande en petits morceaux,

1 t EN :

LA VIEILLE TUNIQUE

À L'ÉPOQUE où j'étais expéditionnaire' dans les bureaux du ministère de la guerre, j'avais pour collègue et pour camarade de pièce" un nommé Jean Vidal," ancien sousofficier, amputé du bras gauche pendant la campagne

5 d'Italie, mais à qui restait encore sa main droite, sa "belle main" de fourrier, avec laquelle il exécutait des merveilles calligraphiques en ronde, en bâtarde, en gothique," et dessinait, d'un seul trait de plume, un petit oiseau dans le paraphe' de sa signature.

10 Un digne homme, ce Vidal! Le type du vieux soldat, probe et pur. Bien qu'il eût à peine quarante ans et que de rares poils" gris apparussent dans sa barbiche" blonde d'ancien zouave," déjà nous l'appelions tous, au bureau, le père Vidal; mais avec moins de familiarité que de

15 respect, Car nous connaissions sa vie d'honneur et de dévouement, là-bas," dans son petit logement à bon marché, au fond de Grenelle," où il avait recueilli une sœur à lui, veuve avec une ribambelle d'enfants, et où il entretenait tout ce petit monde sur son maigre budget, c'est-à-dire

20 l'argent de sa croix," de sa pension et de ses appointements. Trois mille francs pour cinq personnes! N'importe, les redingotes du père Vidal—-ces redingotes dont la manche

de

gauche, la manche vide, s’attachait au Ctaient toujours brossées comme Pour la revue du général inspecteur, et le brave homme Prenait tellement au sérieux son ruban rouge, toujours frais, qu’il le retirait de sa boutonnière Quand il portait un Paquet dans la rue: $ quelque paire de bottes de chez Latour, rue Montorgueil, *

OU quelque pantalon de fatigue, acheté Je matin à la Belle-Jardinière. *

Comme je demeurais alors, du sud de Paris, je faisais rout retourner chez moi, lui faire raconter se

troisième bouton

moi aussi, dans la banlieue

d'artillerie, noir E e—valait la peine de se faire tuer.

Quelquefois,

Par les chaudes soirées d'été, j'offrais l’absinthe à mo

R COmpagnon— douceur que le pauvre 20

S NOUS arrêtions une demi-heure’ devant” le café d'officiers de l'avenue de

la Mothe-Piquet.* Ces jours-là, l’ancien « sous-off,"” qui était devenu le plus sage des pères de famille et avait perdu l’habitude du “perroquet, ‘” se Jevait de table avec 2$

cerveau, et j'étais bien de la route, queique

Un soir, —.je crois que le père Vidal 4x verres d’absinthe !— voilà qu’en longeant

avait bu Phorrible 30

2 0 anne re SR DRASS LARG A SEE EEE MER Eaer moe

boulevard de Grenelle, il s'arrêta brusquement devant la devanture d'un fripier militaire, comme il y en a beaucoup dans ce quartier-là C'était une sale et sinistre boutique, montrant dans sa vitrine des

s pistolets rouillés, des sébiles pleines de boutons, Pass

des épaulettes d'or rougi, et devant laquelle étaient suspendues, parmi des haillons sordides, quelques vieilles tuniques d'officiers, pourries sous la pluie et rongées par le soleil, mais qui, conservant le pincement

10 de la taille et la carrure des épaules," avaient encore on ne sait quel aspect presque humain."

Vidal, me saisissant le bras de sa seule main et tournant vers moi ses regards un peu ivres, leva son moignon' pour désigner une de ces défroques—une

15 tunique d'officier d'Afrique," avec la jupe à cent plis" et le triple galon d'or grimpant sur la manche et faisant un huit, à la houzarde."

— Tenez, —me dit-il, —voilà l'uniforme de mon ancien corps . . . une tunique de capitaine . . .

20 Et, s'étant approché pour examiner la loque de plus près, il lut le numéro gravé sur les boutons et reprit, enthousiasmé :

— C'est mon régiment ! . . . C'est du premier zouaves"!

Mais, tout à coup, la main du père Vidal, qui avait

25 déjà saisi la jupe de la vieille tunique, resta immobile, son visage s'assombrit, ses lèvres tremblèrent, et, baissant les yeux, il murmura, avec un accent d'épouvante :

— Mon Dieu ! si c'était la sienne!

Puis, d'un geste brusque, il retourna la tunique, et je

30 pus voir, au milieu du dos, un petit trou rond dans le

drap, un trou de balle, cerné d'une crasse noire qui était

A ad #4

La Vieille Tunique 63

sans doute du vieux sang, et ce trou sinistre faisait

horreur et Pitié, comme une blessure.

— Oh! oh !-—dis-je au père Vidal, qui avait tout de suite laissé retomber le vête: rent et s'était remis en route, d'un pas pressé, la tête basse, — voilà une vilaine s cicatrice! ..,

Ft, pressentant une histoire COripagnon à la raconter :

— Ordinairement, ce n'est Pas par derrière que les capitaines de zouaves reçoivent les balles.

Mais il ne paraissait pas m'en mots en mordant sa moustache.

— Comment at-/% pu s'échouer BR?" il ya loin du champ de bataille de Melegnano" au boulevard de Grenelle. .. Oui, je sais bien, les corbeaux" qui suivent 15 l'armée, les dépouilleurs de cadavres .. , Mais pourquoi

là, justement, à deux pas de l'École Militaire, où son régiment est caserné? . . + Et //a dû passer Par ici, / a dû /« reconnaître . . . Oh! c'est comme un revenant !

— Voyons, père Vidal, —fis.je en Jui prenant le bras 20 et violemment intéressé, — vous n'allez Pas continuer à parler par énigmes, et vous me direz bien quel souvenir Vous rappelle cette tunique trouée.

Je crois bien que sans les deux absinthes je n'aurais rien su, car, à cette demande, le père Vidal me jeta un 25 regard méfiant, Prèsque craintif; mais soudain, comme Prenant une grande résolution, il me dit d'une voix brève :

; j'ajoutai, pour exciter mon

tendre ; il marmottait des

— Eh bien, oui, je vous conterai la chose = bien vous êtes un jeune hom

Confiance en vous, et quand j mais là, bien franchement, la

me instruit et honnête, j'ai 'aurai fini, vous me direz— 30 main sur la Conscience, —-si

vous me trouvez excusable d'avoir agi comme j'ai agi ... Voyons, par où commencer? . .. Ah! d'abord, je ne peux pas vous dire son nom, à l'awfre," puisqu'il vit encore, mais je le désignerai par le sobriquet que nous lui

$ donnions au régiment ... . Za-Soif, oui, nous l'appelions La-Soif, et il n'avait pas volé son surnom," étant de ceux qui ne grouillent pas de la cantine et qui sifflent" douze petits verres aux douze coups de midi . . . Il était sergent à la quatrième du

second," où j'étais fourrier, et il to marchait à côté de moi, en serre-file . . . Bon soldat, très bon soldat . . . Ivrogne, chapardeur,' aimant les batteries," toutes les mauvaises habitudes d'Afrique . . . Mais brave comme une baïonnette, avec des yeux bleus et froids comme l'acier, dans sa face tannée à barbe 15 rouge, où l'on voyait bien tout de suite que le particulier n'était pas commode." Au moment où j'étais arrivé du dépôt" aux bataillons de guerre, La-Soif venait de finir son congé ; il se rengagea, toucha la prime et tira une bordée de trois jours, pendant lesquels il roula dans les bas 20 quartiers d'Alger avec quatre ou cinq noceurs comme lui, empilés dans une calèche et portant un drapeau tricolore où on lisait ces mots: Ça ne durera pas toujours! On le rapporta à la caserne, la tête fêlée d'un coup de sabre ;

il s'était battu avec des #r#nglos, chez une Mauresque qui 25 avait reçu dans la bagarre un coup de pied dans le ventre, dont elle était morte. La-Soif guérit; on lui flanqua quinze jours de bloc" et on lui retira ses galons." C'était la deuxième fois qu'il les perdait Sans sa mauvaise conduite, La-Soif, qui était d'une famille bourgeoise et 30 avait reçu de l'instruction, aurait été officier depuis longtemps . . . Donc, après l'affaire de la Mauresque,

'La Vieille Tunique 65

on lui reprit ses galons, mais, dix-huit mois plus tard,

comme je venais de Passer sergent-fourrier, il les avait

ambitieux, plein de mérite, disait-on, mais très exigeant dans le service, dur Pour les hommes et VOus collant des

et réciproquement. a ne pouvait pas manquer. La 15 première fois que le sergent ne répondit pas à l'appel du soir, huit jours de

bloc ; la première fois qu'il se grisa, Quinze jours. Quand le Capitaine—un petit brun, raide Comme un poil, avec des moustaches de chat effarouché —lui jetait la Punition à Ja face, en ajoutant d'un ton 20 sec: "Je sais qui vous êtes, et je vous materai, mon cher!" La-Soif ne répondait rien et s'en allait d'un pas tranquille du côté de la salle de police ; mais Je Capitaine

Là-dessus, voilà que l'Empereur déclare la guerre aux

et qu'on nous embarque pour l'Italie EE

agit pas ici de la Campagne, j'arrive au fait. 30 F

,.. La veille du combat de Melegnano,—où j'ai laissé mon bras, vous savez, —notre bataillon campait au milieu d'un petit village, et avant de rompre les rangs, le capitaine nous avait fait un petit discours—il avait raison, le capi-

s taine,—pour nous rappeler que nous étions en pays ami, qu'il était de notre honneur de nous y bien conduire et que celui qui ferait la moindre peine à l'habitant serait puni d'une façon exemplaire. Pendant qu'il parlait, La- Soif, qui chancelait un peu en s'appuyant sur son fingot,

10 à côté de moi,—il avait vidé, depuis le matin, la moitié dubidonde la cantinière,"-—haussa légèrement les épaules; mais, par bonheur, le capitaine ne s'en aperçut pas

Au milieu de la nuit, je suis réveillé en sursaut. Je saute de la hotte de paille sur laquelle je "dormais dans

15 une cour de ferme, et je vois, au clair de la lune, un groupe de camarades et de paysans qui arrachaient des bras de La-Soif, furieux comme un lion, une belle fille en train d'invoquer la Ma-

done et tous les saints du paradis. J'accours pour prêter main-forte, mais le

20 capitaine Gentile arrive avant moi. D'un coup d'œil, il avait un vrai regard de maître, le petit Corse, —il fait reculer le sergent terrifié; puis, après avoir rassuré la Lombarde par quelques mots qu'il lui dit en italien, il revient se camper devant le coupable, et, lui mettant

25 sous le nez un doigt qui tremblait :

— On devrait brûler la cervelle à des misérables comme vous, —lui dit-ill—Dès que je pourrai voir le colonel, vous perdrez encore vos galons, et ce sera pour de bon, cette fois . . . On se bat demain, tâchez de

30 vous faire tuer.

On se recoucha, mais le capitaine avait dit vrai, et, dès

le point du jour, ce fut la Canonnade qui nous éveilla. On Courut aux armes, on forma la colonne, et La-Soif, — jamais ses yeux bleus ne m'avaient Paru plus méchants, —vint se placer auprès de moi, Le bataillon se mit en marche. Il s'agissait de déloger les habits blancs," qui s'étaient fortifiés avec du canon dans le village de Melegnano. En Avant, marche! Nous n'avions pas fait deux kilomètres que, vlan ! la mitraille des Autrichiens

attendaient l'ordre de Charger, nous font coucher dans le maïs, en tirailleurs ÿ Mais eux restent debout, naturelle. ment, et je vous assure que ce n'était pas notre capitaine qui se tenait le moins droit. Nous, à Senoux dans les épis, nous continuions à ti-

rer sur la batterie qui était à portée. Tout à Coup, je me sens pousser le coude, je me retourne et je vois La-Soif qui me regardait, le coin de la lèvre relevé d'un air de blague, et qui armait son fusil.

— Tu vois bien le Capitaine ?—me dit-il en le désignant d'un geste de tête. |

— Oui . .. eh bien P—lui répondis-je avec un regard sur l'officier, qui était debout à vingt pas de nous.

— Eh bien, il a eu tort de me parler Comme il a fait cette nuit.

Puis, d'un geste précis et rapide, en deux temps, il épaula son arme, fit feu... et je vis le Capitaine, le torse brusquement Cambré, la tête jetée en arrière, battre une seconde l'air des deux mains, laisser choir" son épée et tomber lourdement sur le dos.

— Assassin ! —M'écriai-je, en saisissant le bras du sergent.

a me pe one nine nn en nn nn non ee anne np nn nn nn rennes Saba nnn

von Bébés tit nghébniteérnténmtiramnttet ntm émigemnin mn funermnteténninéaenennnnennmnn re

Mais il me fit rouler à trois pas de lui, d'un coup de crosse dans la poitrine.

— Imbécile! Prouve que c'est moi qui l'ai tué. Je me relevai, en fureur ; . ais tous les tirailleurs se s relevaient aussi Notre colonel, tête nue, sur son cheval fumant, était là, nous montrant du sabre la batterie autrichienne, et hurlant de tous ses poumons : — En avant, les zouaves . . . A la baïonnette' ! Qu'est-ce que je pouvais faire, n'est-ce pas? Charger 10 comme les autres . . . Et ça a été fa-

meux, allez, la charge des zouaves à Melegnano. Avez-vous vu quelquefois la grosse mer battre un écueil? Oui. Eh bien, c'était tout à fait la même chose. Chaque compagnie grimpait là-haut cômme la lame sur le rocher. Trois fois 15 la batterie se couvrit de vestes bleues et de culottes rouges, et trois fois nous vimes reparaître le terrassement" avec ses gueules de canons impassibles, comme l'écueil après le coup de mer.

Mais la quatrième compagnie, la nôtre, devait emporter 20 le morceau. Moi, en vingt bonds, j'arrivai jusqu'à la redoute ; m'aidant de la crosse de mon fusil, je franchis le talus; mais je n'eus que le temps d'apercevoir une paire de moustaches blondes, une casquette bleue et un canon de carabine qui me touchait presque. Je reçus 25 près de l'épaule gauche un coup tel que je crus que mon bras s'envolait ; je lâchai mon arme, j'eus un étourdisseracnt, j'allai tomber sur le flanc, près d'une roue de caisson, et je perdis connaissance.

Quand je rouvris les yeux, on n'entendait plus qu'un 30 bruit de mousqueterie lointaine. Les zouaves étaient là,

La Vieille Tunique

formant le demi-cerc] "Vive l'Empereur |" à bout de bras.

Un vieux Sénéral, suivi de son état-major, arrivait au galop. Il arrèta son cheval, ôta son képi doré, l'agita ç

e, mais en désordre ; ils criaient :

et brandissaient leurs fusils en 1

air,

Joyeusement et s'écria :

— Bravo! les zouaves’ soldats du monde !

J'étais assis Près de ma roue de caisson, soutenant Piteusement de Ja mai i

-. . Vous êtes les premiers

son officier par derrière, Tout à Coup, il sorti le général ,

Capitaine! Dans le combat, il a

8s et s'avança vers La-Soif, l'assassin du vait perdu son fez, et 15 é par une balafre d'où 42,

€ front et sur la joue. , :

» Îl s’appuyait sur son fusil; de l’autre, il

trouver superbe,

— Hein, Bricourt, ses officiers d’ordonn hommes !

—dit-il en se tournant vers un de ance, —regardez-moi Ça . . . Quels

Alors La-Soif, de sa voix gouailleuse :

— C'est vrai, mon général . ., Mais vous savez, le Premier zouaves! .

* Ï n'y en à plus que pour une fois.

— Je t’embrasserais Pour ce mot-là, —s’écria Je général, 30 +. . Tu auras la Croix, tu sais . .

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Et répétant toujours: “Quels hommes! quels hommes ! ” il dit encore à son aide de camp une phrase que je nai pas comprise—vous savez, moi, je suis un ignorant—mais que je me rappelle bien tout de même :

s — N'est-ce pas, Bricourt? C’est du Plutarque !

Mais, en ce moment, mon bras me faisait trop de mal ; j'eus une nouvelle syncope et je ne vis et n’entendis plus rien.

Vous connaissez le reste. Je vous ai souvent raconté

10 comment on m’a charcuté” l'épaule et comment j'ai traîné pendant deux mois dans les ambulances, avec le délire et la fièvre. Aux heures d’insomnie, je me demandais ce que je devais faire, rapport à La-Soif. Le dénoncer ? Oui, c'était mon devoir, mais quoi? je n'aurais pas pu

15 fournir de preuves. Et puis, je me disais:— C’est un gredin, oui, mais c’est un brave; il a tué le capitaine Gentile, mais il a pris ur drapeau à l'ennemi !"—Et je ne savais que résoudre. Enfin,

quand je fus en convalescence, j'appris qu'en récompense de son action d'éclat,

20 La-Soif avait passé avec son grade aux zouaves de la garde et qu'on l'avait décoré." Ah! cela me dégoûta d'abord de ma croix, que notre colonel était venu m'attacher sur ma capote d'hôpital. Pourtant, La-Soif méritait aussi la sienne, après tout; mais sa Légion

25 d'honneur aurait dû servir de cible au peloton chargé de le fusiller! . . . Enfin, tout cela est loin aujourd'hui; je n'ai jamais revu le sergent, qui est toujours' au service, et je suis rentré dans le civil . . . Mais, tout à l'heure, en voyant cette tunique avec son trou de balle—Dreu

x sait comment elle est venue là !—pendue chez ce fripier,

à deux pas de la caserne où est l'assassin, j'ai songé au

PAR EME nds

La Vieille Tunique 71

crime impuni ét il m'a semblé que le capitaine demandait justice.

Je calmai de mon mieux' le père Vidal, que son récit avait mis dans une grande exaltation ; je l"assurai qu'il avait agi pour le mieux et que l'héroïsme du sergent de zouaves balançait son crime. Mais, quelques jours après, en arrivant au bureau, je trouvai Vidal qui me tendit un journal plié de façon à ne laisser lire qu'un fait-divers, et qui murmura gravement :

— Qu'est-ce que je disais ?

Je pris le journal et je lus ceci :

“ Encore une victime de l’intempérance.

“Hier, dans l'après-midi, sur le boulevard de Grenelle, le nommé Mallet, dit La-Soif, sergent aux zouaves de la garde impériale, qui avait fait en compagnie de deux camarades de nombreuses libations’ dans les cabarets du voisinage, a été pris d’un accès de délire alcoolique’ au moment où il regardait de vieux uniformes, exposés à la devanture d’un marchand d’habits.

“ Devenu tout à fait furieux, ce sous-officier avait tiré Son sabre-baïonnette et courait en répandant l’épouvante Sur SOn Pa sage. Les deux militaires qui l’accompagnaient ont eu toutes les peines du monde à se rendre maitres du forcené, qui ne cessait de hurler dans sa rage:—Je ne suis pas un assassin! . .. J'ai pris un drapeau autrichien à Melegnano !

“On nous assure, en effet, que Mallet a été décoré pour ce fait d'armes, et que ses habitudes d’ivrognerie invétérées l'ont seules’ empêché de devenir officier.

“Mallet a été conduit à l'hôpital militaire du Gros-

Mn retiantetemmanconehéegmns rénéensa | Mini

Caillou, d’où il sera prochainement transféré à Charenton, car il est douteux que cet infortuné recouvre jamais la raison.” Et comme je rendais le journal au père Vidal, il me 5 jeta un regard profond et conclut :

— Le capitaine Gentile était Corse , . . Il s’est vengé !

rennes DOTE rer ie Drap en NS LUpe hu nn

NOTES

Page LINE

LT, Saint-Médard : the church of Saint-Médard was constructed before the twelfth century, but was restored and enlarged in 1562, 1581, and 1655. St. Médard was one of the brightest orn:-nents of the Church of France in the sixth century. His festival is celebrated on the 8th of june. According to a Popular saying, Saint - Médard, grand Lleurard, Saint Médard's day is generally wet.

la rue Mouffetard, situated on the south bank of the Seine, runs almost due south as far as the Church, after which it turns slightiy to the SOuth-east, until its junction with the Avenue des Gobelins.

» 2. Pâris et les Convulsionnaires : ‘Les Convulsionnaires ' Was the name bestowed Upon a certain class of Jansenists in France who w fluence of an epidemic nervous dis xcitement, and taking the form

and other extrav by a sacred inf:

i de Pâris, i of Saint- Pilgrimages to the tomb of Pâris were forbidden by Louis XV. in 1732, which prohibition gave rise to th< saying— De par le Roi, défense à Dieu e faire miracle en ce lieu,

» 3. le ‘Faubourg Marceau :

was born at Paris i of that city.

He gave his n e capital, ian work.

generally omitting the in the names of Streets, etc.

74 Contes Choisis Page LiNE

1. 19. pauvresse : pauvre, used as an adj., remains unchanged in the feminine; but when used as a noun it becomes pauvresse. Cf. borgne, ‘ a one-eyed man’; drôle, ‘ a rascal' ; mulâtre, ‘a mulatto'; and suisse, ‘a Swiss.’

madras : elliptical for mouchoir de Madras, a scrt of bright-coloured kerchief of silk and cotton, made in India. The French imitations are made of cotton only. It here signifies a cotton kerchief thrown over the head.

+ 19, 20. traînant and portant have here verbal force; hence there is no agreement. But when the word in -a{ has adjectival force, when it denotes state or condition rather than movement or action, it agrees, like an adjective, with the noun to which it refers. Cf. p. 3 Il. 12-13 Wambante , , et lançant, etc.

2. 8. tourniquet, ‘turnstile,” etc. ; here a game of chance, in which an indicator points to numbers on the edge of a revolving circle. Transl. ‘a wheel of fortune.” A player wins or loses according to the number at which the hand of the indicator is pointing when the circle ceases to revolve. The prizes for the winners were in this case litres of wine, a litre bottle containing rather more than a pint,

n 9. aussi="accordingly." In this sense aussi is followed by the interrogative construction ; when it means ‘also’ there is no inversion.

» 23. la rue Lhomond: this is a small street lying to the west of the Rue Mouffetard, with which it forms an acute angle near the

church of Saint-Médard. Lhomond, 1,27-64, was a professor at the University of Paris, and wrote many elementary school-books, some of which are still in use

A le Bollandiste : the name given to certain Jesuits, the col- F laborators and successors of Johann Bolland, the first editor of the Acfa Sanctorum, a celebrated martyrology, begun in 38 1643, and not completed before 1870. Here the name is Hi applied to a particular edition, as we say ‘an Elzevir.'

» 29. brave: many adjectives vary in meaning in French according ii to their position in the sentence—e.g. wr1 brave homme, ‘a Hi worthy man’; #1 homme brave, ‘a brave man.” Une bonne i: femme, p. 2 1 43, is ‘a good, simple soul’; wne femme Î donne, ‘a kind, charitable woman.” Un honnête homme is ‘an honest, upright man’; #7 homme honnête may have the same meaning, but also is sometimes used for ‘a polite, well-bred man.” Pauvre femme, p. 141. 21, is used in friendly commiseration, whereas ne femme pauvre is ‘an indigent woman,’ tone in want.”

ne pouvait: after the verbs pouvoir, cesser, and oser used negatively pas and point may be omitted.

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Notes 75

Page LINE

3. 1. caissier : transl. ‘as à cashier.' À noun in apposition is not preceded by an article, Sencrally speaking.

7. SOutane : a long black Cassock, buttoned down the front and reaching to the heels, such as is worn by Roman Catholic priests ; but the word is here used in a general sense, as we Say ‘the cloth” in reference to the profession, rather than to the actual garb which is the sign of the profession, // 4 pris la soutane, ‘he has become a Priest.”

: 14. l’on: note that the article is only used before on when re. quired for the sake of euphony, as after such Words as que, st, et, où, etc., when, ; article were omitted, a hiatus would be caused by the conjunction of two vowels. But such à construction as Së on Les voit. . raust be used instead of si l'on Les to avoid the ugly repetition of the Z On is only used in the subjective case: it represents the Latin nominative komo, whilst homme represents the accusative case, ominem.

zinc : popular for Comptoir, ‘ bar.’

+ Croua! croua! an imitation of the cawing of crows, to which priests have been Compared on account of their black cassocks.

- lueur rouge : in France the lamp that is kept always burning before the high altar is usually made of red glass ; the light shining through this gives a reddish glimmer.

- la rue Monge runs in a with the Rue Mouffetard a turns to the south-west and enters near its junction w ard. Gaspard Monge was born and died at Paris in 1818. He was a ician, and created the science of descript as Minister of Marine from 1792-93, r of the Polytechnic School at Paris.

» 5 AVoir fait danser l'anse du panier : l'anse du panier is

sket (which the cook takes to the market

to make Purchases), and J'aire danser l'anse du Panier means

‘to make unlawful profits on Purchases,' ‘to gain upon marketing," ‘to make a market-penny.'

» 6. au seul Mot . .: transl, ‘at the very word ‘restitution, ‘ or ‘at the bare mention of," etc. Seut following its noun means ‘alone; Preceding the noun it May usually be translated by ‘only,’ ‘ mere, ' ‘ very,” ‘sole.’

»# 27. Qu'un autre, ‘than any one else,” or ‘than my neighbours.* Les autres, p. 10 1. 29, is also used quite indefinitely for ‘others,’ ‘ other people.

nr Tps RE ane en ra 0 à

case

venant per

UT edloér amiens de Pets eee 0-9

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4. 30. il faut que vous m'écoutiez : note the use of the subjuuctive after most impersonal verbs and expressions.

5. 1. il ne s'agissait plus . ., ‘it was no longer a question.” Distinguish between agir, ‘to act,’ etc., and s'agir, ‘to be in question.’

» + qu'il écoutait and absolvait : note the use of the imperfect tense to show habit, and transl. ‘to which he was wont to listen," etc. The imperfect is also used to denote a gradual process ; cf. p. 41 1. 8 77 devenait un de ces êtres fuyants, etc.

» 8. trouble, ‘agitation,’ not : trouble.’

», 22. sabot, ‘ bunglier.’

6 1. forcé d'épargner : forcer is ‘to compel,' ‘ constrain.' Some grammarians have tried to establish a distinction between /orcer à and forcer de followed by an infinitive, but there is no real difference between the two. In the passive voice de is more commonly used,

». 16. pas moyen: elliptical phrase for z/ r'y avait pas moyen.

»» 19. il me sembla qu'il y en avait assez . . : the impersona, verb 17 semble usually takes the subjunctive after it when it has no indirect object, as ?/ semble que vous n'ayez jamais rien vu de pareil. When accompanied by an indirect object the following verb is usually in the indicative. Soin the above sentence the indicative is used, z/ y en avait, the indirect object being 7e.

» 22. QU'On: 0» is here used in the sense of e//e, Cf. pee.

je n'avais rien d'un séducteur : trans. ‘there was nothing fascinating about me.’

7. 16. pardonnez-moi: note that pardonner takes an indirect object of the person and a direct object of the thing: pardonner quelque chose à quelqu'un, ‘to forgive a person (for) a thing.

» 22. Ce que . . : this sentence is very elliptical. The sense is, ‘What could I do? why! (I could do) what I believed wouid be to their happiness, (namely) marry them.’

» 29. Camille : in French Camille may be either masculine or feminine, Cumillus or Camilla.

8. 17. le Mont-de-Piété, ‘the pawnbroker's.' ‘The mont-de-piété was first invented in Italy in the fifteenth century by a pious

confraternity. The institution known as the 1/on/-de-Piété at Paris was founded in 1777, and enjoys the monopoly of loans on pledges. The central bureau is in the Rue des Francs-Bourgeois. but there are two branch offices, as well

as twenty-four auxiliary offices, in the different arrondissements, Corresponding to the letters of the alphabet. At the central office the borrower Pays 6h per cent interest ; in other cases 12 per cent.

£. 18. toute: zut is here used adverbially, meaning fout à fait, entièrement. The rule in this case is that fout varies, for the sake of euphony, when it precedes à feminine adjective beginning with a COnSonant or aspirated Z. Otherwise out remains invariable, It would therefore be correct to say tout amaigrie et toute Pälie, but Coppée often disregards the rule. Cf p. 12 1 2,

»» 21. la Bonne Vierge : ie. the Virgin Mary.

23. des bêtises et des infamies, ‘foolish and insulting talk.” In this sense infamies is only used in the plural.

9. 2. le quartier: here ‘the district, ‘the neighbourhood," j.e. the one in which lay the lodgings of Philippe and Catherine.

‘* 15. Quoique l'intérieur 80it . . attristé: quoique, in one word, means ‘although'; yxoi gue, in two words, means ‘whatever,” Both always require the following verb to be in the subjunctive mood.

» 16. Ça va déjà mieux: ie. things are alreadÿ going better, the outlook is already brighter.

m'en voilà pour Cinq ans, ‘I am in for five years of it

10. 5. parce que, in two words, means * because’; par ce que, ia three words, means ‘by that which,’ ‘by what” Ex. — l'homme n'est malheure qu'il est méchant.

Par ce que l'homme Juger de ses Principes.

‘boulevard is literally a bulwark, warks. The meaning was further d with trees and encircling monly used for any wide

own in

of the name of Arago: the most

François Arago, born near Perpignan

aris in 1863, He was a physicist and

astronomer, and was well known for his discoveries in magnetism and electricity. In 1809 he became a member of the Académie des Sciences, and professor of geometry at the Polytechnic. He was afterwards appointed chief director of the Observatory, and i al secretary to the Académie. Elec i distinguished himis li i r of the provisional

DE EE enr ere Se

Page 11ivr 10. 12. monté la maison: here ‘raised," ‘ run the house up to.’

à peu près: transl. ‘or thereabouts

18. un dédit, : forfeit.” ‘The house was being built by contract, and a -ertain sum would be forfeited by the builder if it were not completed by a fixed date, as stipulated in the agreement,

3. fils de veuve: the only son of a widow might be excuser from service in the army,

14. descendirent : they were working on the fourth storey, as mentioned above,

16. ne voilà-t-il pas qu'il. . : a sort of exclamation of surprise. Transl. ‘if actually he did not look at me,'etc. Voilà-t-il pas

and ne voilà-t-il pas are allowable but altogether incorrect expressions.

:8. le fil-en-quatre : lit. ‘wire made of four twists.' expression, as here, for the bad brandy sold at the small public-houses. The gua/re refers perhaps to the amount of spirit of wine contained in it, as Ze fl-en-quatre is very Strong. (Æï/-en-trois likewise occurs,)

A popular

‘ready to, ‘prepared to : j/ est Près de mourir, ‘he is about to die,

on the point of death ; Je suis prêt à partir, ‘1 am ready to go.’ 6. m'a refusée : not : declined to give me,’ but ‘declined te accept {om me.’ Peu près may usually be translated ‘very nearly,' ‘ about I matinal is applied to a person Who has risen early, though without being in the habit of rising early. It is also applied to things,

when it means : pertaining to the morning.” Ex.— vous êtes bien matinal aujourd'hui.

la brise matinale.

