anchor there, in seventeen fathoms water, with a sharp, rocky, and irregular bottom. I once passed in that situation sixteen extremely unpleasant hours, six of them as tedious as most I have ever found at sea. Sir Sydney Smith was then at Rio; his fostering care of British interests prevented the necessity of foreign vessels to anchor there again.

Proceeding up the harbour, the waters expand on either side. On the left opens the bay of Bota-Foga, skirted by inaccessible and verdant mountains, guarded by the Sugar Loaf and the fort of St. John on one side, and a smooth mass of granite on the other. On the right is the Sacco, or, as the British call it, Five-Fathom-Bay, surrounded by gentle and fertile woody slopes, verdant grass-lands, and a yellow sandy beach; the whole enclosed by numerous peaks. Its fine expanse, not less than three miles in diameter, is broken and adorned by a singularly irregular mass of rock, the abode of sea-fowl. The gorge of this bay, on the Southern side, is flanked by a lofty cone of smooth granite rock; on the Northern, by the small island of Boa-Viage, about a hundred feet high, with perpendicular sides, composed in part of grey and brown stone, in part of red clay. The intermixture of these colours, all glowing in the sun, broken into patches by the rich verdure, which descends from the summit, and occupies every spot, where nature can fix a root, together with the small white church, which surmounts the whole like a crest, is one of the finest objects, which the most fertile imagination can conceive. Directly opposite, at two miles distance Westward, is the fort of the celebrated Villegagnon, the theatre of glorious exploits.

Above this fort, still farther Westward, is beheld the city of St. Sebastian, commonly, though improperly, called Rio de Janeiro, filling the low grounds at the foot of a projecting mountain, and running along the beach to other elevations. Churches and monasteries, forts and country-houses, glittering in whiteness, crown every hillock, and decorate the sides of its fanciful and symmetrical heights, backed by a screen of woods, which overshadow the whole. But it is vain attempting to describe; the pen cannot imitate the pencil, nor the pencil nature, in

scenes like these. They are allowed, however, by competent judges, to compose a landscape of almost unequalled magnificence and beauty. Some of the smaller inlets of this capacious bay have been compared to Sydney Cove, in New Holland, and something like the whole, in the same style, but on a smaller scale, is said to exist in Asia Minor, near to Crete.

Doubtless much of the pleasure we feel, when entering such a harbour as this, may be traced to novelty, much to contrast; for the stranger, in a few hours, and almost minutes, exchanges the undulation and solitariness of the ocean, the grey distant prospect, and the nearer view, of an iron-bound coast, for a mirror-like surface, studded with boats and vessels of a larger size; near to him lies an extensive, populous, and noisy city, highly beautiful at a distance, wherein are assembled persons of every complexion, and from every quarter of the globe; around him is a landscape finished with nature's choicest pencil, clothed in a richness of attire, which none but a tropical climate can produce. In the last ten years, much, it is true, has been torn away from the skirts of these garments, and they now appear somewhat ragged. We should regret the change in these, till lately everlasting, woods, did we not recollect that they have contributed their portion to the wants of man; furnished to the city below them the valuable article of fuel, and still are employed in producing the necessaries, and many of the luxuries, of life. Enough of wood-land, also, is still left to please; and nature here can never disgust, though in scenes unaided by artificial ornament.

I have so often entered this delightful recess, have sailed about every part of it so repeatedly, looked at it so many thousand times, and from such a variety of stations, that upon me novelty can now have but little influence; I have allowed all that it is possible to allow for the effect of contrast; but still I love, nay am passionately fond of, the place; nor do I envy the feelings of the man, who can look upon nature's brightest smiles, and never smile again. The cold and phlegmatic Northern politician has seldom calculated the effect of fine scenery upon the human mind, or he would not have expected the Court of Portugal to leave its new abode.

This is a silent but powerful agent; its operation is universal and perpetual, renewed by every rising sun, and aided by every refulgent moon. It has here often withstood the stimulus of interest, and destroyed the pithiness of argument; and is generally most effectual on minds the least aware of its influence. It has contributed to render the Court of Portugal almost ambitious to change its designation; and foreigners indulge the propensity, by speaking of the Court of Rio, and no longer of that of Lisbon.

