|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Chap. 17 (163  It was eight o'clock when we landed; we  for a short time  walked on the shore enjoying the transitory  ^  twilight & then retired to the Inn and contem [5]  plated the lovely scene of waters, mountains  & woods obscured in darkness yet still ~~allow~~  black  displaying ~~ing~~ their ~~their~~ ~~dark~~ outlines– The wind which  had fallen in the south now rose with great [10]  violence in the west—the moon had  reached her summit in the heavens  & was beginning to descend the clouds  swept across it swifter than the  flight of the vulture and dimmed her [15]  rays while the lake reflected the scene  of the ~~m~~ made restless  busy heavens still busier by the waves  ^ ^  that were beginning to rise— Suddenly  a heavy storm of rain descended. [20]  It had been calm during the day but  so soon  ~~now~~ as night ~~ha~~ obscured the shapes of  objects a thousand fears arose in  my mind – I was anxious and watchful [25]  while my right hand grasped a pistol  which was hidden in my bosom —  me,  Every sound terrified but I resoldved  that I would sell my~~s~~ life dearly & [30]  relax the conflict that impended ~~should lie senseless~~  not ~~die~~ untill ~~my adversary~~ ~~lay~~ ~~at my~~  ~~fee~~t. my own life, or that of my adversary were extinguished  Elizabeth observed my agitation for  some time in timid & fearful silence [35]  At length she said — What is it, my dear  Victor, that agitates you? What is it  you fear?  Oh peace, peace, my love, I replied,  this night and all will be safe – but [40]  this night is dreadful very dreadful. | [116:]CHAPTER VI.  It was eight o'clock when we landed; we  walked for a short time on the shore, enjoying the transitory  light, and then retired to the inn, and contemplated  the lovely scene of waters, woods, and mountains,  obscured in darkness, yet still  displaying their black outlines.  ¶The wind, which  had fallen in the south, now rose with great  violence in the west. The moon had  reached her summit in the heavens,  and was beginning to descend; the clouds  swept across it swifter than the  flight of the vulture, and dimmed her  rays, while [117:]the lake reflected the scene  of the busy heavens, rendered still busier by the restless waves  that were beginning to rise. Suddenly  a heavy storm of rain descended.  ¶I had been calm during the day; but  so soon as night obscured the shapes of  objects, a thousand fears arose in  my mind. I was anxious and watchful,  while my right hand grasped a pistol  which was hidden in my bosom;  every sound terrified me; but I resolved  that I would sell my life dearly, and  not relax the impending conflict until  my own life, or that of my adversary, were extinguished.  ¶Elizabeth observed my agitation for  some time in timid and fearful silence;  at length she said, “What is it that agitates you, my dear  Victor? What is it  you fear?”  ¶“Oh! peace, peace, my love,” re- [118:]plied I,  “this night, and all will be safe: but  this night is dreadful, very dreadful.” |

**bottom left corner]***paper folded over and then under* **5]***fibrous speck in paper after* twilight **19]**suddenly *altered to* Suddenly **20]***miswritten* storn *or* stom *altered to* storm **21]**It *altered to* I *by smear deletion of* t **25]***wet offset ink blots below* was anxious *(from pbs cancel line on* ~~forgotten~~ *on facing folio 73 verso [page 162], line 21)* **28]***?pbs* me, **29]***misformed and misspelled* resoldved **30]***miswritten* mys *was corrected by canceling* s **31-32]***mws* die *was altered in draft by pbs to* relax the conflict that impended*, phrasing which then mws re-altered in fair copy (see Dep. 534/2, Notebook C1, folio 7 verso [page 116], lines 5-6) to* relax the impending conflict*; that phrasing, which became the text in 1818 and 1818 Thomas (see 1818 Rieger, page 192), was again altered to* shrink from the conflict *in 1823 (II, 205) and in 1831 (page 174)* **32]***variant spelling* untill **33]***uncrossed* t *in pbs* extinguished **36]**At *could be* at **41]***re-inked (or added)* t *in* night