Matineux is applied to one who is in the habit of risin Ex. —/es belles dames ne sont £guère matineuses.

2. Chaude: oecause it was Summer rain, the time being towards the end of the month of August.

g early,

square du Bon-Marché : the extensive shops of the Bon

Marché stand at the corner of the Rue de Sè Rue du Bac. In front of them is a squ The English word square is not used in F square with gardens.

vres and the are with gardens.

rench except for a

Notes

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13. 8, Omnibus : the vehicles of the : Compagnie générale des omni. bus’ run through Paris by over thirty different routes, desig. nated on the outside of each omnibus by one o

r more letters of the alphabet, The o different routes are known in the daytime by lours, and at night by coloured lamps.

la Chaussée du Maine : this is an he. L “tant street on the south side of the Seine, Starting from the ; ‘urch of St, Pierre

* and passing to the West of the Gare de l'Ouest, Le Maine was à Province of France, Capital Le

la gare du Nord : of the railway known as

‘le chemin de fer du Nord is situated in the Place Roubaix, On the right bank of the Seine,

» 9. la rue de l'Abbé-Grégoire : this is a short cross-street, running from the Rue de Vaugirard to the Rue de Sèvres, which it enters Opposite l'Hôpital Laennec, Henri Grégoire was born in 1750 and di is i He was a well.

known revolutionist me Bishop of Blois.

‘ Coppée m'arrêta devant le numéro 9 de cette rue qui s'appelait autrefois rue Saint Maur-Saint-Germain, qui s'est appelée ensuite rue des Missions, et est aujourd'hui placée sous le vocable de l'abbé Grégoire. , C'est au second étage

- que François Coppée naquit le 26 janvier 1842.'— De Lescure, 7; 4 +

the terminus

m Poitou.

À two-horse Omnibus conlaces—14 in

side and 12 or 14 outside,

: the Roman legion was a body of 3000 to over 6000 men at different

times, and usually combi

€ maniples, and each

maniple into two centuries,

» 13. S’abritant de leurs boucliers : the Roman shields or bucklers were usually

Y of wood covered with 1 Strap, worn on the Jeft arm. In battle, besieging 4 town, the Roman soldiers

ves by raising their shields above their heads, and locking the

eather, and

M all together. This arrangement was known as the ‘testudo' Or ‘ tortoise-shel]]. ’ »” 14. marchent à l'assaut de, ‘advance to storm. »» 16. les ‘Nord: je. Passengers bound for the gare du lord.

» 17. Sans so douter de, ‘ without s

‘to doubt,' ‘to question’; $e douter de ‘conjecture * : Je m'en dontais ben, ‘I th

douter de means is ‘to suspect Ought as much,”

BE

ni | Î

Note that douter always requires the verb in the subordinate clause to be in the subjunctive mood, whilst se douter governs the indicative if the phrase is affirmative, the subjunctive if the phrase is interrogative or negative.

13. 18. leun: #» here receives a sort of semi-aspiration, in order to make the meaning clearer, and avoid confusion with /'#, meaning ‘the one‘ (of two things). Each Passenger has to take a numbered ticket at the bureau, and when the omnibus arrives the numbers are called in succession, and each Passenger has to wait until his number is called before entering the vehicle,

* 22. une sœur de Saint-Vincent de Pau): St, Vincent de Paul was born in 1576 and died in 1660. He did much humane work amongst the galley slaves, and established confréries de charité in various places. In 1625 he founded the ‘ Congrégation des Prêtres de la Mission,’ to supply the provinces with efficient religious teachers, in 1632 the order of the Lazarists, and in 1634 that of the ‘ Sœurs de la Charité’ or Sisters of Mercy. He also founded at Paris the hospitals ot ‘ La Salpétrière' and ‘Les Enfants Trouvés' or Foundling Hospital. Cf. note, p. 32 1. 18. He took an active part in the Controversy directed against the Jansenists, and Was canonised in 1737. The church of St Vincent de Paul is situated in the Place Lafayette, near the Gare du Nord.

14 1. correspondance : in Paris passengers are allowed to change

from one onnibus to another on making application for a ticket called correspondance while paying the fare to the conductor on entering the vehicle. This ticket must be given, at the office

where the change takes place, to the conductor of the second omnibus. The offices or stations of correspondance are marked by a blue sign-board, bearing in white letters the words : Cor- agnie générale des omnibus.'

” 8. qui écarte la foule, ‘who makes her way through the crowd," lit. ‘ who makes the crowd give way.’

+. 10. abritant de son mieux, ‘dring her best to shelter.'

» 18. trois ans et demi: mi llaced before à substantive is invariable, Ex. — ve demi-dusaine. Placed after the substantive it agrees with it in gender, but always remains in the singular number. Ex.—une dousaine et demie: deux ans et demi (i.e. un demian). When used as a noun, it may take the sign of the plural. Cf. demi-voix, à, in Vocab.

enfin : here :‘ never naind

» 20. tout de même really has the same meaning as de même, viz.

‘in a similar manner,’ ‘of the same kind’; but it is also used to mean ‘nevertheless,’ 2. ere.

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14. 24. l'omnibus Complet : when an Omnibus is full à small board is suspended Over the door, Inscribed with the word complet ; another such board 18 placed beneath the driver's seat,

‘* 25. 8e remeten branle, : sets itself

again in motion,’ ‘in swing.

six gros sous : À #04 corresponds to a half-penny, a gros ‘4 10 a penny, Each inside Passenger in an omnibus pays 39 centimes, Whatever be the distance traversed, A £ros sou is Worth 10 centimes, s/x #705 sous 5 therefore Correct payment for two Persons,

5. l'hôpita] Lariboisière : this hospital is situated in a square close to the Gare du Nord, in the angle formed by the meeting of the Boulevard de Ja Chapelle and the Boulevard de Magenta. Jt Was built between 1846 and 1853 and COntains over 600 beds._ [n the chapel lies the tomb of Mme de Lariboisière, from whom it takes its name. She bequeateg nearly three millior, francs to the Poor of Paris.

+ Qui ne se peuvent rendre que, : which Can only be conveyed or expresse ’

15. Philippe de Champaigne, or de Cham the Flemish school, was born a Paris in 1674. He went to Paris at th became painter to the Queen of France, and Was the Acad e de Peinture on its foundatio 1648. His Portraits are most esteemed, Particularly one of Richelieu, 19. elles, referring to /; introductory subject

23. les bonnes gens : as a Seneral rule, ciples Preceding gens and belonging to Put in the feminine 8ender, those which Separate clause in the masculine,

* 26. allez: here ‘I Can tell you.’

» 28. un petit sec, ‘2 little, understood,

** 29. ancien, “former.”

Chasseur, ‘hunter,’ ‘fowler,’ ‘huntsma,, ‘footman ' ‘waiter.' Here it means à soldier belonging to a body of light troops, Mounted or on foot, specially designed for rapid movements and for the Pursuit of the ENEMY. Les chasseurs d'Afrique Wear à blue tunic and red trousers, and à red fez : chasseurs de Vincennes, ‘ Vincennes rifle-corps."

Vincennes : à town about 2 mile

of Paris, noted for its castle, d'Enghi in 13

mains which follows, is used as an

adjectives and partithe same clause are follow or are in a

dried-up, thin Man." Homme is

S €ast of the fortifications in the moat of which the Duc n was shot in 1804.

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tsar mener era tene (re Mbps sad ré hnrgens

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16. 1. Crimée: the Crimean war was fought in 1853-56 between Russia and the allied forces of Turke , France, Great Britain, and Sardinia. It arose through a quarrel about the ‘ Holy Places” in Palestine, and the jealousy between England and Russia. The chief events were—the battle of Sinope, 1853; the Russian occupation of the principalities on the Danube, battle of the Alma, be-

ginning of siege of Sebastopol, Balaklava, and Inkerman in 1854: attacks on Sebastopol, Tchernaya, storming the Malakoff, fall of Sebastopol, and the capture of Kars by the Russians in 13 55 The war was ended by the Treaty of Paris in 1856.

» 6. Enfant-Jésus : this is apparently the same as l'Hôpital des Enfants Malades, a large children's hospital lying between the Rue de Sèvres and the Rue de Vaugirard.

» 7- Sa petite figure de papier mâché: i.e. pale, betraying great weakness of health.

»» 8. vous: here used in an indefinite sense, as ‘ you” is sometimes used in English in the place of ‘ one.

» 11. Qu'il m'a dit: popular for »'a-t-il dit.

pas vrai? short for n'esf.ce pas vrai? Cf. pas for n'est-ce 2as ? below, 1. 17.

... 13. tu l’avaleras : /' is here emphatic.

... 26. faut vous dire: popular for i/ faut vous dire que mon mari .,

», 30. est-ce que je sais? transi. ‘and what not ?’

31. la fête du 14: i.e. the anniversary of the capture of the Bastille by the people of Paris on July 1x4, 1789. Cf. note, p. 38 1. 6 on /« Bastille.

c'était à la suite de, ‘it was following on.' 17. 2. son imbécile de père: for this use of de cf. un fripon

. faut toujours que . . :

d'enfant; un saint homme de chat (La Fontaine's Fables, vi. 16).

- Ma-t-il assez agacée? this is not a real question, but an

exclamatory remark put interrogatively, in order to be more emphatic and to arrest attention.

transl. ‘but, as for men, they must always," etc. Æaut is elliptical for £/ faut in popular speech. Cf. p. 16 1. 26, p. 171. 19, and p. 49 I. 18 faudra for il Jaudra.

ça: a familiar contraction for cela. Cela is used in a popular

Way when speaking of persons, and should be translated by

a personal pronoun. Here translate ‘they.’ Ex.—comme

cela dort, ces Jeunes gens !

en in, y nd 3; e,

nd as

es en

es

ce

Rev

Notes 83 Page LINE 17. 7. leur joujou, quoi! an elliptical phrase, CXpresSing the idea

‘that is their Plaything,' or ‘it is, as one may say, their Plaything.'

» 16. au 32: elliptical for au nue

la rue des Vinaigriers is a small cross-street, south of the

Gare de l'Est, leading from the Boulevard de Magenta to the Quai de Valmy.

» 18. un puits d'air: their rooms Probably overlooked of very small dimensions, in which th Come stagnant for want of outlet,

19. un mot: ie. à Short note of rec de mes amis : trans. ‘who is a friend of mine.’

” 21. même que. ,: à vulgarism for j'a had." Que is here used for the sake

VaS-Y : note the euphonic + before y

‘ro 72.

a court e air would naturally

Ommendation.

vais même, etc:

‘I even of emphasis.

and e» in the 2nd pers.

orrectly suppressed : the Phrase should

S omitted in this way by good writers, but usually in interrogative sentences or in

les mères, c’est fort, ‘ mothers are strong, brave.’

Mais, une fois dans la rue .

Was Tinthe street . than,’ etc.

» 12. Va te Promener :

rr. : transl. ‘but no sooner

4 Popular expression. Transl, ‘all my Courage failed me” See Promener in Vocab,.

17. autant is used to express comparison, 7: ant expresses an idea of indefinite quantity. nly be used instead of autant in a sent

Mparison is accom- Panied by à negation. Ex. —

Êque ce rubis.

ël à tant d ‘amis qu'il ne manquera jamais de rien.

que cette nouvelle.

re used as à sort of exclam

Transl. « you see.’

» 18. touten faisant : out, followed by ex and a Present participle, is Senerally used to express an idea of simultaneity. It may sometimes be omitted in English, sometimes translated ‘whilst,' ‘in.’

‘* 23. ton papa isin APposition to Z, which is really redundant.

‘* 27. tu voudras bien de . ., ‘you won't mind taking.” 19. 7. cela refers io the phrase

Pourtant, : hevertheless '

ation to

HX Étres gut, etc.

: notwithstanding,

is here used to

EIRE PTE ISERE

PER TRRIETLT ET

ee

Dev

LR RAR EE Lu ot

Lord Cavendale . . :

- en mineur : i.e. ‘in a minor key.’

la première entrevue :

Auvergne : an ancient province of France,

Page LINE

contradict, as it were, the former tenor of the Sister's thoughts or experience. ‘The idea she has in her mind is, ‘in spite of what I should have taken to be the case, there are, however, two beings,' etc.

19. 16. elle s'appelait alors : on becoming a Sister a woman would

always drop her title, and often change her name.

Annette de Cardaillan : de is used in proper names as a sign of nobility. An attempt was made to suppress this de at the time of the Revolution.

» 17. Sacré-Cœur: the adoration of the Sacred Heart of Jesus was

instituted at the end of the seventeenth century. The name was afterwards applied to a band of nuns devoted to the worship of the Sacred Heart, who also attend to the education of young girls. ‘The monks belonging to the same order are known as the ‘ Pères de la congrégation des Sacrés- Cœurs de Jésus et de Marie.” Their establishment is at 33 Rue de Picpus, south of the Place de la Nation, on the right bank of the Seine. ‘Le Couvent du Sacré-Cœur is situated close to the Hôtel des Invalides.

this is a sort of parenthetical sentence, and is at the same time elliptical. It serves to explain the preceding phrase, and has no other function. Note that the French have borrowed the English word ‘lord.’

In the minor mode the third and sixth above the tonic are minor.

mazurka : this word may be spelt ina variety of ways, e.g.

masurka, masourka, Mmasourque, Or with z mazurka is à national Polish dance, also called a polka mazurka. The name is also applied to the air which accompanies the dance, written in

three-four time, and in which the tonic is used as an invariable bass, or changes by octaves. The mazurka has a peculiar rhythm, in which the second beat is repeatedly well marked.

instead of s, A

ie. Annette's first meeting with Lord Cavendale.

troublée : cf. note, p. 5 1. 8.

Valois: Philippe VI. was the first king of France of the

house of Valois, which occupied the throne for 261 years (1328-1589), during which period thirteen kings of this race received the crown.

containing the sources of the Loire, Dordogne, Lot, etc. It corresponded to the departments of Puy-de-Dôme, Cantal, and part of Haute-Loire, The capital was Clermont. It was united to the French crown in 1610. Auvergnat (p. 46 |. 8): a

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native of Auvergne, The Auvergnat is usually à steadygoing, hard-working Man, but his love of economy sometimes leads him, as here, into miserly habits.

20. 72. restaurant : the first restaurant was opened at Paris in 176 5 by Boulanger, who took for his motto, * Venite ad me omnes qui stomacho laboratis, et €8o vos restaurabo.' Only a certain number of restaurants are open at night.

‘ 20. montagnes : à branch of the Cevennes mountains runs through Auvergne, These mountains are of volcanic structure, The chief peaks are Puy-de-Sancy, Plomb du Cantal, and Puy-de-

Dôme. The word mont is applied to a single insulated eminence, the word Montagne to à range.

26. Monseigueur : à title of honour given to persons of eminence, such as bishops. Monseigneur de Paris is the Archbishop of Paris : Monseigneur de Blois, the Bishop of Blois, and so on. Annette's uncle was an archbishop,

» 31. de partir: Partir here means ‘to depart from life," ‘to die." De between two verbs, as here, Sometimes has the meaning of de ce que, vu que, Puisque. The idea is, ‘she envied them because they were going to die before her,’ or ‘seeing that they were," etc.

voilà que is sometimes used to show that a thi suddenly or unexpectedly, as here, equivalent to ‘ behold ! or ‘lo!’

SE 5, que, ‘however,’ must be followed by mood.

‘3. bénie : the verb #;r has two forms for t béni (fem. bénie) and bénis (fem. bénite). The latter form is SeneraNy used when the benediction has been performed by a priest, the former when Speaking of the blessing of God or men (not Priests). This distinction js merely arbitrary, and, as in this case, it is not always observed,

» 6. en ce Moment means ‘at this moment." on the other hand, signifies ‘in a moment the space of à moment.

9. boulevard Magenta : this Street, 1} miles in length, passes to the west of the Gare du Nord and the Gare de l'Est.

i won by the French and

Sardinians over the Austrians in 1859. The Emperor Napoleon III. was nominally in command of the allies, but the victory was

attributed to Marshal MacMahon, who was afterwards made Duke of Magenta. Magenta is à small place about 15 miles to the west Of Milan, which was subsequently occupied by the French.

> 10: Sainte-Ursaule : Ursula is said to hav

ng happens In this case it is

the subjunctive

he past Participle,

En un moment, ‘sS time,’ je, in

e been à British saint

Satnerett das eneiann ee

hé Date green dents nan ab mn RME M

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who, with other virgins, was put to death by an army of Huns near Cologne. She was Patroness of the old Sorbonne, and various religious establishments have been founded in her name, chiefly for the education of young girls.

21. 26. camarade was originally a military term. It has since come 10 mean one who lives the same kind of life, or has the same occupations as another, A compagnon is simply one who accompanies, without having necessarily the same occupations as another. Lix.—camarades de collège, compagnons de voyage. These two Sisters were therefore both camarades and compagnes. Compagnon P. 45 1 10 is used in the special sense of ‘ workman.

» 29. l'Intransigeant: the Intransigentists are a faction in France whose Parliamentary programme includes various radical reforms, and whose views are socialistic. L'/ntran-

sigeant is one of their organs. Itisa morning paper edited by Rochefort.

22. 3. Balaclava, or Balaklava, is a small scaport in the Crimea, 8 miles south-east of Sebastopol. It was the headquarters of the Allies in the Crimean war, and a series of engagements took place here between the Allies and the Russians on October 2-, 1854. The Russians took some redoubts from the Turks ar. : :! eatened the port. The attack was diverted by the charge sf the Heavy Brigade under General Scarlett. By a mistake, Lord Cardigan charged the Russian artillery With the Light Brigade, and routed the enemy's cavalry ; but of 670 men only 198 returned from the charge.

» 6. comme dit la Chanson, 'as the saying goes.

23. 12. statistique, 'statistics'; here used in a restricted sense for the description of a country with regard to its population, extent, natural resources, etc. Gottfried Achenwall (1719-72), a German scholar, Professor of Philosophy and of Law at the University of Güttingen, is usually regarded as the founder of the science of statistics and the inventor of the name.

» 13. Canton: in France the départements Aivided into arrondissements, the arrondissements into 5, and the cantons into communes.

» 16. gothique : " Gothic' is a term applied to a particukr kind of architecture. The term is a misnomer, as the style in no wise

derives from the Goths, but it was eriginally bestowed by Italian Renaissance architects in scorn upon all forms of architecture following on the decay of the Roman styles, and was used as synonymous with ‘ barbarous.’ The name is now commonly applied to the European art of the Middle Ages, and more particularly to the various types of Pointed

architecture to the revival

centuries. The pointed arch the style, which in its great flexibility and necessary purposes is Worthy of as high the best Greek work.

23. 16. flamboyant : the name famboyant, as means characterised by wavy, and open work, as in the highly-florid style architecture which 1

pendicular.

Chemin de Countries the series of pict Passion of Je

walls of a church,

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Prevalent from the middle of the twe

Ifth century of classical models in the fifteenth

and sixteenth and vault are merely details of adaptability to all a rank in its kind as

applied to architecture, flame-like tracery in windows of French mediaeval a$ Contemporary with the English Per-

Croix, or de /a Croix: in Roman Catholic Chemin de La Croix is the name given to à ures representing the different Stages of the sus, and placed at intervals along the inside

or in the open air. The worshippers

Pass along and Say an appropriate Prayer before each.

Saint-Sulpice is the richest ç

Stands in a sq north-west of images in plas

24 2. berlingot : /4

in the plural, like amour and orvue.

24. que is here used as a Correlative of ce for the sake and serves to introduce the real subject.

T. Algérie : the conquest of

1830, but the Country was not organised sion until 1834.

that time, 4 Lamoricière w

a noted French general, who

Algeria agains

Sovernor of Paris and minister Of war in 1848. Louis Napoléon, and Was arrested

in 1852.

duc de Nemours, Prince Louis Charles Phili

d'Orléans, was Louis-Philippe, taking part in lived in Engian

hurch south of the Seine, It uare of the same name, situated à little to the the Luxembourg Palace, Make

rs of common ter, etc., abound in this quarter,

in the singular and feminine

of emphasis,

Algeria by France Was begun in

as à colonial posses- Various insurrections have occurred since

as born in 1806 and died in 1865. He was

served with distinction in t Abd-el-Kader, and Was made military

He opposed and afterwards banished

ppe Raphael born in 1814. He was the second son of

and served as a 8eneral in the French army, the Algerian expeditions in 1836-37. He d from 1848 to 1870, and in France from

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1870 to 1886, when he was expelled from the army and went to live in Belgium. Nemours is a town in the department of Seine-et-Marne, 45 miles south-east of Paris.

25. 7. Bugeaud de ja Piconnerie, Thomas Robert, was born in 1784 and died in 1849. In 1836 he was sent to Algiers, where he concluded a treaty with Abd-el-Kader. Four years later he was

made Governor-General of Algeria, and in 1843 Marshal of France. He defeated the Emperor of Marocco at [sly in 1844, for which exploit he was created ‘ Duc d'Isly." He did much to organise the Zouaves as regular troops.

» 8. Abd-el-Kader was born in 1807 and died in 1883. He Was an Arab chief, Emir and Bey of Mascara, celebrated for his protracted resistance to the French armies in Algeria from 1832 to 1847. In the latter year he yielded himself prisoner to General Lamoricière, In 18 52 Napoleon granted him his

freedom on condition that he should not conspire against the French in Africa.

» 12. baïonnette, ‘bayonet,' so called from the town of Bayonne, where it was invented,. Bayonets are of various forms ; a common kind is the Sword-Layonet, a short sword made to fasten by a spring-catch to the barrel of a rifle or carbine, and carried in a scabbard when not so fixed. Baiïonnettes often Stands for soldiers Carrying bayonets.

» 16. franc, ‘franc.’ In 1360 King John of France had a coin struck representing himself on horseback, and with the device Francorum rex, hence the name ‘franc. The franc has been the monetary unit of the decimal System in France since 1795, and is formed of silver and copper alloy. A franc is worth about 9$d Engli money. Zivre is still synonymous with /ranc, but is now only used as money of account, Deux mille francs is about £80, and deux cent cinquante francs is about Lio. Cf. note, p. 60 I. 20.

» 18. Croix: the Cross of the Legion of Honour, an order of distinction and reward for civil a, 1 military services, originally instituted in 1802 by Napoleon when consul, but since modified in

some respects. The order holds considerable Property, the proceeds of which are devoted to the payment of pensions, chiefly to wounded and disabled members.

» 20. faste, ‘pomp'; fasses, ‘annals,” ‘records.

» 23. le passage des Portes de Fer: in 1839 the Duc d'Orléans marched with a powerful army into the interior of Algeria, and received the submission of several chiefs. This was followed by an expedition, in the course of which the army passed through a famous defile called the Biban or Iron Gates, through which the Turks in the height of their power

a Ed

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Page Line had never Passed without Paying tribute to the Arabs, on

Whom this event aCCordingly created a profound impression, as indeed it had been intended to do.

25. 30. oisifs : distinguish between oisif and oiseux. Oisif means

one who happens to be doing nothing, Perhaps quite by chance, whilst viseux denotes one who is in the habit of doing nothing. When Speaking of things, oisif means ‘ that is not used,’ oëseux ‘that is of no use." Un talent ofsif, i.e. ‘one that lies dormant, that js not exercised." Zes détails oiseux, i.e. ‘useless Particulars.'

d'alentour, ‘sSurrounding,' "neighbouring. Alentour is an adverb and cannot therefore be followed by an object. A/enfours,

used as a noun in the plural, means ‘ neighbourhood.'

26. y. que tapissait : transl. ‘Papered with,” or ‘hung with.

* 12, Poniatowski, Prince Jozef Anton, the nephew of King Stanislaus, was born in 1762. He served against the Russians in 1792 and 1794, but retired to Vienna on Kosciusko's defeat. In 1806 he was Persuaded by Napoleon to become the leader of à Polish contingent, which rendered signal service to the French during the Campaign of 1807 against the Russians. In 1809 he invaded Galicia, and in 1812 again joined the French in their Russian Campaign and entered Moscow with Napoleon. In 1813 Napoleon gave him the command of a mixed Corps of French and Poles and made him à marshal Of France just before the battle of Leipzig, where the Prussians, Russians, Austrians and Swedes defeated the French. A few days after, while protecting the retreat of the French, he was wounded and finally

drowned in the river Elster, A Poem has been written on this subject by Béranger (1837).

Elster : there are two rivers of this name, called respectively the Black and the White Elster. The one here meant.is the White Elster, in Central Germany, about 120 miles long, which joins the Saale, a tributary of the Elbe, ne

Leipzig is situated at the junction of the Elster Pleisse and Parthe.

* 15: Confortable is an Anglicism from the English comfortable, which again is from the French confort. The termination able usually bears a passive meaning, as aimable, je. “worthy to

be loved House however, sometimes"used actively, aS in favorable, Sécourable, and as here in confortable,

However, one cannot translate ‘I am comfortable,' ‘are You comfortable ?” ete., literally.

» 22. rhum, ‘rum,' a strong spirit distilled from

the juice of the sugar-c

ane in any form, usually from the refuse juice left

after Sugar-making, but also from molasses,

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26. 26. s'alla promener : somewhat archaic for a//a se promener. 27. 1. séjour : transl. ‘to frequent.'

» 3. absinthe (f.): in botany, ‘wormwood.' Also used for an aromatic liqueur of a greenish colour and very bitter taste, prepared by steeping in alcohol or strong spirit bitter herbs, such as Artemisia Absinthium ; hence the name. Figuratively absinthe means ‘ grief," ‘bitterness.' Leur style est mêlé de felet d'absinthe, ‘their style is a mixture of gall and bitterness.

» 4. il aurait pu dresser de toutes les villes . . un plan : ie. #n plan de toutes les villes. The long explanatory phrase following 2/an has here caused the inversion.

» 9. Chopes : from Germ. Schoppen (‘ pint'), a large glass in the shape of a truncated cone, capable of holding about half a litre of beer, ‘ a beer-glass' or ‘ glass of beer.'

» 24. par trop means ‘much too.’ In Old French per had an intensitive meaning, corresponding to the use of the Latin per be-

fore an adjective; as par grand, ‘ very great: CE Latin permagnus. In Modern French par retains this sense only before #rop. In Latin the preposition 2er could not be separated from the adjective as was frequently done in Old French. Ex.—/ant par est blans come flur en estet, ‘it is as white as a flower in summer.

28. s. édifices can be used of any things arranged or combined with art, in a way in which we sometimes use the word ‘erection."

bols à punch, ‘punch-bowls.' The preposition à signifies that the bowls are intended to hold punch. A &o/ de pPunc/ would mean a bowl actually full of punch. The Hindoo word fanchk m.ans a mixture of five things, and punch was originally su, osed to contain five ingredients, viz. water or tea, sugar, some kind of wine or spirit, cinnamon, and lemon-peel or juice.

» 6. billes de billard, : billiard balls.’ In England the game of billiards is usually played with three balls on a table having six pockets, but the French game is usually played with three balls on a table without pockets.

: » 10. le champagne : used elliptically for Z vin de champagne.

» 11. trémière is only used in the expression rose rémière, a hollyhock or rose-mallow, although #rémier is occasionally used in some parts of France as a noun. Other names for the hollyhock are rose de Damas, de mer, d'outre-mer, and Passe-rose.

» 12. mots Carrés: 2» mot carré is a word

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28. 11. se fit servir : servir is here used to set food or drink on the table,

" 19. point and sas may often be used indiscriminately, but of the two Point conveys a Stronger negative than Pas, even as a “point is smaller than a ‘step.’

’ 22. Ce nouveau venu: When xouveau venu is used as an adjective the Plural is nouveau veHUS, AS nouveau has the force of an adverb (=rouvellement) and is therefore invari. able; but when used as à noun the Plural is nouveaux

VENUS, AS nouveau has the force of an adjective, The plural of NOUveau-né, even when used as a noun, js, however, NOUVEAU-nés.

absolutely in the sense of or before any one.

TAZZias: /4 ras

Razzsias were formerly commonly Algeria and other Provinces for the

»» 28. Constantine, or Constantina, is the Capital of the French

€asternmost part of Algeria. It » Who rebuilt it, In recent

Y a Bey, but when the Bey made common cause with Abd-el-Kader, the town was attacked

and taken after a murderous assault by the French under Nemours, October 1 æ

severe cold, and Clausel Was repul obliged to retreat.

e leader of the force which n 1837.

ame given to a military school situated near Versailles, in the house founded by Mme de Maintenon for the education of Young ladies of noble birth.

se of study lasts for

tWo years. It Corresponds to our ‘Sandhurst.'

“Square, or letter-puzzle, Osen that, When they are form of a Square, they

2 ob a OMR ro EVE LOT cemmaenes rer enan en ane nnen

Alger: Algiers, a seaport town, the c

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may be read alike horizontally and vortically. The words must consist of the same number of letters apiece,

consisting of an enigmatical representation of words or phrases by means of figures or

pictures, or arrangements of words suggestive of them. ‘1 he word is said to have been derived from satirical plays composed by the clerics of Picardy at the annual carnival, and which, from their reference to current topics, were entitled

De rebus quae geruntur, i.e. ‘concerning things which are happening,' ‘on current events.’

le seul qui. . se permit: after / plus, Le Premier, le

dernier, le seul, Le moindre, le meilleur, and other superlative expressions, either the indicative or the subjunctive mood is used, the former when an absolute fact or a positive assertion is declared, the latter when some idea of uncertainty or doubt is desired to be conveyed. Ex.—

l'amour-propre est la seule chose dont on ne vient jamais à bout.

le chien est le seul animal dont la fidélité soit à l'épreuve.

19. le Siècle: a Parisian morning paper of republican views. » 20. fils de Loyola : Ignatius de Loyola was born in Spain in

1491 and died at Rome in 1556. He joined the army and was severely wounded at the siege of Pampeluna (1 521), after which he became converted and visited Rome and Jerusalem, and in 1528 joined the University of Paris. In 1534 he and a few fellow-students founded the order of the Jesuits, which was approved by Pope Paul III. in t 540, and of which Loyola became the first General in 1541. ‘The objects of the Society of Jesus were (1) the education of youth, (2) preaching and instruction to 8rown-up people, (3) the defence of the Catholic faith against heretics and

infidels, and (4) the propagation of Christianity among the heathen by means of missions. Loyola was canonised in 1622.

bially in the sense of aussitôt, dans le même instant.

30. 16. absorber indicates an action completed gradually, by degrees.

Engloutir is used when the action is accomplished suddenly, all at once. Ex. —

un patrimoine est englouti dans une fausse spéculation ; il est absorbé par les procès.

un fleuve s'engloutit dans un abime, il s'absorbe dans Les sables. |

apital of Algeria, was for centuries one of the principal strongholds of the Corsairs or sea-robbers, who infested the Mediterranean and levied

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blackmail Upon all trading vessels. It was bombarded by the English in 1816, and Occupied by the French in 1830.