My first landing at St. Sebastian's was at the Custom-house, on the stairs of which I met with a Gentleman, to whom I was known, and from whom I received the first marks of that ready and active kindness, in which an English Merchant, wherever he is found, seldom falls short. He had arrived a few days before me, and had already been initiated into the scenes of carelessness and dirt, mixed with tedious and beggarly parade, which occur daily at the place where we met. Gladly did I take refuge from them in his house and hospitality, after having gone through no small trial of my patience.

A vessel sailing for England early the next day, presented an opportunity of announcing to friends at home my arrival and welfare. Having performed this pleasing duty, I walked out, with two or three companions, to see the city.

It is situated chiefly on a low, flat piece of ground close to the beach, and extends backward about half a mile. The streets are straight and narrow, paved in the middle of the town with granite; the bolders and slabs are mostly grey, and among them are sometimes found specimens finely varied with quartz. There are no raised or separate foot-paths, and a channel for waste water generally runs in the middle. The widest and principal of these streets is parallel with the bay, terminating in a small square, a hundred and sixty yards long, by eighty broad; the West side of which is occupied by religious buildings, the South by the palace, the North by plain houses filled with the royal servants, the East is open to the water, and commands a view of the anchorage, and the opposite coasts. A considerable degree of uniformity

is found in the buildings; they are generally of two stories, but the ranges are broken by some of three, and by others which have only a ground-floor, with the addition of a sort of attic in the roof. The walls, as far as the covering of plaister and whitewash allowed us to judge, are well constructed of granite; the thresholds, door-posts, lintels, and window-frames, are of massy quartz or felt-spar, brought from Bahia in a state ready for use; the roofs are universally covered with semitubular tiles. The lower story is, in common, occupied by the shop and warehouse; the second and third, if there be one, by the family apartments, to which there are long and narrow passages taken from the ground-floor, and communicating with the street. In the outskirts of the town the streets are unpaved, the houses of one floor, low, small, and dirty; and the doors and windows are of lattice-work, opening outward to the annoyance of passengers.

Among the objects which most attracted the attention of a stranger, in the streets of Rio, were the projections from the upper windows, called Jealousies. At each window, and level with the floor of the room, was a sort of platform of stone, about two feet and a half broad, which served as the basis of a balcony, not breast-high only, as might be supposed, but rising to the top of the window. It was formed of lattice-work, generally of a fanciful pattern, and divided into pannels or compartments, some of which were fitted up with hinges at the top, so as to form a sort of flap, which, when opened a little way, allowed the persons in the balcony to look downward into the street, without being seen themselves. The interstices of the lattice served for a purpose of great use in this warm climate, the admission of air into the house. These jealousies gave to the fronts of the houses a heavy and suspicious appearance, rendered the streets dull, and indicated that the inhabitants had little sociability; such, at least, was the impression made upon a mind unaccustomed to them.

It may be observed that I have spoken of jealousies as they were. A few months after this note was put on record, an order was issued by the Regent to cut them down to modern balconies. They who loved

the free circulation of air gladly obeyed; others, who wished to gratify the Court, followed without hesitation; the rest felt themselves obliged to submit. The effect was curious; for want of glass or blinds to the windows, the houses became suddenly exposed; most felt ashamed of their appearance, some strove to improve it, and some, as usual, imitated what seemed fashionable, if not, in their view, an improvement. In this respect, as well as others, a taste for the conveniences and modes of Europe commenced, and doubtless will increase.

To improve the appearance of the streets was the ostensible ground of this royal order; and it was suggested, "That as the city had "advanced in the scale of privileges and importance, it ought to make a "corresponding advance in external show." The real cause, it was reported, was an apprehension that, sooner or later, these jealousies might become ambuscades for assassins, who, unseen and unsuspected, might from thence discharge a fatal bullet. Be this as it may, the Regent, by a stroke of his pen, has done more to promote the health and comfort of Rio, than could have been effected by the suggestions of foreigners, backed with all the force of reason, in a whole century.

