



*Glen Branic*

Round the villages they have fig trees growing in the rubbish, lemon trees in the gardens, and fruit trees round the enclosures.

In the neighbourhood of Naples the fields are often covered with elms, the branches supporting vines hanging in festoons between them and under this shade are seen beans, Indian corn, or melons. The country women here are not at all handsome; their physiognomy is harsh, and their complexion of an olive colour; nor is their costume elegant. The small farmers are very poor, and only farm as much land as they can cultivate with their families; that is four or five acres. They keep for themselves only a third of the crop, the remainder belonging to the landlord, to whom it is paid in kind through the hands of his *fattore*. They have no ploughs, and work only with the spade; but the earth being mixed with volcanic ashes is easily stirred, and the occasional showers of ashes from Vesuvius contribute much to fertilise it.