31. 9. arabes: the Principal inhabitants of Algeria are Berbers, Arabs, Europeans, Jews, Moors, and descendants of Turks. In Marocco, Algeria, Tunis, and Tripoli, Arabian is the Superior language, ‘The classical form of the language is not used, only a dialect being spoken.

‘ 23: 80n pied nu: when is »# invariable ?

allez: cf. note, P

6. onis here used in the sense of je, Ex.—;/ Y à longtemps qu'on ME VOUS a vu, ie, que je ne vous ai vu. Cf. p. 61, 22.

» 8. vienne: the subjunctive is used in this and similar sentences because there is à doubt in the speaker's mind as to whether he will live to see the day come. Cf. the Provincial English ‘come Michaelmas.' lienne la Toussaint is equivalent to guand la Toussaint arrivera.

la Toussaint : ie, / fête de tous Les saints, il Saints’ Day, which falls on the 1st of November, Names ; feast-days are always feminine, because the word /é£e is un.erstood, Toussaint is incorrect, the spelling should be Toussaints, and the Word was formerly correctly spelt with an s at the end.

18. Enfants - Trouvés : used elliptically for ‘l'Hospice des Enfants - Trouvés,' the Foundling Hospital. The first Foundling Hospital was established in Paris by Saint Vincent

de Paul in 1648. See note on Saint Vincent de Paul, p. 13 1. 22.

25. Voilà qui: elliptical for vo5/à quelque chose qui. 26. un soldat .. on le flanque : trans. ‘as for a soldier,” etc.

du moins, ‘at least," ‘at any rate," is especially used to qualify a statemert, {x moëns, ‘at least’ implies degree, quantity, or intensity. Ex, — il est très riche, du moins je le crois.

SÈ vous ne Voules pas être Pour lui, au moins ne soyez pas contre.

Du moins may, however, be sometimes used for ax moins.

Invalides : the : Hôtel des Invalides,' a great establishment in Paris on the left bank of the Seine, which provides a home for disabled or infirm soldiers, was founded by Louis XIV. in 1671 under the administration of Colbert, and afterwards restored by Napoléon I. Beneath the Dôme of the Eglise des Invalides is an open crypt, in which in 1840 Was placed the tomb of Napoiéon,.

33. 11. le sublime lancier de Leipsick : see note, p. 26 1, ra.

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33. 12. un trépas, : death,' ' decease,' is used in poetical style, and conveys with it the idea of passing from one life to the next. Hence it is Properiy used only of persons. A/ort simply refers to the cessation of life, and can be applied on all occasions, and to animals, trees, etc., as well as to persons,

» 26. pas assez riche : i.e, je ne suis pas assez riche,

» 29. feu, meaning : late,' agrees with its noun when it follows the article, but remains invariable when it precedes it, Ex.—/ feue reine ; feu la reine. Feu La reine is used if there is no

n 1! queen living; /a feue reine if she has been succeeded by

another. Z*4 can only be used of Contemporaries, except in burlesque.

Bésigue : éésigue is wrongly personified, according to the

| impression that it was invented by a man of that name,

| of which there appears to be no proof. Bezique is a cardgame for two, three, or four players. The object of the game is to win the aces, tens, and certain other cards, which when declared en-

title the player to score a certain number of points. The captair. evidently betted on the result.

34 2. ça me connaît : familiar for used to that,' 'it is quite fa P 17} 6,

fl » 5. toutes deux : grammarians have tried to establish a dis-hi tinction between fous deux and tous les deux, saying that the \ former meant ' both together,' and the latter merely ' both,' one after the other, or separately and independently ; but in actual speech no such distinction is maintained, Cf. P. SL 27 fous Les deux.

la main : notice, besides the article instead o adjective, the singular instead of the plural, » 18. c'ent dit, 'it is all settled,' 'it js quite decided.'

qu'elie ait : this is the subjunctive of command, Cf. P. 57 L 5 qu'elle descende.

» 24. il faudra, ' one will hav- to," i.e. ' I shall have to.'

bocks : bock-beer is a double-strong variety of German beer,

Sweeter and darker than the ordinary kinds, and more

intoxicating. Bock-bier is Eimbeckisch Bier (beer from Einbeck, or Eimbeck, a town in Prussia),

» 26. il n'y a pas à dire:

'without any doubt.'

Je connais bien cela, 'I am well miliar to me.' For fa cf. note,

f the possessive

transl. ‘there is no mistake about it,’ or

or other part

apñorically for the habitual

&uests or supporters of a tavern. Transl. ‘pillars,

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356. 4. combien n'avait-il pas . . : observe the redundant use of

EE

the negative in exclamation, Poniatowski : see note, p, 26 |, 12.

dès is usually used of time, but occasionally of place, «. here,

réussir, ‘ to succeed,' is usually a neuter verb: but sometimes

is used actively, ar,d then means ‘to execute well” Jt js implied that the cripple would give an artistic finish to her work.

Chartreuse, ‘ charter-house, ‘convent' ‘solitary countryhouse ; also a cordial Or liqueur, compounded by the monks of the famous monastery of la Grande. Chartreuse, near Grenoble, with aromatic plants, growing on the mountains, and brandy,

Quinte et quatorze are here terms used in the game of Piquet. A guinte, or Quint," is composed of five Cards of the same colour, and counts fifteen. A Juatorse, or * fourteen ' Consists of four cards of the same value, as four aces, four kings, etc., and « ’unts

fourteen, Av: vinte et quatorze is used figuratively for ‘to have the g + in one's own hands.

il n'y put tenir, ‘ he could not hold out," i.e, ‘he could not ar it any longer."

Mille tonnerres : cf. the German Donnerwetter. c'est fini: ie. ‘the change or reformation is complete,’

ment : the usual ending for French adverbs. It comes from the Latin mente, ablative case of mens, ‘a mind,’ used in the sense of ‘way,’ : fashion. Since mens was feminine, the adjective had to be always in the ablative feminine ; hence French adverbs are still formed, as a rule, by adding the Suffix ment to the feminine form of the adjective,

il sera mort: notice the future in French instead of the English present after a temporal conjunction.

tous les jours, ‘every day." Toute la Journée means ‘the whole day long.’

88 Title. Le Remplacant, ‘a substitute,' used technically of one who

takes the place of another, who is then called le remplacé, in military service. Ze remplacé is answerable for the conduct Of his remplaçant for à Year. The story of the Remplaçant seems to have been, in part at least, suggested to Coppée by the appearance of a boy who had been picked up out of the £&utter by the poet Catuille Mendès. Cf. the following quotation “vith the opening of tlie Story as told by Coppée :—

‘ Le souvenir nous transporte dans le petit rez-de-chaussée de ia rue de Douai, où demeurait Catulle Mendès, vers 1865

rues

RIDE AS Pom ps a RE mms qh hop VAS

At GR RS metre AP MT md à Sp pe deu k non hein nintendo aranamie

Page LINE

la Bastille: Bastille

+... Îl viendra du monde, ce soir. On a allumé la lampe . . et toutes les bougies qu'on a pu; et Covielle, le petit domestique, vient même de disposer ce qu'il faut pour le thé.

‘ Covielle, c'est un voyou du boulevard des Batignolles qui, à quatorze ans, a déjà fait le tour du monde en qualité de mousse et qui, tout récemment, servait de pitre au marchand de poil à gratter de la place Clichy. Son vrai nom ? on le sait peut-être aux Enfants-Trouvés et aux Jeunes- Détenus. Mais Catulle Mendès à un jour recueilli ce gavroche par charité, en a fait son groom, et l'a baptisé Covielle, en souvenir des farces de Molière. Demain, profitant d'une absence de son maitre, il s'enfuira, après avoir vendu la pendule et mis les deux matelas au Mont-de-Piété ; mais aujourd'hui encore, il est fidèle ; il essuie les tasses, fait chauffer l'eau et Coupe en tranches égales le baba ; car on attend des poîtes, des camarades." De Lescure, François Coppée, pp. 45, 46.

Was originally a common name given to a citadel or fortress: the word Was afterwards applied in particular to the old fortress in Paris, the erection of which was begun in 1369. After the other mediaeval fortifications of the city had been destrnyed, it was still presc :ved and used as a prison for persons confined at the arbitrary decree of the king or his ministers. It Was stormed by the populace in the Great Revolution on July 14, 1789, and was soon afterwards demolished, The site is now occupied by a square, in the centre of which is a column, surmounted by a Statue of Liberty. Za Fête Nationale is held on the r4th of July, to commemorate the taking of the Bastille,

corde à boyau : see note, p. 39 1. 12

dix centimes, deux sous : a centime is the hundredth part of a franc, and a sou is 5 centimes, or a halfpenny.

du poil à gratter : see note, D-39 rx

Montmartre is situated to the north of Paris, and on a hill. It possesses old quarries, in which a variety of gypsum, called montmartrite, was found, and from which plaster of Paris is made. St. Denis is said to have been martyred on the

Butte Montmartre. The slopes of the hill next the city have been laid out as a public garden.

Frères : i.e. members of a religious body. The society of the 'Fières des écoles chrétiennes,' for instance, possesses schools in every arrondissement of Paris,

voilà is here used elliptically for voilà ce qui est arrivé.

Crimée : sec note, p, 161, r.

me flanquait des calottes: /x ralorte is a ‘skull-cap,'

* 20. rempailleur de chaises : i. e. celui » 24. à sa dix-septième année :

++ 28. les égouts : the sewers are visited

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‘ calotte,' ‘Cardinalship,' etc figurative sense ofa‘tap,':

‘cuffed me.’

39. 6. la place Clichy is in the north Montmartre Cémetery, and at the de Clichy and des Batignolles.

9. rarportäisa Popular expression for à cause de, * 10. Lariboisière : see note, p. 151 &.

‘* IT. poil à gratter : a popular Expression, being the name i YS, etc., in order jokes on one änother, They secret]y scatter i € place where it may ir unfortunate victim, itant. The seeds from the Purpose, Cf. note,

» 12. racleur de corde à boyau, ‘the fiddler, Corde à boyau is ‘cat-gut.’

frottant une corde à boyau.

*; alsc used in the Popular and rap,” ‘ cuff on the head.” Transl,

Of Paris, just South of the junction of the Boulevards

: fiddle-scraper. = Cf. the Expression, p. 38 1. 6, en

Un frotteur or un racleur de XPressions, applied to an

le or other Stringed instrument.

* 15. haut comme Une botte: lit, :

Le very short ; he was about te

as tall as a Wellington boot,' n Years old at this time.

now destroyed, as it is the intention to remove the prisons Outside the city.

de rempailleur de Chaises.

he had then been seven years in the House of Correction.

le pavé Parisien : i.e, Zs rues de Paris.

"to come upon the Streets." The boy had

fixed OCCupation : he Was therefore both lit Phorically su e pavé.

Cf. the expression no home and no erally and meta-

as one of the sights of und network about 765 ce for visitors is in the

Paris. The Pipes form an undergro miles in length. The usual entran Place du Châtelet, les nuits de bal, 'on ball nights."

IN Various theatres of Paris during the Carnival, and balls

and masquerades take place all the Year round in halls ana Bardens made for the purpose.

Masqued balls are held

RS IDE OM Beat me errant roro eparg arte

gr mi oi mon

Page LINE

39. 29. le passage de l'Opéra : a small narrow lane, leading into the Boulevard des Italiens, opposite to the site of the Opéra Comique, which was burnt down in 1887.

» 31. hercules : the name of Hercule is commonly bestowed upon the strong man in a fair. It is a common practice to pay boys or men to allow themselves to be thrown by the strong man, after a certain show of resistance.

40. 5. Sainte-Pélagie, a house of detention, containing 650 cells, built before the Revolution for persons condemned for misdemeanours to not more than one year's imprisonment, is now used for political offenders. It is situated behind the church of the same name, between the Place Monge and the Jardin des Plantes, south of the Seine.

» 20. les politiques, 'the politicians,' here used ironically for those who had committed small political offences.

' 21. Soupe et le bœuf: the regulation prison-'1re, which might be supplemented at the prisoner's own expense.

»» 24. la Carmagnole : a song and dance very popular during the Revolution. The original song was military only, but became much fiercer in character in 1793, When it was called ' La Carmagnole des Royalistes." The name was afterwards

applied contemptuously to a soldier of the revolutionary armies.

» 25. le Ça ira: this was one of the popular songs which sprang up at the time of the French Revolution. The refrain was 'Ah! çaira, ça ira, ça ira! Les aristocrat' à la lanterne !' etc., i.e. hang the aristocrats to the street-lamps.

» 27. Citoyen, 'citizen." This word was used during the Revolution as the only form of address, instead of monsieur, etc., as a sign of the equality of all.

41. 6. son temps fait, 'his time up,' or 'when his time was up."

» 15. la rue de Jérusalem: in this street is situated the Préfecture de Police, which lies between the Palais de Justice and the Place du Parvis Notre-Dame in the Île de la Cité. Here are kept documents relating to every offence, as well as personal descriptions of the offenders. The Paris police were the first to use the system of taking impressions in wax of the thumbs of criminals to serve as a means of recognition.

»» 16. ses nom et prénoms: when two nouns stand for the names of persons or things which are intimately connected, the possessive adjective may be used once in the plural instead of being repeated before and agreeing with each noun separately. Hence ses nom et prénoms is here used instead of son nom et ses prénoms. Cf, ses père et mère.

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41. 21. la Californie: the name given to kitchens situated in a very poor Quarter.

ay at chuck-penny.

Jouer au bouchon IS 0 play a game which consists in knocking down with a quoit or other instrument a cork on which are placed pieces of money. ‘Les éternels joueurs de bouchon €n manches de chemise” (De Lescure, François Coppée, p. 18 + and compare id. P. 188).

» 25. barrière, ‘a barrier,' or : Sate.” The Fortific Paris were Constructed in Consequence of a 1840. The Enceinte, or Wall of enclosure, ji The ramparts are Surmounted by à wide rounded by a moat. The approaches to the city are guarded by forts, arrange in a double line. The walls are pierced by sixty-six Sates, called Portes or Barrières, at which taxes are levied on articles brought into the City. Un commis de

barrière is an oct i official. The Barrières are usually surrounded by slums.

il portait la Casquette grasse en arrière, ‘he wore a BTEASY cap at the back of his head.’

»» 28. chez Constant : Constant is the name of the owner of a

very inferior dancing-saloon in the Quartier de Montparnasse, which is only resorted to by a low class of people,

Montparnasse : the name given to a district in Paris to the South-west of the Jardins du Luxembourg.

The southern cemetery is called the Cimetière du Montparnasse, and to

the north of this cemetery runs the boulevard of the same

ations of decree issued in

” 29. à la porte de Bobino : this was the name of à then café near the Luxembourg Gardens. ‘La Première d [i.e. the first representation of Coppée's Play of that name], je me la rappelle comme si c'était hier, On l'avait annoncée, prônée, escomptée au café de Bobino, voisin des arbres du Luxembourg, où se réunissaient les Parnassiens, où passait Rochefort, où venait de débarquer, avec Pierrot héritier, Paul Arène au bras d'Alphonse Daudet, célèbre déjà par les Lettres de mon Moulin. —De Lescure, François Coppée, PP. 118, rro.

42. 1. le marché AUX Chevaux: the horse-market js situated South of the Jardin des Plantes, in the angle formed by the junction of the Boulevards de l'Hôpital and St-Marcel,

» 10. Poissy, à town in ‘he department of Seine-et-Oise Versailles), has à S«ation on the Paris-Rouen railway large cattle and sheep market.

» 23. Toulon, a seaport in the department of naval station in France, and the chief

tre and a u Passant

(capital and a

Var, is the second

tt Station Of the Mediter-

Page LINE ranean fleet. There are two inner harbours, called the Old or Mercantile Harbour and the Naval or New Harbour. By the naval port are the bagne or convict-house and the hospital for convicts. Since Coppée wrote this story, convicts have ceased

to be sent to the bagne and are taken to Nouméa instead. This change was effected in 1873.

42. 23. le boulet au pied: convicts and deserters are condemned to have a heavy .ball attached to their foot by a chain about 24 yards long, in order to prevent their escape.

…, 25. Trafalgar : the battle of Trafalgar was fought in 1805.

» 29. Vernon, a town of about 8000 inhabitants, in the department of Eure, has a station on the Paris-Rouen railway, and stands on the left bank of the Seine.

», 30. la rivière : i.e. the Seine.

Montmartre : see note, P. 381. rs

» 28. qui persévèrent : in Matthew (xviii. 13) the verse runs : ‘ Et s’il arrive qu'il la trouve, je vous dis en vérité qu'il en a plus de joie que des quatre-vingt-dix-neuf qui ne se sont point égarées.” In Luke the version runs (xv. 7): ‘Je vous dis qu'il y aura de même plus de joie dans le ciel pour un seul pécheur qui s’amende que pour quatre-vingt-dix-neuf justes qui n'ont pas besoin de repentance.' Cf. also verse IO.

44. 2. que celle: transl. ‘was that,’ etc. Cf. note, p. 24 I. 24.

,, 28. malin, ‘shrewd/' ‘cunning.” This sentence is exclamatory and elliptical ; transl. ‘shrewd indeed would be,’ etc. The verb serait is understood.

45. 26. limousin : Limousin was a province in the south-west of France, capital Limoges. This town, now the capital of the department of Haute-Vienne, is famous for its porcelain.

» 28. allait à la messe, ‘went to mass.” Most of the workmen and labourers in Paris are freethinkers, and attend no services.

Auvergnat : cf. note, Dao ke

» 10. du bien, ‘some property,’ ‘land.’ Auvergne is a winegrowing district, and the Auvergnat wanted to buy a vineyard.

» 16. rébus : see note, p. 291 r2.

47. 1. ne vint: craindre governs the subjunctive, as je crains qu'il ne vienne, ‘1 fear he will come’; and the force of the verb is here attributed to the noun crainte, as in the expression de crainte qu’il ne vienne, ‘ for fear lest he come.’

Notice the use of redundant #e when the whole sentence 1s affirmative.

»» 19. bals de barrières : balls held in low dancing-saloons situated near the gates. Cf. note, p. 41 1. PE

. QU'il: gue refers to l'entrée.

Notes IOI Page LINE 47. 29. il ne se croyait pas le droit : Le. {/ ne croyait Pas avoir

le droit, ‘he aid not consider he had the right.

48. 9. louis: à gold coin, formerly worth 24 francs, now worth 20, also called Zuis d ‘or. The name Was given to the coin when first struck in the reign of Louis XIIL, &s it bore on One side the name and head of that king. In the new Monetary system the louis has been replaced by the 20-franc Piece, but the name is still sometimes used,

» 12. à moins que, ‘unless,’ governs the subjunctive, which is Preceded by the particle ne. Cf. de crainte que and de peur que.

» 23. Empereur: i.e. Napoléon Bonaparte, Emperor 1804-14, died in 1821. Cf. P. 491 15.

un gros vieux . . : evidently Louis XVIIL, 1815-24. Cf. P. 49 1 rs.

25. Philippe: Louis-Philippe, Surnamed ‘Je roi citoyen," was born in 1773, Was king of the French 1830-48, and died in 1850. Cf. p. 49 L 15.

» 26. m' this wo is only used fcr emphasis.

” 30. dans la malle: the money was in Savinien's Waistcoat, which had been found in his trunk.

ça me connaît : see note, P. 34 L

» 15. sur mon compte, ‘about me.’

», 18. les grosses bottes : je. Les Sergents de ville.

» 28. Cayenne, the Capital of French Guiana, is situated on an island, and is a wretched place with à shallow harbour. Since the

Revolution of 1848 Cayenne island has been made a penal settlement.

52. 6. en boutique de, ‘ who kept shop in.' Cf. chambre in Vocab.

Te Pas-de-la-Mule : the name of a street running into the Boulevard Beaumarchais, and alongside the Place des Vosges, a Short distance from the Place de la Bastille, in a north-westerly direction.

» 14. boulevard Beauma;-chais : this boulevard TUDS in a north- Westerly direction from the Place de Ja Bastille, north of the Seine. Pierre Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais was born in 1732 and died in 1799. Heis chiefiy celebrated as the author of Ze Barbier de Séville and Le Mariage de Figaro.

» 17. fine cuisinière : an elliptical phrase. Z//- était is understood.

de br ee her

te maine ranger

RE EE EEE

Page Live 52. 17. était . . sur sa bouche, ‘studied good living.”

53. 3. poses de sonnettes, ‘hanging of bells.' Transl. ‘hang bells, open doors,' etc.

» 8. couchée : coucher, ‘to put to bed," ‘lay down,’ ‘write down,’ or ‘insert,’ as here. Trans. ‘ I should have mentioned you, inserted your name in my will.’

-» 14 la rue Amelot: à narrow street, running parallel with the Boulevard Beaumarchais. Amelot de la Houssaye died at Paris in 1706 ; he was a diplomat and publicist, and author of the Æistoire de Guillaume de Nassau, etc,

19. Sens: a city in the department of Yonne, about 60 miles to the south-east of Paris, on the Paris-Lyon road. It has a

famous church, nearly as large as Notre-Dame de Paris, and remains of Roman walls.

»» 25. 8e fendit : se fendre, 'to split,' ' crack," is used in a popular Way for 'io commit an unwonted extravagance." Transl, 'bestowed upon her, in a fit of unwonted generosity.'

54 8. j'espère : espérer que, used affirmatively, is followed by the future or conditional ; used negatively or interrogatively, by the subjunctive. ÆEspérer is here used figuratively, referring to a fact accomplished, as we Say, e.g., 'I Æope you have been sufficiently long in coming." This use of the word is always slightly satirical.

»» 24. faïence: nouns used as adjectives to express colour are invariable, See Vocabulary also.

» 31. Ce sera l'affaire de, 'it will be a question of," 'it will cost.'

55. 6. quel jour, la cérémonie? an elliptical phrase, 'which day will the ceremony take place ?

» 8. entre messe et vépres : High Mass is usually begun at 10 or 11 o'clock in the morning, and vespers at 2 or 3 in the afternoon.

>» 9. Saint-Paul : this church is situated in the Rue St-Antoine,

not far from the Place de la Bastille. It was erected in the seventeenth century.

» 10, et ma commère? transl, ‘and who is to stand godmother with me?’ Roman Catholic children need not have more

than one godfather and godmother (as here), or they may have several,

» 14. à bien fait les choses, ‘ has acted handsonnely.

»» 20. haricots: ata christening it is customary to have quantities : of dragées, i.e. sweet almonds covered with sugar, usually of a white colour. These are thrown in handfuls amongst the crowd of onlookers. At a Captême populaire white eans

are often mixed with the dragées for the sake of economy.

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56. 21. seize à quinze . + : the first of each of these Pairs of numbers represents the emballeur's score ; the second, M. Matous-

saints. They arc intended to show that the latter js steadily losing, 57. 1. après, ‘on. :

* 27. Que ce soit : for que ce ne soit.

58, 29. il faut le dire, ‘one must confess.‘

59. 6, la Ménagère is à bazaar at which all kinds of household requisites may be obtained. It is situated in the Boulevard

Bonne-Nouvelle, which lies to the north-west of the Place de la République,

60. x. expéditionnaire : the verb expédier (Lat. expedire) means Primarily ‘to expedite,' ‘to hasten,' as expédier La besogne ; then ‘to send ‘forward,’ as EXpédier une caisse ; and finally 10 copy," expédier un acte ; hence zne expédition, * expedition," ‘dispatch,' copy." From Expédition is formed ex- Péditionnaire, denoting a Person whose business it is to dispatch goods, ‘a commission-agent,' ‘a copying-clerk.'

* 3: Camarade de pièce : Pièce here is ‘ room.’

un nommé Jean Vidal: ie. #n homme nommé Jean Vidal, ‘a man named Jean Vidal," or ‘one Jean Vidal by name.’ 4 la campagne d'Italie : the Campaign of 1859, under the leadership of Napoleon III. against Austria ; battles of Monte’ ello, Magenta, and Solferino.

* 7. en ronde, en bâtarde, en gothique : different styles of

handwriting, Viz. ‘round hand, Slanting round band, old English.’

» 9. le paraphe, also spelt Parafe, is the ‘flourish' which some people add to their signatures.

» 12. poils: in French Poil (from Lat. Pilus, ‘ single hair) is the Seneral term for ‘ hair’ : Cheveu (from Lat. Capillus, ‘hair of head or face ‘) is reserved for the hair of the human head ; and crin (from Lat. crinis, ‘hair’ generally) is long and thick hair, as Z crin

d'un cheval, Les crins d'un lion. Cf. La crinière, ‘ mane.' When Speaking of animals Poil corre- Sponds c'ten to the English ‘ coat of hair,’ and by extension denotes : colour of hair,’ as quel est le Poël de votre cheval É and is also used of the hair of the beards of men; but only Contemptuously of the head for les cheveux or 'la chevelure, 28 Son poil grisonne, il à Le Poil roux, etc.

barbiche, diminutive of Z7 barbe, denotes a beard on the chin, a ‘billy-goat beard.’

» 13. d'ancien ZOUave : the zouaves are French light infantry

serving in Algeria, and Wearing a quasi-Moorish dress and a

rhin seene rh temples

ad mn

ÉrRn se D PIE

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billy-goat beard. They derive their name from the Zwawa, a tribe of Kabyles in the Algerian province of Constantine, and were formerly partly recruited from natives,

60. 16. Jà-bas: lit. ‘ down there’ : the idea of #as, ‘ down, is now hardly ever felt when this common expression is used : its

meaning is generally vague and tells one that the place spoken of is some distance away.

17. au fond de Grenelle : ‘right in the heart of Grenelle, ' Grenelle was formerly a Village to the west of Paris, with

slaughter-houses and an artesian well. Since 1860 it has formed part of the capital.

20. Croix: the Cross of the Legion of Honour. There are five classes of this order. Soldiers holding the Cross of the sth class receive an annuity of 250 francs. ‘The ribbon of the Cross is of watered scarlet silk. Cf. note, P. 25 1. 18.

appointements, ‘salary." The usual word for the salary of officials is now Z traitement ; les appointements is more and more confined to the salary of commercial men. Les gages and % salaire Correspond to Engl. ‘wages.” Cf. Vocab.

rue Montorgueil : the Rue Montorgueil runs from Les

; Halles Centrales (the Paris markets) northward towards the Boulevard Bonne N ouvelle.

7. à la Bello-Jardinière : a large shop for read at the Quai, corner of Rue du Pont-Neuf.

», 13. l'École Militaire : situated between the Hôtel des Invalides and the Boulevard de Grenelle, founded by Louis XV. in 1761 ‘pour y élever 500 gentilshommes dans toutes les sciences nécessaires et convenables Pour un officier.” It now contains

the École Supérieure de Guerre, and is a very handsome building,

y-made clothing

»» 22. demi-heure.

cf. note, p. 14 1. 18, and Vocabulary under demi-voix.

devant: itis usual in Paris to h front of the cafés on the pavemer refreshments.

l'avenue de 1a Mothe-Piquet, between the École Militaire and the Champ de Mars, 806$ up to the Hôtel des Invalides,

ave in the summer tables in it for the customers to take

wa, line,

now : its ken

Ile, vith has

five

sth the

1ry

pes

64 3. à l'autre: this is a popular and no

Notes

l'age LINE

The spelling ought to be Wofte instead of Aothe, which Coppée has.

boulevard de Grenelle: cf. note, p. 60 1. 17 and map

’” 9. Conservant Je pincement de la taille et la carrure des épaules, ‘ Preserving the shape of a narrow Waist and broad shoulders, as they did; Dincer, ‘to pinch'; /2 Carrure, ‘breadth of back.’

» 10. On ne sait quel aspect presque humain : lit. ‘one does

» Meaning ‘one knows it,

but it would be difficult to Express it exactly," hence ‘some

look or other about them, which reminded one of a living

being.

» 14. Moignon: the Slump of à tree that has been cut down, or

of à limb that has been amputated ; refers here to his amputated arm.

» 15. Officier d'Afrique : not an wfficer who Was a native of Africa. Cf. note, p. 60 1, 13.

la jupe à cent plis, lit. ‘the skirt with a hundred folds,

refers to the Peculiar dress of the Zouaves (cf. note, 1. 13), who wear very wide trousers which almost look like skirts. Say ‘ with their wide pleated trousers.

» 17. à la houzarde, ‘in the hussar fashion,’ j.e. ‘as on the hussar aniforms, you know.” The spelling kousard seems unusual ;

the ordinary spelling is hussard, and sometimes houssard or housard.

» 23. C’est du Premier zouaves :

?ouaves.

63. 13. comment a-t-elle pu s'échouer 1à? ‘how in the world can {£ have landed there ?" S'éhouer,'to Strand,” ‘ run aground.' » 14. Melegnano : former!y Marignano, 12 miles south-east of l'lan, In June 1859 à French force under Baraguay

Hilliers routed here the Austrian reéarguard under Benedek.

Le. du premier régiment des

les corbeaux, lit. ‘ravens,' refers here to the

dark forms of doubtful character thät appear at nig

ht on the battlefield.

t exactiy bpolite Way of

Speaking of a third Person, e.g. Où est l'autre? Xegardez

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cet autre! Here it is elliptical for Ze nom qui appartient à l'autre,

64 6. il n'avait pas volé son surnom, ‘he had not stolen his nickname,’ ie, he bore this nicknamc not without a reason.

» 7. Sifflent douze petits verres: siffler, lit. ‘ whistle,’ in popular language ‘ to drink," ‘ pour down" ; un petit verre, ‘ a liqueur glass," ‘a glass of brandy.'

9. à la quatrième du second, ‘in the fourth company of the 2nd battalion.'

» 11. Chapardeur : ‘oldiers' slang for maraudeur, * marauder.' aimant les batteries, : being fond of fighting.’

‘+ 15. que le particulier n'était pas commode, ‘that he was not an easy customer to deal with.’

» 17. dépôt : the place where the recruits are drilled ; say ‘barracks.'

» 18. toucha la prime et tira une bordée de trois jours, ‘received his earnest and went on the booze for three days. La prime de rengagement was the money paid to a French soldier on re-enlisting which made the contract complete.

» 24. des tringlos: military slang for artillerymen ; say ‘ gunners.”

» 26. On lui flanqua quinze jours de bloc: flanquer, ‘to flank,' fam. ‘to give," ‘ shy”"; &/0c, in soldiers' slang ‘ guardroom."

» 27. et on lui retira ses galons, ‘and degraded him.’ 65. 4. faire le coup de feu, ‘to take up the musket,' ‘to fight." en Kabylie : a mountainous district to the east of Algiers.

7. 80rti de l'école : one who had been educated as an officer,

a former gentleman cadet, as contrasted with one who has risen from the ranks.

» 10. huit jours... de police : confinement to the barracks for a week.

» 13. la fantasia: Arab military sports, in which horsemen career aboct discharging their muskets.

», 28. déclare la guerre aux Autrichiens : cf. note, p. 60 L 4 66. 9. flingot: popular for ‘ gun.’ 67. 5. les habits blancs. the Austrians.