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 164)  was | I passed an hour in this state of  mind when suddenly I reflected how dreadful  the which momently to  ~~such a~~ combat ~~as~~ I expected ~~would~~ take  place would be to my wife and I earnestly [5]  entreated her to retire – resolving not to join  her untill I had obtained some knowledge  as to the situation of my enemy.  She left me and I continued some  time walking up and down the passages [10]  of the house & inspecting every corner  that might afford a retreat to my  of him  adversary – But I ~~sa~~ saw no trace &  that some fortunate chance [15]  beginning to consider ~~what was my best~~  had intervened to prevent the execution of his menace,  ~~mode of proceeding~~ – When suddenly  I heard a shrill & dreadful scream.–  It came from the room into which [20]  Elizabeth had retired. ~~with a servant~~  As I heard it the whole truth rushed  to my mind my arms dropped – the  motion of every muscle & fibre was  suspended I could feel the blood trick [25]  & tingling in my feet  ling ~~from~~ in my veins – ~~The scream~~  This state lasted but an instant  the scream was repeated & I rushed  into the room. Great God why did I [30]  not then expire – Why I am I here to  relate the destruction of the best hope  the  & ~~d~~ purest creature of earth – She was  there – lifeless & inanimate – thrown [35]  across the bed her head hanging  her  down pale & distorted features half  covered by her hair – Every where I turn  I see the same figure —Her bloodless [40] | ¶I passed an hour in this state of  mind, when suddenly I reflected how dreadful  the combat which I momentarily expected  would be to my wife, and I earnestly  entreated her to retire, resolving not to join  her until I had obtained some knowledge  as to the situation of my enemy.  ¶She left me, and I continued some  time walking up and down the passages  of the house, and inspecting every corner  that might afford a retreat to my  adversary. But I discovered no trace of him, and  was beginning to conjecture that some fortunate chance  had intervened to prevent the execution of his menaces; when suddenly  I heard a shrill and dreadful scream.  It came from the room into which  Elizabeth [119:]had retired.  As I heard it, the whole truth rushed  into my mind, my arms dropped, the  motion of every muscle and fibre was  suspended; I could feel the blood trickling  in my veins, and tingling in the extremities of my limbs.  This state lasted but for an instant;  the scream was repeated, and I rushed  into the room.  ¶Great God! why did I  not then expire! Why am I here to  relate the destruction of the best hope,  and the purest creature of earth? She was  there, lifeless and inanimate, thrown  across the bed, her head hanging  down, and her pale and distorted features half  covered by her hair. Every where I turn  I see the same figure—her bloodless |

**right edge]***remaining stub (from folio 79)* **bottom right corner]***paper folded under* **5]***?mws* to *added* **7]***variant spelling* untill **16]***mws* began *was altered by pbs to* beginning **25]***partially crossed* l *in* feel*;* l *overlays* r *in* blood **26]***uncrossed* t *in pbs* tingling; *pbs* tingling in my feet *was altered by mws to* tingling in the extremities of my limbs *in fair copy (see Dep. c. 534/2, Notebook C1, folio 8 recto [page 117], line 19; see also Appendix A, page 789, lines 26-27), also the reading in 1818 and all subsequent texts* **31]***repeated but uncanceled* I **32]**i *altered to* e *in* destruction*; ink smear below second* the **34]***wet offset ink blots on and below* of earth *(from cancel line on* ~~sweet~~ *on facing folio 75 recto [page 165], line 32)* **39]**he *altered to* her

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| me. | arms & relaxed figure flung by the mur (165  bridal  derer on its bier – Could I behold this & and  ^ it clings closest  live– Alas life is obstinate ~~& clinging~~ where it [5]    is most hated– for a moment only did  I lose recollection – I fainted.  When I recovered I found myself in  the midst of the people of inn – Their  countenances expressed a breathless terror [10]  only as  but the horror of others appeared ~~but~~ a  a shadow  mockery of the feelings that oppressed  ^ to the room [15]  I escaped from them where lay the body  ^  of Elizabeth – my love — my wife – so lately  living – so dear –so worthy – She had  been moved from the posture in  which I had first beheld her & now [20]  as she lay her head upon her arm  and ~~h~~ a hankerchief thrown across  her face & neck I might have sup  posed her asleep – I rushed towards her &  embraced her with ardour but the [25]  deathly coldness of the body told me that  what I now held in my arms had  ceased to be the Elizabeth whom I  had loved & cherished, the murderous  grasp of the fiend was on her neck [30]  & the breath had ceased to issue from  her ~~sweet~~ lips.  While I still held her in my arms  in the agony of despair I happened to  look up. The room ~~which~~ had before [35]  been quite dark and I felt a kind of  panic on seeing the pale yellow light  of the moon illuminate the chamber | arms and relaxed form flung by the murderer  on its bridal bier. Could I behold this, and  live? Alas! life is obstinate, and clings closest where it  [120:]is most hated. For a moment only did  I lose recollection; I fainted.  ¶When I recovered, I found myself surrounded by  the people of the inn; their  countenances expressed a breathless terror:  but the horror of others appeared only as a  mockery, a shadow of the feelings that oppressed  me. I escaped from them to the room where lay the body  of Elizabeth, my love, my wife, so lately  living, so dear, so worthy. She had  been moved from the posture in  which I had first beheld her; and now,  as she lay, her head upon her arm,  and a handkerchief thrown across  her face and neck, I might have supposed  her asleep. I rushed towards her, and  embraced her with ardour; but the  deathly languor and coldness of the limbs told me, that  what I now held in my arms had  ceased to be the Elizabeth whom I  had loved and cherished. The [121:]murderous  mark of the fiend's grasp was on her neck,  and the breath had ceased to issue from  her lips.  ¶While I still hung over her  in the agony of despair, I happened to  look up. The windows of the room had before  been darkened; and I felt a kind of  panic on seeing the pale yellow light  of the moon illuminate the chamber. |

