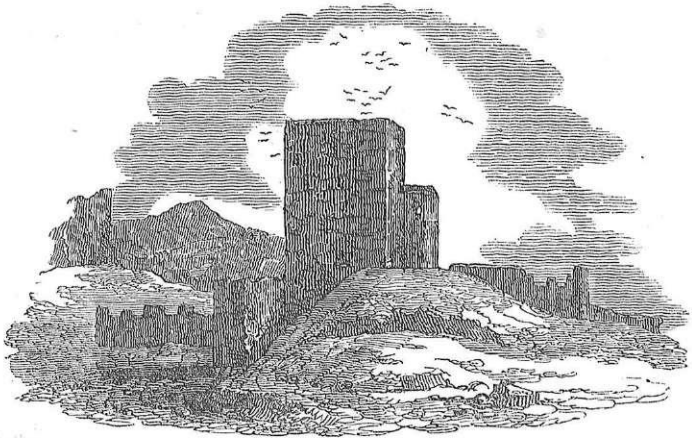

Roman Ruins at Alcala.

TRAVELS

IN

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Muleteer.

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INTRODUCTION.

THOUGH Spain and Portugal are kingdoms totally distinct and independent of each other, there are so many circumstances in their geography and natural features which connect them together, that we shall speak of them in these respects as forming one great peninsula.

Spain is a great country in the south-west of Europe, bounded on the north by the Atlantic Ocean and the mountains of the Pyrenees, which last separate it from France; on the west by the kingdom of Portugal and the Atlantic; on the south by the same ocean and the Mediterranean Sea; and on the east by the Mediterranean Sea.

It extends from longitude 9° 13′ west to 3° 15′ east: and from latitude 36° north to 43° 46′; its greatest breadth from east to west, that is, from the extreme point of Catalonia, east, to that of Cape Finisterre, in Galicia, being 650 miles, and from north to south 550 miles.

Portugal, the most westerly kingdom of the continent of Europe, is bounded by Spain, on the north and east, and by the Atlantic Ocean

on the west and south. It extends from 36° 56′ to 42° 7′ north latitude, and from 7° 34′ to 9° 50′ west longitude; its length from north to south being 350 miles, and its average breadth from east to west 120 miles.

If Portugal were added to Spain, the form of the two together would be nearly square; they constitute a great peninsula, that is, a tract of land almost surrounded by water.

To the south, the Straits of Gibraltar, only 15 miles wide in the narrowest part, separate Spain from Africa.

No country in Europe, except Switzerland, is so mountainous. The Pyrenees, which, as has been mentioned, form its north-eastern boundary, are connected with, or rather continued by, the Cantabrian chain, which extends along the shores of the Bay of Biscay to Cape Finisterre, in the north-west. From about the middle of this, in longitude 4° 15′ west, a great longitudinal range, called the Iberian Mountains, runs across the peninsula, from north to south, in an irregular line, till it ends at Cape de Gata, on the coast of Granada; and from this four lateral chains strike off, extending westward till they terminate at the shore of the Atlantic Ocean.

The peninsula of Spain and Portugal, therefore, possesses in its mountains one grand natural feature. The Cantabrian chain running along from Cape Finisterre, in the west, and meeting the Pyrenees, which continue the ridge of mountains till they end on the shore of the Mediter-

ranean Sea; another chain stretching down through the whole peninsula to the south-east point of Granada, and four others projecting from this last, till they meet the Atlantic in the west. The names of these lateral ridges are, the Sierra, (or Chain) di Guadarama; the Sierra di Gaudalupe; the Sierra di Morena; and the Alpuxarras.

These elevated tracts, which run laterally from the great central chain of the Iberian Mountains, are separated from each other by an extent of comparatively level country, each the bed of a great river which receives all the smaller streams flowing from the mountain ranges that run parallel to its course. Thus on the southern side of the Cantabrian Chain are found the sources of the Minho and the Douro, which run thence into the Atlantic; and into one or other of these flow all the rivers between that chain and the parallel Sierra di Guadarama. Between the mountains of Guadarama and the Sierra di Guadalupe lies the channel of the Tagus, together with all its tributary streams. Between the Sierra di Guadalupe and the Sierra di Morena, is found the river Guadiana; and, lastly, between the Sierra di Morena and the Alpuxarras, the river Guadalquiver, which also discharges its waters into the Atlantic Ocean.

Besides these rivers on the west of the Iberian Mountains, there is one great river on the east, called the Ebro, which flows into the Mediterranean Sea, and receives the waters running into

it from the Pyrenees on the north, and from the Iberian Mountains on the south-east.