But persons circumstanced like myself were chiefly solicitous about the prospects of Commerce. In our walk we observed that the retail shops were confined to the heart of the city, and mostly to one street, the Rua Da-Qui-Tandi; while the wholesale warehouses were situated between this street and the water. The former were small, but tolerably well stocked with cotton and woollen goods, some of them of British fabric, which had apparently been long on hand. The shops of hardware and haberdashery were miserable concerns, kept evidently by people without property, or the means of acquiring it. The wholesale warehouses were, in general, long open stores, extending far backward from the street. As far as we could observe, they contained few goods of any kind, calculated for the consumption of the country, while they were full of articles of produce intended for exportation; the state of Portugal, then in the hands of the French, rendering these stocks unusually large.

As we passed along the streets, we observed at each shop door a long stool, which in the day time was covered with goods, and served as a sort of show-board; in the evening it became the seat of persons who were playing at backgammon, upon a flat and unwieldy board. The people, we were told, sometimes played high, and many of the spectators, who stood around, seemed to enter into the business with all the ardour of gamesters.

In these scenes of petty dissipation, there appeared nothing favourable to commercial enterprise; yet we finished our walk with more cheering prospects than those, with which we began it. We found the city full of inhabitants; so full, indeed, that I did not know where I should find accommodation for the night. All of these we calculated would become consumers, and with such expectations, establishments had already been formed for supplying their wants. There existed, we found, the distinction between the wholesale and retail dealers, which is of consequence to foreign traders; and we saw, in the abundant stocks of the former, a promise of reimbursement for our exertions.

In a short time we became better acquainted with the detail, the extent, and the progressive state of the city; as well as with the inhabitants, their occupations, and manners. When the Court first arrived at the metropolis of Brazil, the city was circumscribed within very narrow boundaries. It may not be amiss to trace them for the use of those, who are acquainted with its present extent, and who hereafter may wish to mark its growth. Commencing at the church of the Lapa, we went down the Rua dos Barbonos to that of Guarda Velha, passed the convent of St. Antonio, turned Westward to the Campo da Santa Anna, proceeded along the Eastern side of it to the Ruas do St. Joaquim and Vallonga, thence to the beach, and followed the water to the convent of St. Bento, and along the Eastern side of the city. All the ground within this narrow compass was not covered with buildings; there were some open patches of considerable size, the principal of which were the hill of St. Sebastian, the Largo dos Seganos, a large plot near the Campo, the rocks on which the bishop's palace is built, and the Môrro and gardens of St. Bento.

Beyond these limits were a few scattered houses, but within a few hundred yards of them we were completely in the woods, or among marshes. From the Gloria to Bota-Foga was only a narrow mule-track, which by use became more open, and passable for carriages. The first time I rode along it with a companion or two, the woods thoroughly hid the sea from our view, and the road terminated upon a beach, where we had no expectation of finding one. Along the side of the aqueduct, above the convent of Santa Thereza, was an obscure foot-path, so overgrown with brushwood, that the wall of the Caraoca was not always visible. The roads through Mata-Cavallos and Caatumbi were well frequented mule-tracks; but beyond Mata-Porcos, when I first tried them, that to the left was impassable on horse-back, and that to the right embarrassed with the tide and swampy ground. There was then no road over the marsh from the Campo da Santa Anna, and a track of the most confined sort led, through lofty and pleasant woods, to the Saccos dos Alfares and Gambóa. The noise in these woods, during the day time, made by frogs, grasshoppers, crickets, and cigarras, was truly astonishing. It communicated to the mind an idea as different as possible from solitude, and taught the wanderer that, though at a distance from the hum of cities, he was surrounded with myriads of animated beings. At night every thicket and marsh was illuminated by an equally countless multitude of fire-flies, and the eye discerned another class of creatures as striking to us as those which the ear had indicated. There were certainly many others concealed from both the eye and the ear; the first wild monkey, which I ever saw, was on a spot near the Campo, where the barracks now stand.

