

'Above Grimaldi the path is much steeper, winding to Ciotti Inferiore, then to Ciotti Superiore, a cluster of houses, whose church stands further off, on the highest ridge of the mountain. From behind the rock, at the back of the church, the sea-view is splendid, embracing the whole coast, with its numerous bays, as



GRIMALDI.

far as the Estrelles, the grand mountain barriers, with all the orange-clad valleys running up into them; and S. Agnèse, rising out of the mists, on its perpendicular cliff.—'A Winter at Mentone.'

11. *Ventimiglia, Dolce acqua, and Bordighera*, in Italy. Beyond S. Mauro, is the gaily painted church of *S. Agostino*.

The village near this is called *Latte*, the land of milk, from the richness of its soil. Hence we ascend to *Ventimiglia*—once *Albium Intermelium*, the capital of the *Intermelii*, and still the chief fortress between Nice and Genoa, and the place where railway travellers pass the Italian custom-house—which crowns the steep brown precipice with its white walls. It is entered by gates and a drawbridge, closing the narrow pass of the rock. Within, the town runs along a ledge in a picturesque outline of brightly coloured towers, old houses, and deserted convents, while deep down below lies a little port with fishing vessels and some curious isolated rocks. The *Cathedral*, of which S. Barnabas is said to have been the first bishop, stands on a terrace with a background of snowy mountains, and beside it is the palace of the *Lascaris*—who ruled *Ventimiglia* as counts in the middle-ages—with an open *loggia* and staircase. On a further crest of the hill is the yellow-brown *romanesque Church of S. Michele*, occupying the site of a temple of *Castor and Pollux*. From the half dry bed of the river *Roya*—the *Rituba* of *Pliny* and *Lucan*—is a very striking view of the old town and mountains.

Passing through the *Borgo di Ventimiglia*, a road turns off l. at the bridge over the *Nervia*, by the very curious old town of *Campo Rosso* and its *romanesque church*, to (12 k. from *Mentone*) *Dolce acqua*, a most picturesque place, with a tall bridge of a single arch over the *Nervia*, and a ruined palace-castle where the *Doria* reigned as sovereign princes.

*Bordighera* (5 k. beyond *Ventimiglia*) is chiefly remarkable for its palm-groves. For this and all further places along the coast, see *Cities of Northern Italy*.