Having thus described the *natural* features of Spain and Portugal in their boundaries, mountains, and rivers, the next things to be mentioned are the principal towns ; which in every country possessed of rivers, or washed by the sea, would be in most cases found to lie either upon their banks or on the sea coast, such a position being no doubt suggested by the convenience of water for domestic purposes, or else the superior advantages which it opens for commerce in the carriage of every article of trade. The towns which are so situated shall be mentioned together, when the same river flows through both countries.

On the Minho, which rises in the mountains in the northern part of Galicia, near Mondonedo, lie Orense, in Spain ; Valencia in Portugal.

On the Douro (which rises in the mountains of St. Lorenzo, a part of the Iberian chain, and flowing westward traverses more than half the width of Spain, and the whole width of Portugal, and runs into the Atlantic a little below Oporto,) lie Zamora in Spain, and Oporto in Portugal.

On the Pisverga lies Valladolid ; on the Esla, Leon ; these branches of the Douro flow into it from the north. The tributaries which swell the Douro from the south are the Eresma, on which lies Segovia ; on the Tormes, Salamanca ; on the Agueda, Ciudad Rodrigo.

On the Tagus, the Tajo, or Tejo, the largest river of Spain, (which rises in the mountains of Albaracin, a part of the Iberian Chain, between Arragon and Old Castile, at the distance of only 100 miles from the Mediterranean,) lie Aranjeuz, Toledo, Talavera, and Alcantara in Spain; Abrantes, Santarem, and Lisbon, in Portugal. The Tagus flows into the sea seven miles below the last named city, which is the capital of Portugal.

The river Manzanares is a branch of the Tagus, flowing into it from the north; on its bank stands Madrid, the capital of Spain.

The river Guadiana rises from some lakes in the province of La Mancha, at the foot of the Sierra Morena, in New Castile, and bears at first the name of Ruidera. It soon after disappears by sinking into the ground, and springs up afresh, at several openings, called les Oios di Guadiana; then running westward, it passes by Merida and Badajoz, in Spain, (near the latter of which places it enters Portugal,) and taking a southerly direction, separates the two kingdoms for a certain distance, emptying itself finally into the sea between Ayamonte and Castro Marim.

The Guadalquiver, i. e. the Great River, is one of the largest rivers of Spain, in which country the whole of its course lies; it rises in the province of Granada, at the foot of the Alpuxarras mountains; passes by Cordova, Seville, and San Lucar, and falls into the Atlantic Ocean, about 20 miles north of Cadiz.

The river Xenil, a branch of the Guadalquiver, flows into it from the south-east; it rises in the Alpuxarras; on its banks lies Granada.

On the Ebro, whose course has been already mentioned, lie the following chief towns: Tudela, Saragossa, and Tortosa. The tributary streams which flow into it from the north are the Segre, on which lies Lerida, and the Arragon, on which is Pampeluna. That which flows from the south is Xalon, on which lies Catalayud.

Besides the Ebro there are three rivers of less note, which rise on the eastern side of the Iberian Chain, and flow into the Mediterranean Sea by an easterly course.

The river Segura rises in the borders of Granada, and flows through Murcia; on its banks are built Murcia and Oriheula; it falls into the sea 20 miles south of Alicante.

The Xucar rises in the Sierra di Molina, or Cuenca, and flows past Tarazona.

The Guadalurai rises in the mountains of Cuenca, and falls into the Mediterranean Sea at Valencia.

North of the Ebro, and between that river and the Pyrenees, flows the Ter: Gerona is built on its banks.

Spain is divided into 14 great provinces, Madrid being the capital of the kingdom.

Three on the Bay of Biscay.

Towns not on any remarkable river.

1. Galicia .... Santiago, or Saint Jago
   Corunna
   Ferrol } on the sea coast.
   Vigo
2. Asturias .... Oviedo
3. Biscay ..... Bilboa } on the sea
   Fontarabia } coast.

Three in the basin or low land, which forms the channel of the Ebro, and touches the Pyrenees.

4. Navarre.... Estella
5. Arragon.... Huesca
   Terruel
6. Catalonia ... Tarragona } on the sea
   Barcelona } coast.

Three on the coast of the Mediterranean, between that sea and the mountains of the central ridge, called the Iberian Mountains.

7. Valencia .... Murviedro
   Alicant, on the sea coast.
8. Murcia .... Carthagena, on the sea coast.
9. Granada .... Almeria
   Malaga, on the sea coast.

