

of the fortress and town, at the mouth of the valley, which is here crossed by a strong and lofty wall, pierced with embrasures, on which guns are mounted. The only entrance into the garrison of Jamestown, from the water's side, is over a drawbridge, which crosses a wide moat, and through a large gateway.

We gladly accepted our consul's invitation to visit his family, and, after passing the gateway just mentioned, entered the town, which has every appearance of a well-kept garrison. It is of small extent, the mouth of the valley or rather gully in which it is built, not being more than five or six hundred yards wide, and narrowing quickly as it ascends. The houses are seldom more than two stories in height: that of the consul is situated near the forks of two narrow streets, from both of which are extended zigzag roads up the almost perpendicular sides of the gully. An inclined railway of several hundred feet in perpendicular height is built up the side of the western cliff, called Ladder Hill, on which provisions and water were hoisted, by soldiers who were under punishment, for the supply of a numerous garrison that formerly occupied the forts on its summit. This railway or ladder is a conspicuous object from the anchorage, and from it the cliff derives its name.

The interior of the island of St. Helena is uninteresting, and when compared with those we had recently visited, may be said to be devoid of beauty. It possesses nothing to recommend it to the notice of a stranger, except its connexion with Napoleon's exile. It is said this island was first suggested as a place of confinement for the great prisoner by the Duke of Wellington, who had himself been detained there for some months, while on his way from India, and was forcibly impressed with its natural strength and adaptation for his confinement.

To the circumstance of the residence of Napoleon this island owes not only its chief celebrity, but, as a consequence, its temporary growth and prosperity: and with the removal of his remains, St. Helena will revert to what it was formerly.

On his first landing, the ex-emperor occupied the very apartments formerly used by the Duke of Wellington; but was, the next day, at his own request, removed to the "Briars," a retired country cottage, situated in the small "bosom" at the head of the gully of Jamestown.

The only collection of houses is Jamestown; and, although situated in a narrow gorge, it is the best locality on the island for a town. The space occupied by it has been as much improved as was possible, and the place has rather a cheerful appearance; more, however, from the diversified character of its inhabitants, than from the neatness and architecture of its buildings. The variety of costume is greater than