In more extended rides, the country was found full of woods; from Mata-Porcos to St. Andrea were no houses, except one or two at Engenho Velho, where was also a small cleared space, and a new church begun; from thence to St. Christophe we were so enveloped in the forest as to make it necessary carefully to observe the direction which the road assumed at every turn, that we might not wander out of our way; and we rode hard to reach the city, or a more public place, before night-fall. At St. Christophe was a narrow bridge for the passage of cattle

and mules singly, the abutments of which still remain to the South of the new one. The wooden bridges did not then exist, nor did the road between them; passengers waited until the tide was in part gone down, or went through it, sometimes at considerable risk. The Campo do St. Christophe, and the country round it, were so full of wood, that when shooting in it in July, 1808, having separated from our companions, two of us could think of no better means of rejoining them than ascending the hill, which overlooked the forest, in order that we might discover any trace of them, by their firing or otherwise. At this period only two boats, and about a dozen canoas, plied upon the water for hire. St. Domingos and Praia Grandé, on the opposite side, were small pleasant villages, consisting of a few scattered houses, embosomed in woods. All round the bay of Rio de Janeiro appeared one interminable forest, every hill was clothed with lofty trees, and every valley filled with fire-wood; little cultivated land was discernible in the wide extended landscape. It was found generally in small patches, near to the farm and country-houses; but these were hidden from the view, and frequently accessible only by water.

Circumscribed as this picture represents the young metropolis, I am persuaded that no one, who saw it at the period referred to, will say that the outline is incorrect. The advance of the city, on spots so recently covered with forests, surprised many of its new inhabitants, while those, who were accustomed to its former appearance, were still more astonished. By one of this latter description, the idea was simply expressed in my hearing; an old negress, whom I met near the church of St. Lorenzo, was coming down the declivity on which the church stands, spinning as she walked, and had just reached the turn, where the city and the shipping came full in view below, when this soliloquy burst from her lips,—" O what a great Rio de Janeiro this has become!" The object which produced this exclamation was not so much the number of new buildings, for then the increase was little more than commenced, as about fifty sail of merchant-vessels, of all descriptions, lying between the town and the Ilha das Cobras, and about ten sail of the line in the roads.

When I first arrived in this country, Rio was said to contain eighty thousand inhabitants; but it appeared to me that the estimate was considerably too high. On counting the streets, and the number of houses in many of them, I thought that there might be about four thousand dwellings; the average number of persons in each was probably fifteen; making a population of sixty thousand, of whom one-third were white people, or white mulattoes. The number of inhabitants allowed to each house will appear to be large; but it must be remembered that, in some cases, more than one family dwelt under the same roof, and that many slaves were kept for domestic purposes, while others of this rank, whose usual labour called them out of the city, returned in the evening and slept there, requiring little more than shelter, and reposing on the floors or in the passages of the houses, rolled up in blankets or coverlets. The strangers, who are not included in this account, amounted to about sixteen thousand; ten thousand of whom were continually afloat, and the far greater part of the remaining six thousand never intended to continue in the country, and could not, with any propriety, be counted among the inhabitants of Rio. This mass of people was divided, probably with no great accuracy, into the following classes:—

1000 connected in various ways with the Court.
1000 in public offices.
1000 who commonly resided in the city, but drew their support chiefly from lands in the neighbourhood, and from ships.
700 resident priests.
500 lawyers.
200 medical men.
40 regular merchants.
2000 retailers of different descriptions.
4000 clerks, apprentices, and commercial servants.
1250 mechanics.
100 vintners, commonly called venda-keepers.
300 fishermen.
1000 soldiers of the line.
1000 sailors belonging to the port.
1000 free negroes.
12000 slaves.
4000 females at the head of families.

To make up the sixty thousand, nearly twenty-nine thousand children are to be added. This, it may be observed, is a much smaller proportion than usual, even in large cities, where many die at an early age. But, in fact, few children comparatively are born in Rio; and, owing to constitutional weakness, fewer are preserved alive even in families, which surpass the generality in a skilful and tender care of their offspring. Many are carried off by improper modes of treatment, by neglect, and injurious indulgence, often mixed together in the same case. The early age at which young people cease to be numbered among children is also to be taken into account. The children of slaves, too, are placed in the list together with their parents, as belonging to the same class. And it is painful to add, that means of the vilest nature are often employed to prevent the birth of children, and that infanticide is by no means uncommon.

