rapidly down to St. Giacomo, and afterwards to Misocco. From St. Bernardin, Misocco is only three leagues, but the actual descent is above 3000 feet. In the course of the descent from St. Bernardin to Misocco, many waterfalls arrest the attention of the traveller: the finest of these is near the bridge of St. Giacomo, where, turning to the left into a wood, and descending a little way on the right bank of the torrent, a very fine and picturesque scene is presented of the Moesa, foaming in its violent descent amidst the rocks, and throwing up a mist, in which a beautiful iris may be seen, under favourable circumstances of time and weather.*

The change is very striking, from the cold, and its restraints upon vegetation on the Bernardin, to the climate immediately below Misocco, where wine and Indian corn are raised, and the mulberry is successfully cultivated for silkworms; various forest-trees luxuriate, and the sun darts his southern rays upon the traveller, who two hours before shivered in the bleak and cold regions of the Alps. Near Misocco, one of the most beautiful scenes in the Grisons is presented, where the valley is closed in by the hill, upon which are the ruins of the castle of Misocco.† On the right is the range of mountains which separate the valleys of Misocco and Calanka; and on the left the precipitous bases of the Monte Roggioni and the Monte Luadre. Down the side of the latter amidst rocks and woods, several cataracts descend into the Moesa, which deeply rolls through a defile on the left of the castle: below the ruins are seen the church of Soazzo and the lower valley of Misocco.‡

* Plate the Third.
† The early history of this castle is obscure, but conjecture has attributed its erection to the Goths, who availed themselves of its commanding situation to guard the pass of the Bernardin against the irruptions of the Franks into Rhetia. It was possessed by the Barons de Sax from 933 to 1482, when it was sold, with the valley of Misocco, to the celebrated and noble Milanese, Trivulzio, under whom the people of the valley became free citizens of the Grisons. He greatly distinguished himself in the wars of Italy in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.
‡ Plate the Fourth.