One in the basin, or low land, through which the Guadalquiver flows.

10. Andalusia.... Cadiz, on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean.
    Osuna
    Lucena.

And four inland.

11. Estramadura..Truxillo
12. Leon.....Astoya
13. Old Castile ...Burgos
14. New Castile....Alcara
Guadalaxara.

To which may be added,

15. The Balearic Isles in the Mediterranean
Majorca...Palma
Minorca...Porto Mahon
Ivica.....Ivica

The population of Spain at the time of the Romans, is said to have amounted to 40 millions. In the 16th century, at the time of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus, it is said to have been 20 millions; at present the number of inhabitants is not more than 12 millions, of whom it is curious to mention, that 478,716 were computed to be nobles; 279,090 servants; 60,000 secular, and 40,000 regular clergy, and 22,300 nuns.

Portugal contains six provinces;

1. Entre Douro e Minho, in the north-west.
2. Tras os Montes, in the north-east.
3. Beira, central.
4. Estramadura, which contains Lisbon, the capital of the kingdom.

5. Alentejo, in the south-east.
6. Algarva, in the south.

The population of the whole of which amounts to nearly 4,000,000.

All the considerable rivers of Portugal have their origin in Spain, as the Douro, the Tagus, and the Guadiana. The mountains are but the continuation of the ridges which cross the Spanish provinces of the peninsula. The most remarkable of these chains, are the Sierra di Estrella, nearly in the centre of Portugal; and the Sierra de Monchique, the extremity of which, Cape St. Vincent, is the south-west point, not only of Portugal, but of the continent of Europe. These mountains have between them a number of picturesque valleys, but the only plains of great extent are, one to the south of the Tagus, and another at the mouth of the Vouga.

TRAVELS

IN

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

It was in the summer of 1813, that a respectable family in North Britain, residing near Dunkeld, in Perthshire, was plunged into the deepest affliction, by reading in the public papers, amongst the killed in Spain, the name of a young man who had entered the army but six months before that period, and who carried the colours of his regiment at the battle of Vittoria. It is very true that in the course of that sanguinary, but successful struggle, which gave the first effectual check to the power of Buonaparte, and led to the subsequent downfal of that ambitious man, many had been called upon by the dispensation of Providence to lament the fall of parent, son, brother, or friend; and therefore such a calamity as that we have mentioned could not be altogether unlooked for by the relatives of those who were engaged in the war; still, however, knowing well how apt we are to hope even when there is no ground for it,

we cannot feel any surprise that when Mr. and Mrs. Grant saw their son depart to join his comrades in the peninsula, they anticipated that he would be one of those who should escape the dangers of the field, and at no distant period receive that promotion which their partial affection led them to expect he would deserve in the profession which he had chosen; they felt, to be sure, some forebodings that they were never to meet again on this side of the grave: but as might be expected, the young man himself had no such gloomy apprehensions in parting from his family, and his ardent sanguine disposition soon made them clothe the distant prospect with a brighter and more cheerful colouring. "Take our blessing with you, my boy," said his father, for his mother was too much affected to speak; "take our blessing with you, and wheresoever placed, remember that our prayers shall be daily, hourly rising before the throne of grace, that you may be preserved, if not from danger, at least from sin; forget not the lessons we have endeavoured to inculcate; forget not that His eye is every where, beholding the evil as well as the good; act always therefore as in His presence, and let it be your constant aim to please Him. We are not anxious to see you great, but we do desire, earnestly desire, to see you good; and remember it is thus only we shall receive pleasure in your life, or consolation in your death." He would have said more, but strong emotions

choked his voice, and he could only press the hand of his son as he accompanied him to the coach, which was to remove him from the paternal roof, and carry him on his way to the place of embarkation.

It is not our intention to follow the young soldier through his short career in the peninsula; it is sufficient to say, that a very short time endeared him to his brother officers, and that not only all the officers, but the privates of his regiment, regretted young Grant, as they laid him and five of his comrades in arms in one grave together. Close upon the information which Lord Wellington's dispatch conveyed through the public papers, came a letter from his colonel, written in such language as a man possessed of a good heart, and who felt as a parent, alone could express. He spoke however as a soldier; "Grant," he said, "had done his duty; he had fallen bravely cheering on the men in a successful charge, and his dying words shewed not only that he thought of home, and those who were dear to him, but that he had a Christian's hope to support him. Had he lived," he concluded "he would have proved an ornament to his profession, and have risen to its highest ranks; and it must ever prove consolatory to his family, that he slept in the field which his valour had contributed to render a field of victory." It is not necessary here to say how far we agree in these sentiments respecting war and military renown; war is un-

