

**THE PYRENEES: A
DESCRIPTION OF
SUMMER LIFE AT FRENCH
WATERING PLACES**

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The Pyrenees: A Description of Summer Life at French Watering Places by Henry Blackburn

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HENRY BLACKBURN

**THE PYRENEES: A
DESCRIPTION OF
SUMMER LIFE AT FRENCH
WATERING PLACES**



A BREAK IN THE PINE FOREST

THE PYRENEES



ILLUSTRATED BY
GUSTAVE DORÉ.

THE
PYRENEES:

A DESCRIPTION OF

Summer Life at French Watering Places.

BY

HENRY BLACKBURN,

EDITOR OF 'ACADEMY NOTES;'

AUTHOR OF 'ARTISTS AND ARABS,' 'BRETON FOLK,'

'ART IN THE MOUNTAINS,' ETC.

'Les Pyrénées sont la bordure gracieuse d'un paysage
riant et d'un ciel magnifique; la beauté ici est sereine,
et le plaisir est pur.'

NEW EDITION, REVISED AND CORRECTED TO 1880.

WITH

ONE HUNDRED ILLUSTRATIONS BY GUSTAVE DORÉ,

AND A NEW MAP OF ROUTES FOR TRAVELLERS.

LONDON:
SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON, SEARLE, & RIVINGTON.
1881.

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P R E F A C E.

IN the present volume it is proposed to describe, in familiar language, the scenery and summer life, in the Pyrenees, arranged in the form of a tour or visit, to the most popular places; and to do this as completely as possible, the Author has permission to introduce a few extracts from the work of a French writer.

M. Taine's remarks, independently of their humour and picturesque grace, have a peculiar value in these pages, in giving the reader an assurance that 'summer life in the Pyrenees' is not represented from a one-sided point of view. In a few words introduced here and there, it will be seen that, whilst delighting in satirising his own countrymen, he thoroughly appreciates the beauties of nature, and enjoys the sunshine of the Pyrenees as much as any Briton. 'On a pris,' he says, 'l'amour de la vie avec l'amour de la lumière,' and sympathetically asks, 'Combien de

fois, sous le ciel nébuleux du Nord, formons-nous un pareil désir ?'

With regard to the Illustrations, it is scarcely too much to say that the drawings by M. Doré (more than one hundred in number) form, as a whole, the most perfect picture of the Pyrenees ever presented to the public, and bring home to us the features of beautiful mountains, with which Englishmen are strangely unfamiliar.

Amongst the special additions to this Edition (much of which has been rewritten), are descriptions of Lourdes and Argelès in 1880, and some notes made in 'spring amongst the flowers.'

In the Map at the end of the Volume, the routes described have been laid down ; and in the APPENDIX will be found the latest information for travellers in the Pyrenees.

LONDON, *October*, 1880.





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