**bottom left corner]***paper folded over* **left edge]***tear line in paper extends up from jagged edge* **margin:15]***?pbs* me **1]***ink blot above* u *in* mur **3]***ampersand followed by* and **5]***show-through ink mark below second* in *in canceled* clinging *(from* ou *in* hideous *on verso [page 166], line 4)* **9]***word(s) omitted after second* of **14]***ligatured* ss *overlays* d *in* oppressed **21]***fibrous speck in paper between* her *and* head **22]***misspelled* hankerchief **24]***?mws* s *added in* towards

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 66) | the shutters had been thrown back and with  a sensation of horror not to be described I  saw at the open window a figure the most  hideous & abhorred – A grin was on the face  he [5]  of the monster. ~~that~~ seemed to jeer as with  his fiendish finger he pointed towards the  corpse of my wife—I rushed towards the window  and drawing a pistol from my bosom –shot–  but he eluded me – ~~he~~ leapt from his station [10]  the  and ~~run~~ running with swiftness of lightning  ^  plunged in to the lake. The report of my  pistol brought a crow~~e~~d into the room  I pointed to where he had disappeared & [15]  we followed him with boats & cast nets  but in vain and passing several hours  ~~re~~ in the search returned hopeless – Most  of my companions believeing it to have  been a form conjured by my fancy. How [20]  ever after having ~~quitte~~ landed they pro  ceeded to search the country ~~goin~~ parties  going in different directions among the  woods & vines. I did not accompany them  ~~for the exhaustion that now seized on~~ [25]  ~~me~~ I was exhausted; a film covered my  was parched  eyes and my skin ~~burned~~ with ~~t~~ the heat  of fever. In this state I lay on a bed hardly  conscious of what had happened & my eyes [30]  wandered round the room as if to seek  somthing that I had lost. At length I remem  bered that my father would anxiously  expect the return of Elizabeth & myself  and that I must return alone. This [35]  reflection brought tears into my eyes & I  wept for a long time. I reflected on my  misfortunes & their cause and was bewildered  in a cloud of wonder and horror. The | The shutters had been thrown back; and, with  a sensation of horror not to be described, I  saw at the open window a figure the most  hideous and abhorred. A grin was on the face  of the monster; he seemed to jeer, as with  his fiendish finger he pointed towards the  corpse of my wife. I rushed towards the window,  and drawing a pistol from my bosom, shot;  but he eluded me, leaped from his station,  and, running with the swiftness of lightning,  plunged into the lake.  [122:]¶The report of the  pistol brought a crowd into the room.  I pointed to the spot where he had disappeared, and  we followed the track with boats; nets were cast,  but in vain. After passing several hours,  we returned hopeless, most  of my companions believing it to have  been a form conjured by my fancy.  After having landed, they proceeded  to search the country, parties  going in different directions among the  woods and vines.  ¶I did not accompany them;  I was exhausted: a film covered my  eyes, and my skin was parched with the heat  of fever. In this state I lay on a bed, hardly  conscious of what had happened; my eyes  wandered round the room, as if to seek  something that I had lost.  ¶At length I remembered  that my father would anxiously  expect the return [123:]of Elizabeth and myself,  and that I must return alone. This  reflection brought tears into my eyes, and I  wept for a long time; but my thoughts rambled to various subjects, reflecting on my  misfortunes, and their cause. I was bewildered  in a cloud of wonder and horror. The |

**right edge]***tear line in paper extends up from jagged edge* **bottom right corner]***paper folded under* **1]***mws omitted numeral* 1 *in page number* 66