questionably an evil, and when men shall thoroughly feel the influence of Christianity, one of the consequences will be, that its sound will no more be heard in the earth. A thirst for military fame doubtless is one of the many ways in which the love of praise will shew itself in a generous mind; but it is our part, uninfluenced by the opinion of the world, to assert the higher objects which religion places before us, and the more peaceful sentiments which the influence of religion suggests:—perhaps no better proof can be given that our views are just, than this, that though the parents of young Grant gratefully acknowledged the attentions of the colonel, and were highly gratified by the intelligence, that he had deserved and obtained the esteem of those who knew him; they felt more comfort, more real consolation under the affliction, in that one assurance, that he had died with "a Christian's hope," than that history would place his name amongst those who had bravely fought and nobly fallen on the field of battle.

These afflicted parents had also another source of consolation; for when is it that the Almighty does not mix up mercy with every dispensation which it pleases his wisdom to send? They had another son at that time rising into manhood, and upon him all their care devolved. He was a young lad of good dispositions, and of a very enquiring mind—and though at one time he felt a great desire to enter the same service in which his elder bro-

ther had fallen, the decided negative given to his wishes by both his parents, at once taught him that he could not hope to overcome their objections; he therefore applied himself to his studies with redoubled assiduity, and having passed through the university at Edinburgh with credit, was now at the age of twenty-two, ready for any profession which his father might choose for his adoption. There was one wish, however, which he earnestly desired previously to gratify, and this once satisfied, he was ready, he said, for any course of life which his parents might point out. I should like, he said, to see something of the world, ere I settle down to those habits of application, which once entered upon, ought not to be interrupted for any trivial cause, and I confess that Spain is of all others the country I most wish to visit; I wish to follow, step by step, the ground my brother trod; to visit the spot where he lies, and to place over it some memorial of affection. One year would be sufficient for this object, and perhaps it would not be unattended with other pleasing results, besides the gratification of my desire to see the grave where my brother is laid.

Such was the plain, but forcible manner in which he urged his request, and it is almost unnecessary to add, that it met with the cordial and affectionate assent of his parents. It recalled the memory of their lost son indeed, and renewed that grief which time and religion had softened, but then it also assured them, that

he who was spared to them was worthy of their warmest affections. To make, therefore, the necessary arrangements, and to hasten the preparations for his departure, they set out for Edinburgh, where Mr. Grant expected to find some friends who could point out the best route for his son to take, and furnish him with those instructions which would make his tour in the peninsula not only pleasant but instructive. There are many snares which beset a young man's path in this wicked world, said Mr. Grant, but we have the comfort of knowing that our son's principles are good: they have religion for their basis, and if we take care to adopt those precautions which prudence and foresight suggest, we may humbly trust that the Being in whose fear our son has been nurtured, will vouchsafe to be his guide and defence.

Every one who knows Scotland is aware of the ties of affection which bind persons, as it was formerly called, of the same *clan* together, and more especially unite the peasantry upon an estate to the landlord under whom they live. The tenant will tell you that this connexion has subsisted for generations past, and been continued on both sides from father to son by reciprocal acts of kindness; whilst a persuasion that, (bearing, as they often do, the same name,) they are in fact descended from the same stocks, cements the union, and makes them look up to their chief, not only as a friend but a parent. His welfare and happiness they

think identified with their own; in promoting his views they consider themselves performing a pleasing duty, and many are the instances on record, and many more the number which have not been recorded, of a faithful and attached clansman endangering and even sacrificing his life in the service of his chieftain. It is scarcely more than eighty years since this feeling was at its height, and even still, though the circumstances of the country have changed, though the progress of civilization has naturally tended to make the wealthy and the noble spend less of their time at home, and rendered the humble class more independent of the great; though the strength of the law, and its impartial administration, giving to the poor all the protection for which they formerly were indebted to their chief; though the transfer of property from hand to hand have contributed to weaken this attachment, still there are parts of Scotland where, notwithstanding the operation of these causes, it exists with unabated strength.

