

of social suicide so common in France, and of which we have had a few instances of late years in our own country.

“The sisters embraced each other for some minutes amid a profound and solemn silence.

“‘O heavens,’ cried Cephysi, ‘how cruel, to love each other thus, and be compelled to part for ever!’

“‘To part!’ exclaimed the Mayeux, while her pale face was suddenly lighted up with a ray of divine hope;—‘To part! Oh no, sister, no: what makes me so calm is, that I feel certain we are going to another world, where a happier life awaits us. Come, hasten; come where God reigns alone, and where man, who on this earth brings about the misery and despair of his fellow-creatures, is nothing. Come, let us depart quickly, for it is late.’

“The sisters having laid the charcoal ready for lighting, proceeded with incredible self-possession to stop up the chinks in the door and windows; and during this sinister operation, the calmness and mournful resignation of these two unfortunate beings did not once forsake them.”

We had intended referring to several other points in this mischievous work of fiction, which at once serves to exhibit the opinions entertained by no inconsiderable proportion of the anti-Jesuit party on the Continent, and to spread these opinions more widely. Wherever we find the devotional feeling introduced, some disaster is sure always to follow. One of the best characters in the novel is a highly intellectual and generous manufacturer, more bent on ministering to the happiness of his workmen than on the accumulation of gain. He provides them with comfortable dwellings, extends their leisure hours, gives them a share in the profits of his trade, conducts his manufactory, in short, on the model of the philanthropic economist; and all this when he is an avowed *Free-thinker*; but, falling into bad health, and meeting with a crushing disappointment, he becomes a devotee, loses all his interest in the welfare of his workmen, becomes *enfeebled in body and mind, and the Jesuits ruin him*. The wife of a brave and faithful soldier, a thoroughly excellent man, but devoid of all sense of religion, has also the misfor-