**5-6]***?mws* he *and ?mws period* **10]**he *added by ?pbs between* but *and* eluded **11]***?pbs* the **12]***misformed and then canceled* run **14]***wet offset ink blots above* pistol brought *(from pbs* unfavourable *on facing folio 76 recto [page 167], line 14); misspelled* crowed *(for* crowd*) was corrected by canceling* e **18]**most *altered to* Most **19]***misspelled* believeing **21]***uncrossed* t*'s in canceled* quitte **28]** *?pbs* s *added in* skin **29]***wet offset ink blots above and after* In *(from pbs* time *and from pbs cancel line on* ~~days~~ *on facing folio 76 recto [page 167], lines 30-31)* **30]***smeared and blotted* sc *in* conscious **32]***variant spelling* somthing **36]***smeared and soiled* tears **37]***?*om *altered to* on

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | death of William, the execution of Justine (167  e  the murder of Cl~~ai~~rval & now of my wife – even  at that moment I knew not that my ~~my~~ only  remaining friends were safe from the malignity [5]  of the fiend – my father even now might be  writhing under his grasp & Ernest might be  dead at his feet – This reflection made me  shudder and recalled me to action. ~~I sta~~ I  started up & resolved to return to Geneva [10]  all  with ~~every~~ possible speed. There were no horses  to be procured and I must return by the  unfavourable  lake but the wind was ~~now~~ ~~against me~~ [15]  and the rain fell in torrents. It was however  might reasonably  hardly yet morning and I hope~~d~~ to arrive  ^  ~~that ni~~ by night –I hired a number of  men to row and took an oar myself for [20]  experienced from mental ~~strain~~ torment  I had always ~~felt~~ relief in bodily exercise.  ^ ^  But the overflowing misery I now felt  & the excess of agitation that I endured  rendered me incapable of any exertion–I [25]  threw down the oar & leaning my head  upon my hands gave way to every  gloomy idea that arose—If I looked up  I saw the scenes which were familiar  time [30]  to me in my happier ~~days~~ and which I had  before  contemplated but the day in the compa  now ^  ny of her who was but a shadow & a [35]  ^  recollection – tears streamed from my  lake  eyes – I looked on the ~~waters~~ ~~& sa~~ the  ^  rain had ceased for a moment & I ~~saw~~  saw the fish play in the waters as I [40]  had done ~~the day bef~~  but ~~four~~ a few  hours before – they had then been observed by  Elizabeth. Nothing is so painful to the human  mind as great & sudden change – The sun | death of William, the execution of Justine,  the murder of Clerval, and lastly of my wife; even  at that moment I knew not that my only  remaining friends were safe from the malignity  of the fiend; my father even now might be  writhing under his grasp, and Ernest might be  dead at his feet. This idea made me  shudder, and recalled me to action. I  started up, and resolved to return to Geneva  with all possible speed.  ¶There were no horses  to be procured, and I must return by the  lake; but the wind was unfavourable,  and [124:]the rain fell in torrents. However, it was  hardly morning, and I might reasonably hope to arrive  by night. I hired  men to row, and took an oar myself, for  I had always experienced relief from mental torment in bodily exercise.  But the overflowing misery I now felt,  and the excess of agitation that I endured,  rendered me incapable of any exertion. I  threw down the oar; and, leaning my head  upon my hands, gave way to every  gloomy idea that arose. If I looked up,  I saw the scenes which were familiar  to me in my happier time, and which I had  contemplated but the day before in the company  of her who was now but a shadow and a  recollection. Tears streamed from my  eyes. The  rain had ceased for a moment, and I  saw the fish play in the waters as they  had done a few  hours before; they had then been observed [125:]by  Elizabeth. Nothing is so painful to the human  mind as a great and sudden change. The sun |

**9]***period between final stroke of* action *and cancel line on* ~~I sta~~ **10]***ink smear on* rn *in* return **18]***canceled* d *in* hope~~d~~ **21]***misformed* m *in* mental*; canceled* strain *could be canceled* pain*; uncrossed* t *in pbs* torment **23]***ink smear above and on* er *in* misery **40]***ink blot on* f *in* fish