» 28. laisser choir, ‘to drop'; choir is almost obsolete, it has given Way to omber.

68. 8. à la baïonnette! elliptical for charger à la baionnette, ‘charge with the bayonets ! °

Tr,

er

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Page LiNr

68. 16, le terrassement, ‘earthwork,' embankment on which the Austrian battery was raised

69. 2. en l'air: en does not, as a rule, admit of the article after it, except before /', e, &. en l'état, en l'absence, en d'horrible situation, en ! ‘air, en ! ‘honneur, However, in a few cases it is usual to have en before la: en la chambre du conseil, en la présence de . *» Se confier en la Providence.

‘7. les zouaves: it is usual to employ the Possessive adjective to bring out a Vocative in French, ER. l'enes, mes enfants / but in everyday language it is not uncommon to use the definite article

for this purpose, e. S: la vieille, où peut-on se cacher ici ? (Balzac),

70. 5. c'est du Plutarque! Plutarch lived A.p. 46-120. He Was born at Chaeroneia in Boeotia, He received his higher education at Athens. He paid more than one visit to Rome, where he enjoyed the friendship of several men of mark. He is the encyclopaedist of antiquity, and is best known through his Parallel Lives.

The allusion (p. 69 1. 28) :5 perhaps to Plutarch's account of Pyrrhus, who, on being congratulated on his victory over the Romans, said, ‘Such another victory and we are undone!’ For he had lost the chief part of the forces which he brought with him.

» 10. Charcuté : charcuter, ‘to cut up," ‘to chop up’ (meat) ; by extension, fig, ‘to mangle," ‘ cut and slash.’ Cf. le Charcutier, pork-butcher.’ la charcuterie, pork-butcher's shop.’ de la charcuterie, dressed pork, Sausages, ham' etc. ” 13: rapport à: cf. note, P. 39 L. o.

» 17. Ïl a pris un drapeau à l'ennerai : Cf. Ôter gc. à gn., Emprunter ge. à qn., acheter 9C. à gn., ‘to take away from,’ ‘to borrow from,’ ‘to buy from.’

» 18. quand je fus: why the past definite ?

‘* 21. qu'on l'avait décoré : the Cross of the Legion of Honour ‘

had been bestowed upon him ‘ 27. toujours, still’

‘» 31. à deux pas: notice the use of the Preposition ä to denote distance,

EE demandait : why not the subjunctive? Cf. note, p. 61 19.

r 3. de mon Mieux, ‘as best I could.” Obseérve the idiomatic use of de in this and similar Expressions, e,g, —

(ei. LP

TARN Me Darerannee:]

per

et EE PRE TS LI

LR |Lrarimgnte

Entré.

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il a fait du pis qu'il a 22, ‘he has done his worst.’

êls sont partis de très bonne heure, ‘ they started very early." une chambre longue de vingt Dieds, ‘a room 20 fect long.’ de cet!e manière, ‘in this manner.'

de /açon à . ., ‘in such a Way asto , ,'

71. 16. de nombreuses Hbations : faire des libations, or d'amples libations, means in popular language ‘to tipple,' ‘to drink to excess.'”

» 30. l'hôpital militaire du Gros-Caillou : a military hospital not far from the École Militaire,

72. 1. Charenton: Charenton-le- Pont is a small town 4 miles southcast of Paris, on the right bank of the Marne. At the other side of the river is the National Lunatic Asylum here referred to,

» 6. il s'est vengé: an allusion to the ‘vendetta’ of the Corsicans, ie, the practice of individuals taking private Yengcance upon those who shed the blood of their relatives.

VOCABULARY

Note.—This vocabulary is not intended to contain all the words occurring in the text.

abandon (un), ‘ desertion,' : forlornness,"_‘ resignation,' ‘negli- | aller : see va

gence, etc.; means also entre | allez va, allons, and alles may all child-like confidence or trust in be used as interjections. Transl. others x ‘T can tell you |‘ or ‘come !” à l'—, ‘uncared for .

tout est à l—,‘ey erything is at sixes | amazone (une), ‘amazon, and sevens' ‘female rider’ or ‘horse.woman ' abbé (un), ‘an abbot,' then holy | ‘riding-habit !

generally for any one in holy amener, ‘to bring,’ ‘induce,

air (avoir l'), ‘to seem,' appear ‘

orders, ‘an ecclesiastic ‘produce,’ etc. ; in speaking of abondance (une), ‘ abundance dice or lots, ‘to draw," or ‘throw” dans l'— de son cœur, ‘in the full. ia amené double six, ‘he threwsixes' ness of her heart ancilla Domini, ‘ handmaid of

aborG {tout d'), ‘in the first !

place," ‘ at once’

affolé, : distracted,' 'beside himself'

the Lord': an expression taker, from the Vulgate : : dixit autem Maria : Ecce ancilla Domini, fiat 5 mihi secundum verbum tuum.' âge (un), ' Ne — 5 1 Lucae v. 38 ré Re Fours apéritif(un),'an appetising drink" da fleur de l—, 'the prime of life" | appel (un), 'call' : Calling,' entre deux = _——. old nor | 'appeal,' etc.; means also L ——. _—_. e Muldle ... "roll-call,' usually sounded by agent (un), 'agent" Sometimes| trumpets or drums

: cour d'—, 'court of a peal" es stands for agen/s de police, | — enr armes 'pain. 'ieallioarms' Policemen | : | appointements (les), 'salary" — de change, stc ck-broker | le traitement js the salary of civil — 70yer, "road-surveyor | se ints and professional men |

aide (une), ' assistance des — , of a clerk in business à —, 'help!' des gages Corresponds to wages which venir en — à, 'to assist," ' succour * are fixed per annum, as those of à l— de, 'by means of" | domestic servants ## —, 'a helper," 'an assistant | 4 salaire, wages paid weekly, as — "maçon, 'hodman helper,' 'brick. | those of a workman

layer's labourer y

la solde is à soier's Pay

apprendre, 'to learn,' 'iohear':!as de trèfle (un), 'are of clubs"

'to teach,' ' to inform de trèfle means 'clover,' 'trefoil,' Je lui apprendraï à vivre, '1 will teach "club" (at cards). .The club is in him manners the shape of a trefoil leaf après? 'what then?' : what | assez (en voilà), or c'en est assez, next ?' 'that's enough,' 'that will do,' argousin (un): a popular term 'have done" for a policeman. The name is assises (la cour d'), 'an assizealso applied to a

convict-keeper Court consisting of twelve juryarrache", ‘ to tear out, ‘tear off, men and presided over by three

‘rend, ‘wrest off’; also ‘to magistrates : ; 3 save,’ ‘extort.’ Distinguish be- ” re course” (arch.), ‘layer tween arracher de and arracher Fu (no sing.) is ‘ assizes ” ‘Quand on arrache &, c'est | astiquer, ‘to polish ctarbish up’ la personne ou la chose UE | — son fourniment, ‘to clean up l'on arrache qui résiste, Quand one's accoutrements ? =

on arriche à, c'est la personne attendre, hs Wait, ‘await

ou la siose à laguelle on arrache | *— : : à, ‘to expect

Encsisie” auprès de, ‘near’; sometimes see e- SE means ‘incomparison with": also — #n clou d'ine muraille, ‘to wrench z with," ‘inth Fe e a nailout of a wall” Le clou résiste neans With," ‘in the service of — un œil à une. personne, ‘to ls sont heureux — nous, ‘they are

tear out a person's eye.” C'esz fortunate compared with us

la personne qui résiste Also ‘in the opinion of arranger, ‘to set in order,’ mr ee Le 4 do RER s pe aitor in his ‘make up,” ‘suit’. ‘repair, PER Me cr ‘ deck,” ‘serve out.” It is used au

tant (d'— plus que), ‘the

figuratively and familiarly for more because, ‘the more so

‘to ill-treat,' ‘put in a bad

that’ state,” ‘ do an ill turn to’ d'— mieux que is used with the same voyez donc comme la Dluie l'a ar. meaning

rangé, ‘ just see what a nice plight the rain has made him in

‘by so many” Je larrangerai de la bonne Jaçon, | avance (d'}, à l'avance and par ‘he shall catch it?

= 5 avance mean ‘ beforehand ' Sarranger, :used reflexively, means ‘ bef, (of ti ‘to make arrangements,” ‘set up | aVant, elore” (of time), prep., house,’ ‘ settle? IS sometimes used absolutely,

d'—, used alone, means “by so much;

arrêter, ‘to stop,’ ‘seize,’ ‘arrest' in the sense of auparavant or ‘apprehend ' en —, ‘ forward !’ ‘come on !* J'aire — un débiteur, ‘to have a debtor Fine a | bagarre (une), ‘fray,' ‘scuffle” — #n Comple, O CIose an accoun | , L — un jour, ‘lo appoint à day | balafre (une), ‘a gash,' ‘slash article (voyageait per son): a ban (rompre son), ‘to break one's Rs expn FE l'oyager is ban,’ return to a place in which used in a technical sense for to _— bas not permission to retravel in business. Cf ne side; in the case referred to

pression ## commis voyageur, ‘a — P Li L 3tand p.511. 5, Paris commercial traveller was beyond the ban ; ‘ 3 Les article is also used in a technical banquette (la), ‘a bench,' ‘ seat, sense for ‘goods,’ ‘ wares ? ‘Outside’ (of coaches), ‘ foot-

Vocabulary III

Path”; also à long bench, with blague (la), ‘ nonsense ' ‘joking, stuffed seat but no back ‘bantering'

une place de —, ‘an outside place” blanche (une nuit), ‘a sleepless Jouer devant ls —$, ‘to play to night er à benches avoir cart: —, ‘to have a free hand’ barbiche (la), ‘a tuft of beard on 5

the chin,' ‘a chin-beard = à he bas-côté (le) : lateral aisle of the] es ve : blancs, ‘blank rse” nave of a church, usually nar- | bock ::}) ‘à glass co! beer' rower and often lower than the boire :4 paye. ‘to drink away central part of the nave OnES Wages, i.2 ‘to spend all bâtarde (la), i.e. écriture bâtarde, one's wages in rink' ‘inclined writing,” ‘runninghand'| _— sec, ‘to drink neat' battus (avoir les yeux), ‘to be T fomme un trou, corrme une éponge, , to drink like a fish black under the cyes un afront, ‘to put up with an beau : avoir beau, followed by an insalt” infinitive, = ‘to be in vain’ bonhomme, ‘good - natured,’ on & — crier, ‘one cries in vain’ ; ‘easy-going ’ bec (le), ‘ beak,' : bill," : nib,"| 47 Son petit — de chemin, ‘to jog ‘spout,' ‘angle’ along” — de corne, as p. 15 1. 21, ‘a horn | bon numéro (le), ‘a lucky numhandle” : ber,” ie. ‘a high number.

D es pu ns well able to Before 1872 men who drew avoir bon —, ‘to be à chatterbox ’ Sufficiently high numbers were lenir quel-qu'un de — dans l'eau, ‘to excused service in the army. keep a person in suspense” At present the conscription is universal

un blanc: —, ‘greenhorn Un — de gaz, ‘gas-burner' | ; :

WA — de cane, ‘metal handle of a bond (le), ‘leap'; bondir, “10 door,’ also ‘ spring-lock leap' bête (la), ‘a beast ‘silly creature” | bord (termes de), ‘ nautical £708se —, ‘ great stupid ’

—S$ /auves, ‘fallow deer’ phrases SRE Fr , — de somme, ‘ beast of burden’ de Et edge, lim," ‘shore;' ‘hem, morte la —, mort Le venin, ‘ dead men | board * (ship)

tell no tales | bordées (tire des), pop. ‘ goes on

c'est ma — noîre, ‘he is my aversion” | c'est une fine —, ‘he is a siy fellow ’ SE bête is also used as an adjective: 7/es4 | sx — à manger du Join, ‘he is as! /2 bordée means ‘a broadside,’ then stupid as an owl' ‘a tack,' and, fig., ‘zigzag flight’ — à faire plaisir, ‘egregiously Stupid' | s#ebordéed" injures, ‘a volley of abuse’ bêtise (la), : silliness, ' : nonsense” | {rer unc bordée, ‘to fire a broad-side”

the booze.' Cf. note, p. 64

des —s, ‘foolish nothings’ Courir des —, ‘to tack about” bidon (le), a vessel for brandy, | boi‘e de Paille (la), ‘truss of ‘brandy bottle straw ‘

bitter (le): à bitter- tasting | bouche (la), ‘ mouth' ‘opening’ liqueur, made of various herbs | £/re porté sur sa — And éfre sur sa

: : — Mean ‘to be an epicure” Steeped in alcohol, = It is some- | J'aire la petite — also means ‘to be times made of Juniper-berries, dainty”

gentian, rhubarb, and orange- boucle (la), _‘ buckle,” ‘ring, peel. The name comes from ‘curl’ L

à à ; à : n r'olland l éoucéer is lit, ‘to buckle, ‘curl

RER

deururu Rep Eieé het EN ERg lé ser n venin dti

boucler des prisonniers is ‘to shut ‘bref, adj., ‘short’; adv., ‘in the doors of their cells upon them’ , £ J è

hence £oucler is used popularly for Short,” ‘in a word

‘to put in prison” Parler —, ‘to speak sharply” P f pe en. brosse (la), ‘ brush boue (professions = a), _—— chevelure en —, haïr cut short and and low ways of gaming a Standing up, like the bristles in a livelihood ' ; as we say, ‘to pick : brush de PAPE Qu fbeguner | fr ropna la — rene ‘mud”; it is used figura- | }, brosseur, ‘boots! ; see below tively in various expressions , se traîner dans la —, ‘o degrade brosseur (le), ‘an officer's serone's self’ | vant”; lit ‘a brusher. An des âmes ,% —, ‘base - minded officer never says mo" domecreatures

notre —, ‘our mortal clay” stique, but always mon érosseur boueux is “miry': 4» boueur, ‘a | buffleterie (la) : à collective noun scavenger” meaning all the Straps, belts, bougie (la), ‘a wax-candle” etc., of buffalo-leather (Guÿte)

la chandelle usually means ‘a tallow- which form Part of a soldier's candle”

| equipment. It may be transbouquets de mariée (des): | lated ‘ belts' bridal bouquets, made of |

orange-blossoms, carried by the | cabaret (un), ‘a public-house bride on her wedding-day cadet (le), ‘a younger son’ bourgeoises : f. pl. of Ze bour- ‘junior,’ ‘ cadet.” This term is &tois, ‘citizen,' ‘one belonging sometimes apolied only to the to the middle class in a town second or youngest son, some-

bourgeois also means ‘an employer.’ times to all the Younger sons in he word may be used in contempt

À 1 e € a family. Cadet is also used as for ‘a vulgc - person, a snob” an adjective. ‘lhe feminine is bourgeron (le) : a coat of linen | cadette cloth worn by some kinds of

c'est le — de mes soucis, ‘it is the workmen last of my thoughts” bourrer, ‘to ram," ‘cram,' ‘snap,' | Caisse (une) is ‘a chest,” also ‘push,’ ‘scold' ‘cash-box,' hence : countingun élève bourré de grec et de latin, house," : cash,” ‘fund,' etc. ‘a scholar crammed with Greek| 74 — d'épargne, savings-bank and Latin’

. —estouverte, _. pps isopen ps , divre de —, ‘ cash-book

bout means : end,” ‘bit,’ « Scrap a— d'un tambour, ‘barrel of a drum? un — de prière, ‘a short prayer ? battre la —, ‘to beat the big drum’ un — de bougie, ‘a candle-end' cai ‘ ses E #7 — d'homme, ‘a little bit of a man’ nn (un), ammunition wag un — de lettre, ‘a line’ on

Joindre les deux —s de l'année, ‘to | calèche (une), ‘a barouche,' make both ends meet ’ |! ‘four-wheeler’ être au — de son rouleau, de son latin, |

‘to be at one's wit's end’ | cambrer, ‘to RS bend ; tenir le haut — , ‘to have the whip-} Se —, ‘to bend one's back, stoop £ hand,’ etc. | Camisole (la), ‘a dressing-jacket,

bradel (le), ‘boards,’ a term used |‘ Morning-jacket”

in the book-binding trade

relié à la —, ‘in boards with uncut edges?

une — de force, ‘a strait-waistcoat ’ Campagne (la), ‘country,’ : field,’ ‘ Campaign," ‘ cruise,’ ‘ season '

‘in

€n rase —, ‘ in the open country ’ We maison de — ‘a Country house il a fait une belle —, ‘he has been on a wild-goose chase Campagne (à la), ‘to (er in) the Country," is used in Opposition to à Za ville, ‘to (or in) town en — is sed to denote the action and

encampment of troops : Zs armées sont en campagne

Canon (le), ‘ barrel ! (of a gun)

Cantine (la), ‘the canteen,' or place where wine, etc., is sold Within the walls of à prison or barracks

Cantinière (la), ‘canteen-keeper, ' ‘sutler”

Capeline (la), ‘ hood’

Capitaine (le), ‘the Captain.’ A Captain commands a company in a régiment, in this case of infantry

Caporal (le): à Corporal is the lowest NOn-Ccommissioned officer, He has Charge of à small squad, places and relieves sentinels, and has à certain amount of Control in camp and barracks

Capote (la), ‘ a cloak with a hood,' ‘a long coat'

Carambolage (le), ‘a cannon ’ in billiards : also used figuratively for the noise caused by the perpetual knocking together of the balls

Caramboler, ‘to cannon’ (in billiards)

Carcan (le), ‘iron collar,' : Pillory,' ‘ Carcanet ’; also means ‘a sorry jade,” as used in Stable slang

carreau (le) : first « square,’ then ‘tile," ‘tile-floor’ or ‘brick-floor ’ : by extension, : the

&round' or ‘ floor,’ as P- 351.0; also ‘a window-pane,' * cross.

bow,' : thunderbolt ' ‘ cushion '

| Carrément, square.’ Also used figuratively, as P. 39 I. 14, for ‘frankly,' ‘bluntly’ le carré is ‘a square *

Carton (le)is Cardboard,” ‘ case!

‘Cartoon’: also means a case for containing Papers, etc., ‘a portfolio '

Cartonnage (le) means ‘boarding,’ ‘boards “4180762 term used in the book-binding trade for bindings in board, called “boards.” The board is made of paper-stock, shredded rope, etc.

casernement (le): à military term, meaning literally the action of lodging troops in barracks : also used in the sense of caserne, ‘barracks,' as the captain called his lodgings, P. 33 1. 20

cathèdre (la): à neologism for la chaire, ‘pulpit’ or ‘high desk’; p. 43 1. 30 ‘a raised desk

Cause (la), ‘cause, ‘ side”

à — de, ‘because of," ‘on account of”

VOUS êtes hors de —, ‘you have nothing to do with it ?

en tout état de —, ‘in any case ’

avocat sans — ‘ briefless barrister*

cercle (le), ‘circle,’ ‘hoop,' ‘ring, ' etc. ; also ‘ club”

cerné de, ‘surrounded,' ‘encircled by"

Chablis (le): Chablis is an excellent white wine, taking its name from the town of Chablis, near Auxerre, in the Department of Yonne. Sometimes the word is misspelt chdblis. Chablis also means ‘wind-fallen wood

| ‘diamonds (cards), etc. |chambarder : a silang word

coucher sur Le —, ‘4 sleep on a} in thieves' lingo, Meaning ‘to .raitress on the floor |! burgle,' ‘to ferret out.” Transi. Jeter quel-qu'un sur Le —, ‘to throw a | ;

Person down,’ also ‘to kill on the

‘search

spot {chambre (travailler en) is said

î "+ etant ru Le

RARES Lao

TI4 Contes Choisis

of a workman who does hi work at home and has no shop

chambrée (la), ‘a mess’ (military term) ; also ‘a house,’ speaking

of theatres une faible —, ‘a thin house?

Champagne (le vin de) : cham- Pagne is so-called because it is

s for a small ornament of dress, as lace, ribbons, etc.

HOUS causerons —s, ‘we will discuss dresses ’ chiffonner, ‘ to crumple, ' : ruffle,' hence ‘to vex,’ ‘ put out‘

cela vous chiffonne, ‘that vexes you?

elle passe son temps à —, ‘she is always busy with gimcracks”

made within the limits of the chiourme (la), ‘ convict party"

former province of Champagne, in a district now chiefly included in the Department of Marne, in

North-East France chance (la), ‘hazard, « chance ‘luck quelle — ! “what luck !” Courir la —, ‘to run the risk” étre en —, ‘to be in a lucky vein” da — à tourné, ‘the tables are turned?

chaud et froid (le) : a chill, beginning with hot and cold fits, like ague Chemin de fer (ie), ‘railway' Prendre le ci. rin de is used in the same sense as se diriger vers, ‘to make or, ‘direct ones steps towards ?

Chenet (le), ‘dog for the fireplace,” ‘andiron,' is a diminu-

tive of chien, from the supposed |

resemblance of andirons to crouching dogs Chérubin (le), ‘ cherub': also

used, p. 17 1. 16, as a term of

le chiourme stands for the garde.

chiourme, ‘guard or keeper of th:

convicts” k chose (la), ‘a thing,’ ‘business, ‘ deed," ‘ property” être tout— is a popular expression, meaning (1) ‘out of sorts “+ (2 ‘out of spirits,’ ‘ cast down” :

il te dit bien des —s, ‘he sends his kind regards” la — publique, ‘the commonwealth ?

Pas grand —, ‘a trifle’ Monsieur —, Mr. What ‘s-his-name ’ Cible (la), ‘target’ cicatrice (lu), ‘ scar cime (la), ‘ peak’ or ‘pointed top,’ usually applied to mountains, trees, etc., although it is also used figuratively, Le sommet is used in a more general sense for ‘a top,’ ‘summit ’ la — ou Le sommet d'une montagne, ‘the top of a mountain’ de sommet (not {4 —) de la tête, ‘the top of the head’

cireur de souliers | un), ‘ a shoe-

endearment : ‘ourlittle cherub,,’ ‘our darling.' Chérubin is, properly speaking, a plural form, but is conStantly used as a singular cheveux (en), ‘without caps,”

‘bare-headed.' Zn cheveux is short for coifée en cheveux

se Prendre aux —. ‘to come to blows ’

tiré par les —, ‘far-fetched ”

Prendre l'occasion aux —, ‘to take

time by the forelock

chiffon (le), ‘rag, : scrap of!

paper,” ‘hunch” (of bread), etc. | Quelque chiffon maybe translated | ‘some trifle.' Chifon is used |

black’ ; cirer is ‘to wax’ or ‘black de la toile cirée, ‘oil-cloth?

da cire is ‘wax,’ ‘ wax-light’ clapotis (le), ‘rippling” or chopping” of the sea ; also ‘pattering” or ‘clatter’ claudicant, ‘limping.” This is a learned word, lately borrowed from Latin clignant de

l’œil, ‘winking” cligner l'œil, cligner les yeux, are used in the same sense de clignement, ‘ winking,’ ‘ blinking Cf. also cAgnoter, clignotement, frequentatives of the above

cloaque (le), ‘a sink,' ‘sewer ;

Vocabulary

also used metaphorically for a | pit of vice,’ ‘ den of iniquity' Cœur (le), ‘heart’ : soul,” ‘af.

fection,' : Courage," ‘feeling, ' ‘stomach,' ‘centre,’ ‘ core,’ etc, avoir le — sur la Main, as p. 5 L. 22, and avoir le — sur Les dèvres, both mean ‘not to disguise one's

thoughts 07 feelings,' ‘to Wear one’s heart upon one's sleeve”

Se ronger le —, ‘to fret’

avoir le — gros, ‘to have one's heart full”

affaire de —, ‘love affair”

708 Petit —, ‘my darling”

à contre. * reluctantiy?

être plein de —;, ‘to be full of gener.

osity,” ‘to be noble-minded *

Un Serrement de — ‘a sinking at heart,’ ‘a feeling of Oppression and sadness ?

Coller, ‘to stick,' « apply closely, ‘size,’ ‘ cushion’ (in billiards) ; also used figuratively for ‘to

bestow_ upon (without much ceremony)

colla, ‘applied closely”

commandait (d'un geste qui):

transl. ‘with a commanding gesture

comme is a Conjunction, meaning ‘since, ‘seeing that,’ ‘as it were, ‘so to speak," ‘as though,’ ‘as if’

comme i] faut, ‘ properly

est —, ‘heisa gentleman ?

Communicatif, : Contagious ’

CoOmpagne (la), ‘a female com- Panion,’ ‘mate, ‘wife.” The Corresponding masculine form is longer, compagnon

Compter, ‘to count’ ‘consider,’ ‘intend," etc. : also ‘to expect'

— ses pas, ‘to walk slowly ?

Comptoir (le): usual meaning

‘counter’

LE comptoir d'un café, etc., is ‘a bar!

la dame de Comptoir, ‘barmaid

or factory. Cigar-ends are

collectea bÿ a Spécial class of |

Confiance (la),

Scavengers ; the tobacco is then dried and sometimes mixed with tobacco of Government manu.

facture and thus sold illicitly, eScaping the duty. Tobacconists Engaged in this trade are usually known as Marchands de tabac à Comploir, as on p. 27 1. 6

Conclure, ‘to conclude,' ‘end;

‘infer,” when used actively ; when used as a neuter verb, it mears ‘te decide,’ ‘to come to a decision.’ It can also mean ‘to move’ or ‘demand

condamné (le), ‘the convicted ‘ Confession (un billet de) is an

Atestation by which a priest Certifies that he has heard any One in confession, and Without which the Person mentioned Would not be able to Partake of the communion on his weddingday

‘confidence, ' “trust,” ‘ reliance, ’ ‘self-conceit.

Distinguish between this word and /a confidence, which means ‘confidence’ ‘secret’ ‘intimacy’

VOUS avez mal flacé votre —, ‘you

have misplaced Your confidence," 1e. “trust”

À m'a fait confidence de son dessein, HEC

he imparted to me his design,’

he let me into the secret of his intention ?

Confiteor (le) is the name given

to the prayer which is said by Catholics before they confess, or during the mass, etc. The Prayer begins with these words, ‘ Confiteor Deo omnipotenti

dire son — js used figuratively for

‘to acknowledge one's fault,’ ‘to cry Deccavi'

Connaissance (perdre), ‘to lose consciousness ?

The word is also used for a bank Connaître

,‘toknow,' is sometimes

used in the sense of apprendre, ‘to learn’

ln 0 NU FAR tA Te EP HR PRET EME

116 Contes

considérer, ‘to gaze at,’ ‘observe"

consommation (la), ‘consummation,' ‘completion,' ‘consumption,‟consumable articles,’ AS p. 281. 14. Consommation is used in a general sense, as applied to all the drinkables consumed in a tavern

contenir, ‘to contain,’ is often used, as sometimes in English, in the sense of retenir, ‘tocheck ‘“restrain’

contre-marque (la), ‘a sountermark," ‘check' (in theatres) ; plural des contre-marques. 1t is the check or pass-out ticket given at the doors of a theatre to a Spectator wko wishes to leave the building and return later, when he hands the check back again as à päss contrôleur (le), ‘controller, ' ‘comptroller,” ‘ superintendent ' de — d'un théâtre, ‘the check-taker’ cornette (la), ‘ mob

cap,’ ‘ broad pendant,” ‘curnet,” ‘ cornetcy" ; a diminutive of corne, ‘ a horn.' On p. 131.22 it means ‘a cornet, ' or high horned head-dress worn by Sisters of Mercy côte (la), ‘a rib,' ‘side,’ ‘ slope,' “hill,” ‘shore,’ ‘ coast ’ on lui compferait les —s, ‘he is nothing but skin and bones’ à mi. —, “halfway up a hill’ donner à a —, ‘to run ashore*’ — à —, ‘side by side,’ ‘cheek by jowl” Côté (le), ‘sidé,' ‘part,’ ‘quarter' mettre de —, ‘to lay by’ ne savoir plus de quel — se tourner, “not to know which way to turn ’ à — de, “by the side of,’ “close to’ à —, “hard by” de —, ‘sideways," ‘awry,' ‘on one side ” coteau (un), ‘a hill,’ ‘slope.'

Choisis

expect the Modern French to be côteau, as in OF. costé, MF.

côté

coup (le), ‘blow,' ‘stroke,' ‘time,’ etc.

un — de sang, lit, ‘ congestion of the brain’; transl, ‘the blood rushed

to my head” on p. 11 1. 21

un — de colère, trans]. ‘a fit of anger fired my brain’ on p. 11 1. 22

encore 1n —, ‘ once more ’

en venir aux —$, ‘to come to blows ?

— de grâce, ‘finishing stroke'

un — de pied, ‘a kick”?

un — de langue, ‘taunt'

c'est un — d'épée dans l'eau, ‘it is beating the air’

J'aire le —, ‘to play the trick,' ‘commit the act”

donner un — de collier, ‘to pull hard against the collar,’ ‘to strain every nerve,’ as on p. 131. 11

tout à coup always means ‘ suddenly”?

tout d'un — means either ‘suddenly’ or ‘all at one time’

ce mal l'a pris tout à —, ‘this disease came on him suddenly’

le fusil à parti tout d'un —, ‘the gun went Off suddenly’

#l gagna mille écus tout d'in —, ‘he won a thousand crowns at one time,’ ‘all at once”?

couper la figure, ‘to give a cut across the face” (with a whip) couvert (le), ‘ cover,’ ‘ spoon and fork,” ‘lodging,' ‘shady place,’ ‘envelope" mettre le —, ‘to Jay the cloth' de vivre et le —, ‘food and lodging * à —, ‘under cover" à — de, ‘sheltered from’ crâne (le), ‘skull,' ‘ cranium ?

crasse | (à la): a cry for largess :

lit. ‘ (give) to the mob la — is ‘dirt,’ ‘scum,"‘dross, fgrease ‘sordidavarice, ’used figuratively for

‘the scum of the people,’ ‘the mob’ crasseux, ‘dirty,’ ‘greasy"

Credo (le), ‘ creed.” Credo is the

first word in the Apostles' Creed, used for the creed itself = € des Credo

The Old French form was crever, ‘to burst’: used of

costeau ; we should therefore

animals only, or disparaginely

Vocabulary 117

of persons, it means ‘to die,’ a8 p. 9 1. 28 and p. 451

crever is also used actively, ce/a crève

des yeux, ‘that is as plain as a pike-

Staff’; and reflexively, se — de J'atigue, ‘to kill ones self with fatigue?