Among the provisions with which the city was supplied, one of the most important was beef. Cattle abound in the interior of the country, though not near to the warmer coasts of Brazil, and in general are bred and reared with little attention. Many of them, when sent to Rio, perform a journey of three or four hundred miles; and during the time when a great influx of strangers created an extraordinary demand for fresh meat, it was said that some were driven from a distance of seven hundred; and, perhaps, in such circumstances, there was a sort of necessity that cattle should not only be collected in remoter districts, but that they should be driven more hastily across the country. Many, of course, died on the road of fatigue; and those which held out to the end arrived in a most miserable condition, at a public Slaughter-house, near the convent d'Ajuda; for there alone could they be butchered, the sale of beef being a monopoly, and under the superintendence of the police. Close to the house is a small yard, into which the animals are crowded, and where they frequently remain two or three days without food or water, until their turn come to stagger into the adjoining building, and to yield up their lives. The scenes which occur here are, some of them, highly distressing, and always of the filthiest description, no attempt being then made to give even a partial cleansing to the place.

As soon as the skin is stripped off, the carcases are cut into quarters, thrown into clumsy carts, besmeared with fresh and coagulated blood, and in that state driven through the city to the several licensed shops, where beef is sold in such quantities as each purchaser may want. The general condition of the animals, and the process through which they passed rendered the meat so bad that nothing but dire necessity, or the perpetual sight of it in the same wretched condition, could induce a person of the least delicacy to taste it. Like other articles it gradually became somewhat better, when the demand was well ascertained and steady, and the market more regularly supplied.

Perhaps no situation, no attention and care, can render a slaughter-house a pleasant scene; it must, under any management, be a task of difficulty to keep it perfectly clean. Such places ought, therefore, to be hidden from view; but the sole house destined to this purpose in Rio stands in a public road, and is rendered more offensive by the blood and filth issuing from it being allowed to mix with, to discolour and taint the water of the bay. Into that water the offal also is thrown, where it floats about, unless a sufficient number of black people, of the lowest order, be present to seize and wash the entrails as cases for polonies, or for other purposes of a domestic or medicinal nature.

The beef, thus brought to market, used to be employed almost entirely as a basis for soup. At a later period, it appeared at table in pieces, and in the form of steaks; in this state it was chiefly confined to the higher ranks. Others seldom tasted of it, except household slaves, who, in many families, had, with their regular allowance of feijam,. a small quantity of boiled beef or bacon. The Carne-secca, which is beef killed at a distance from the city, cut into flitches, and dried in the sun, was in much more common use.

In the year 1808, a few scattered sheep, of various tribes, were found in the neighbourhood of Rio, and a few others were brought for sale from different quarters. As nothing but beef is affected by the impolitic contract above-mentioned, sheep may be slaughtered, and mutton sold, by any one. Some small advantage was taken of this

liberty, so that in 1812 sheep had become more numerous, having been brought, one flock at least, from so great a distance as Rio Grandé. Many of the British, wishing to have something more like the variety which appears on their tables at home, paid attention to the purchase, the rearing, and the slaughter of sheep; yet this was almost entirely for their own private use, and that of their countrymen. Mutton was, and still is, in small request among the people of Brazil, some of whom alledge, perhaps jestingly, that it is not proper food for Christians, because it was the Lamb of God which took away the sins of the world. Whether this prejudice operates still more strongly with respect to the young progeny of sheep, I know not; but lamb is never eaten by the natives of that country. They have, also, little or nothing like the veal of England; though an animal, of a year old, called a calf, is frequently slaughtered for the exclusive use of the inhabitants of the Palace, and its flesh is among them denominated veal.

On pork the people feed with avidity, as if delighting in every opportunity of showing, that they are neither Jews nor Mahometans. I doubt, however, whether this species of food, as it is produced in Brazil, be a desirable, or even a wholesome diet. The swine, kept in the country, approach near to the wild state, and greedily devour the numerous reptiles, with which every district abounds. Whether this be, or be not the cause, it is certain that their flesh is often brought to sale in a very diseased state.

The reasons just mentioned against the use of mutton, and in favour of pork, strange as they are, have more weight among the devout than could be conceived. It is not to be supposed, however, that the Brazilians, in general, were so weak as to produce or act upon them. Still, having been inculcated by the priesthood, and supported by interested individuals, they have acquired an habitual, though unperceived influence. A singular proof of this is evinced in their mode of eating fruit; no true catholic, in this country, ever cuts a banana transversely, because the centre then displays the figure of a cross; yet they have no objection to do so with the fruit proceeding from the passion-