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 168)  waste | might shine or the clouds might lower – but  nothing could appear to me as it had done the  day before – ~~Eve~~ A fiend had snatched from  me every hope of future happiness. No crea  ture had ever been so miserable as I was [5]  so frightful an event was single upon  earth.  But why should I dwell upon the  incidents that followed this last over  whelming event – Mine has been a tale [10]  horrors– I have ~~now~~ reached their ac~~h~~me  and what I must now relate can but  be tedious to you now that one by one  my friends were snatched away & I was  left desolate. My own strength is exhausted [15]  & I must tell in few words What remains  of my hideous narration.  I arrived at Geneva. My fathe &  Ernest yet lived but the former was  unable to bear the miserable tidings [20]  that I bore — I see him now excellent  & venerable old man – his eyes wandered  in vacancy for they had lost their  charm & delight – his neice his more  than daughter whom he doated on [25]  with all the affection of a man who  in the decline of life having few affec  more earnestly  tions clings to those that remain. Cursed  ^  Cursed be the fiend that brought misery [30]  on his grey hairs & doomed him to ~~die~~  in ~~misery~~ w~~h~~retchedness. He could not live  under the horrors that were accumu-  lated round him – An applapetic fit was  days [35]  brought on & in a few ~~hours~~ he died  ^ | might shine, or the clouds might lour**†**; but  nothing could appear to me as it had done the  day before. A fiend had snatched from  me every hope of future happiness: no creature  had ever been so miserable as I was;  so frightful an event is single  in the history of man.  ¶But why should I dwell upon the  incidents that followed this last overwhelming  event.**†** Mine has been a tale  of horrors; I have reached their *acme*,  and what I must now relate can but  be tedious to you. Know that, one by one,  my friends were snatched away; I was  left desolate. My own strength is exhausted;  and I must tell, in a few words, what remains  of my hideous narration.  ¶I arrived at Geneva. My father and  [126:]Ernest yet lived; but the former  sunk under the tidings  that I bore. I see him now, excellent  and venerable old man! his eyes wandered  in vacancy, for they had lost their  charm and their delight—his niece, his more  than daughter, whom he doated on  with all that affection which a man feels, who,  in the decline of life, having few affections,  clings more earnestly to those that remain. Cursed,  cursed be the fiend that brought misery  on his grey hairs, and doomed him to  waste in wretchedness! He could not live  under the horrors that were accumulated  around him; an apoplectic fit was  brought on, and in a few days he died |

**entire page]***bleed-through ink marks (from heavily inked words on recto [page 167])* **4]***wet offset ink blots below period and* No *(from* the *on facing folio 77 recto [page 169], line 4)* **10-11]***word(s) omitted between* tale *and* horrors **11]***variant spelling* achme *altered to* acme **12]***crossed* l *in* relate **13]**t *overlays ?*c *in* tedious*;* now *is apparently an error for* know *or* Know **16]***wet offset ink blots above* must *(from cancel line on* ~~been~~ *on facing folio 77 recto [page 169], line 19);* *?stray ink dot after* words *(or ?period preceding miscapitalized* When*)* **18]***misspelled* fathe *(for* father*)* **24]***variant spelling* neice **25-26]***wet offset ink blots between* whom *(line 25) and* affection *(line 26) as well as after* affection *(from pbs* revenge *and from pbs cancel line on* ~~vengeance~~ *on facing folio 77 recto [page 169], lines 31-32)* **32]***misspelled* whretchedness *was corrected by canceling first* h **34]***misspelled* applapetic *(for* apoplectic) **1818 text:1]***variant spellingin draft was altered to* lour *in fair copy (see Dep. c. 534/2, Notebook C1, folio 11 recto [page 123], line 15), in 1818, and in 1823 (II, 213), but* lower *was restored in 1831 (page 177)* **1818 text:10]***period in fair copy (see Dep. c. 534/2, Notebook C1, folio 11 verso [page 124], line 2) and in 1818 was retained in 1823 (II, 213) but was replaced by question mark in 1831 (page 177)*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | in my arms (169  What then became of me? I know  not—I lost sensation & chains & darkness were  the only objects that pressed upon me – some  times indeed I dreamed that I wandered [5]  in flowery meadows & pleasant vales with  the friends of my youth – But I awoke &  found myself in a dungeon. Melancholy  followed but by degrees I regained a clear  conception of my miseries & situation & [10]  was then released from my prison. For  During  they had called me mad & ~~for~~ many  months as I understood a solitary  cell had been my habitation. – ~~But I~~ [15]  ~~might now wander freely~~ But liberty  a I  had been ~~was a~~ useless gift to me had not as I a-  at the same time ~~been~~^  wakened to reason awakened to vengeance. [20]  ^  As ~~pa~~ the memory of past misfortunes  prest upom me I began to ~~f~~ reflect  on ~~of~~ their cause – The monster whom I had  created—the miserable dæmon whom  I had sent abroard in the world for my des [25]  truction — I was possessed by a madening  rage when I thought of him and desired  & ardently prayed that I might have him  a  within my grasp to wreak great & sig [30]  revenge  nal ~~vengeance~~ on his cursed head.  Nor did my hate long confine its  elf to useless wishes; I began to reflect on  the best means of securing him & for [35]  this purpose about a month after my  release I repaired to a criminal judge  in the town & told him that I had an accu  sation to make, that I knew the destroyer  of my family and that I required him [40]  the  to exert his whole authority for ~~his~~ appre | in my arms.  ¶What then became of me? I know  not; I lost sensation, and chains and darkness were  the only objects that pressed upon me. Sometimes,  indeed, I dreamt that I wandered  in flowery [127:]meadows and pleasant vales with  the friends of my youth; but awoke**†**, and  found myself in a dungeon. Melancholy  followed, but by degrees I gained a clear  conception of my miseries and situation, and  was then released from my prison. For  they had called me mad; and during many  months, as I understood, a solitary  cell had been my habitation.  ¶But liberty  had been a useless gift to me had I not, as I awakened  to reason, at the same time awakened to revenge.  As the memory of past misfortunes  pressed upon me, I began to reflect  on their cause—the monster whom I had  created, the miserable dæmon whom  I had sent abroad into the world for my destruction.  I was possessed by a maddening  rage when I thought of him, and desired  and ardently prayed that I might have him  [128:]within my grasp to wreak a great and signal  revenge on his cursed head.  ¶Nor did my hate long confine itself  to useless wishes; I began to reflect on  the best means of securing him; and for  this purpose, about a month after my  release, I repaired to a criminal judge  in the town, and told him that I had an accusation  to make; that I knew the destroyer  of my family; and that I required him  to exert his whole authority for the apprehension |

