

The fountain of Nîmes, celebrated by Ausonius—

“ Non Aponus potu, vitrea non luce Nemausus purior ”—

rises at the foot of a hill about 230 feet in height, on whose summit is planted the ancient but dilapidated monument of antiquity known as the *Tour-Magne* (Turris Magna), variously regarded by archæologists as a tomb, a pharos, or a watch-tower. The waters were utilized by the Romans for their public baths, whose ancient buildings may still be seen above the regular basins constructed, in the reign of Louis XIV., to transform the banks of the stream into a magnificent ornamental promenade. To the left of the great basin lie the ruins of the so-called *Temple of Diana*. The hill which impends over the fountain of Nîmes is now clothed with leafy trees, forming sweet and grateful alleys, which ascend, with a gentle inclination, to the *Tour-Magne*. The entire scene, with its happy mixture of Art and Nature, is singularly pleasant and picturesque.

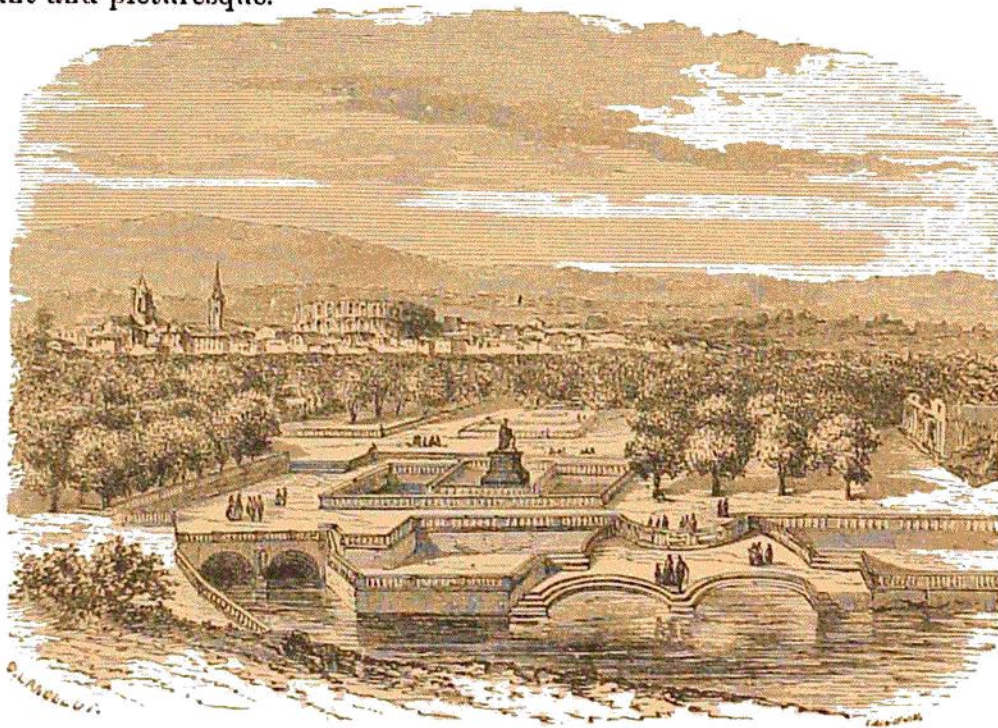


FIG. 162.—FOUNTAIN OF NÎMES.

[Among inexhaustible springs, one of the most celebrated is that of St. Winifred's, at Holywell, in Flintshire. Its source is in a bed of shingle at the foot of a steep hill, whence it rushes with great impetuosity, flowing into and over the main basin into a smaller one in front. It is enclosed by a building in the Perpendicular Gothic style (dating from the beginning of the reign of Henry VII.), which “ forms a crypt under a small chapel contiguous to the parish-church, and on a level with it, the entrance to the well being by a descent of about twenty steps from the street. The well itself is a star-shaped basin, ten feet in diameter, canopied by a most graceful stellar