— de billard is to lose the game by overshooting the mark and Scoring too many points, ‘to cut the cloth

crevé, “broken

crosse (la), ‘the butt’ (of a gun)

croua is intended for an imitation of the croak of a Crow, as we might say ‘caw! caw !' Itisan old joke to compare priests in their black cassocks to crows

croup (le), ‘croup.' The word

Was introduced into medicine

by an Edinburgh physician,

It must not be confounded with

la croupe, ‘a crupper,” ‘ridge"'

cru (à), an adverbial locution, meaning ‘bare,’ ‘on the bare skin” or ‘bare back monter un cheval à —, ‘to ride bareback’

chaussé à —, ‘wearing shoes without stockings ”

s'agenouiller à — js literally ‘to kneel on the bare knee,’ and by extension the quality expressed passes from the person to the object, hence s'agenouiller à — suy la pierre comes to mean ‘to kneel on the bare stone, o> the cold pavement, without a hassock 07 Carpet ’

cuirassé, lit. ‘armed with a cuirass,” ‘iron-clad.' On P

44 1. 17 used figuratively for ‘hardened ’ la cuirasse is ‘a breast-plate,' originally of leather de cuir, ‘hide,’ leather” Culotter, ‘to put into breeches, ‘to make breeches" : by 2ex-

dame : an expletive used as a sign of affirmation, ‘ indeed "well," ‘to be sure, ‘why. The expression dame or damne Dieu (variously speltj occurs frequently in Old Fr., and is derived from the Latin domine or domine Deus, * God ‘ or ‘ Lord God‘

déchinueter, : toslash," ‘mangle,' ‘cut up’

décoré(le): décoré, P.16 1. 8,is used a$ a noun for l’homme décoré.

It usually denotes one who Wears the ribbon of the : Légion d'honneur.” The literal] meaning is ‘ decorated,' ‘ adorned

défendit (se — d'avoir pris part à), ‘denied having taken part in," ‘had a share in

on ne peut se défendre de l'aimer, ‘one cannot help loving him

défendu: fendre, ‘to defend,' is used also in the sense of interdire, ‘to forbid,' as p. 57 1. 26

défendre sa maison à, quelqu'un, ‘to forbid a person the house ?

défroque (la), ‘old clothes," ‘ cast-off clothes’

déjeuner (le), ‘breakfast It

refers more especially to the

Second breakfast or lunch

un — à la fourchette, ‘a meat break.

fast

demi-voix (à), ‘in a whisper.° Demi, when it precedes the noun, is invariable : but when it follows the noun it agrees with it in gender : une demi-heure ; deux heures et demie. In the latter case k4ezre is understood, deux heures et (une heure) demie

tension, ‘to blacken a pipe" démolition (la), : demolition

un Culotteur de pipes is ‘a great smoker”

Curé (le), the ‘rectcr' or ‘vicar' of a parish; cf. vicaire. The abbé Faber was à vicaire or

‘pulling down.” In the plural it means ‘ruins,' « heaps of rubbish ‘

démolir is ‘to demolish®

un démelisseur, ‘a subverter

Curate, p. 4 1. 16, Cf. p. 2 1. 9 l dépeigné, : unkempt *

DRE UN Pie iron

déranger (se), ‘to get out of| ‘ decoration.’ Transl. p. 31

order," ‘to put one's self out! :

also means ‘to lead an unsettled

or unsteady life’

je ne me dérangerai pas pour si peu, will not put myself out for such

a trifle’

son cerveau commence à se —, ‘his

mind is getting deranged :

déshonoré, lit. ‘dishonoured :

on p. 23 L. 16 it means ‘dis-

figured,' ‘ disg-aced‘

devanture (la), ‘front’ (of a

shop)

dévot is an adjective used as a noun, meaning ‘a devout

person," ‘ devotee,' ‘ penitent

dévote is applied to a woman under

the spiritual direction of a priest— c'est une de ses dévotes, ‘she is one of his penitents” J'aire le —, ‘to pretend to be religious” un faux —, “‘hypocrite’ diligence (la), ‘dispatch,"haste ; on p. 25 1. 2r it is short for z»

carrosse de diligence, ‘a stagecoach’ ce courrier a fait —, ‘that messenger has ridden post-haste ’ distraction (la), ‘inattention,' aS p. $ L 2; ‘diversion,’ or ‘amusement,’ as p. 23 1 7 donataire (le or la) is ‘a donee,' or person who receives a gift, or to whom a gift is due de donateur, la donatrice, is ‘a donor,’ or person who bestows a gift donner, used as a neuter verb, means ‘ to strike,” ‘ fall,’ ‘rush,’ ‘look out (into),’ ‘open (into) — sur, as p. 17 |. 18, is ‘to overlook,’ or “look out upon ’ ü ne sait où — de la tête, ‘he does not know which way to turn’ — dans l'œil à, ‘to hit the fancy of" — dans le piège, ‘to fall into the trap’ se — comme is used in the sense of se faire passer pour, ‘to give one's self out as,’ ‘to represent one's self as”?

dorure (la) means ‘gilding,'

1. 15, ‘gold lace' dos (le), ‘the back’ mettre une affaire sur son — is ‘to take Re ee à upon one's own to la

shoulders, y the whole blame upon one's self’

dossier (le), ‘ back! (of a seat), ‘brief’; also a file, or bundle of papers kept within a single cover, and relating to the same case

douceur (la), ‘ sweetness,’ ‘ mildness,” ‘gratuity,' and ‘dainty,' as p. 181. 9. In the plural it often means ‘ soft words’

Plus fait — que violente, gentleness is better than force

se donner quelques petites —$, ‘to give one's self a treat ’

drapeaux (être sous les), ‘to be in the service” (military); lit.

‘under the flags' drôle (un affreux), ‘a frightful scamp ’ le — is a ‘knave,’ ‘rogue,' ‘blackguard ?

In the feminine, /« drôlesse, ‘ a jade’ The adjective dr0/e means ‘ queer,'

‘funny’ dru, drue, ‘thick' les balles fleuvaient — comme mouches, ‘the bullets fell as thick as hail”

frapper fort et —, ‘to strike with might and main’

dur, ‘hard,’ ‘stern,' ‘ painful,' “‘harsh,' ‘stiff” ; on p.24 1 31 ‘hardy,’ able to endure fatigue and privation être — d'oreille, ‘to be hard of hearing tête —e, ‘blockhead en faire voir de —es à quelqu'un, ‘to lead a person a hard life

coucher sur la —e, ‘to sleep on the bare ground’

ébaucher, ‘to sketch,’ ‘ outline,' ‘make à first draught of,' ‘rough-hew,’ ‘ prepare,’ ‘ start’ Je débarquai sans avoir ébauché Le

Dlus petit roman, ‘1 landed without having had the slightest adventure

is ‘to own blame

seat), undle single same

mildinty,' ral it leness É-t0 o be

lit.

htful

lack-

ade’ leer,'

pnne hick with

ful,° , 31 gue

ear-

Vocabulary

écarté (un): &arter is lit ‘to discard.' ‘carté is à card Same, so-called because certain cards may be discarded and replaced by fresh ones

éclat (un), ‘Qaip," : fragment,'

"explosion, ‘burst,' : noise,’ |

‘brightness' il partit d'un — de rire, ‘he set up a laugh," ‘burst out laughing' craindre L'—, ‘10 fear exposure ?

rire aux —5s, ‘to burst with laughter' |

économie (une) means, in the singular, ‘economy,' ‘thrift' ; in the plural, ‘savings" écu (un), ‘a shicld,' ‘escutcheon' ‘Crown’ (money), ‘three francs écu on p. 24 1. 11 means a shield, or

escutcheon, bearing the arms of ‘rance n'avoir pas un — vaillant, “not to be worth a shilling?

c'est le père aux — s, ‘he is made of money ’ écueil (un), ‘an isolated rock ‘reef’ égard (un), ‘ consideration,” ‘ account," ‘respect Par — pour, ‘out of consideration for,’ ‘out of respect for’ à cet —, ‘in that respect ” eu — à, ‘considering £ émailler (s'): lit ‘to be enamelled’ ; in a figurative sense, ‘to be adorned with various bright coiours embaucher, ‘to hire' (workmen); also ‘to enlist ’ ‘recruit,” ‘entice away” (soldiers) embaumaient . .: transl. ‘were sending forth their fragrance,' “were scenting the air,’ P. 47 1.22 embonpoint (un), « stoutness,’

purchase of any objects, great or Small; the former only to small Suects, artjcles in common use, L'achat d'une Maison, d'un do- Maine. L'achat on { ‘emplette d'un chapeau, d'u > robe eli, Sometimes ‘ as,’ ‘Jike" habillé — Monsieur, ‘dressed like a gentleman" encoche (une), ‘ notch,' : dent encocher is ‘to notch," ‘to fit (an arrow) to {he bowstring* Me coche is ‘a “otch,' tally | endima:ché, ‘dressed in his |! Sunday est,’ from / dimanche, | ‘Sunday | enfant (un), ‘a child,’ ‘infant,' ‘offspring' un bon —;js used, p.

., tEmpered fellow ’ 1 est bon — de croire cela, ‘he is a simpleton to believe that” .

enfant may also be feminine in the Singular when Speaking of a girl :

& fauzre —, ‘poor child’ un — trouvé, ‘a foundling”?

des —$ perdus, ‘forlorn hope?

c'est bien — de sa mère, ‘he takes after his mother’ enfin, ‘at last,’ ‘in short” ; also ‘after all’ engager, ‘to pledge,' pawn,' ‘ mortgage' : Persuade," ‘ urge,' ‘lead to," ‘bind,’ ‘begin !

— Quelqu'un à, ‘to invite," ‘entice some one to ,

cela n'enga.. à rien, ‘thereis nothing binding in that”

— 4# soldat, ‘to enlist a soldier’ en S'engageant sur, ‘in stepping upon”

de combat s'engagea, ‘the fight began”?

enlever, ‘to lift” ‘carry,’ ‘carry off,’ ‘dispatch' ‘charm’ ‘buy up,” ‘take off or out + also ‘to carry off,’ ‘ steal”

for ‘a good

‘corpuience” ; ‘from the phrase | enseigne (une), ‘ mark,’ ‘token'

être en bon point, ‘to be in a good state’ embranchement (un), SA branching,' : branch-line emplette (une), ‘a purchase ?

Distingaish between emplctte and | achat. The laiter can refer tothe |

‘sign," ‘ensign’ or ‘flag,’ ‘ensigncy" ; also ‘sign-board

à bon vin point d "—, ‘good wine needs no bush ’

HOUS cornes logés à la même —, ‘we are in the same plight,' ‘we are in the same boat!

This word must not be confounded

lu DÉS EE RE SES

with #% —, which means ‘ensign'

(nan), ‘ midshipman”

room," ‘ a tap-room : also used

m nerally for a coffeeentends (ie m'y),° ‘1 know all nn 4 a

about it’ Je m'—, ‘1 know what 1 mean’

house with a smoking-room un pilier d'—, ‘a perpetual tippler’

établir (s'), ‘to settle down’; p. 6 en-tout-cas (un): a sort of A P

umbrella, larger than a sunshade and smaller than an

l. 16 ‘to set up house-keeping* étourdissement (un), ‘ dizzi-

, , ness," ‘ swimming in the head" ordinary umbrella, which may exemple (un), ‘example,' ‘patbe used either for sun or rain ; tern,' ‘ precedent,’ ‘copy hence the name. PI, des en.

dout.cas = . Li ‘écriture, p. 361. 17, “writing entrée chez lui (était): lit. * had Drécher d'—, ‘to practise what one

entered his house,’ je. his preaches

service

entretien (un), ‘ maintenance, '

‘keep'; also ‘keeping in repair, ' ‘talk’ des frais d'—, ‘costs of repair ?

d'— de la ville, “the talk of the town’ détourner l'—, ‘to turn the conversation,’ ‘change the subject

envie (avoir — de), ‘to wish’ ‘ desire’

il aurait bien —, ‘he would much like’

épaulette (gagner sa première), ‘to become an officer.” Za double épaulette marks the grade of captain épi (un), ‘ear of corn’ épicier (coup d'): éicier, lit, ‘a grocer,” ‘ chandler,' is used as a term of contempt for a clumsy or ignorant fellow. Transi.

P. 58 1. 13 ‘ the stroke of a mere tyro’ éraillé, p.p. of érailler, ‘to fray,' ‘fret,’ ‘ chafe’ ; used ofthe eyes, ‘blood -shot': of the voice, ‘worn out,” ‘husky"' éreinté, ‘tired out,' ‘ with aching back.” See reins essayer d’un ..: essayer, ‘to try,’ is used intransitively with the meaning of ‘to make à trial of," ‘to try one's hand at’ estaminet (un), ‘a smoking-

exprès : on p. 56 1. 27an adverb, ‘on purpose,’ ‘purposely * c'est comme un J'ait —, ‘one would think it was done on purpose‘ The adjective €xprès means ‘express,

‘positive ’ un — is ‘an express" ex-voto (un): from the Latin, ‘a votive offering.' PL des ex-voto

fabrique {la) means ‘ manufac.

ture,’ : iactory,' ‘ make,’ ‘ building,” ‘ church-wardens,' : vestry * conseil de —, “vestry-board ' face (la), ‘ face,’ ‘surface,’ ‘front' ‘aspect ’ en — de, “opposite to” à la — de, ‘in presence of" de —, ‘in front

Jouer à pile ou —, ‘to play at heads or tails”

bien en —, ‘straight out," ‘looking him straight in the face ?

faible, ‘ weak,' ‘ feeble ’ : slender”

de grec est son côté —;, “he is deficient in Greek’

une — quantité, ‘a small quantity’

faïence (la), ‘ crockery,’ : delf “.

On p. 54 L. 24 short for couleur de faïence ; trans. ‘ china-blue.’ Faïence takes its name from Faenza in Italy, where porcelain was first made, the name of the town having been written Fayence in French

failli (nous avons —. . .): faillir,

Vocabulary

"to fail," ‘err,' ‘&ive way,’ when followed by an infinitive, means ‘to be near'

J'ai — tomber, "T very nearly fell'

It is also used iMpersonally in this sense, £/ avait — nous arriver un

malheur, 'à misfortune had well.

nigh befallen us'

J'aillir is used sometimes 'to become bankrupt" faire (se laissait), 'offered no resistance" se laisser — ;j5 ! to let person do what he likes with one'

rabble, 'the riffraff"

€opard cannot change his spots" fête (la), : festival," 'holiday!

' feast ' de jour de La — de C. is 'the feast.

day of the saint after whom C, is named, ie, 'C,s birthday ' Un jour de —, 'à holiday souhaiter une bonne — à quelqu'un,

'to wish somebody many happy returns of the day'

aire da —, 'to be extravagant' ficher : à Popular and rather rude Way of saying donner vous allez nous — Jay Paix ! 'you will

De SO good as to leave us in peace,' 'let us alone

he past Participle is either Jiché or Jichu

for 'to fail,'

in the sense of 'to Pretend to be, 'to act' (as if one were)

J'aire le brave is 'to Put on a show of Courage"

S'aire là fimme étaïlie, play the married woman

comment il est fait: lit. ‘how it is made”: also used in a popular sense, ‘ what it is like”

‘to act or

filant, : hurrying along, from f/er,

‘0 spin," ‘ to file off,’ ‘to glide,' fait d'armes (un), ‘a feat ofl ‘to vanish" arms," ‘an heroic deed ! Pler doux, ‘10 sing small

4 £ filer, ‘ be off fait-divers (un), : a bit of miscel. | “//2#4/#4r, ‘we must be o

tout ce monde.là Sile, ‘all those people

laneous news 80 away,’ ‘leave town” :

fait (dire son), ‘to give a person ne uk _—— ; filament,

a piece of one's mind," ‘to tell ; ee ESS e e

Person what one thinks of him’ Le $ AS p.421 5. p4s (in an uncomplimentary sense) xs

3 = £ Un — de voix, ‘a thin voice” de —, ‘a fact, deecl,” is sometimes | COUP de —, ‘a haul or cast of the used for da vérité: Le Jait est, net’ ‘the truth is,’ ‘to teli the truth Prendre plusieurs voleurs d'un coup ‘ BE de — means ‘to catch several fait (tout) , Émis à made, es À thieves at one time,’ ‘in a single to hand’ ; fig, ‘cut and dry haul”

au fatigue (pantalon de —), ‘ every- un — de sang, ‘a streak of blood day trousers ‘

fille de théâtre (la), ‘actress ’ favori, f. favourite, as à noun | ft-il ‘said he

- 2 aire, in the sense of dire, is only means ‘a favourite ï also used in certain forms, e.g, fait-il, ‘ whiskers,' as P. 48 1 25. J'ait-elle, fis-je, Ait-il, fit-clle

Whiskers are usually worn in flanquer, : to flan

k,' is also used France by footmen and waiters, Popularly in the sense of ‘to as well as by men in certain throw,' ‘to strike’; sometimes it professions

means ‘to fling,’ i.e. ‘to place bastily and without much ceremony’

— #n soufflet, ‘to give a box on the

fêler, ‘ to crack ‘

femme du Peuple (une), ‘a Poor woman,’ ‘ one of the lower

Î car classes me flanquait des caloftes, ‘ cuffed me’

da lie du Peuple, ‘the mob," ‘the

de peuple est loujours feuple, ‘the Vulgar are always vulgar,' ‘the

ee ge:

122 Con’

fléau (le), ‘flail' Used figur atively it means ‘a scourge,' ‘plague fleuret (le), ‘ floss-silk.' In fencing it means ‘foil,' as p. 40 1, 19 — démoucheté, ‘a foil with the button of" fois (la), ‘timc' à la — and fout à la — mean ‘at one and the same time,’ ‘all together” de — à autre, ‘from time to time” une bonne —, ‘once for all’ une — pour toutes, ‘ definitely?

des rares —, ‘on the rare occasions !

folle: usual meaning, : silly,' ‘mad, On p.71 5 it means * madly in love, or ‘ passionately fond." ‘The masculine is fou, but /o/ is used before a word beginning with a vowel or mute, as #» fol enfant, Cf. bel, nouvel, mol, etc.

fond (le), ‘bottom, ‘depth,' ‘foundation,' ‘ ground," ‘ background," ‘ basis,’ ‘ stock au — de, ‘in the most remote or retired part of’ de fin —, ‘the lowest depths' bas- —, ‘shoal,' ‘ shallow couler à — ‘10 sink' (a ship), ‘run down’ (a person), ‘exhaust ’ (a | subject) à —, ‘thoroughly' | au —, dans de —, ‘in the main’ fondre, “o melt,' ‘ smelt,' ‘ cast!

“diss’ : « ‘ ‘blend" —en la. s, “to burst into tears’ | fonds de commerce (un), ‘a business,” ‘ shop' fonts, m. pl.: /es fonts de baptême, ‘the font’ tenir un enfant sur les —, ‘to stand sponsor for a child”

The word must not be confused with Jond or fonds

force (à), ‘much,’ ‘extremely' |

de —, par —, ‘forcibly,’ ‘by force’ à — de, ‘by dint of?

forcené (un), ‘a madman fortune (la), ‘fortune,’ ‘ chance,’ ‘risk, ‘ peril,’ ‘ lot,’ ‘ wealth ’

-hoisis

fouchtra! a vulgar exclamation, chiefly used in Auvergne four à chaux (le), ‘ lime-kiln' de four is ‘an oven, ‘bake-house,' ‘kiln' êl y fait noir comme dans un —, ‘it is as dark as pitch there’ da chaux is ‘lime fourrier (le), ‘ pay-sergeant fripier (le), ‘ old-clothes dealer ?

da friperie, ‘second -hand clothes,’ ‘old furniture friser, ‘to curl the hair, ‘to crisp,' ‘ruffle,' ‘ graze!

se faire — is ‘to have one's hair es "(by a hair-dresser), as p. 41 froidement, ‘coldly'; p. 201. 13, ‘in cold blood être vêtu —, ‘to be thinly clad' frotter is ‘to rub,' ‘wax and polish," ‘ pommel' — une allumette, ‘to strike a match?

on l'a frotté d'importance, or comme il res. ‘he has had a good drubbing ?

Je saurai vous — les oreilles, ‘ 1 will box your ears for you’ fuir is used actively in the sense of ‘to fly from,’ ‘escape from,’ as p. 45 1. 27 — de péril, ‘to avoid danger’ — un éloge, ‘to shrink from praise" Juyait, ‘ shunned'

‘ quartermaster, '

gagner (il y a de quoi): gagner, ‘to gain,” ‘win,' is also used of diseases ; gagner un rhume, ‘to catch cold.” Transl. on p. 54 L 11 ‘it is enough to give one ophthalmia,” ‘it is enough to put one's eyes out’ gale (la), ‘the mange’; also ‘itch,' ‘ scurf” être méchant comme la —, ‘to be a very demon” This word must not be confounded with /4 galle, ‘a gall-nut,' ‘oak-

apple” The adjective from gaée is galeux, from galle, gallique

bonne —, p. 28 1. 24, means ‘a piece galon (le), ‘lace, ‘tape; also,

of luck,’ ‘a godsend

as On p. 24 |. 28, a petty officer's

ler, !

hes,’

‘to

hair 4T

ind

ch?

une ood

will

nse

Vocabulary

Stripes, worn on the slceve, differing ACCording to grade

and | sauter à la — de,

quelqu'un, ‘to seize , 4 person by the throat

Et L — d'or, ‘the gold cord’ Cl ss | mal de —, sore throat

officer's tunic) quand on prend du —

hanged for à sheep as à lamb”

galopin (le), ‘errand-boy,' : seul. |

Paragingly as On p, 39 |, 15, for ‘an urchin,

lion; also used dis

‘imp,' ‘vagabond garçon (le), ‘boy,' ‘lad,' ‘fellow, ‘bachelor,’ ‘journeyman, *shop-boy,' : waiter ’ des —s de la noce, ‘the brides-men rester —, ‘to rem:

ain single" WA VIEUX —, ‘a bachelor?

&Sarde (la), ‘the police, ' officers ’ de —, ‘a Buardsman,' “kecper,' etc.

garni (le) is a furnishe

‘ police.

d lodging-

house (for workmen) where a |

very inferior bed can be had for the night

| , On n'en saurait trop frendre, ‘as well Le | SO

rire à — déple pée, with laughter'

(boire à petites), ‘to sip

‘to split onc's sides

slowly"

| gosse (le): à slang word, corre-

+ Sponding in meaning to ‘little

, chap"; used for 4» montard

gouailleur, ‘jeering,' ‘chafing

| SOurgane (la) is the common bean, also called ve de marais

grâce à, : thanks to’

gradin (le), "step," ‘shelf,' ‘bench'; p. 431. 19 raised seats or benches, such as are used in a school or amphitheatre, arranged

in tiers

grand, : full,’ ‘wide!

AU — galop, ‘ at full gallop*

au — soleil, ‘in the full sun," ‘exposed to the heat’

toute grande (ouverte), ‘wide open’

fem. »rasse, ‘ fat," reasy garni is from &arnir, ‘to furnish,' Etes, * ». £reasy,

‘trim,’ etc, un — is short for 1» hôtel — or nn dogement — Une £arnie {or une maison

L garnie Sarnisonné : p. 27 1. 5 transl.

‘where he

had been garrisoned ' or ‘stationed ’

4 £arnison means ‘a Sarrison gêné, from &êner, means “cramped," ‘ pinched ‘uneasy'; ON P. 17 1 12 ‘ short of cash,’

‘in narrow circumstances ” être dans la &êne, ‘tobeh la gêne is from the Hebrew Gehenna :

the original meaning of ‘torment,!

‘torture,’ having become softened down

giberne (la): this word now

means à cartridge-box covered With leather, but it was formerly

aS ON p. 41 1. 25, ‘thick' dormir la —$se matinée, ‘10 sleep it out”

des Jours —, ‘ shrove.tide" :

gras is also used as à noun, meaning ‘fat ” or ‘flesh” gredin (un), ‘a scoundrel,* *blackguard ' grignoter : lit. ‘to nibble'; p.

2 1. 26 in the popular sense of ‘ to scrape together (money), ‘to make a little profit "

grimace (la), ‘Srimace,” ‘wry face,’ ‘sham,' : humbug ‘

J'aire la —, ‘to make faces,’ ‘to testify disgust.' It also means ‘to grin at’; and of things, ‘to pucker,' ‘crease ’

ce colle fait la —, ‘this collar puckers'

cequ'il fait, ce n'estque ar—, ‘ what

e does is all a sham

applied to a kind of bag or grimper, ‘ to climb (using hands

pouch in which Srenades were Carried

and feet) ; cf. gravir, escalader, monter

” . * |&rTippe (prendre quelqu'un en), . throat,” ‘ neck, ‘to take à dislike to a person ’ Z

4 — means ‘whim,’ ‘fancy,' ‘:

Îluenza

‘bosom,' : mouth," ‘ defile,' ‘groove,’ etc.

if

gris, ‘grey, ‘tipsy,’ ‘half.

drunk" en faire voir de —es à uciqu'un, to play a person all kinds of tricks?

gris-pommelé, ‘ dappled-grey Le ciel est fort pomsaelé, ‘the sky is all dappled gros is used in reference to bulk + it is the reverse of mer and petit gras, ‘fat,’ is the reverse of maigre £rand refers to height as well as n'oral worth gros yeux (en faisant les) : faire des — yeux is ‘to open one's eyes wide’ in sign of astonishment or reproof Jaire la —se voix is ‘to speak gruffy” des — ouvrages, ‘rough jobs ’ grouiller, ‘to stir,' ‘to move,’ ‘ grumble,' ‘ swarm

gueule (la), ‘mouth' (of an animal) gueux (le), ‘beggar'; also

‘scamp,' ‘ rascal' gueux, used as an adjective, means ‘destitute,” ‘ beggarly” être — comme un rat d'église, ‘to be as poor as a church mouse" guimpe (la), ‘wimple,' covering worn by nuns over the head and round the chin and sides of the face and neck

habitude(une), ‘habit,’ ‘custom,’ ‘acquaintance Prendre ses —s, ‘to frequent ?

"—, ‘usually’ un homme habits,’ ‘of routine’ habitué (un), ‘ regular customer haillon (le), ‘rag,' ‘tatter’ hâle (le), ‘ sunburn' or ‘tan’ hâle meant originally ‘heat of the sun,’ thence it was applied to the effect produced by this heat, and in this sense it is equivalent to teint hâlé heure (une), ‘o’clock,' etc.

‘frequenter,'

‘hour, ‘time,’

—$, ‘a man of fixed h

tout à l'—, ‘just now’; also ‘in a

moment ? ; le quart d'— de Rabelais, ‘a trying time," ‘settling-time

à d'— de midi, ‘at noon'

chercher midi à guatorse —$s, ‘to seek for difficulties where there are none’

tn livre d'—s, ‘ missal,' ‘prayer-book’ de bonne —, “early” à la bonne —, ‘ well and good’ sur d'—, “‘forthwith"’ pour d'—, ‘for the present’

home (at): the French have no word exactly equivalent to the English ‘home, hence the English expression ‘at home’ is introduced on p. 35 1. 22, but incorrectly. ‘ Home’ alone should have been used, ‘At home” is probably suggested by chez soi

homme (un), ‘a mar.'. used familiarly,as on p. 17 1. 23, for ‘husband.” Cf. Germ. Yann, and Scotch use of man

hospice (un) : p. 341. 11, ‘charitable institution,” ‘ alms-house.' Formerly the word Aépital was used of all places destined to receive the poor, whether ill or not; now the use of the word is restricted to institutions for the reception of the sick only, and #ospice is used for houses which receive the poor, old, incurables, foundlings, etc.

hôte (un), f hôtesse, may be

either ‘a guest ‘ or ‘a host’ ôtel (un), ‘mansion,' ‘ private residence ”

‘Les bourgeois occupent des maisons ; les grands, les riches, à la ville, occupent des hôtels; les rois, les princes, les évêques y ont des palais ; les seigneurs, les riches ont des châteaux dans leurs terres ”

huissier-priseur (un): equiva-

lent to #» commissaire-priseur, ‘an appraiser,' ‘auctioneer,’ ‘one who receives biddings at an auction and adjudges lots,’ etc.

a hospital), often

humeur (une), : ere Surgeon' (in called interne des hôpitaux

‘temper,' ‘ bad temper,” ‘whim Prendre de l'—, ‘to lose one's temper’

chacun a Ses —s, ‘every one has his jeannette (la): a cross with a caprices

narrow velvet ribbon to hang

: round the neck if (un): lit, ‘ayew-tree’; p.11, 2r |

| Jeannettealso means ‘ Janet,’ ‘Jenny, a stand, intended to hold lights | and technically wne jeanneîte is ‘à

for illuminations, which is É spinning-jenny" : — : Pyramidal in form, and when | Jeu (le), ‘ game, sport, ‘play, Èe, RES F ja lighted presents somewhat the _ ue, ie s appearance of a yew-tree | pack, execution, ?cting ya (qu'est-ce qu'}. ‘what is D re gaming ‘or ‘gamb. : , ing debts the matter ? cela Passe le —, ‘that is beyond a impassible, ‘impassible,” ‘un. joke Es 1 moved,’ ‘ undisturbed ’ ——* de mots, “witticisms

de — ne vaut pas la chandelle, ‘the incongruité (une), an unseemly | game is not worth the candle ! Word or speech, one which sins | avoir beau —, ‘to have a good

agai ; a | opportunity” ne — of propriety or à beau —, beau retour, ‘one good : turn deserves another’ inculpé (un), as a noun, ‘the

joncher is Properly ‘ to strew with rushes," hence ‘to strew," ‘to indigènes : an adjective used %S) sprinkle' in general, as here S DO On p 23 1 8 em. jour (à) is equivalent to Dercé à ployed in a familiar, joking jour, ‘ full of holes' Way for ‘inhabitants' (natives) voir le jour, ‘to see the light,’ ‘to be indigné, ‘indignant.' The n° = = , quality of the persons is applied | journée (la), ‘day, “day's work”;

accused ’

to their faces also ‘a day's wages,' ‘day's This word must not be confounded Journey ° ; with indigne, ‘unworthy" le —— is a. used in the sense of a “individual” - ay's wor indiviau (un), indiv idual ; also toute la sainte — ‘the heheg-dsy” Person, ‘ personality un homme de —, ‘a day labourer'

avoir soin de son —, ‘to take care of à grandes —$, ‘ by forced marches” number one’ Judas (un), ‘a traitor,’ one who in-folio (un) : this name is applied | betrays his friend. The referto books of the largest size, in| ence is to Judas Iscariot, the which the sheets are simply Proper noun being used as a folded in two. PI. des in-folio common noun. Cf. hercules, intelligence (vivre en bonne), P. 39 1. 3r ‘to live on good terms,’ ‘to jupon (le), ‘a short petticoat ? keep up a good understanding’ | 2 jipe is usually used for a long intérieur (un), ‘interior,' ‘in- petticc:t or skirt _ : . se :

képi (le), a ‘kepi,' or ‘cap,’ first ho Le “Home Secretary * _. by French troops sn Prendre une place , —, ‘to take an Algeria. It has a flat circular inside seat ? (in an omnibus, etc.) | top inclined forwards and a flat interne (un), ‘ boarder "; “house. | vizor

kirsch (punchs au): punch in which the Spirit used is kirsch,

an abbreviation of ZX: érsch

wasser, that is, a spirit distilled from cherries, chiefly in the Vosges and the Black Forest.