**upper right corner]***darker area in photofacsimile exaggerates soiling of paper* **13]***?stray line (or ?misplaced cancel line) below ampersand; cancel line is more below than through* for **15]***period on final stroke of* habitation **20]***period on final stroke of* vengeance **22]***variant spelling* prest *(for* pressed*); misspelled* upom **24]**m *altered to* n *in* dæmon **25]***misspelled* abroard *(for* abroad*)* **26]***misspelled* madening **30]**in *added in* within **32]**him *altered to* his *and* cursed head *added; period on final stroke of* head **41]***?mws* the **1818 text:7]***draft* I awoke *(also the reading in fair copy—see Dep. c. 534/2, Notebook C1, folio 12 recto [page 125], lines 13-14) was altered to* awoke *in 1818 (also the reading in 1818 Thomas [see 1818 Rieger, page 196]), but* I awoke *was restored in 1823 (II, 215) and in 1831 (page 178)*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 170) | hension of the murderer.  The magistrate listened ~~to~~ to me with at-  tention & kindness – Be assured, sir, said he no pains  or exertions on my part ~~sha~~ have been or  shall be spared to discover the ~~wretch~~ villain [5]  I thank you, I replied, listen therefore to  deposition make  the ~~a~~ ~~tale~~ I have to ~~relate~~. ~~which~~ It is a indeed a  tale so ~~wonderf~~ strange that I fear you would  not credit it were there not somthing in [10]  truth which however wonderful forces  too  conviction. The story is connected to be mis  taken for a dream & I have no motive  for falsehood. My manner as I said this [15]  ~~wals~~ was impressive but calm; I had formed  in my own heart the resolution to pursue  my destroyer to death & this purpose quieted  provisionally  my agony & reconciled me to life. I now [20]  ^  related my history briefly but with firmness  & precision – marking dates with accuracy  and never deviating into invective or  exclamation. The magistrate appeared at  first perfectly incredulous but as I con [25]  tinued he became ~~be~~ more attentive &  interrested –I saw him sometimes shudder  with horror, at others a lively surprise  ngled  unmi~~xed~~ with disbelief was painted [30]  on his countenance. When I had concluded  my ~~relation I~~ narration I said.  This is the being whom I accuse  and for whose detection & punishment  to [35]  I call upon you exert your whole power  r  It~~is~~ is your duty as a magistate and  ^  I believe & hope your feelings as a man  do not revolt from the execution [40]  those  of ~~your~~ functions on this occasion.—  This address caused a considerable | of the murderer.  ¶The magistrate listened to me with attention  and kindness: “Be assured, sir,” said he, “no pains  or exertions on my part  shall be spared to discover the villain.”  ¶“I thank you,” replied I; “listen, therefore, to  the deposition that I have to make. It is indeed a  tale so strange, that I should fear you would  not credit [129:]it, were there not something in  truth which, however wonderful, forces  conviction. The story is too connected to be mistaken  for a dream, and I have no motive  for falsehood.” My manner, as I thus addressed him,  was impressive, but calm; I had formed  in my own heart a resolution to pursue  my destroyer to death; and this purpose quieted  my agony, and provisionally reconciled me to life. I now  related my history briefly, but with firmness  and precision, marking the dates with accuracy,  and never deviating into invective or  exclamation.  ¶The magistrate appeared at  first perfectly incredulous, but as I continued  he became more attentive and  interested; I saw him sometimes shudder  with horror, at others a lively surprise,  unmingled with disbelief, was painted  on his countenance.  [130:]¶When I had concluded  my narration, I said.**†**  “This is the being whom I accuse,  and for whose detection and punishment  I call upon you to exert your whole power.  It is your duty as a magistrate, and  I believe and hope that your feelings as a man  will not revolt from the execution  of those functions on this occasion.”  ¶This address caused a considerable |

