

the Rue S. Michel, an inscription marks the house of Carlo Trenca, the wise and just president of the tiny Mentonese republic during its first happy years of freedom.—'A Winter at Mentone.'

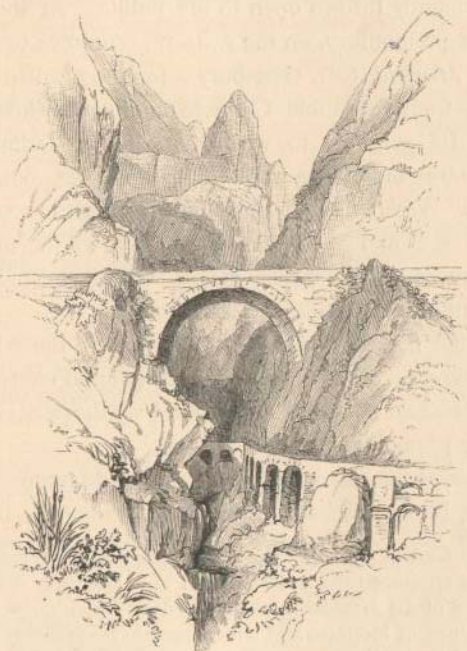
The high road, which runs along the shore of the eastern bay, now fringed by villas, but with lovely glimpses of the Berceau and Gran'Mondo on the N., soon reaches the fine rocky promontory of the Rochers Rouges, near which, at the hamlet of *La Cuze*, the royalist inhabitants of Mentone formed a colony at the Revolution. Here they were safe within the republic of Genoa, and yet within sight of their old homes, after France had taken possession of Mentone, and a brother of Robespierre had been sent there 'to represent the people and guillotine the aristocrats.'

Up to this time the only road from Nice to Genoa (still to be seen in places) was that which Mme. de Genlis describes:—

'En sortant de Nice, cette route est parfaitement bien nommée la Corniche; c'est en effet presque toujours une vraie Corniche; en beaucoup d'endroits si étroite qu'une personne y peut à peine passer.'

But, soon after his coronation, Napoléon I. ordered the construction of a great military road from Nice to Genoa, though it was only finished as far as Ventimiglia before his fall cut short its completion. The finest point on this road is where, 2 k. from Mentone, the *Pont S. Louis* crosses an abyss between two rocks by a single arch of 22 mètres span, and 80 mètres height. The situation, surrounded by stupendous precipices, is very striking, with an old aqueduct winding to the orange gardens below. The

*Villa S. Louis*, close to the bridge, has a garden of great beauty. Below it, a rugged path winds round the Rochers Rouges (Balzi Rossi) to a platform, whence there is a



PONT S. LOUIS, MENTONE.

splendid view of the town, and of the mountains, embracing the distant coast of France, the Esterel and Antibes, with Monaco, Mont Agel, Turbia, Mont Garillon, Mont Baudon, S. Agnèse, and the Berceau. In the caverns of the rocks, much blasted away in making the