And this was the feeling entertained towards Mr. Grant by his tenantry; a feeling arising, no doubt, from the tie we have mentioned, but kept alive and strengthened by the exemplary manner in which he had fulfilled amongst them the important duties of his station. Blessed with an independent fortune, and enabled thus to follow the dictates of a sound judgment and a benevolent heart, he had ever considered himself, as every estated gentleman ought to do,

but the steward of the Almighty, responsible to Him for the influence he possessed, and the manner in which he exerted it. In all their difficulties, the well-conducted had found him a steady friend, to whom they might look for encouragement, for advice, and protection. To look out, therefore, amongst so many, for one who should accompany his son, rather as an humble friend than a servant, would have proved an easy task, but that other qualifications were necessary besides attachment and fidelity; he must be active, steady, and well-disposed, experienced in the world, and intelligent; one who knew the proper medium between familiarity and servility, who should not only know and love the path of rectitude, but have the courage, if necessary, to advise the young Laird not to quit it for any inducement; and such a person was happily found in Duncan Grant, the foster-brother of Mr. Grant, senior, who had served as a colour-sergeant in the regiment in which the elder son had fallen, and whose eyes he had closed; and after serving in every part of Spain and Portugal where a battle was fought, or a victory won by the British, had returned home on the reduction of the army which followed the peace of 1814, with the reputation of a brave and exemplary soldier, and with his hard-earned pension of 1s. 6d. per day. Fortunately he had no family ties to keep him at home, having never married, and therefore, no sooner were Mr. Grant's wishes made known

to him, than he assented to his proposal with the utmost alacrity and cheerfulness; I would go, said he, to the farthest part of Europe to serve you, how much more willingly to the country where I passed some of the best years of my life, and where I left so many of my brave companions!

The next object which engaged Mr. Grant's attention, was to procure for his son such introductions as would enable him to see the country to the best advantage: and in this also he found no difficulty. Several of his earliest friends were personally acquainted with the British ambassadors, both at Madrid and Lisbon, and to their particular attention they recommended our traveller, describing him as a young man of respectability and promise, who would not prove unworthy of the kindnesses he might receive. Through the same channels also, he procured a letter from a gentleman connected with the Spanish legation in London to his family in Madrid, requesting, that they would not only shew him the usual civilities, but invite him to spend some time with them at their country seat.

It was in the spring of the year 1820, that William Grant and Duncan set sail from the port of Leith, near Edinburgh, for London, where they arrived without any thing remarkable, on the morning of the fourth day after their embarcation. The metropolis of England is well deserving of a stranger's stay: perhaps,

above any city in the whole world, it is calculated to awaken his wonder and admiration. William, however, allowed himself but three days there; in fact, he knew, that should he return safely, it would be always within his reach; whereas, who could tell how long the opportunity of visiting Spain would be open to him? Allowing himself therefore but three days in that wonderful city, during which he waited upon several of his father's friends, from some of whom he received letters to persons in the peninsula, and having provided himself with a supply of money for immediate wants, and an order upon a merchant in Lisbon; and also obtained passports from the Spanish and Portuguese ambassadors, he and Duncan set off in the mail for Falmouth, a sea-port in Cornwall, the most southern county in England, where they found a packet about to sail for Lisbon, and on board it they embarked.

Duncan had often been at sea in the course of his military service, and was therefore quite at his ease on board; but William had to pass through the probation of sea-sickness before he could give his attention to the strange but magnificent objects which surrounded him. He suffered greatly at first, for the wind, which at the beginning of their voyage was favourable, suddenly chopped round, ere they had lost sight of land, and blew a hurricane directly in their teeth, which sent him to his berth, from which he did not stir for the next four days. His

illness, however, was attended with one good result; it brought him and Duncan, who seldom left his side, better acquainted, and gave him an opportunity of discovering the many good qualities of his companion. We have mentioned that Duncan had served through the whole of the peninsular war, and had acquired the character of a good soldier; but it was with extreme pleasure that William found he had not been an inattentive observer either of the country, or the manners of its inhabitants. He had, besides, an endless store of those anecdotes which active service furnishes—the feelings with which a man enters the field of battle; the escape of one, the untimely fall of another, the undaunted bravery of a third, the spirit-stirring sights of thousands standing in hostile array against each other; all these things he could describe, and describe well; and though sometimes he spoke of other scenes—the family driven forth from home by the approach of an enemy, on the eve of an engagement; their comfortable dwellings either burnt to the ground, or perforated with balls and blackened with fire,—these recitals, no doubt, give pain to the hearer; but he who has listened to them can tell how much they interest, and how often we can hear them repeated without feeling any of that dullness, which is proverbially said to attend upon a twice-told tale.