**entire page]***some bleed-through ink marks (from recto [page 169]) and dry offset ink stains (from facing folio 78 recto [page 171])* **1]***possible period on final stroke of* murderer **2]***wet offset ink blots on and above* ate *in* magistrate *(from* story *on facing folio 78 recto [page 171], line 2); uncrossed* t *in canceled* to **3]**ten *added in* tention **6]**I *added before* replied **8]***miswritten (and uncanceled)* a *before* indeed **10]***variant spelling* somthing **13]***wet offset ink blots above* conviction *(from pbs* which *on facing folio 78 recto [page 171], line 12)* **19]***pbs* provisionally *(misspelled as* provisonably *by mws in fair copy—see Dep. c. 534/2, Notebook C1, folio 13 recto [page 127], line 18) was altered to* for an interval *in 1823 (II, 217) and in 1831 (page 179)* **23]***misformed* v *in* invective **24]***period on long final stroke of* exclamation **25]***wet offset ink blots above* r *in* incredulous *(from pbs* or *on facing folio 78 recto [page 171], line 24)* **26]**m *altered to* nt *in* attentive **27]***misspelled* interrested **28]***wet offset ink blots above* others *(from* spotain  *on facing folio 78 recto [page 171], line 28)* **32]***stray mark or fibrous speck after period* **38]**This *altered to* It **40]***?canceled ?stray line before* do*; wet offset ink blot above* do *(from cancel line on* ~~an~~ *on facing folio 78 recto [page 171], line 40);* t *overlays* d *in* revolt **1818 text:32]***period (as in draft) rather than comma or colon after* said *despite evidence of fair copy (Dep.* *c. 534/2, Notebook C1, folio 13 verso [page 128], line 8; see also Appendix A, page 795)*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | change in the phisiognomy of my auditor (171  story  He had heard my ~~tale~~ with that half kind of belief  that is given to a tale of spirits and ghosts but  when he was called upon to act officially in [5]  consequence of it ~~his~~ the whole tide of his incre  dulity returned – He however answered mildly.  I would willingly afford you every aid in  your pursuit; but the creature of whom you  speak appears to have powers which would [10]  put all my exertions to defiance ~~for~~ Who  which  can follow an animal ~~who~~ can traverse  ~~se~~ the sea of ice and inhabit caves & dens  where no man would venture to intrude [15]  But such a wretch, I replied, may be hun  ted like the Chamois & be destroyed like a  beast of prey.  Certainly; but some months have  elapsed since the commission [20]  besides some months have elapsed since  the commission of his crimes & ~~wh~~ no one  may conjecture to what place he has  or region  wandered ~~&~~ what ~~country~~ he may now [25]  inhabit.  I do not doubt, I replied, that he hovers  spot which inhabit  near the ~~place where~~ I ~~live~~ – And if he  ^ ^  has indeed taken refuge in the alps he [30]  may be hunted like the chamois & des  troyed as a beast of prey. But I perceive  your thoughts — you do not credit my  narrative and do not intend to ~~inflict~~  the [35]  pursue my enemy with punishment  that {?~~h~~} is his desert.  As I spoke rage sparkled in my  eyes – The magistrate was intimidated  You are mistaken, said he ~~an~~ I will [40]  in  exert myself and if it is my power to  ^  seize the monster be assured that he | change in the physiognomy of my auditor.  He had heard my story with that half kind of belief  that is given to a tale of spirits and supernatural events; but  when he was called upon to act officially in  consequence, the whole tide of his incredulity  returned. He, however, answered mildly,  “I would willingly afford you every aid in  your pursuit; but the creature of whom you  speak appears to have powers which would  put all my exertions to defiance. [131:]Who  can follow an animal which can traverse  the sea of ice, and inhabit caves and dens,  where no man would venture to intrude?  Besides, some months have elapsed since  the commission of his crimes, and no one  can conjecture to what place he has  wandered, or what region he may now  inhabit.”  ¶“I do not doubt that he hovers  near the spot which I inhabit; and if he  has indeed taken refuge in the Alps, he  may be hunted like the chamois, and destroyed  as a beast of prey. But I perceive  your thoughts: you do not credit my  narrative, and do not intend to  pursue my enemy with the punishment  which is his desert.”  ¶As I spoke, rage sparkled in my  eyes; the magistrate was intimidated;  “You are mistaken,” said he, “I will  [132:]exert myself; and if it is in my power to  seize the monster, be assured that he |