Cf. note, p. 281. 5

lâche, ‘loose,’ ‘slack,' hence ‘craven’ or ‘dastar ‘base,’ ‘mean un — is ‘a coward,' ‘recreant lâcher, ‘ to loosen,' ‘ Jet go” — une parole, un mot is used popularly in the sense of to say something inconsiderately wlich may

wound or displease the hearer, “to let slip’

In qu'il lâchait, p. 43 1. 9, lâcher means to utter words designedly, in order to produce a desired effect

lâcheur (le): lit ‘a raftsman.' Also used in a figurative sense, only lately introduced, of one whoreadilyabandons his friends, ‘a turncoat,’ ‘ deserter’ laisser, : to leave’

laisse là le soufiet, ‘leave the bellows alone”

daïssez-le, ‘leave him alone,” ‘let him alone” lame (la), ‘blade’ (of a knife), ‘wave’ (of the sea) lanterne (la), ‘lantern' light," ‘street lamp,' etc, In the plural it often means ‘rubbish,' ‘ nonsense' libre, ‘free,’ ‘ exempt,’ ‘unoccupied ’ avoir le champ —, ‘to have a free hand à l'air —, ‘in the open air!

lier, ‘to bind,’ ‘tie,’ ‘connect,’ etc.

dié avec means friendly terms with” Used in a figurative sense, affaché à quetqu'un means that one has an attachment for a person, which need not necessarily be returned ; but lié avec quelqu'un implies that the friendship is mutual

— <onversation, ‘to enter into conversation ?

‘sky-

‘intimate with,’ ‘on

‘idle” :

dly,'

lieu que (au) : distinguish between au lieu que, ‘ whereas,' and au lieu de, ‘ instead of’ lit de camp (le), : portable campbed'; also à raised and inclined planking, on which mattresses may be placed, and several people can sleep in rows, side by side livre (la), ‘ pound' Distinguish between /z livre, ‘ from the Lat. libra, ‘ a scale,’ and

de livre, ‘a book,’ from the Lat.

diber, ‘ a book

Lombard (le): inhabitant of Lombardy, Lombard londrès (le): a kind of Havannah cigar, first manufactured for the English (Londoners) loque (la), ‘rag,' ‘tatter’ lors (pour), ‘ that being the case; also ‘at that time,’ ‘then’ dès —, ‘“ from that time,’ ‘since then — de, ‘at the time of” lorsque or lors. . que, ‘when’ loto (le), ‘ loto, or ‘ lotto,' a game of chance, here used in a general sense

loup (le), ‘a wolf,’ ‘black velvet mask” ; also used as a term of endearment, as we say ‘ chick,' ‘ ducky’

The French also address a child as On £ros loup, or loulou, the latter being a reduplication of loup

à pas de —, ‘ stealthily”

entre chien et —, ‘at dusk° — de mer, ‘jack-tar’

und,’

lourd, ‘heavy, : unwieldy, ‘gross,’ etc. ; also ‘ clumsy,' ‘awkward

la l'esprit —, ‘he is dull’ lunch (le) : the English word has been borrowed, as the French have no exact equivalent for the word. Cf. also sandwichs, P.

55 L 24, and in Vocab.

MaÇOnner, ‘ to do mason's work, ‘to block or plaster up’; used figuratively, ‘to bungle”’

masse (la), ‘a mass,’ ‘lump,'

magot (le): usual meaning ‘a baboon ,' ‘ugly figure” ; also ‘a secret hoard

c'est un vrai —, ‘he is a perfect baboon, ‘hideously ugly” :

main-forte (prêter), ‘to give as.

sistance, ' ‘help

maïs (le), ‘ Indian corn’

mal (le), ‘evil,’ ‘injury,' ‘pain,’ ‘inconvenience, ' : disease

Où a-t-il pris ce —? « where did he catch that complaint ?”

malheur (pour SOn) : p. 39 L 25, trans. ‘unluckily for him’

maman (la) is used colloquially for the mother of a family, or

for a dame, motherly-looking woman manche (la), ‘a sleeve' ; also ‘a channel; ‘the English Channel’ ne se fera pas tirer la —;, ‘he will do it willingly”

c'est ur autre Paire de —s, ‘that is quite another thing,’ ‘that is quite another pair of shoes ’

Notice that manche, the ‘handle’ of a tool, is masculine 5 le — de La charrue, ‘the plough-tail'; and

that Z Manche (the English Channel) always has a capital M manger de baisers, or de caresses, ‘to overwhelm some one with kisses or caresses ”

Manger is sometimes used absolutely in the same sense

marin (on a le pied) : on a is used ON p.1rL 19 for jai. Avoir de Pied marin is ‘to be sure-footed ’ (as a sailor), as here. Sometimes it is used figuratively, when it means not to be disconcerted or Put out by difficult circumstances maritorne (la), ‘an ill-shaped, unkempt, slatternly woman.’ An allusion to Don Quixote’s Maritorna Massacrant, ‘ cross,’ : peevish d'une humeur —e€, ‘as cross possible,” ‘as cross as two sticks"

‘savings,' used generally for money saved out of one's pay mater, ‘to mate’ (at chess) ; fig,

"to bring down,' ‘to curb' matinée (la) includes all the time from daybreak, or from the time we rise, till noon Je n'ai rien fait de toute la —, ‘]

have done nothing the whole morning ?

Mauresque (une), ‘a Mooress ’ (inhabitant of Northern Africa)

Mauvais métier (le), ‘ poor trade"

médaille (l'argent de sa): a Special allowance made to those who have won medals, Cf. the expression l'arsent de sa Croix, P. 251. 18

même, : self,’ ‘same,’ ‘even’

quand —, ‘in spite of that,’ ‘all the same ” tout de — ‘after all’

— que: a vulgar expression, used for J'avais même, etc., ‘I even had”

€ — temps, ‘at the same time”

ménage (:: mettre en)and entrer €n ménase both mean : to set up housekeeping ,' ‘to have an establishment of one's own"

Mmenotte|(la) : diminutive of main, ‘a little hand,’ ‘a tiny fist’

des —s, ‘ handcuffs,” ‘manacles ?

mer (la), ‘sea’ {a £705€ —, ‘a rough sea or “high la haute —, high water’ la basse —, ‘\ow water?

mère (la) is used familiarly when addressing a woman of the people of a certain age. Cf * Old Mother Hubbard'

mijoter : in cooking, ‘to simmer’

— 4 enfant, ‘to cuddle' or ‘fondle a child’

se —, ‘to coddle one's self up” misère (la), « misery,"_* poverty" Or ‘want’; also ‘a mere nothing"

as

‘whole’ ‘stock’ ‘mace,' ‘bil-

liard-cue'; p. 43 L r ‘fund,' or; ‘a trifie ’

ne

i! à toujours quelques —s, ‘there is| moule, ‘a mussel,” from the Lat. ed something the matter with musculus, diminutive of #15 istral (le), ‘the mistral,’ the | MOuUlinet (faire le): to twirl a name given along the shores of| SWO©rd or stick 7 with exthe Mediterranean to the north.| t"aOrdinary rapidity, nr west wind. The south-east 29 1. 27, but generally in order

_ ; to ward off a blow a . rase "soft: muraille (la), ‘ wall,’ is generally vin —, rich, raçy RÉ used in a collective sense, or

moellon (le), : ashlar, n e. a us 7 it the idea of height ” ee _ distinguished le mur is used of any wall, great or from stones of irregular shape, small but rough on the surface

moi (à) : an exclamation, meaning | naturel (le). : nature,’ : disposi- ‘help! Elliptical for venez à (le), “nature,” : disposi

£ tion,’ : genuineness,' : life,’ #08 ‘native’

mois de nourrice (sans Compter | chasses de —, ÿ! revient au galop, les): an ironical expression, ‘what is bred in the bone must made use of in reference to a come out in the flesh ” ; person who tries to make himself | noce (la), ‘ marriage,' ‘ wedding,’ out

younger than he really is. | ‘wedding-party’; used figura- Transl. ‘and a few months] tively for ‘amusement ‘dismore" sipation,” in a popular sense

nde (le), ‘the world. ‘ le'; | aire la —, ‘to enjoy one's self” = . in a RAS sr = d {4 —, “to be in no pleasant Situation for a particular class, e. g. Les

: noceur (ie), ‘reveller,' ‘loose bourgeois === SR morale (de lui faire de la), ‘to noircir du papier, ‘to blot (lit. lecture him

mordre dans, ‘to bite,’ ‘munch,"| Pl2Cken) rl Le. to scribble, , : fe , or write rubbi Fe om for | "0isette (couleur de), ‘ hazel' n° : nom de nom: an oath, in which mort (pâle comme un): ## mort the second 70m 1S put euphemisis equivalent to #7 somme mort, | tically for Dieu. Transi. ‘by

‘as pale as a corpse’ Jove !° = morte-saison (la), ‘the slack | note (la), ‘ note,’ ‘remark,' : bill’ season ’ or ‘account’ ; also ‘a mark,' or en pleine —, ‘in the middle of the “‘stain” :

slack season :

moue (la), = mouths, L- pouting, ‘ to support,” ‘ maintain , fa bai </ face - t' ‘make | POUVelle (la), ‘piece of news,’ aire (4 — means o pou make ‘4:14: PE n mouths,” ‘to sulk,’ ‘to puil a long tidings’; also ‘a very short

nourrir, ‘to feed,’ ‘nourish :

(or wry) face’ romance,’ or ‘tale’ À 6]," | ‘#voyer savoir des —s de quelqu'un moule (le), ‘a mould," ‘ model, ‘to send to inquire after some one’ ‘ shape,” is from the Lat. modu- Je sais de vos —, ‘1 have heard of lus, diminutive of modus. It your goings-on”’

must not be confounded with /2 | nuage (le) is a cloud of consider-

able density and distinctness

Vocabulary

of} aire tapisserie, to sit down ata outline | ball without being asked to dance, da nue is less opaque and distinct, and | to be a wall-flower

occupies an indefinite space, usually | Parent (le), ‘relative ! at a

higher altitude than a

Chassez ce —, ‘shake 9 this fit sulks”

tomber du haut thunder.struck !

office (m.), : duty,’ ‘divine service de saint —, ‘the Inquisition?

nuage, | Les Parents, ‘the family, Both words are used fi uratively

‘ service, ’

h ‘ancestors ; also, in Particular, ‘ parents’

of| parenthèses | entre), lit, ‘between

arentheses ’ ‘in brackets, des nues, ‘to be | P ae

be freely translated on p. 531.

30 ‘ between ourselves ’ Par parenthèse, by the bye’ Parer, ‘to adorn,' ‘set off,’

| ‘dress,’ ‘clear,': Parry,' ‘screen, ofice (f.) means ‘servants’ hall’; |

(£ pl.) ‘larder,' ‘buttery,’ pendencies of the kitchen

orderly ogive (une): an Pointed arch with s-shaped sides

centre, or semicircular ordinaire (un), ‘daily fare' vin d'—, ‘table wine” comme à l'—, ‘as usual’ d'—, pour d—,: usually"

oreille (une), ‘ear,' ‘hearing,'

‘ dog's ear,' anything ear-shaped |

tirer les —s à quelqu'un, ‘to pinch some one’s ear’ as a playful token of friendship

Jaire la sourde —, ‘to turn a deaf ear’ aisser L'—, ‘to look downcast ' échaufer les —s à quelqu'un, ‘to provoke a person ’ oui-da, ‘certainly," or ‘ indeed 1" oui-da is sometimes used ironically in the sense of “really!” ‘you don't Mean to say so !’ Ouvrier maçon (un), : workingmason,” ‘ brigk-layer ’

Paille (la), ‘ straw,' : mote," ‘ flaw' chaises de —, ‘ straw-bottomed chairs

tirer à la courte —;, ‘to draw lots”

ë mourra sur La —; ‘he will die in a itch”

Pantalon de fatigue (le), ‘a pair of everyday trousers Pantoufñfies de tapisserie, Canvas slippers ’ da Pantoufle is ‘a slipper | lapisserie usually means ‘ tapestrsy.” “hangings 2

, etc.

a rounded arch is called à Dlein | Jai

Patron (le), ‘ patron.’

‘ward off’; hence ‘to make

etc., de-| good,’ ‘to cover’ | ‘ 4 , ofcier d'ordonnance (un), ‘an Paroisse (la), ‘parish,

‘ parish church,' as on P. 21. 20

ogee, or | Part (quelque), somewhere

4 — means ‘ share ' ‘ portion, ' ‘ place

» ‘to take | amiss

de — et d'autre, ‘ hither and thither,' ‘on both sides ’

| à — lui, ‘tacitly’

| Particulier (en), ‘in private en mon —, ‘as for me’ ‘for my part’

Passant (le), : Passer-by

Passé maitre, ‘past master.’ The original meaning of passer maître was to be received as ‘ master ‘after having passed all requisite tests

Passer la nuit, ‘to sit up all night’; lit. ‘to Pass ” or ‘ spend the night’

pâté (le), ‘ pie,' ‘block,’ ‘ blot‘

Patère (la), : Patera," ‘curtain.

peg’; on p. 27 1. 13 an ornament of gilded copper in the form of an ancient Patera, used for hanging up hats, cloaks, etc.

Transi. : hat-peg'

‘ patron

saint," ‘ master,’ ‘ governor, ’

‘coxswain.” It is used fam-

iliarly for the master of a house

or establishment

pays (le): usual meaning, ‘a

country," ‘native country’; used | familiarly, on p. 5 1. 16, for the inhabitant of the same locality In

or district as the speaker.

this sense it takes a feminine,

la payse, ‘ the fellow - country -

woman ’ écrire au —, ‘to au —, ‘at home :

pêcheur à la ligne (un), ‘an angler” pêcheur, ‘afisher,’ feminine Pécheuse, must not be confounded with #cheur, ‘a sinner,' feminine féche.

resse. Distinguish likewise between fécher, ‘10 fish, and fécker, ‘to sin’ peine (la), ‘penalty, ‘pain, ‘ punishment," ‘trouble, ‘anxiety,": ‘labour,’ ‘task,’ ‘difficulty avoir — à, ‘to have much ado to,’ ‘10 have great difficulty in’ à —, ‘scarcely” à grand’ —, avec — ‘with difficulty à — . . que, ‘no sooner . . than’ peloton (le), ‘ball’: hence ‘group," ‘ knot,' used in a military sense for ‘platoon,' ‘ com-

write home

pany

pénitence (la), ‘ penitence,' : repentance”; then ‘ penance,’ ‘punishment ’

mettre un enfant en —, ‘to send a child into the corner’

pension (la), ‘ board’; also ‘a boarding - house,’ : boarding school,’ ‘ pension.” Pension is usually the sum paid for board and lodging, but, on p. 331. 27, it refers to the sum paid for board only

une — viagère, ‘a pension for life’ perception (la), ‘ collection,’

‘ collectorship,'" * perception :

also equivalent to participation

in receipts, i.e. ‘a pension ’

un percepteur is ‘a tax-collector père (le): a familiar title some-

times given by soldiers to their

officers

perpétuité (à), ‘for life’: lit.

‘ for ever petiote (la): a familiar diminutive of petite, ‘ little one,’ used as a noun petit, ‘small,’ ‘humble,’ ‘of low standing’; as we say ‘a small shopkeeper ‘ le — peuple, ‘the common people?

de — -fils, ‘ grand-son en —, ‘in miniature’ — à —, ‘little by little’ de — nom is used familiarly for “Christian name’

pièces (être près de ses), ‘to be short of cash,’ ‘to have very little money’ Pièces also means ‘rooms N.B. Appartement is the whole of which ,ièce is a part pilier (le), ‘ pillar,' ‘ post.” Used figuratively for a regular customer at a tavern — de cabaret, d'estaminet, ‘ petual tippler” pilon (le): usual meaning, ‘a pestle'; hence ‘a stump'; either the stump of a wooden leg, as On p. 31 1. 24, or the stump of a leg when the foot has been amputated Pince-nez (le), ‘a double eyeglass”; pl. des pince-nez pincer is literally ‘to pinch,' ‘ squeeze ’ piquer, : to prick,' ‘ sting," ‘spur;’ etc. ; translate #aient piquées, P. 43 1. 22, ‘were fixed,” ‘stuck — une tête, ‘to take a header’ pis (tant), ‘so much the worse”’ qui — est, ‘ what is worse’ aw — aller, ‘if the worst comes to the

a per-

worst

c'est votre — aller, ‘it is your last resource ’

de mal en —, de — en —, ‘from bad to worse ’

place de flacres (la), ‘hackneycoach stand,’ ‘ cab-stand'

Êrendre un fiacre à la course, ‘totake a cab by the drive’ Place also means ‘a public square”

plaisir (faire — à), ‘to oblige,’ ‘do

Vocabulary

a service.to" ; trans]. ‘ to please | être en — de vin, ‘to be rather tipsy' Your mother, p. 181. 28 | Jaire des —s, ‘to pun bête à Lire Plaisir, * egregiously | policier (le), ‘policeman': à Stupid.” See 46e

| popular and depreciative term aire à quelqu'un Le Plaisir de, à!

À . : &} la), : Le — _- Mod” mec 4 | ponme, (a), Faye hu planche (la), plank,' : board," | "ne canne à — d'or, ‘a gold-headed - bed”; ‘shelf” p. 401 17 + ‘potato* J'aire la —, ‘to float’ — d'amour, ‘tomato' monter Sur des —5, ‘to go on the — de discorde, ‘bone of contention ’ stage portée (être à), ‘to be Within planchette (la), ‘small board," | reach ‘desk ” Porter (se bien), ‘to be well in Planter, ‘to Plant, ‘set, ‘place’ health’

él est alé — $es choux, ‘he has re. j ES ,, pot -au - feu (le), meat to be

p rss — = boiled in a ne vegetables

“breast-piece,’ made of wadding | ee Eee : nu Le

and covered with leather, which | : Rs (les) : nes

a fencing - master wears when | PO _— ‘to rot" _—

teaching his pupils. Used of — ‘to get rotten *

Persons it means ‘a butt' <

‘laughing-stock" res (la) practice, “ex- ÈS = Perience,” ‘habit ‘ custom ' ; a de plunge' ; and by extension : customer’ Ë A ed: duck,” ‘steal | présider, used 4S an active verb, away": also ‘to Fr means ‘to preside,” ‘take the Plurésie, ie Z Dleurésie, | Chair" (at a meeting) É ‘pleurisy,' inflammation of the! — à is used in the same way, but FE pleura or membranes lining the scans in addition ‘to superintend, LE

È Fi Î Walls of the chæ&t and reflected ht — chod him * 3 Over the surface of the lungs | P : (ça lui a), attacked him, : poigne (la): à Popular word | came on him (of a disease) | meaning the strength of à fist Procédé (mettant du blanc à son): LE (Ze Poing) or wrist (æ Doignet). ü are = ‘en, chalking the FEES Transl. ‘ grip," ‘ grasp" po — Miss ‘ *, "| NNESNeN à — is a cue fitted e Poignée (la), bandful, handle, | tip with a small round piece of une — de main, ‘a handshake ? | leather, called a ‘ top” une — de monde, ‘a handful of people’ Promener, 10 take out,’ : lead, la — d'une épée, ‘the hilt of a sword ’ turn,’ etc.

à —, ‘by handfuls' SES yeux, ses regards, le regard poing (le), ‘fist’ | autour de soi, ‘to cast à look, a montrer Le — à quelqu'un, ‘to shake | glance round famili :

ne's fist at sème re | Tæte—:a very amiliar expression, cnes üs : = | usually corresponding to our phrase pointe (la), : Point,” ‘tip,’ ‘tack,' ‘get along with you,’ ‘mind your ‘relish,' ‘ pun,' etc. own business’; trans, (p. 18 1. 12) Fa : À ‘all my Courage failed me’ TEprtos ee | Propos de (à), with respect to," da — du four, ‘the Pcep of day’ = regard to’

—s is ‘to walk on

à —, ‘at the proper time,' ‘by the | raccroc (le), ‘lucky hit, ‘ fluke'

bye,’ etc. ET : , a à — dé rien,‘ without motive or reason" râle (le), rattling,” ‘rattle in the à tout —, ‘at every turn’ throat.” Transl. p. 56 L 12 province (la), ‘ province, ' ‘ chuckle > ‘country rat (le) : the sewer-rat is the comde province, ‘provincial, ‘country’ MON grey or brown Norway rat (adj.) | #n — de cave, ‘exciseman'; also | sen) ég + n ; é ! à £, _— i qualité (la), ‘ quality," ‘pro-

perty, |: ‘ diamond! 7 ’ ‘amond cut ‘rank,’ ‘title,’ ‘capacity’ or, a ratière, ‘rat-trap' ‘ character” rata (le), short for rafatouille, a un homme de —, ‘a man of high} popular term for a coarse kind rank aus fi be | of ragoût or ‘ stew' avoir — pour faire une C ose, o | ‘ 4 CE ‘ qualified to do a thing' | PRE, ré flash in the quart (battre son), ‘to beon beat'| P2n: 'Eako 5 L À Re Je crains bien que ce qe LS ne rate, Le gone", AS alor of the |” fer that mariage ve robes | o watch"

— un coup, ‘to miss a stroke’ réception (la), ‘receipt,' ‘reception," ‘welcome,’ ‘levee,' and ‘admittance” into a company

quatre-bandes (le) : /a bande, in billiards, is the padded cushion or the margin of the table | un carambolage par bandes is à |

Se | accusez-moi — de ma lettre, ‘ac.

ne be En msn knowledge the receipt of my letter L L

p. 58 1. 7, all four cushions receveur de l'enregistrement

les Dans ne _—— pas, ‘the (le), ‘recorder,’ ‘registrar.' The cushaions are siow H ‘ En

être collé sous bande, ‘ to be under the full title here is receveur de ê _ ce ee registrement et des domaines,

quatrième (au) : i.e. ax gwatri- | ‘the en who Stamps or ème étage, ‘to the fourth floor’ | legisters documents (of a house) | Yeceveur des confributions, ‘tax-

queuté : gueuter is a term used <" = = E— b in billiards for ‘to make a foul dre a stroke with the cue’ (/a guenue £ quoi, ‘what,’ ‘ which 1 - | | récidiviste (le), ‘ old offender de — boire, ‘ the where-

withal to drink' "#,— 152 ps ho, after having been avoir de —. 'to be in easy circum- l imprison or a certain crime, 1S EE | caught repeating it - Ps a _— récidiver is 'to commit the same _ Ë

. crime,' 'relapse * de nr. s — means 'the! 7, récidive, 'relapse, 'fresh offence'

quoi! is used familiarly to sum up réclamer, 'to claim,' 'own' what has gone before, and is erui- redingote (la), ' frock-coat : is a | £ ; ee valu 0 en as mé | Corruption of the Engl. : riding-

coat " rabat (le) was originally a turned- | regarder, 'to look,' ' consider, : down collar (rabattre, 'to 'examine,' ' concern ?

turn, down'), now it is used for | réglementaire is used on p. 32 the bands of a priest 1. 25 in the sense of ' according

Vocabulary

to regulation! je. 'fit and,

Proper, " just as it should be' reins : /e rein is 'a kidney the plural, 'loins,' ' back"

relancer, 'to rouse," 'hunt out ' "snub'; also 'to Cast out again '

or ' drive out once more'

religion (en): à Person is said to

be e» religion when he has taken religious VOws, and belongs to some Confraternity remis, 'delivered ' 'paid,' from remettre, 'to put back or down,' 'remit,' 'delay,' entrust,' etc.

est-ce que vous ne ME reellez pas ?

'do you not remember me ?*

remetlre de Jour en Jour, ‘to pro- Crastinate

rente (la) means an ‘ income ' :

‘pension ’

— à cinq pour ext, ‘the five per cent government annuity"

le taux de la —; ‘the price of stocks ?

4 — hausse ou baisse, ‘the funds rise | or fall’

rentrer dans le civil : to leave the army and enter again into civil life repasser, ‘to repass,” ‘cross again,’ etc. ; also ‘to rehearse ‘go over,’ ‘ repeat ’ — des Couteaux, ‘to grind knives ?

— du linge, ‘to iron linen ’ retard (le), ‘delay € —, ‘in arrears’ :

retenir (se), ‘to Contain one's | self,” ‘refrain! ‘cling,' ‘hold | or ‘hold on,’ etc.

2 s'est retenu AUX branches, ‘he | clung to the branches ’ | CES VErs se retiennent SJ'acilement, | “those lines are easily remembered * | retourné (roi), ‘the king of trumps ” {a retourne, ‘ trump-card ‘ qu'est.ce qui etourne? “what are trumps ?’ retraite (mettre à la), ‘ to pension off," ‘ put on the retired list ?

Pension de —, : retiring pension?

rêve (faire u

n), ‘tohavea dream"; rogner,

escent happiness

; in revenant (un), ‘a ghost’ revenir, ‘to get over," ‘shake |: Off," ‘renounce a misconception

Je n'en reviens Pas, ‘I cannot get

| over my surprise ‘ Distinguish between »e2

TS Casuels, ‘ perquisites ”

| revue (passer en), ‘to review,‘

‘ inspect !

| ous sommes gens de —, ‘we shall

| meet again

floor’; pl. des rez-de-chaussée.

&es (another form of ras, Lat.

rasus) means ‘on a level with ’

ribambelle (une), ‘a host,’ ‘string, as ne — d'enfants, UNE — d'injures

ribote (être en): a popular term, meaning ‘to be tipsy,' ‘intoxicated'

Jaire —, ‘to have a drunken bout” :

ribole is feminine

riboter is ‘to get tipsy”

un riboteur, ‘a drunkard”

riflard (le), ‘a rough plane,' ‘chisel’; on P. 141. 2 a popular

term for an old umbrella. The

name is due to the Success of a

play called Za Petite ville, which

Appeared in 1801, and in which

one of the actors, called Riflard,

comes on the Stage armed

With an enormous umbrella.

Un pépin is also used in the same sense

rigolade (la): à Popular word

meaning ‘amusement '

rigoler, and the noun rigoleur, are

also ased popularly in the sense of ‘to amuse one'e self, ‘one who

amuses himself” ‘eut," ‘clip, ‘prune;

also fig. ‘to enjoy a brief evan-

enir, ‘tocome | ack to the place from which one Started, ’e.g, revenir dans sa Patrie ; and sefourner, ‘to 89 back to the place to which one had already | een," e.g. relourner dans son exil

revenu (le), ‘ income,' ‘revenue

| rez-de-chaussée (le), ‘ groundalso ‘ rent! ‘aunuity," ‘stocks, ' |

also fig. ‘to cut off,’ : cut short, ' ‘ curtail' roide, old spelling of raide, ‘ stiff,' ‘steep' être tué raide, ‘to be killed instan-

taneously ’ tomber raide mort, ‘to fall stone-dead'

ronger, ‘to gnaw,' ‘to spoil' ; of

a horse, ‘to champ" (the bit)

rouillé, ‘rusty'; of lookingglasses, ‘frosty': of plants, ‘blighted'

da rouille, ‘rust' “frostiness,' ‘blight'

rousse, masc. roux, implies a red colour with a slight tinge of black in it, Fiery-red hair is sometimes called rouge, but the Word roux is more commonly used

rousse (la): a slang-word=the police, the ‘ peelers"

route (en), used as a command, means ‘let us be off, ‘let us

go ruisseau (le), ‘ stream! ‘ rivulet ,'

‘gutter' verser des —x de larmes, ‘to shed floods of terrs’

sabler, ‘to sand’ or‘ gravel,' and used fig. ‘to drink off,’ ‘ tip off’ sabot (le) is used popularly of a quick but slovenly worker, a ‘bungler ’ or ‘ botcher.' Usual meaning of sabot is ‘a wooden

shoe," then ‘hoof,' ‘socket’ ‘ fiddle’ dormir comme un —, ‘to sleep like a top”

—$ sans paille: it is usual to line wooden shoes with straw to keep them from chafing the feet

sabre (le), ‘sabre,’ or ‘ broadsword.” This isa heavy sword with only one sharp edge, and with its greatest thickness at the

. back of the blade ‘sac à bière (le): an habitual tippler or drunkard. Sac à vin is used in the same sense |

de sac means ‘ bag, ‘knapsack,' ‘ sack’ le sac de nuit, ‘ Carpet-bag ‘ un cul-de-sac, ‘blind alley' sainte-nitouche (avec son air de), ‘with his sanctimonious air,” ‘looking as if butter would not melt in his mouth.' The expression is sometimes, and more correctly, written sainte n'y louche sale, ‘dirty,’ ‘ foul,' ‘ dull' gris —, ‘ dull grey’ salle de police (la): a room in which soldiers are kept whilst in detention for small offences against discipline, ‘a guardroom " da salle à manger, da salle d ‘armes, “fencing-school‘ sandwich (le) has been borrowed from English. Cf. /unch.

When a foreign word has become thoroughly naturalised in French it usually takes s in the plural, whatever its origin ; but there are some exceptions sang (se faire du mauvais), ‘ to be vexed,' ‘to fret’ sauter, ‘to leap,' ‘jump,' ‘ex.

plode,' etc.

— 4u Cow de quelqu'un, ‘to fall on a person's neck’ vous me feriez — au would drive me ma se faire — la cervelle, ‘to blow one's rains out’ sautiller : à frequentative of sauter, ‘to skip" or ‘ hop about:

ne faire que —, ‘to go from one thing to another’ sébile (une), ‘ a wooden bowl' sec, fem. sèche, ‘ dry,’ ‘hard’ ; when applied to sounds means ‘short and sharp’ à pied —, ‘ dry-shod’ un homme —, ‘a es £ lean man?