On the 5th day after quitting the English coast, William found himself able to go on deck

and enjoy what he had never seen before, the sight of the great ocean: they were now in that part of the Atlantic which stretches along the western side of France, and is called the Bay of Biscay. It was a calm, the sails flapped useless upon the masts, and the vessel was tossing heavily upon the swell which always prevails there. The sky, however, was bright with the sun, which shone with great lustre, and as he felt no sickness, he leaned over the side, with the feelings of one who was in a new and interesting situation. Nothing was to be seen around but sea and sky, except now and then, when a sea-bird floated past upon the swell, or some huge animal of the deep just shewed his head or back above the surface as he sported about. His ship, he reflected, was alone in the midst of the sea, and many hundred miles were between him and the friends whom he had but a few days before quitted. How religious ought sea-faring men to be! "for they see the wonders of the Lord:" we are all under his providence, but the sailor ought to behold that truth more manifestly, for he knows, that were his vessel to spring a leak, or the storm to drive it against the shore, in a moment he might be in eternity. Such thoughts made William serious, but they were not painful; and he continued for some hours in these silent meditations, till the kind voice of his companion interrupted them, inviting him to go below, and strive to eat something which he had prepared for him.

It was on the tenth morning that the vessel cast anchor in the harbour of Lisbon, nearly abreast of Belem Castle, which stands upon a rock in the Tagus, about a mile from the shore. It was the month of June, the day was fine, even for that climate, and William thought he never saw a more striking prospect. The river is here nine miles broad, and at the northern bank, on which the capital is built, it makes a bold and handsome sweep along the whole extent of the city, which stretches four miles in length, and a mile and a half in breadth. He had hitherto thought the metropolis of his native country the handsomest, in point of situation and general effect, but he was now constrained to acknowledge, that, at least in external appearance, Lisbon far exceeded Edinburgh. The majestic river running immediately under it, the handsome suburbs, which along with the city itself cover several hills, the number of its quays, squares, and streets, which appear in front, the ships which lie at anchor, and fill the shore with a forest of masts, the palaces, convents, and churches, which rise in all directions above the adjoining buildings, the dazzling whiteness of the houses, the light appearance of the windows and balconies, the plants and flowers which cover the roofs, the orange groves which lie beyond, perfuming the air with their fragrance; all these produced an effect on him which cannot be described. Boats from the shore soon crowded round the vessel, and gave him an opportunity

of observing, for the first time, the natives of Portugal. Their dark brown complexion, lean and muscular throats, expressive eye, and white teeth, struck him very forcibly; and the impression was heightened by their costume, which appeared very singular and picturesque to an Englishman, for so the natives of the three kingdoms are known abroad. It consisted of short petticoat trowsers of white linen, a red sash, and a round jacket, the legs and arms being free and naked. In less than an hour, aided by Duncan's local knowledge, and the few words he knew of the language, they were seated in a light cheerful room in the small square of San Paolo, which looked out on the quay. The city of Lisbon lies in west longitude 9° 25′; in north latitude 38° 42′; it is 313 miles west of Madrid, the capital of Spain, and nine miles east of the mouth of the Tagus.

After taking some refreshment and changing his dress, William and his companion, who knew his way perfectly well, having been quartered there for some months, strolled out to see the town. Here every object that he saw, every sound he heard, was a fresh source of wonder and gratification: to find himself walking amidst a concourse of people, differing in features, complexion, and dress, so widely from any thing he had seen before; to hear men, women, and even children, speaking a language of which he did not understand a word; to see the picturesque dress of the peasantry as they passed

through the city, leading a long line of loaded mules, or driving bullock cars, as rude in construction as if they had been made for centuries; to meet the water carriers, the lemonade sellers, soldiers in the uniform of the country, and monks and priests of the various religious orders, clothed in the long habits of their respective communities; whilst here and there some Moorish porters, with their athletic bodies, small turbans, and striking features, were occupied in lifting and carrying immense and weighty packages, all these presented a new and uncommon scene: as they passed along, however, they beheld another kind of sight, which was not so pleasing, a large group of beggars were assembled before the balcony of a magnificent house, some lying indolently stretched on the ground, waiting for the relief which was about to be given to them, and others imploring charity of the passengers by extending the hand. But this, as William found afterwards, was a spectacle which every street in Lisbon presented; mendicants swarm in every quarter, and the police are not sufficiently active to punish those who are able, but not willing, to work for their bread.

