

In the design which accompanies the pathetic ballad, the Paladine is represented at the close of his life overwhelmed with grief for the loss of his mistress. Nothing can rekindle the expiring spark within. In vain his faithful squire strives to awaken his love for the sports of the field by drawing his attention to a heron rising in the air; in vain they lead forth his spirited charger, the neighings of which might revive in him the remembrance of his glorious exploits: — the expiring gaze of the warrior is immovably fixed on the monastery which contains the object of his love.

The lute, the last notes of which had been sounded for her, drops from his powerless hand; — nothing can bind him any longer to a world in which all is to him a dreary void.

The conception of the poetess is admirably embodied in the lithographic design.

The castle of Rolandseck belonged in the 12<sup>th</sup> century to the chapter of Mentz, and was in ruins as early as the reign of the emperor Frederic III., who died in 1493.

### Sigefrey, the Vanquisher of the Dragon.

In the popular traditions of the north we likewise meet with Sigefrey, the hero of the poem of the Niebelungen and vanquisher of Fasner, who had been transformed into a serpent.

According to the tradition which prevails along the Rhine, the cavern in which the dragon, slain by the intrepid Sigefrey, lived, is still to be seen on the south-eastern side of the mountain on which the ruins of the castle of Drachenfels stand. The castle itself was once the residence of a race of Burggraves of the same name, which became extinct in 1580.

The design represents the intrepid knight as just victorious over the formidable dragon, and meeting the

beautiful Gunhilde as she comes from the cave in which the monster had so long detained her a captive. The poem is so fertile in picturesque images, that it would have furnished materials for a whole series of designs. We were however obliged to content ourselves with the one we have offered, illustrative of the principal scene, which, from the fidelity and beauty of its details, can hardly fail to excite a lively interest.

The view from the summit of the Drachenfels, at an elevation of 1055 feet above the level of the sea, is certainly the most enchanting and magnificent which the region of the Rhine, or, perhaps, the whole of Germany, can afford.