

It is a great luxury

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We reached Turin 'by five, and took up our residence at the Hotel de l'Europe. The apartments were princely, superbly furnished, and in the best situation (Piazzo di Castello) of the city. It is a great luxury to arrive at such an hotel; but it must be paid for. After dressing for Sabbath, we read prayers, dined, and retired at ten.

Our chamberwalls are hung with rich crimson silk damask, with white flowers. The chairs and sofa-cushions are of the same, with gilt frames: the curtains en suite,- and the handsome French bed is tastefully furnished with elegantly trimmed and embroidered muslin hangings: all which contributed, together with the softness of the mattress, to prevent our obtaining that rest which a humbler couch might have afforded. The drawing-room is furnished with corresponding elegance; the walls and furniture being covered with blue and white silk damask, over which is drawn fluted sprigged muslin. All is apparently quite new, and seems almost too good for the rough usage of travellers, whose weariness often compels them to disregard the neatness and elegance of their apartments.

Lady Montefiore, Private Journal of a visit to Egypt and Palestine, by way of Italy and the Mediterranean, 1836

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