Perhaps, however, it is wrong to ascribe the whole of the blame to the inactivity of the police; in every country there will be found a class of people who prefer idleness to industry, and would rather live scantily on casual charity, than eat the bread of honest independence; to relieve such is not an act of benevolence, but an

encouragement of vice; and so long as the public continue so mistaken in their views, and so indifferent to the duties of good citizens and Christians, as to assist such unworthy objects, it matters not, whether it be in London, or Dublin, or Edinburgh, or Lisbon; lazy vagrants will abound, and the police will be unable to restrain mendicity.

On the following day William, attended by Duncan, waited upon the English ambassador, and those friends to whom he had letters of introduction: from the former, he received a general invitation to dinner so long as he should remain in Lisbon: whilst the latter poured their kindness upon him, and volunteered their services in a way, which shewed how desirous they were of rendering his stay agreeable. One of them, Mr. Oliva, a merchant, who had long resided in London, insisted on his taking an apartment in his house, and even himself superintended the removal of his trunks from the hotel in which he lodged.

When William had gone with his companion on the preceding day to take a hasty view of Lisbon, it was under the impression which the first appearance of the town from the sea had made upon him; and this was evidently one which caused him so much pleasure, that Duncan did not choose to weaken it all at once; he had therefore conducted him only through those quays and squares which lay close to the river, and from their open situation were calculated to

strike a stranger. There was something, however, in his countenance, and the coldness with which he listened to William, who said it must be the most beautiful city in Europe, which now and then led him to suppose, that his companion was of an opposite opinion; but he soon dismissed the thought, ascribing his reserve to the national feeling which makes a man sometimes insensible to every thing he sees abroad, merely because it is foreign. On this, the second day of his residence, however, he was to learn that there was a better reason for his reserve. The greater number of the streets were narrow, irregular, and ill-built, and so disgustingly neglected in point of cleanliness, that it is impossible to give any description of the filth which meets one at every step; decayed vegetables, stale provisions, and in short, nuisances of every sort, are suffered to lie in heaps until the rain washes them away, whilst hundreds of dogs, that have no masters, wander about, like so many hungry wolves, raking up the offal which the inhabitants throw out before their doors; a fact the more unpardonable, because with any industry on the part of the inhabitants, it might be made one of the most cleanly towns in Europe. William was too candid not to express to his companion, that these appearances greatly altered his opinion of the city; I blame the people, sir, said Duncan, the more, because they have had an opportunity of contrasting the advantages of cleanliness with the discomfort and the unwholesomeness of the

putrid air we are now breathing. When the French were here, they forced the inhabitants to cleanse the streets, and ordered all the dogs to be shot or removed; so that on the arrival of the British, Lisbon was like one of our own cities; our commander, however, did not think it right, I suppose, to interfere, and I see that they are as bad as ever.

In the course of their walk, they visited several parts of the city which they had not seen the day before. The Rocio, or square of the Inquisition, is fine and spacious, and communicates by three well-built uniform streets with the Praco de Commercio, or place of commerce, where the merchants meet to dispatch their business, under lofty piazzas which run along two sides of it. (In the centre of this last is a fine equestrian statue of John the Great, king of Portugal, in bronze.) Both of these squares, however, want the ornamental shrubbery, which is always found in the centre of such places in Great Britain. One of the three streets above-mentioned, Gold Street, is occupied by the shops of goldsmiths; another, Silver Street, is chiefly inhabited by silversmiths; and the third, by cloth merchants and embroiderers. The shops are small, and the windows have a singular appearance, projecting out from the houses like square glass cases. The houses above the shops are let in separate floors, as in Paris and Edinburgh.

Leaving the square of the Inquisition, they passed close to a large fountain, at which were

collected a number of men, evidently not Portuguese, each provided with a small wooden barrel, which he was filling with water; these, said Duncan, are the industrious gallegos, who come down from the province of Galicia, in the north of Spain, and earn a livelihood by supplying the citizens with water at a trifling cost. I have also heard, that the law obliges each of them to carry one of these vessels filled with water to his lodgings every night, and in case of fire, to hasten with it to assist in extinguishing the flames at the first sound of the fire-bell. They are patterns, added he, of honesty: working the whole day with unremitting patience, and saving as much as they can of their hard-earned pittance, with the hope of returning to spend the evening of their life in the country of their birth. When in quarters here, our officers had many opportunities of proving their honesty, and never did I hear of one of them disappointing his employer, though often entrusted with articles of value. They remind one, said William, of the Highlanders, who in Edinburgh act as porters and carriers. Their honesty also is proverbial; and I believe it would be as hard to find a rogue amongst our poor cuddies as amongst the gallegos of Lisbon.