**left edge]***remaining stub (from folio 75)* **1]***variant spelling* phisiognomy*; blotted* o *in* auditor *could be (or possibly had been)* e **3]**the *altered to* that

**16-20]***mws vertical cancel lines; canceled text in lines 16-18 was recast in lines 31-32* **16]***comma below rather than after* d *in* replied **30]***lower-case* a *in* alps **38]***wet offset ink blot after* sparkled *(from cancel line on* It~~is~~ *on facing folio 77 verso [page 170], line 38)*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 172) | shall suffer punishment proportionate to  have  his crimes – But I fear from what you your  be ^  self described to his properties that this will [5]  ^  prove impracticable and that — while every  proper measure is pursued you should  endeavour to make up your mind to a  disappointment  That cannot be– said I wildly—But [10]  will  all that I can say be of little avail; ~~vengeance~~  ^  My revenge is of no moment to you yet while I allow  be  it to a vice I confess that it is the [15]  ^  devouring & only passion of my soul; my  rage is unspeakable when I reflect that  the murderer whom I have turned loose  upon society still exists – ~~I trembled as I spoke~~  ~~this~~ You refuse my just demand – I have [20]  but one resource and I devote myself  either in my life or death to his destruc  tion – ~~I will pursue him~~ I trembled  with excess of agitation as I said this  there was ~~a~~ frenzy in my manner [25]  & something I doubt not of that  which  haughty fierceness ~~that~~ the martyrs of  have to  old were said to possessed — But ~~a~~ a [30]  ^  Genevan magistrate, whose mind was  occupied by far other ideas than  ~~tho~~ those of devo~~te~~tion & ~~heh~~ heroism ~~&~~  this elevation of mind had much the  appearance of madness. He endeavoured [35]  to ~~calm~~ soothe me as a nurse does  a child & reverted to my tale as the  effects of delirium — Man – I cried, how  ignorant art thou in thy pride of  wisdom.– cease you know not what [40]  ~~you speak about~~ it is you say.  I broke from the house & angry &  disturbed retired to meditate some other mode  of action. | shall suffer punishment proportionate to  his crimes. But I fear, from what you have yourself  described to be his properties, that this will  prove impracticable, and that, while every  proper measure is pursued, you should  endeavour to make up your mind to  disappointment.”  ¶“That cannot be; but  all that I can say will be of little avail.  My revenge is of no moment to you; yet, while I allow  it to be a vice, I confess that it is the  devouring and only passion of my soul. My  rage is unspeakable, when I reflect that  the murderer, whom I have turned loose  upon society, still exists.  You refuse my just demand: I have  but one resource; and I devote myself,  either in my life or death, to his destruction.”  [133:]¶I trembled  with excess of agitation as I said this;  there was a phrenzy in my manner,  and something, I doubt not, of that  haughty fierceness, which the martyrs of  old are said to have possessed. But to a  Genevan magistrate, whose mind was  occupied by far other ideas than  those of devotion and heroism,  this elevation of mind had much the  appearance of madness. He endeavoured  to soothe me as a nurse does  a child, and reverted to my tale as the  effects of delirium.  ¶“Man,” I cried, “how  ignorant art thou in thy pride of  wisdom! Cease; you know not what  it is you say.”  ¶I broke from the house angry and  disturbed, and retired to meditate on some other mode  of action. |

**2]***?pbs* have *(compare and contrast interlinear mws* have *in line 29)* **3]**hin *altered to* his **5]**d *added in* described **6]**l *overlays* e *in* impracticable **9]***ligatured* ss *was altered by ?pbs to* s *in* disappointment **12]***mws* what *was altered by ?mws to* all that *(compare and contrast pbs* all *on folio 79 recto [page 173], line 4)* **16]**my *could be* My **18]**lose *altered to* loose **27]***pbs* which **28]**y *?added by ?pbs in* haughty **31]**Genevese *was altered by ?mws to* Genevan *(although it is possible that the alteration was from* Genevan *to* Genevese*)* **33]***misformed and then canceled* tho*; misspelled* devotetion *was corrected by canceling* te **36]***misformed* nu *in* nurse **43]***ink blot below* te *in* meditate