



"Le discours sur les misères de ce temps", a moving representation of the sufferings of the people in Reformation days.

"Combourg" describes Chateaubriand's joyless childhood in the melancholy Chateau Combourg in the midst of the desolate landscapes of Brittany. "Le discours sur les misères de ce temps" presents a merciless panorama of the want and misery of the people contrasted with the extravagant doings of the rich and great.

It is certainly no mere accident that Decaris should choose such tragic material for his principal works. His inmost nature forces him to seek the very fundamentals and to represent what is worthy of reverence both in his landscapes and in his human figures. The perfect harmony of text and picture in both these books shows that Decaris, in spite of many artistic weaknesses, is a master of illustration.

Why should Decaris, as engraver, devote so much of his creative energy to the illustrating of