#n Co4p —, ‘a smart blow' donner un coup — is a term used in billiards to express a sharp stroke given to the ball, after w ich the cue is smartly withdrawn, instead of being allowed to follow üp the baii

‘dining-room" ‘ fencing - room,

fer, ‘you

ad ail

Vocabulary

with Ze somme (Lat. somnus), ‘a nap,' ‘slumber ’ êr son —, ‘to sleep soundly' sort (le), ‘ fate,' ‘lot,’ ‘condition tirer au — js ‘to draw lots,’ ‘to draw lots for the army

le — also means ‘à spell,’ ‘charm' soucoupe (la), : saucer,' or ‘salver, on which to stand glasses or bottles

soudard (le), ‘a veteran,' ‘ war- Worn soldier.' A term often used in contempt souffleter, ‘10 slap the face,' ‘box the ears,' is also used metaphorically of the wind, ‘to buffet’ sOûl (j'en ai eu tout mon), ‘ I have had my full share of it," ‘my fill’ il à do: mi tout son —; ‘he has slept to his heart’s content’ soûl is also used adjectivally, but is not very common, It means ‘ satiated," ‘glutted,' hence ‘drunk’

semaine (la), ‘a week,’ ‘a weck's work, 'and then ‘a week's wages' la — des quatre Jeudis, ie. ‘never’ en —, ‘on week-days

sentez (vous), ‘ you understand ' sergent (le), ‘a sergeant,' a non- Commissioned officer of infantry of the grade next above Coï poral, Every Company has four ser- Beants, of whom the senior is the colour-sergeant de — Major is the highest non-commissioned officer in a régiment, and acts as assistant to the adjutant #n — de ville, a policeman wearing a sword, also called gardien de la paix

sergent-fourrier (le), ‘ quarter- Mmaster-sergeant serre-flle (un): à sergeant who marches in the rear of a ‘peloton’ (half.

company) to maintain the line or file service (le) means : service,' 'attendance," : use," good | soulier (le) is used in a collective office," ' divine service,' etc. | sense, meaning ' a pair of shoes In the plural, as on p. 23 1. 2, soupe (la), 'soup,' : sp,' ' toast ' R ee ni _— ee is also used by extension for a-i-1 ur votre — at are ' SL , ES re mes tdine "thus à Ex — >: with three | ##€ — maigre, 'vegetable soup" : courses soupente (la), ' garret,' 'attic servir (pour vois): a common | sourd, ' deaf,' 'hollow,' ' secret, expression of politeness used in | 'underhand' = giving an affirmative answer, | pied me sie po = ; and equivalent to 'at your Jairs La. _ Della es d dent service ear' sevrer (se), 'to deprive one's self of," ' abstain from'

sourd is also used as a noun, 'a deaf man"

sexe (le), 'sex' spadassin (le), 'a bravo,' 'bully,' 12 se —, Or absolutely, Z — 'the 'hired assassin EE = suite (la), 'train,' 'sequel,' 'series, sobriquet (le), ' nickname ' Er : ae :

solide, 'solid : substantial, | set, 'consequence ' or result,

"firm"; also used as a noun | de —, 'one after another.' 'without

for "reality," ' main chance | interruption ' somme (la) (Lat. summa), ' sum,' | tout de —

RE » 'immediately ?

, , l 'amount,' ' summary

Par — consequently ?

| 4 L Re . , | 2ar la —, 'in course of time en —, 'upon the whole,' 'in the main

— toute, “to conclude” : fnA fe | ! sujet {le} : usual meaning, ‘sub- This word must not be con ounded : ject’

PE RNDREPONTR PERRET EMNMEINNSEN LES LEONE LE «MAN

fellow '

Pipes à —s, ‘ painted pipes sur: lit. ‘on’: also ‘against’ surveillance (en),

vision of the police ’ syncope (avoir une), fainting fit

Sat

tableau (le), ture," ‘list,” ‘table, : blackboard," etc. ; also ‘a table {of weights and measures) de — noir, ‘the blackboard * | tabouret (le), ‘a stool' taille (la), ‘edge, : cutting,' | "stature, ‘ shape,’ ‘ waist" se ‘enant par la —, ‘with their arms |

about each other's waists,” ‘holding each other round the waist ’

talus (le), ‘embankment temps (ic), ‘time’ dans les premiers —, ‘at first’

| ‘a painting, ‘ pic- | |

FER Ame RET TEE:

PAM ETES

Par le — qui court, ‘as times go”

il fait beau —, ‘the weather is fine ’ |

= de — se met au beau, ‘fine weather is |

setting in’ |

gro —, ‘foul weather’ |

téuébreux, : obscure, : doubtful”

ténèbres, f. pl, means ‘ darkness,’ |

| ‘ gloom;' ‘obscurity ' |

| tenez, used as an exclamation, | | !

see here!” ‘look!’ It also means ‘here you are!’ ‘take

this!" | | tenir, ‘to hold'

Ë — dieu de is ‘to stand instead of,’ |

4 = supply the place of’

dE | tinrent lieu F « Preuve, 4 proofs of his guilt ’

turrer (se), ‘to go to ground" | ‘run to earth,’ is usually used |

cf animals ; also : to hide’ tête (une), ‘ head’ Pavées en —s de chat, paved with

cobbles or cobhle-stones, rounded

by the action of water, and bearing

a fancied resemblance to cats' heads

timbre (le), ‘ bell, ‘sound,' ‘air,’ ‘stamp,' ‘ post-mark,' etc.

timbre is à bell without a clapper,

un bon —, ‘à good, well . behaved !

‘10 have a |

struck by means or metal knob

€ bureau de —, * stamp-office ‘

la le — félé, ‘he is crack-brained '

of a hammer

‘under super- | tintouin (le), lit. ‘a ringing,'

‘tingling.' Used figuratively it means ‘anxiety *

“un — de tous Les diables, transi. ‘ à

most awful anxiety ‘

tirailleur (le), : skirmisher, ' ‘sharp - shooter." The word Was first applied in 1792 to

French light-armed troops, who were thrown out from the main body to bring on an action, cover an attack, or, in general, harass (irailler) and deceive the enemy

toile (la), ‘cloth,' ‘linen ‘curtain' (theatre),

"net," ‘ painting,' ‘sail”

la — cirée, ‘ oil-cloth" which is water.

proof

- : tomber, ‘to fall,’ : degenerate' Passer le —, ‘to while away the time” | ‘ decay * etc. — 4MOureux de,

, ‘to fall in love with"

la nuit tombe, ‘ night is coming on’ In — bien and — mal, toniber is used

for arriver, È

‘to happen,' ‘to fall out

fa tombait mal, ‘it happened at an

awkward time ’

tomber is used actively in wrestlers'

jargon for f overthrow or floor One s adversary ’

In all other cases it is used as a neuter

verb, except in Popular or slang expressions borrowed from the wrestling term

torse (le), ‘trunk,’ : chest ‘serve! as | toucher, ‘to touch' etc. ; when referring to money means ‘to receive.” Asa neuter verb#oucher à is ‘to come into contact with ' toujours, ‘always, ‘ ever,’ : still,"

‘at least," ‘ nevertheless ‘ —est-ilque, fitis, however, true that’

that as it may

tour (le), ‘a turn,’ ‘ revolution ' “tour,” ‘ game,’ ‘ circuit,’ ‘trick à son —, ‘in his turn’ = Jouer un —, ‘to play a trick” — à —, ‘by turns,' alternately ’

tronc (le), ‘a tr

Vocabulary

Sairé un — de ville, in town ’

tour, ‘a tower,' feminine

tout au plus, ‘at most," ‘atthe | ‘foggy.'

outside ‘ traduisait (qui se),

terpreted itself” je.

found vent :

train (le), ‘pace,'

‘noise, etc.

dtre en — de, ‘10 bein the act of, ‘to | tunique (la), ‘a tunic.'

be about to étre en —, ‘to be in high spirits !

aller bon —, ‘19 &o fast à fond de —, ‘at full speed quel —! what a racket !' —$ means ‘rafts’

traîner en justice, before the law-courts ' traîneur de sabre (le), ‘a Sword-dangler,' an idle soldier Who parades his sword and exhibits its uselessness as well as his own traiter, ‘to treat

‘negotiate :

also ‘to call.’

Precedes the name bestowed

— Juelqu'un de fat, ‘to Call a person | a fop’

— Quelqu'un en

One as a king

travaux forcés, ‘ forced labour,’

‘ penal servitude.’ Travail has | two plurals ; when it is used in | the ordinary sense of work, | labour, the Plural is travaux ; | when it means à minister's |

roi, ‘to treat some

‘10 take à walk

‘castle’ (at chess), is

‘rate, retinue ‘to drag | va (comn:-

In this sense it is always followed by de, which | |

Poor-box,' : charity-box '

trouble, ‘hazy,' ‘ dull,' ‘thick,' | À contracted form of

troublé

‘which in_ | (l'étoile —, ‘the dim spark ‘ which in- voir —, ‘to be dim-sighted ‘which | lécher en eau —, ‘15 fish in trouble

Waters | troublé, ‘agitated," ‘embar | rassed ‘ l'unique

| is also used for the redingote, | Or military frock-coat, worn by

infantry soldiers

health comment allez-vous ? ‘how

aller mieux, ‘to get better in health’

valet (le) ‘groom,' ‘ knave' (at cards)

de — de Cœur, à card used as à admittance 19 a

‘check’ for . dancing-saloon, etc.

JE suis votre —,‘] beg to be excused '

tel maître, tel —, ‘hi man’

! valu (cela l'aurait), ‘ that would

have cost you”

valoir mieux, ‘to be better ’ Un liens vaut mieux que deux tu

#n homme averti en vaut deux, ‘forewarned is forearmed *

aille que vaille, ‘at all events,’ ‘for better, for worse *

: \'4 é : tirer vanité, aire vanité, reports, à brake for shoeing | — J £

horses, the Plural is #ravails travers (de), ‘askew,' ‘awry" | tout à marché de —, ‘everything | went wrong Prendre tout de — thing amiss’ Parier de —;, ‘tos

» ‘tO take every- |

peak at random"

and frendre vanité d ‘une chose

all mean ‘to 8lory in,' ‘ boast of"

| Vanné: lit. ‘winnowed,' then

‘exhausted ' SITE

secoué comme de rain Tanné #

avoir L'esprit d, — ‘to be cross. | velours (le), * velvet :

CUS de —, trans]. ‘soft or silken lashes.' The adjective is e/outé

— ras, ‘short -nap velvet,' à very Common kind

‘venu (le Premier), ‘the first.

grained ’ |

estre (le), ‘a Quarter,’ ‘a | T'iarter's pay’

‘shañt,'

"stock," ‘a box fof alms,' ‘a

}, ‘how is, , »' Aller is use in reference to the

are you ?’ ‘improve

‘a servant-man

ike Master, like

tive

jt rt

comer,” i.e. anybody and every-| ‘a veil' (Lat. velum) ; when body

feminine, ‘a sail’ (Lat. vela) WA NOUVEAU —, ‘a new-comer.' See | avoir un — devant les yeux, ‘to have note, p. 281, 22 | a mist before one's eyes” = \ vermouth (le): a white wine | Prendre le —, ‘to take the veil,' ‘be. ‘ ’ , | come a nun ’ oo ane me © APE or , , = | Voilé, : veiled : also used in the cordial. See absinthe | ;

Se . | sense of ‘hidden from sight ’ verre (le), ‘ giass'; also used in | une voir —e, ‘a husky voice”

the sense of coche de verre, | vol (le), ‘theft’ ‘ bell-glass ” or ‘ glass cylinder ! | — avec effraction, “house-breaking ? verser, ‘to pour," ‘empty, à pay | TT Pet ven vol, ‘theft,’ and in, ‘upset," ‘ lodge,’ ‘ deposit à — d'oiseau, ‘as the crow flies” — A+ Dleines mains, ‘to lavish volupté singulière (la), ‘a 89 - : strange pleasure’ — des fonds, ‘to invest capital” | Ë = = vésicatoire (le), ‘ blister,’ : vesi- Lin ns Te = catory ; also used as an ginning to stoop'! , adjective, fafètas Vésicatoire,

sein , vue (la), ‘sight,’ ‘ view’

‘blistering plaster | Perdre quelqu'un de —, ‘to lose sight veste (la), a short, round jacket | . Of some one’

without a skirt ner à Perte de —, ‘to reason at vicaire (le) is the eurate of a à = d'ail “visibly”

parish

NB. Zecuréisthe vicar. See curé , : : - | Yatagan (le), ‘yataghan' or D _—_—_ Pr ‘ataghan,' a cutting and + , thrusting Weapon used by à vide, ‘empty à .

7igne (la), ‘ vine,’ ‘ vineyard' Mahommedan nations, having être dans les —s, ‘to be in one's cups' | no guard nor cross-piece,

but Vigneron, ‘vine - dresser,’ ‘wine- | usually a large pommel grower de vignoble, ‘ vineyard ’ V'lan ! interj. ‘slap | ‘bang !' vitrine (la), ‘ glass case," ‘ shopwindow ’ Voile, when masculine, means

zinc (le), ‘zinc’ de —, p. 3 1. 16, means the counter of a wine-merchant s shop, in allusion to the metal with which it is covered #n sinqueur, ‘a great drinker

L WORDS AND PHRASES FOR V/VA VOCE DRILL

Note. —This Appendix gives the and therefore does not in translation of the text.

Primary and ordinary meanings of words, very case supply the best word to be used in the

AI nouns to be given with the definite or indefinite article to show the gender.

Abbreviation. sg, = “something.” e Page worps WORDS PHRASES k.

1 formerly the jacket to make both ends meet F a parish the cap at the hours of divine service He the vestry-board the chaplet to kneel on the bare stone 3 2 the burial a pair of spec. twice every three times the bier tacles most of the time . the trestle the sentry-box exactly at seven o'clock a squall 3 the ticket- the paying in, to SWwarm with people window deposit to stop one's ears 4 the savings- a shop soles with hobnails É bank a fellow to

moisten 4 the faith a pinch of snuff to make a market-penny (of commonplace, to stammer Cooks) trivial heavy to Carry totryto Speak in a low voice to exoavate, to Stammer out a Prayer search 5 the gossip the mercy with hands stained with blood a murderer the nest to be frank and sincere a working to hire (a work- to walk by some One's side mason man) 6 to save up, Spare to be hard UP to send one's Savings to some

one

Page worps

elsewhere a widow

indifferent, poor

CNT

to guess

to feel, experience

all the same

8 to slip

drunkenness

to blush at . .

totryto.,

to roam about

to draw, sketch

the drunkard

a cheap eating-

vaulted

to betake one's self to . .

at once, directly talised

a clock

the ladder

a bubble

the cab

to resemble

14 the market hollow sickly, weakly

15 a gesture the basket the handle

16 just now cod-liver oil to swallow

17 to moan, groan to pout, sulk a blister-plaster to cure, heal

18 the pavement the orders, in-

structions

the husband

WORDS

PHRASES to set up house. to fall in love with some one keeping to put by some money the birth it was Catherine's saint's day the

jewel to wish some one many happy to be grievcd returns of the day

to have ones fill of sg.

to irritate, annoy I should be ashamed to repeat some one it

grief, worry to be very near doing sg.

to lose sight of some one

a shake of the to return with empty hands

hand to come to some one's aid to draw lots to earn fairly good wages to climb to spend a sleepless night the scaffold to be in the act of doing sg.

to crumple, to have à forfeit to pay

ruffle to giggle, grin so much the worse for them bloodshot, it struck eleven

husky to be killed on the spot

a box with toys puddles of water the downpour

a dapple-grey horse to give a good pull (of à horse) without suspecting anything

to drip to make one's way through the a nun crowd [can to be standing to shelter Some one as best one to Start off again (of a carriage) the business, large nut-brown eyes job a hand with slender fingers

the rough work the cheek-bone the younger, the youngest the bookbinder

to Start a conversation with some one

the delicate-looking littlefellow

she has been married for these twelve months

the eve to go to the country a woollen to complain of à choking blanket sensation

outside (ad) there is no shame in owning it

to pay the cab-fare

the shawl to return walking side by to be better (i» side

health) it was fine weather to sob

I was allowed to see him on Sundays and Thursdays

Page worps

the veil

the eyelashes velvet (s465£) bold

a newspaper

the quarrel

a bully

22 asleep

to wake up

at first

the campaign

the wound

a branch line (railway)

the cart

the ground-floor

an inn

the cartridgepouch

the nape of the neck

the thigh

to low

the banisters

Straw-bottomed chairs

10 pass (of time)

the saucer

the hat-peg

the bell (1/4 à hammer) [bar the lady at the Poppy- coloured Somewhere an auctioneer to despise jeering

on Mondays

the market-day

the market.

gardener

a goose

a rod, switch

the beggar

the household

WORDS to have à dream the archbishop Hungarian heart-rending to watch, look

after

thin

the mud

a bullet

the native

a sleigh-bel] the rampart

an aCquaintance the threshold the roll-call

the sharpshooter

his native town

the travellingbag

a trophy

the grocer

to shave one's self

the angle, corner

the aproi,

the stool

billiard balls to complain about . , Punctual eye-glasses a collection (Church) the group

the farmer the whip drunk

to notice that .

to curse, fume against

PHRASES to think of the past it was in Spring his short cropped hair by a mere chance Strewn with large leaves to dress wounds

Î touched his arm gently

to have a mind to do sg.

out of regard for the fair sex

it is of little or no consequence

to put some one on the retired list

to fish with à line

to bury one's self in silence

the streets were Paved with cobble stones

very many times

at the point of the bayonet

the top of the coach

to be on friendly terms with some one

to climb up the stairs a room with à brick floor to unpack one's trunk

to feel at ease

10 utter a deep sigh of relief

to take à turn round the town

to walk round the room

the arrival of this new comer

to be delighted to meet some one

à Man with bushy whiskers

to go out to get seme cigars

theabove-mentioned veterinary

to give some one a piece of one's mind

as early as daybreak

an otter-skin cap

it was an unlucky day

+ A confirmed bachelor

clothed with ashort skirtin rags to be Preparing to do sg.

Page worps

32 to wake some one up in future the service

33 a hubbub the curtain the hearth to be strewn

with.,

34 to be tempted a pitchfork the dung-heap the cheek

35 the gratitude the zeal the floor

36 to be standing up the old age to skip about 38 to rub a laundress the customer 39 a mountebank my father-inlaw the wash-house, laundry 140 a stall (for sale of goods) the cell (prison) to paper (a room) 41 a humpback a cockchafer a fishpond 42 children's toys the plunge the cesspool, sewer

43 the loft the shipwreck sunburnt sailors' expres-

sions

WORDS PHRASES a kick to walk on tiptoe to blush is she a relative of yours (2#4

lame, limping sing)?

to go back into the house

to throw off such a crowd of country folk one'sweariness socks full of holes

an officer's ser- tolook after some one's clothes

vant a turncoat, Tam in need of a servant deserter to undertake to keep some one

henceforward there is no mistake about it

the spider to furbish up the furniture the table-cloth to promise io think about it the andiron to put one's hand on the doorhandle

to hoard up he could not bear it any longer to wean a comfortable and well -fura haberdasher's nished room

shop to fill one's pipe [months fhe custom [have been here these six

a Waiter in a café to earn money

early to go to bed early

to be in con- everything is going wrong sumption to take a dislike to some one

clumsy everybody used to cuff me

the sewers

a plank, shelf à pair of old shoes

the foil (/en- the eldest of them cing) the distant line of hills his Christian name the net a piece of thread [in turn a limekiln to arrest and release some one the slipper to have one's hair curled a shady busi to have one's self tattooed ness after six weeks at the outside a heap of rub- to be sentenced to five years' bish hard labour the mange (of dog) the pulpit, to ramble through the streets master's desk it was very hot (of fhe weather) lead ink-pots a table of weightsand measures

Page worps

beardless

palish, wan

a jest

the convictprison

the back

the ladder

46 a lodging-house,

furnished lodgings a green arbour a tea-garden the gesture allthe more the mystery

the landing (staircase)

the disturbance

the tail

to get angry

the dread, fright

the penury

the crime

the neck

the mouth

the substitute

a tool

to whine

to look as if. .

the ironmonger

the hem

the bachelor

a drunkard

the (/a54) will

a regular customer (in a café)

to replace, take the place of

to receive, wel.

come

the christening

to read over, revise

9 pour out, spi

arched, crooked

WORDS

noisily

the ray

to sparkle

a cheap eatinghouse

to be tired out, knocked up

the knot

the mushroom

the harvest

a flail

the lilac

to borrow from. .

the saving

to cheat

to search

the clothes, togs

the theft

the ragamufñfin

the disorder

the ear

the anguish

a rag

the policeman

the handcuffs, manacles

the locksmith

moreover

the napkin

the pipe

the rack

the dressinggown

the veil

Copper (swbs/)

the eyelid

to half-open

bald

Sugar-plums

infusion, decoction

the beard

Words and Phrases 145

PHRASES to burst out laughing the cudgel of the convict-keeper the heavy grip of the warder to climb ropes to bend once's back to go to mass

their resources were very limited they had had to admit him to manage to save up

to pretend to be ignorant

to change the subject

at the time of his arriva]

[going to enter

the room into which he was

Tam sure that my trunk has been opened [law-courts

to drag some one before the à

so much the worse à

his Sunday waistcoat DE

With his sanctimonious air

89 and fetch the police [voice

tosaysg. in a lowand imploring

I know all about it

his younger brother

to render some one a service

to be sentenced to prison for life as an old offender [year

to retire on an income of £600a

You are doing a stupid thing

to know some one by sight

that does not Concern me

gentle as à lamb

to prevent some one doing sg.

to fret his toothless mouth to half expect à request

to make a face

between the Morning and after.

noon Service

to drink in little sips

to give proof of sg.

nana mnnnenan mn means - mn

Page worps ugly to sketch, outline 57 to cough the bellows a brat, baby

58 the drop croup (med) the sigh

59 the godson to be selfish the kidney

to simmer (cook)

60 the office the War Office the right hand the left arm

61 the button to brush the buttonhole

62 the front (of à shop) an old-clothes dealer dirty 63 a scar from behinca the corpse

64 the nickname the steel a four-wheeler

65 exacting the service a spot of rust

66 a speech to behave well to totter 67 daybreak to rouse some one the grape-shot

WORDS unusual the anvil

unkempt

a dressingjacket

the apprentice

the oyster

to ring (a #e//)

to uncork

a dishwarmer

to spoil

to bend, stoop

the wonder, marvel

cheap

his salary

A parcel the brain to be quite sure

the shop-window

rusty

to gnaw, corrode

to rot

a ghost

a riddle

quite frankly

to crack the fray, scuffle the conduct

the gaiter

to get drunk

to mate (ckess), bring down

luckily

to notice sg.

for good

the ear (of corn)

the elhow

to fire

PHRASES

to make a number of flukes (éilliards)

to chalk one's cue |

to be black under the eyes

to sit up all night

to burst out sobbing

to make a splendid all-round cannon

to miss a stroke (dilliards)

to invite some one to lunch

to clutch a spoon

do let him !

to cut one's meat up into small pieces

with a single stroke of the pen

a tribe of children

he kept all this little flock on his salary

the review of the inspecting general

the outskirts of Paris

it is worth while doing it

to examine sg. closely

in the middle of the back

a hole made by a bullet

to murmur something

Ît is a long way from here to the battle-field of Melegnano

he must have passed this way

now then, where shall I begin ?

to have just come to the end of ones furlough

to receive the earnest money

to be made maior

to be hard on the men

to take a dislike to some one

on the eve of the battle of M.

to shrug one's shoulders

to be we up with a start

to cock one's gun

to shoulder one’s gun

to throw one's head back

kes

nd

Page worps 68 the butt (of à

gun) the lungs

an isolated rock

(in the sea)

69 to take off

the wheel

the ammunition-

wagon

70 to hurt

the delirium the fever

/lto balance,

make up for the account, narrative

Words and Phrases 147

WORDS the billow the mouth (9

an animal) the leap

a gash, slash

a streak of blood

to flow

the duty a blackguard the target

an attack, fit a madman to howl, yell to prevent

PHRASES to have no time to do sg.

to feel one's head swim to lose Consciousness

to brandish one's Sword in the air

to lean on one's gun

a flag torn to shreds

I did not know whattodecideon

aS à reward for his brilliant exploit [with sg.

to make some one disgusted

as best I could

a bit of miscellaneous news

to master Some one

Dnenetemninite ntm ce RES .

[sa un R S D

gs

+ We are th: more sorry for it as we we + It is useless for him to complain, nobody listens to him.

+ If you pass that Way, Cast down your eyes and stop your ears. . The shop was all blazing with gas,

+ By the red glimmer of the lamp hanging from the ogive, 1

UN ACCIDENT

The old man coujd hardly make both ends meet.

+ Do no: sit on the bare stone, you will catch cold. + A few Peasants, with their Caps under their arms, were kneel-

ing near à pillar.

When do you intend to have your house repaired ?

+ In the corner Opposite there were two new-born children who

were going to be baptized. We are poor, and so have few triends.

Out of twelve candidates nine have been admitted.

. The curate always went out on Tuesdays, Fhursdays, and

Saturdays at two o'clock precisely.

Let us go, at the risk of coming back if there is no one there.

. Do you not inwardly regret the good fre you have just left ?

It was on a Saturday evening, a day when all the shops remain open very late,

I must take my weekly deposit to the savings-bank. re far from suspecting it,

perceived a workman kneeling near the high altar, Few cooks knew better how to make à market penny.

+ They looked upon themselves as perfectly honourable, because

they had neither killed nor stolen.

MS

cel-

vho

Sentences on Syntax and Idioms

* The man, whose 'ace I could no:

rough voice,

For how long have you not confessed

3 What I have on my Conscience is too heavy to bear by myself, 4. It was no longer a question Of old women's tattle. S I'have been a Mason for more than twenty years, 6. We are Proud that you have not doubted us, ZT

See, Was speaking in à

he new-comer had at once Srocer's daughter, am 100 badly off to Put any money aside, 9. You will know Presently what came of it.

10, It seems to me that you might go a little faster.

The vicar Was in the midet of

ship.

none of us had

writing when I went in.

Whatever grief one feels, one must work all the same.

AI of a sudden I felt myself tapped on the shoulder.

What would you do if you had not enough to live upon ?

My friend was so changed that I could scarcely recognise him.

We had worked side by side for a whole week.

How much the poor widow would suffer, when her son left her all alone !

As I was going down in my turn, if actually he did not look at me with a sneer !

Neither he nor I are good sailors,

It seems that the old man sudde»ly fell stone-dead,

Those are the only happy days we ever had,

What is singular is that no one knew it.

The prist kept the jewel, but put the price or thereabouts in the poor-box,

LA MÉDAILLE

It is raining fast, and so the streets are empty.

The two dapple-grey horses had just given another good pull at it.

Î was far from suspecting that you were so near.

À woman was sheltering as well as she could a little boy with a sickly look.

“Well, you are cool!” he answered, ‘but come all the same. ”

. When shall we set the thing going ?

+ Though dressed just alike, the two sisters of charity did not

much resemble each other.

« Is that all the money you have got about you ? . All these good people are very ignorant.

. I cannot understand why you have changed your mind.

. Has not your eldest daughter been married for a year ?

+ My husband takes in work; he is a bookbinder.

+ You would be pitied more if you did not complain so much.
+ Îtis no longer a question of speaking but of acting.

+ How funny you look when you pout !

. If you are not rich, there is no shame in confessing it.

+ The train was more than half an hour late.

+ Does not your bedroom look out on to the park ?

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We were coming back on foot, walking side by side without Saying anything,

Those few hours I shall never forget.

It seemed as if there was no longer any sun.

Whilst Pretending not to listen, he had heard all I had said,

You won't mind your cod-liver oil, will you ?

The dying man moved his lips as if to speak.

Let us make haste, if we want to arrive before it is dark.

It was a resolution the importance of which I fully unders: 04

Happy the king whose subjects respect him so!

How many times she had uttered this name in an wii, to herself alone !

+ “What do you not like in him ?” he asked, purpi il

anger.

+ How sad she felt, whilst following the flight of the clou, va

her eyes !

We had been six weeks in Normandy when that event touk Place.

However dangerous our situation may be, it is not desperate, Thinking she was asleep, I touched her arm slightly. À consecrated medal was hanging round the neck of the little É patient. |

The good sister had got out of the bus to escape the woman's (thanks.

The former corporal, instead of slipping out an oath, merely smiled out of regard for the fair sex.

LES VICES DU CAPITAINE

It little matters whether we begin to-day or to-morrow.

Where shall you retire to when you are pensioned off ?

The natives went into the Square every day to see the coach arrive at full gallop.

I am not patient enough to fish with a hook.

Take a spoonful of this SÿTup every haif-hour.

6. The captain had neither relatives nor friends in the little town.

7. Two or three tradesmen were shaking their fists at him on the threshold of their shops.

Had I not told you that he is a master cheat

13. You are the only one of us who has not yet said what he thinks

about it.

14. The veterinary surgeon, a man with bushy whiskers, was, it seems, a democrat.

15. T'Il tell him a piece of my mind, 16. Do not allow yourself to be discouraged by this difficulty.

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Sentences on Syntax and Idioms 153

T dort whether you will alter my opinion.

Th:y were Country people with rough voices,

I saw coming from the end of the street half a dozen gcese, which a little girl of eight or ten was driving in front of her.

The puny creature was running barefooted in the dust.

+ We were Preparing to follow him when the sentry stopped us, + L'know you well, I can tell you !

'* How old are you?" "1 shall be nine when All Saints' Day comes, "

What makes you Speak in that wav ?

He is very ri:h, at any rate I think so.

The old captain hated noise so much that he went home, full of ill-humour,

+ You might have Written your name in the dust which covered

all the furniture.

+ In order to drive away his ennui, he looked through all his

wardrobe, T have been reading for three hours.

+ Had we not better rest a little now ?

The mistress of the house and her little servant were both in the yard, with Pitchforks in their hands,

+ Addressing :he child in a sharp tone, ‘ Who are you?” he

asked.

. Well, if You consent to it, it is all settled. + In your place I should have mistrusted that man. . Itis admirable, there is no mistake about it.

How many other reforms will be necessary to meet unforeseen expenses !

+ You are wet through, change your clothes at once,

Let us avail ourselves of his absence to go.

* Îs not your throat Farched with thirst ?

When he saw that, he could not bear it any longer.

+ When shall you teach this child reading ?

+ I don’t believe that we shall succeed in Convincing them + What is curious is that no one seems to think of it,

€ are sure of it, although we have been told the Contrary. L hope I shall soon have saved enough to buy the house. Call me as soon as dinner is ready.

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LE REMPLAÇANT

+ We have been living in the same street for more than three

years.

As it is raining and very windy, I shall not go out to-day.

. Since they married, everything has been going wrong.

As soon as I saw him, I took a dislike to him.

The poor fellow had been turned out of his place.

It seems to me that I should not have allowed myself to be deceived so easily.

+ À pair of old shoes had been stolen from a shop-window. . For a year he had acted as secretary to a politician. . Ît was amusing to see in what a solemn fashion they carried

their heads.

. The oldest of them was about thirty.

+ Have you never heard his name pronounced in your presence ? + He had been in tuin a soldier, a barrister, and a diplomatist.

+ T'hardly suspected that they had done me so much honour.

+ Did you not take the cab by the hour ?

+ When he had five sous, he got his hair curled.

. The young vagabond energetically denied having had any share

in this expedition.

On the whole, no one knew what part they had played in the affair.

I had given myself out for a sailor weary of the sea. What an amusing man your cousin is !

+ His laughter was so infectious that all burst out laughing

in their turn.

The sound of that voice made my heart leap. À prey to various thoughts, he went away with great strides. How many times these words came back to my mind ! Shrewd indeed would be the spy who recognised him ! Five francs a day ! I had never earned so much. Let them forget me, that s all I want.

. I spent the whole day in the full glare of the sun digging the

ground.

+ Though his legs were heavy and his hands burning, he was satisfied with himself.

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Sentences on Syntax and [dioms 155

How did you manage (o buy land in your covntry ? Make your friend tell you all he has seen.

Tam afraid that it will snow before long.

Fam not afraid that anÿ one will contradict me.

My curiosity was the £reater as [could not see anything.

The two little girls were holding each other round the waist,

Do not think that I shall ever change my mind.

