



the head, but an elaborately plaited concoction, the work of an *artiste* in the bazaar. Across this is attached a coloured band, whereon may be seen in silver the crest of the family, and round the waist is girt a long twist of bicoloured cloth, the same colours being given to all the family domestics who are clothed in livery. Following the *khitmutgar* may be seen an embryo *khitmutgar*; he acts in the character of scullery-maid, his duty being to "wash up," and make himself generally useful. He never ventures within the precincts of the mansion, unless the *khitmutgar* is sick, when, arranged in well whitened garments, and a flowing tail to his turban, he officiates; but long before he is accepted in service as a *khitmutgar*, he has become a proficient, and may be able to cook admirably as well as wait at table. He is generally to be seen near the kitchen door, plucking the fowls, cutting them up, or grinding the curry powder in the morning, churning the butter, and doing odd jobs in the culinary line. Beyond, in the sketch, stands the venerable cook and his mate.

With such a retinue of domestics, to each of whom is disposed his separate work, can the English house-

keeper be surprised to know that everything goes on glibly, and especially when it is remembered that each attendant thoroughly understands his work, and possesses the oriental good properties of temperance, cleanliness, quietness, and civility?

AUTHENTIC ANECDOTE OF FREDERIC WILLIAM IV OF PRUSSIA.

Few monarchs ever came to the throne under fairer auspices than the *still reigning*, but, from heavy bodily affliction, no longer ruling, king of Prussia. Great was his popularity when, in 1840, he succeeded his father—an excellent though somewhat too opinionative man; and when with Christian manliness the young monarch declared openly, at his first public appearance before his people, "Whatsoever others do, I and my house will serve the Lord," the truly royal announcement was hailed by all believers in God's word, as an augury of good to Prussia, to Germany, and to the world at large. On many after occasions, similar avowals of pious sentiment, confirmed by corresponding

actions, won for Frederic William IV "golden opinions" from all right thinking men.

The year 1848, however, beheld a different scene. The flame of insurrection, kindled in France, spread rapidly over Continental Europe, and Berlin saw a large proportion of its citizens in arms against their sovereign. From that time to this, the popularity of the Prussian monarch has experienced many vicissitudes. Few princes have been more highly lauded by one party, few more sneered at by another; and none, as the writer of their biography believes, have ever been more basely calumniated. But four characteristics, for which Frederic William IV has been from early youth celebrated, and to which much of his popularity and some of his political failures may be traced—namely, his eloquence as an unpremeditated public speaker, his ready wit, his irresistible love of fun and frolic, and these ever coupled with the most urbane affability and kindness of heart—had never been disputed by any party; and it is in illustration of the three last that the following anecdote, given to the writer by a person then familiar with the court, is presented to the reader.

Very soon after his accession to the regal dignity, Frederic William IV, who, like most German princes, was an early riser, a great pedestrian, and a dispenser with etiquette whenever such was possible, went out one morning alone, to take a walk in the deer park of Sans Souci.

In one of the drives, which are all open to the public, he encountered an old woman, who was exerting all her powers of arm and voice to urge forward an obstinate ass, laden with some garden produce for the Berlin market.

Her exclamations and gesticulations amused the king, who, after watching for a little while her ineffectual exertions, asked if she always had as much trouble with her refractory donkey.

"Oh no," replied the old dame, (who had not the faintest idea that, in the plain-dressed and plain-spoken man before her, she beheld her sovereign,) "Oh no, sir; when Fritz is with me, he thrashes behind, and I drag on before, and then it goes well enough; but Fritz got a job of work this morning, and could not come with me, and the self-willed beast knows well enough I am alone."

"Well, my good dame," said the king, laughing, "do you drag on before, and I'll thrash behind, and we'll see if we can't make him go."

And so the king did, almost up to the last gate of the deer park, when, unwilling to go farther, for fear of being recognised, he dealt the donkey such a tremendous blow with his walking-stick, that the beast fairly ran on, leaving the old woman neither time nor breath to return thanks for the kind assistance.

The king, after relieving himself by a hearty laugh, hastened home to the palace, and, bursting into the queen's apartment, his forehead beaded with perspiration, and his whole face radiant with the enjoyed frolic, he called out, "Well, Elizabeth, what think you I have just been about? Only helping an old woman to bring her cabbages to market."

"Ah, Fritz,"* said the amiable and well-beloved queen, holding up a reproving finger, "such doings were scarcely permittable in a *prince*; but in a *king*!"

"Pooh, pooh!" replied the merry monarch, "I was only acting Fritz, you know; and besides, who'll tell me it is the first, or will be the last, *ass I have helped to push forward!*"

The witticism was as pat as the truth was undeniable. Not a word could be said against it, and ere long the anecdote became current in the private court circle.

OVER THE BORDER.

IN addition to the multitudes who cross the frontier-line between England and Scotland on the ordinary engagements of life, thousands pass it from south to north at this season of the year, either with the sports of the field in view—grouse-shooting and deer-stalking—or intent upon making acquaintance with the lakes, glens, forests, and bracing air of the Highlands. The passage is accomplished without the slightest difficulty; but in former times the case was very different. Not that Nature then placed any formidable obstacles in the way which have since been removed; for the Tweed and the Esk are fordable streams, while the main ridge of the Cheviots is readily scaled. But when the two countries formed distinct kingdoms, often at war, without being polite enough to preface it by a formal announcement, there was no crossing the Border except sword in hand; and even when peaceful relations subsisted between the governments, the borderers themselves wielded their weapons against each other with right hearty goodwill, to obtain plunder or avenge some wrong, and never allowed strangers to pass without levying toll upon them. If the unlucky wight pounced upon could not pay in goods, he must in person, and was unceremoniously ensconced in the dungeon of some square grim tower till his ransom arrived. It mattered little whether the parties pillaged, and taken for a prey, were from an opposite side of the frontier or not; for as whole clans depended entirely upon rapine for subsistence, they were not particular from whom it was obtained. Their chiefs, whose names are now borne by nobles, frequently abetted their lawless proceedings as profitable to themselves, or led them on in the foray. Wanting provender, they took it with the strong hand as the readiest mode, marched with their retainers rapidly by night to some homestead, village, or town, seized the corn, drove off the cattle, and perhaps fired the houses to distract the unfortunate inmates. Some ecclesiastics also were addicted to this freebooting, according to the old ballad:—

"O, the monks of Melrose made gude kale (broth)
On Fridays when they fasted;
They wanted neither beef nor ale
As long as their neighbours' lasted."

The mottoes of the chieftains were often of a brigand description. Thus, the Murrays had, "Forth

* Among all classes, the familiar German abbreviation for Frederic, as Fred, is in English.