

and another—the boat was half-buried in sand and spray. Hurrah! the dreaded cataract was surmounted, and the boat rode triumphantly on the tranquil river.

The first Cataract is situated at Assouan (the ancient *Syene*), in lat. $24^{\circ} 10' N.$; and the sixth, south-west of Mograb, in lat. $19^{\circ} 30' N.$

We shall conclude this somewhat desultory chapter with a brief description of one of the most renowned falls in Europe; that of Schaffhausen, where the Rhine, in a volume of waters 450 feet in width, descends a precipice of 70 feet.

Figure to yourself, says Madame Roland, the river in all its majesty sweeping headlong like a sea of leaping foam; three rocks, crowned with verdure, interrupt the course of this vast sheet of water, this torrent of snow. The irritated river lashes its enclosing banks in furious wrath, undermines them, encroaches upon them, and multiplies its falls by the gaps it cleaves in them; it crashes down with a turmoil which spreads horror on every side—with which the whole valley re-echoes—and the shattered billows soar aloft in vapours gaily adorned by brilliant rain-bows.

The Florentine Poggio, one of the most famous Italian authors of the tenth century, who officiated as the Pope's secretary at the Council of Constance, is the first writer to make mention of the Schaffhausen Cataract: "The river," he says, "precipitates itself among the rocks with so much fury and so terrible a roar, that one might almost say it bewailed its fall."

The scene deserves to be visited, and to be contemplated from both banks, and under all its various aspects: from the Château of Woerth, where there is now a hostelry; from the belvedere of the Château of Lauffen, beneath which a solid gallery of timber abuts in the very centre of the waters. Finally, the tourist should obtain a guide to the principal rock, which divides the cascade into two main parts; but one need have a firm head to attempt the ascent. It is at night, and in the soft radiance of the moon, that the magnificent spectacle produces the greatest impression. Once seen, it can never be forgotten, but will be treasured up in the memory among those precious things and those tender associations which the lover of nature will not willingly suffer to fade away.]