How much did you borrow from your friend ?

I do not consider I have the right to blame them.

We shall not 89 to the country unless it is very fine,

They had left in the night, that no one might see them.

L'only vent two more to have won.

The hoi l-keeper clenched his fist as if to defend himself.

On entering the room, [saw him on his knees, as pale as death.

T must say a word in Private to that gentleman there,

He turned to the others, and with a con: sanding gesture showed them the door,

Leave it to me, [understand ail about it.

Our only regret is not to have remained longer,

Guess what I have heard about you.

We must not look as if we knew each other,

LE PARRAIN

Is not your servant going to marry a locksmith ?

The retired ironmonger was now living on his income.

Tam not quite satisfied With the way in which they have acted,

They say that most bachelors 89 in for good living.

Though I have never spoken to her, Ï know her very well by sight,

Do not provoke him, he is very quick-tempered,

If you are not too clumsy, he will surely fork out two or three thousand francs.

Your friend-—with whom T am delighted, by the way came to see me this morning.

9. If I had known that, 1 should not have fretted so much. 10, How can you expect that such an offer will be accepted ?. 11. “I thank you for all your kindness, ”—« Oh ! don't mention it.” 12. His mother had scarcely touched him when his eyelids half opened.

13. Those straw-coloured ribbons suit you admirably. 14. It will be a question of about a hundred francs. 15. I wonder what you would ‘do in my place.

The godfather + * acted handsomely

2. Whilst sipping : coffee, he was winking with the look of a connoisseur.

+ Às soon as I approached kim, the child raised his tiny hands in the air,

4. You must have been much surprised at my long silence. 5. Let them do what they will, I do not fear them. 6. How long have you been studying your lessons ? 7- The doctor does not seem to know what is the matter with her. 8. How fatigued you look about the eyes !

night ?

9. I am afraid it is impossible for me to go with you. 10. We had much difficulty in cutting our way through the crowd. 11. The hunter pulled the trigger, but his gun flashed in the pan.

12. “We don't sell ready-made clothes,” answered the tailor with an offended look.

LA VIEILLE TUNIQUE

The non-commissioned officer had only a few hundred francs left.

2. Although they appeared numerous and we were not armed, we advanced towards them.

3 Never mind, you must not .ake it so much in earnest.

Sentences on Syntax and Idioms 157

+ Did you ever mak + The thing, . Don’:

Cout on his way again with hurried step and lowered head, . How can you have had such a strange thought ? + Tam sure that they must have passed this way. + If you want me to listen to you, do not speak ir. riddles. + When I have received his answer, [Il show it to you.

XW

+ Come, in what way shall I begin ?

+ Had it not been for his bad conduct, he would have been an officer long ago.

+ The moment they saw each other, they took a dislike to each other.

+ Ï knew that it could not fail to be so.

+ The noise began again as soon as he had turned his head, . He who did it again was to be punished in an exemplary fashion.

they were

no Weapon within my reach.

. The station is at least a Quarter of an hour from the town,

+ The captain, beating the air with his hands, dropped his sword and fell on his back.

+ [received such a blow that I felt giddy and soon fainted away.

+ The zouaves, in a semicircle, the air.

+ An old general, followed by his staff,

3 were brandishing their guns in 5. I was wondering what I ought to do,

arrived at a gallop.

- You could not have come more opportunely,

9. You should not have exposed yourself to such risks. 10. I have done my best, but am not much

IL PASSAGES FOR TRANSLATION INTO FRENCH

EVERY Monday, Wednesday, and Friday the old Abbé Faber used to 80 to church to hear the confessions of the penitent, although three times out of four there was no one

there, One Wednesday evening it was raining hard, but he set out as usual in spite of the rain. He was all the more annoyed at going out that evening because he was leaving a good fire and an interesting book behind him. Having arrived at the Church he found to his surprise a and what is more, Confessional, took

+ He had not confessed for many

me he had something on his conscience :

he had killed à man! This was the most astonishing confession the good Abbé had ever heard, but before he could rise the man continued his story.

He was a bricklayer, and had come

efore with a Comrade, whose name

They both worked for the same master, but

nd of plessure, while he had to send his

Savings to his poor mother in the Country. He fell in love with the daughter of a fruiterer, but he could not marry

Catherine because of his Poverty. At length his mother died, and then it seemed to him he had enough to set up

house with. He spoke to Catherine about it, and the marriage was agreed upon.

IT

Unfortunately he had told all to Philip, Now Philip Was a handsome fellow, and having made Catherine's aCquaintance, he won the poor girls affections, so that, when James offered her a Present on her birthday, she refused it. "I was in the deepest despair, father," continued James ; "but what was to be done? I loved them both. Well they were married, and they had a boy whom they named Camille. Then Philip became an idler and à drunkard

brokers. I did what 1 could for her, but that was ver little. Meanwhile time went on; Camille has grown up and is now more than twenty years old. Yesterday evening Î met him in the strect looking very sad. 1] asked him what was the Matter. He told me he had drawn lots, and would have to do his five years' military service in the colonies. This morning | was working on a scaffolding with Philip at my side. 1 knew that if Philip were dead, Camille, as the son of a widow, would escape military service, and would be able to Support his mother. The devil tempted me—] could not resist... I] flung him from the scaffolding. He was picked up stone dead, and it was thought an accident. That is what I wanted to say, father, and here is the present T had formerly bought for Catherine. Sell it and give the money to the poor."

[t was raining hard, An omnibus had just turned the

corser of the Rue de Sèvres, and the Passengers were leax.ing the waiting-room in srder to take their places. _ " There

are still three places !" cried the conductor. They were at once taken by two sisters of Charity and a Poor woman, who Was Carrying a sickly-looking little boy in her arms, "] Say, madame !" said the conductor, "you must pay for that child." « Why, he is only three and a half" replied the mother, « Indeed ? Very well," and the bus was set in motion. The two sisters sat beside onc another ; the

twenty-four. The POOr woman began to talk to the conductor; he was Wearing the Crimean medal, and proved

"the poor child has been in the hospital for six weeks, and I have just brought him out. He fell ill in July just when my husband, who is a binder, had nothing to do. It is the time when his Customers go either into the Country or to the sea-side, I Was angry with my husband at the time, because he was always thinking of politics. However, we took the child to the hospital in a cab; that cost me à Couple of sheets which Î pawned at the broker's. My husband would not enter the hospital: he said he had not

"We shall never forget those six weeks. 1 believe the weather has been fine, but it seemed to us as though there Was no sun. 1 was allowed to see the child every Monday and Thursday, and they told me he Was getting better.

My husband could not Come with me, because he had found

work again, but he suffered as much as Î did in silence. And now it is all over ; little Leopold is cured and is going to see his father again." While the Poor woman spoke, the conductor and

the elder sister listened attentively. sut what was the Younger one thinking of all this time ? She was thinking of the happiness of this man and wife

ven in the midst of their misfortunes ; she was

her own past, Six Years ago she was living with her father, the duke, and was engaged to an 1]

‘Way to one of her fathers castles in Auvergne, and she was

e kept was a medal which the Irish peer had given her, The bus

stoppe at the Boulevard Magenta. The young sister woke Up and saw the poor woman and the child before her. Quickly taking the medal from her neck, she asked the mother to do her the pleasure of accepting it. “It was blessed,” she said, “six years ago by the Pope himself Hang it round the neck of your child,”

Captain Mercadier, after a great many years’ retired to a little Country town. This town possessed a river in which one could fish, a church, and some 3000 inhabitants. Captain Mercadier had selected it for his

residence, because he was born there. Unfortunately there Was no one there now whom he ances had either die

service,

Passages for Translation into French 163

He then took a turn round the town and decided that Prosper’s café Would suit him, Jt Was not exactly what he had hoped for, but it was the best he could find. He was a welcome recruit to

the frequenters of the café, because the new-comer had so many stories to tell. He was not long in Proving to very one that he was a Past master in

Captain was not perfectly happy. He discovered to his

day every one was busy, and neither master nor waiter attended to him. Now one market-day, knowing that there would be no room for him in the café, he was sitting in the sun at the door of his house, when a little girl went by driving before her a few Seese, What struck the Captain most was that she had a wooden leg. He asked her what was her name, and she told him her name was Pierrette, that she slept under the staircase, and that he woke her UP every evening when he came home, She would be nine years old on All Saints Day, and owed her wooden leg to 4 COW which had kicked her when she Was five, She added with a blush that she Came from the Foundling Hospital, and then entered the house,

The captain went to his café, but there was such a crowd there that he went home dissatisfied. For the first

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time his room seemed to him bare and miserable. The curtains looked dirty, the grate was full of cigar-ends, and the dust was so thick everywhere that one might have written one's nameinit. It was evident that he required a servant, and then he remembered the little girl Going out, he met the mistress of the house, and asked her whether the child could sew and make soup. 'Of course," she replied, "she learnt that long ago. If you want a servant, and will undertake to feed and lodge her, I will give her up to you." "Very well, I will take her," said the captain. But the good man soon found that this luxury cost him more money than he expected. He gave up his morning absinthe and his dear cigars in order that Pierrette might have à small room beside his. In her turn she showed her gratitude by keeping the furniture clean, sweeping away the spiders webs, and making excellent soup. Many a time the captain had a hard struggle to keep away from the café, but he succeeded in doing so through his love for Pierrette. In fact she was no longer a servant. One day he exclaimed suddenly: " Pierrette, I can stand it no longer; you must

kiss me and call me ‘thou ” The captain has long since given up his three vices, and when he dies Pierrette will not be penniless.

He was a child of ten, and he had been arrested for vagrancy. He told the judges that his name was Leturc, and that for six months he had been with a rnan who sang in the streets. His mother, who had been a laundress, was dead, and he wanted to know now whether they were going to put him in prison. He was only a little street boy in rags, and, as no one claimed him, he was sent to the ‘ Jeunes Détenus.” Although he was idle and clumsy, he was the most obedient child they had ever had. But when he was seventeen, he found himself free again to prowl about the streets and to associate himself with the worst

characters in Paris. JIn a few months he was condemned to à years imprisonment for theft, and during the year which he spent in Sainte-Pélagie he lived with the strangest Companions he had ever met. They were all politicians, Or pretended to be, and little Leturc did not understand half of what they said. When his time Was up, he found himself again in the Streets, and watched by the police, although he did not suspect it. He was like one of those cockchafers which boys tie to the end of a thread and make to fly about as if they were free. Everything was against him. By drawing a good number he escaped military service. He would have done better if he had drawn a bad one; that might have saved him.

in the harbour at Toulon

or two on the river at Ve As he wandered about the streets one day, he found himself in Montmartre before the school where he

had been taught to read. He stood watching the boys at play in the court, and for the fir:t time he recalled the happy days he had spent there. He doubted very much whether he could ever become again what he was in his childhood, but he said to himself: « Perhaps it is not too late, after all: I will get work as à mason's assistant, I only want three francs a day, and, provided the police forget me, I shall be happy.” Six months later he Was a different man; he worked hard, he slept well, he was free, and what was more, he had a friend. His friend’s name was Savinien, and Leturc liked him because he possessed all the qualities which he had lost years before. On the other hand, Savinien was not Sorry to find a comrade who shunned the wine-sellers and

who had the same tastes as himself. Being a peasant he was able to teach Leturc many details he was ignorant of. The latter was almost astonished to find that such things as sowing-time, harvest, and vintage existed in the world.

Meanwhile Leturc was haunted by the fear lest his friend should discover the story of his past. Besides, Savinien’s unexpected behaviour soon gave him a good deal of anxiety. To Leturc’s regret he began to change his habits entirely ; he would spend money more freely, and then he would borrow a few francs from him and forget to pay them back. In order to lessen the cost of their lodging, they had been obliged to admit a third comrade, an old man, into their little room. One evening Leturc heard voices in their room ; he listened attentively on the landing. It was the old man complaining to the lodging-house keeper that he had been robbed of three louis which he had put in his box. “It must be the servant, or Savinien,” he was saying, “unless it is Leturc who has stolen them, which I do not believe. (Come along,

let us search the trunks!" They began the search. In a few minutes Leturc heard the old man exclaim: " Here they are in the waistcoat pocket of that Savinien !" At that moment Savinien began to mount the stairs Without the slightest hesitation Leturc entered the room and said it was he who had taken the louis and put them in Savinien's trunk. Let them run and fetch the police. When Savinien saw what had happened, he thought he was los. But Leturc whispered to him that he had taken the matter on his own shoulders. They embraced and said goodbye to one another. Leturc's sentence was penal servitude for life.

M. Matoussaint, the retired ironmonger, was very angry when his servant Caroline told him that she was going to

be married in a few deys. For an old bachelor of fiftyfive this was a great disappointment. He had retired from business some ten years before, and with an income of about 15,000 francs he was well satisfied with himself. As for Caroline, she was an excellent cook, and had been living with him for Many years. However, he could not prevent the girl from marrying the locksmith, so he merely said to her: "My child, you are a fool to marry this man ; [have known him by sight for two or three years ; he may be a drunkard and he may beat you." Then the old fellow gave her a wedding-dress, A year later Caroline came to see him, carrying her baby proudly in her arms. "We have called him Vincent," she said, "and isn't he à fine child? It would give my husband and me great pleasure, sir, if you would be Vincent's godfather." " Willingly," replied M. Matoussaint ; "when are you going to baptize him?" «Next Sunday week, sir, at half-past twelve at St. Pauls. My husband's mother is going to be his god-

mother." The baptism duly took place, and after the ceremony M. Matoussaint gave the guests a fine luncheon, with plenty of sandwiches and sweets, and as much cham- Pagne as they could drink.

Little by little the retired ironmonger discovered that the baby was less ugly than he had thought when he first Sawit. "Why, I must have been like that myself once," said he; "]I had a mother who must have held me on her knees and kissed me just as Caroline does with her baby ! " He was always Calling at Caroline's house to ask after his godson, and he seldom went to the café where he used to be so fond of playing billiards and making magnificent Cannons. One day, however, the child fell ill ; its skin was red and it coughed violently, and they feared lest it would have croup. M. Matoussaint asked to go up and see it, but the doctor would not allow him. That evening he

asked one of his friends at the café if children were ever cured of croup. " Why, yes !" he replied ; "my little girl had it, and we feared she would die, but in the end we saved her." You may imagine M. Matoussaint's jey the day when the doctor declared Vincent cured. He invited the whole family to luncheon, made Vincent sit beside him, and acted like a mother. " You will spoil baby, if you go on like that," said the father. " Do you think so ? " said M. Matoussaint ; "well, I have the right to do so, I am his godfather.

John Vidal was a late non-commissioned officer, who had lo:t his left arm in Italy at Melegnano. He was only forty, and yet we all calied him old Vidal. As I lived in his neighbourhood I saw him pretty often, and I used to make him tell me about his campaigns, One evening we were walking along the Boulevard de

Grenelle, when he suddenly saw in a window something which interested him. It was an old officers tunic with a little round hole in the back, and I ventured to ask old Vidal how an officer of -ouaves could receive a bullet in his back. But he was talki:1g to himself: how could that uniform have come there? %e must have seen it and recognised it! At last he turned to me and told me the story. “But before I begin,” said he, ‘you must swear to say nothing about it to any one. La-Soif was a sergeant in the 2nd zouaves ; he was a fine soldier, but a terrible drunkard. He would have been an officer long ago, if he had not been so fond of drinking. Several times his strines were taken away, but each time, thanks to the kindness of his officers, he recovered them. By mischance a young captain, named Gentile, was sent to us ; he was ambitious and enterprising, but the most exacting officer we had ever had. The moment he arrived he took a dislike to La-Soif. The first time the latter got drunk, Gentile gave him a fortnight’s confinement. He would have softened a little if he had seen the anger in La-Soif’s face.

Italians. That night La-Soif, who was very drunk, insulted an Italian girl and was brought before the captain. The latter told La-Soif that such wretches as he ought to be shot, and recommended him to get himself killed in the battle the following day. The fight had begun ; La-Soif and l'were lying with the others in a corn-field, while Gentile and the officers were Standing in front of us. Before 1 could stop him, La-Soif cocked his gun and fired, and 1 Saw Gentile drop his sword and fall heavily. _« Coward ! ‘ I hissed. ‘Oh he replied coolly, ‘how can you prove that I killedhim?? At that moment we received orders to charge the

Austrian battery ; we took it, and La-Soif, the assassin, having Captured an Austrian flag, presented it to the colonel after the Charge. He received the cross, and I

have never seen him since. It was my duty to denounce him, but, you see, Î had no proofs" A few days later I

met Vidal, who handed me a neWwSpaper. "Read that," said he. This is what I read :—(f Yesterday morning a Sérgeant of zouaves, called La-Soif, suddenly had a fit of delirium as he was looking at some old uniforms in a shopwindow in the Boulevard de Grenelle. The doctors fear he will lose his reason for ever." "Ah!" said Vidal, "at last Captain Gentile has avenged himself ! "

IL. THE FOUR CONJUGATIONS

THE division of verbs into four conjugations, -er, -ir, -oir, -re, is arbitrary. À more scientific way of classifying French verbs is a division into strong and weak verbs. Strong forms are those in which the accent is on the root-syllable, and weak forms those in which the accent is on the termination. However, since the division into four

conjugations is generally accepted, verbs will be here considered accordingly.

To the first conjugation belong nine-tenths of all the verbs of the

French language. All verbs of popular formation derived from Latin verbs in -are belong to this conjugation, e. £g.—

amare, aimer ; pensare, penser

Moreover, some verbs of the Latin second, third, and fourth conjugations in -êre, ère, ire, have passed into the first in F rench, e.g.—

Persuadère, persuader ; imprimère, imprimer ; lussire, tousser Many new verbs in -er are constantly formed from nouns, e.g. — téléphoner, luncher

To the second conjugation belong about 350 verbs which arc partly derived from Latin verbs in -ire, e. g—

finire, finir; dormire, dormir; ventre, venir partly from Latin verbs in -êre, e.g.— tenère, tenir; florère, fleurir ; resplendère, resplendir and also from Latin verbs in -êre, e.g.—

agére, agir; applaudère, applaudir; convertère, convertir; colligère, cueillir; fugère, fuir; flectère, fléchir ; tradère, d'ahir.

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The verbs in -i> which insert -#ss between the root and the inflexion, as in the Imperfect Of fnir, je finissais, form a living conjugation, and new verbs belonging to it are mostly derived from adjectives, e.g. —

mûr, mârir

” The origin of these lengthened forms, as Jirissais, finissant, Sinissent, is to be found in the -ise, -esc of incipient or inchoative verbs in Latin expressing the eginning of the action indicated by the simple verb, e.g.—

nigrescère, ‘to begin to get black’ (Fr. noircir); ingemiscère, ‘10 begin to sigh” (Fr. gémir)

To the third Conjugation belong only thirty verbs. It corresponds to the Latin second, but comprises also verbs from the Latin third conjugation, e.g.—

avoir (Lat. Aabëre)

devoir (Lat. debère)

recevoir {Lat. recigère, which became in popular Latin recipère)

No new verbs are formed by this conjugation.

To the fourth conjugation belong sixty verbs. It Corresponds to the Latin third, but comprises also some verbs from the Latin second which had shifted their accent in popular Latin, respondére having become respondëre, similarly #ordre from mordêre, tondre from tondèére, tordre from forguêre, taire from tacère, rire from ridére.

No new verbs are formed by this conjugation. Both the third and fourth conjugation are dead.

II. FORMATION OF NEW VERBS FROM NOUNS AND ADJECTIVES

The majority of newly-formed verbs are derived from nouns and adjectives ; those formed from nous, as a rule, go by the first conjugation, and those formed from adjectives by the second. In

examining the formation of new verbs it is corvenient to divide them into two classes : 1. Verbs formed simply by the terminations -er and -ér, and 2. Verbs formed by special suffixes.

I. VERBS FORMED SIMPLY BY THE TERMINATIONS -er, -ir

In the majority of cases belonging to this class the termination -eror -êr is added to the noun or adjective without any further change, e. g—

(a) Ze coup, couper, ‘to cut” d'écume, écumer, ‘to foam" la gomme, gommer, ‘to gum” a fête, fêter, ‘to feast” le mont, monter, ‘to rise” de leurre, leurrer, ‘to allure’ la Jin, finir, ‘to finish’ la guerre, aguerrir, ‘to harden’

* By analogy with verbs of this class there are also some verbs formed from particles.

(6) dong, longer, ‘to goalongside' 4as, baisser, ‘to lower’ aigre, aigrir, to embitter" blanc, blanchir, ‘to whiten: cher, chérir, ‘to cherish ’ Pâte, pâlir, ‘to turn pale *

It will be noticed that the termination is joined to the

last consonant, and that final e of the Primary word is dropped.

Note here also—

uñ, unir, ‘to unite': arrière, arriérer, ‘to put off” ; devant, devancer, ‘to forestall ; Outre, outrer, ‘to Carry to excess ?

In some verbs derived from nouns and adjectives certain phonological changes take place, e.g.—

f becomes y—

captif, captiver, ‘to capture” chef, achever, ‘to complete * sauf, sauver, ‘to save’

Z representing original © becomes ch—

faux (Lat. falcem), faucher, ‘to mow ’ representing original ss becomes 88—

roux (Lat. ru88us), roussir, ‘ to redden”

representing original ti or ci becomes B— Prix (Lat. pretium), priser, ‘to value”

C final becomes ch or qu—

blanc, blanchir, ‘to whiten’ franc, franchir, ‘to go across’ jonc, joncher, ‘ to strew'

flanc, flanquer, ‘to flank’ bivouac, bivouaquer, ‘to bivouac ?

D, 8, and] are often doubled—

le bouchon, ‘ wisp,' ‘cork' : bouchonner, ‘to wisp,” ‘rub down’

la moisson, ‘harvest' ; Moissonner, ‘to reap

Le rayon, ‘ray': rayonner, ‘to radiate,' ‘ beaMh'

le moyen, ‘ means’ : 710YeNner, ‘ to mediate,’ ‘ contrive

la Subvention, * subsidy," ‘ aid : subventionner, ‘ to subsidise,” ‘ aid? le pas, ‘step’; passer, ‘to pass”

épais, ‘thick'; épaissir, ‘to thicken’

mou, mol, ‘soft’; mollir, ‘to soften,’ ‘ slacken’

le travail, ‘ work ' : travailler, ‘to work

l'émail, ‘ enamel” : émailler, ‘to enamel’

de sommeil, ‘sleep ; sommeiller, ‘ to slumber”

de sourcil, ‘eye-brow : ; sourciller, ‘to knit one's brow”

Word-Formation 173

But note— chemin, cheminer ‘ ras, raser

eau representing Lat, -e//. becomes -/., e, £g.—

de créneau, ‘ battiement' (Lat, crenéllum) ; crés, ler, ‘to embattle’ d'oiseau, ‘bird’ (Lat. avicella, aucellus) ; oises ». ‘to catch birds la peau, ‘ skin’ (Lat. pellés) ; 2eler, ‘to peel'

Verbs derived from Low Latin verbs in -tiare change ti into s, cg —

acquietiare, accoiser (obsol.)}, ‘to calm,' ‘ appease minutiare, menuiser, ‘10 cut,’ ‘Carpenter ’

or C, €.g.— agentiare, agencer, : to arrange," ‘ dispose ’ abantiare, avancer, : to advance’

or 88, e.g.—

directiare, dresser, ‘to erect,' ‘raise’ altiare, hausser, ‘to raise,' ‘lift’

In some verbs Consonants are inserted again which have been dropped in the primary word, e. g.—

da chair, ‘flesh' (Lat. Carnis) ; se carner (hort.), ‘to become flesh-coloured ’

le cor, ‘ horn (Lat. COrQu) ; corner, ‘to blow a horn,” ‘to tingle’

le bitume, ‘ asphalt (Lat. bitumen) ; bituminer, ‘to asphalt’

Sometimes a Consonant, generally t, is inserted for the sake of euphony, e.g.— .

l'abri, ‘ shelter’ ; abriter, ‘to shelter,' ‘ screen :

de clou, ‘nail'; couter, ‘to stud,” ‘nail’

de licou, ‘the halter’ ï se délicoter, ‘to take the halter off’ de flou, ‘ pickpocket ’ ; filouter, ‘to steal," ‘ swindle *

In a few verbs a change of vowel takes place which reminds one of the modification of vowels in German (Xopf, Æüpfen ; glatt, glätten), e.g. —

bas, ‘low; baisser, ‘to lower’

This change of vowel is Senerally accounted for by the original form of the primary word, e. g.—

contraire (Lat. confrarius), contrarier, ‘to contradict ’ Justice (Lat. Justitia), justidier, ‘to execute”

Form verbs from the following nouns and adjectives and give their English meaning :—

174 Contes Choisis de A! la cuirasse absent Ja perfection da béche la crevasse présent la formule la barricade folâtre patient

l'aventure la gambade opiniitre da caresse le vagabond l'avantage le genou de cachet l'aliment de ménage de verrou de feuillet de tourment de voyage la grenouille ‘la ballotte dégitime égal la merveille de labour de courage de signal da mitraille diquide le monceau d'influence d'essaim la ruine timide bavard de salaire de frisson la racine £oguenard le badaud de papillon «a prison la bombarde de marteau l'addition de poison d'embarras la querelle la mention dla coutume

VERBS FORMED BY SPECIAL SUFFIXES

(x) -iquer, -Cher, -ger, -Suer, -ier, -oyer.

verbs like—.

By analogy with

fabriquer from Latin fabricare, Communiquer (communi, tre) empêcher (impedicare), mâcher (masticare), prêcher (?raedi-care) forger (fabricare), juger (judicare), manger (manducare),

venger (vindi are)

publier (publicare), mendier (mendicare), communier (commun:

care), verdoyer (véridicare)

many new verbs are formed with these suffixes, e.g. —

le char, ‘ car,’ ‘chariot ; charroyer, ‘to cart '

la côte, ‘ coast ; côtoyer, ‘to c« st"

le chat, ‘cat’ ; chatoyer, ‘to glisten ’

le coude, * elbow ' ; coudoyer, ‘ to elbow'

la fête, * feast' : J'estover, ‘to tre-t'

la foudre, ‘ lightning'; foudroye.', ‘to strike with li la guerre, ‘ war : #uerroyer, ‘to Wage war

la larme, ‘tear'; Jarmoyer, ‘to weep," ‘ whimper net, ‘ neat,' ‘clean ; nettoyer, ‘to clean

l'onde, ‘ the wave ; ondoyer, ‘ to undulate’

Note also— tu, ‘thou’; fufoyer, ‘to thou !

In some verbs we find -ayer and -eyer—

bègue, ‘ Stammering” ; Égaper, ‘ to st amer’ gras, “fat”; gras-seyer, ‘to burr' la planche, ‘ plank” : 2lancheyer, plan. héier, * to board,

ghtning”

‘plank

Word-Formation

(2) -iser. In Latin -issare or

“isare (borrowed from Greel:), when added 10 verbs, denoted Originally émitation, e. &.—

&raecissare, ‘10 imitate the Greeks ' ailicissare, ‘ to talk like an Athenian ‘ but lost its force, e. E.—

baptisare, ‘ to christen

It has become -ser in French

, and with it are formed a number of verbs from nouns and

adjectives, e. g.— Intransitive :

d'agonie, ‘agony' ; agoniser, ‘to be dying " da morale, ‘ moral" : moraliser, ‘to moralise ‘

la sympathie, ‘sympathy ' ; SYmpathiser, ‘to sympathise ’ Transitive :

Central, centraliser

légal, légaliser fertile, Jertiliser d'auteur, autoriser &énéral, généraliser

l'alcali, alcaliser

latin, latiniser de capital, capitaliser

Note also—

Orutaliser (to trent brutally), maîtriser (to master, lord it

Over), {yranniser (to tyrannise), économiser (to save up),] anathematise),), favoriser (to favour), scandaliser

to characterise), cotiser (to rt, Woo).

(3) -cir (Lat, “escere, -iscere)—

durcir (durescere), : 10 make hard ” or ‘ to become hard éclaircir (ex-clarescere), ‘10 clear,’ ‘ enlighten noircir (igrescere), ‘to blacken ’

By analogy—

étrécir (étroit, st» ictus), ‘to narrow* obscurcir (oëscur), ‘to darken'

(4) -eler often form Say whether these ver -ulare, or from nou are—

S verbs from nouns SOmetimes it js difficult to

bs are derived from Latin verbs in -{llare, .ilare, ns which no longer exist. Derived from nouns

la bosse, * hump'; #osseker, ‘to emboss ‘

da botte, ‘ bundie' : Oolteler, ‘to truss' (h

de quart, : quarter ' :

de sort, ‘fate,' ‘spell’

ay or straw) (cartel) écarteler, ‘to quarter ’

i (sorcier) ensorceier, ‘10 bewitch?

(s) -ailler, -iller, -ouiller (corresponding to Latin -aculare, -éculare, -uculare) form also verbs from nouns, and have generally pejorative or diminutive force, e.g.—

la brette, ‘rapier,' ‘ long sword ’; brétailler, ‘to fight,” ‘ bully’

le fer, ‘iron; ferrailler, ‘ to forge,’ ‘ fence,’ ‘ dabble in fencing ”

de houret, ‘ bad hound ' ; hourailler, ‘ to hunt with bad hounds ’

le philosophe, ‘ philosopher "; Philosophailler, ‘to philosophise ‘ (contemptuously)

la queue, ‘tail’ ; quoaïiller, ‘ to swish his tail’ (of a horse)

la rime, ‘rime,’ ‘ verse : rimailler, ‘to make doggerel verses ’

la toux, ‘ cough' ; foussailler, ‘to cough slightly'

la bourse, ‘purse'; boursiller, ‘to club together,” ‘to fork out

le brand (obsol.), ‘two-handed sword : brandiller, ‘to swing, ‘shake about

la bouse, ‘ dung' (of cattle): éousiller, ‘to build with cob or mud,” ‘to bungle'

la jambe, ‘\eg' ; gambiller, ‘ to kick avout,’ ‘ fidget

la grappe, ‘bunch' ; grappiller, ‘to glean grapes,' ‘ to scrape up”

le point, ‘ point,’ ‘ dot : Dointiller, ‘to dot,’ ‘ carp at’

(6) -eter, -oter have diminutive or frequentative force, which is, however, not always felt, e.g. —

la poche, ‘ pocket’ ; pocheter, ‘to keep in one’s pocket ’ le grillon, ‘ :ricket' ; grilloter, ‘to chirp' (of the cricket) ; hucheter, ‘ to chirp,' ‘twitter’ ‘ 1? C , P, SRE E STE rer ‘to whisper’ (7) -asser —

la terre, ‘earth': £errasser, : to throw on the ground,’ ‘to embank”

fin, ‘sly," ‘cunning' ; fnasser, ‘ to use petty tricks,” ‘ shuffle’ (8) -onner— le tronc, ‘trunk’; #ronçonner, ‘to cut into pieces ?

gris, ‘ grey"; grisonner, ‘to get grey'

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