As they proceeded on their walk, Duncan made Mr. Grant remark the costume of the lower orders, which if they paid more attention to cleanliness, would not be unbecoming. In winter and summer, when they walk abroad,

their dress consists of a long and wide cloth cloak, generally of a brown, black, or scarlet colour, with a deep falling cape, called a capote, which forms a graceful drapery, both to men and women. The latter wear a white muslin handkerchief doubled cornerways, carelessly thrown over their dark hair, and tied under the chin; all above the poorest wear pink, green, or yellow silk shoes, and even white satin and worked stockings, (the latter knitted by the peasants,) even in the miry, and otherwise dirty streets: those a little higher in the scale of society are fond of tawdry finery, but they lay aside their shewy attire when going to their public devotions, exchanging it for a black silk gown and a deep transparent veil of the same colour, which they throw over their heads without any other covering, even in the coldest day in winter.

At half-past three, William returned to Mr. Oliva's house, where he found two neat and well-furnished apartments, a sitting-room and bed-chamber, prepared for his reception: at dinner he sat down with his host and his family, consisting of Mrs. Oliva and three daughters, sensible and well-informed young women; all spoke the English language, and as dinner was served very much in the English style, he almost fancied himself back again in England. Mr. Oliva he found to be a man of information, and the conversation, in which the ladies joined, took a turn at once interesting and instructive.

"The first impression made upon me," said William, when speaking of the city of Lisbon, "as I viewed it from the harbour, was certainly a little altered by nearer inspection; but still, on the whole, I consider it a place calculated to arrest a foreigner's attention. One idea, I must add, has scarcely left my mind the whole day, perhaps produced by having heard of the great calamity which befel it in the year 1755; there is something in the appearance of Lisbon that seems to disclose that it has been subject to earthquakes; here and there I met the ruins of several buildings, which I was told have been suffered to remain just in the same state in which the earthquake left them." "To you, I doubt not," replied Mr. Oliva, "they spoke awfully, but my countrymen are too giddy to reflect, although we have lately had repeated shocks, as if to remind us of that Providence which averts such another calamity." "Can you describe for me," asked William, "that terrific visitation? I have somewhere read an account of it, but it seems as if, being on the very spot where it happened, I could more vividly represent to myself the circumstances." "I can give you the account of it, which I often heard from my father," said Mr. Oliva, "who was himself in the city at the time, and indeed had a most miraculous escape. This fatal calamity happened on the 1st November, 1755, between nine and ten o'clock in the forenoon. The weather was serene the preceding part of the morning, and the sea perfectly calm,

when on a sudden, a noise was heard like a rumbling under ground, which continued for some time, till at last the shocks began. In a very short space of time they were frequently repeated, and then the ground was seen to move up and down, and toss to and fro like the waves of the sea, when they are agitated by a violent storm. The motion at first was not violent, but as it increased by degrees, the floors and ceilings began to crack, the roofs to fall, and at length the foundations to give way. From the ruins of these fallen buildings a prodigious cloud of dust arose, which overwhelmed the city with sudden darkness, but this gradually subsided, and enabled the trembling survivors to see the sun shining brightly over their heads.

"Nothing could equal the confusion which followed; some fled to the churches, others from the churches to their houses, and each seemed to imagine the place in which he was at the moment the most dangerous; some were heard to lament their deceased relations, others were seeking them in vain; whilst by far the greater number were on their knees confessing their sins, and supplicating mercy from the Deity; they thought the day of judgment was approaching; that the earth would gape and swallow up at once the city with its inhabitants; for as every wall was nodding, and a hideous sound still proceeded from the bowels of the earth, nothing they thought could avert their total destruction. At last the ground ceased to move; and they

began to hope that their lives would be safe, when suddenly death appeared in a new and equally awful form—the Tagus had remained smooth and still, but now it rose in a wonderful manner, rushing towards the shore with a dreadful noise, and retiring as quickly; at last a great wave, lifted up by the same kind of convulsion under the sea as had been experienced on land, came on, and prepared to drown all those whom the earthquake had spared. At this sight the people collected on the pier fled, crying out, 'the sea is rushing in;' but it was too late, it rose on the pier, swept away the multitude who stood upon it and the neighbouring houses; so that when it retired, which it did with the same rapid motion, not a trace was to be seen of them.

"But how shall I give you any idea of the sight which Lisbon, a few moments before so populous and flourishing, presented, when the people who were left alive recovered from their alarms! The houses, streets, and alleys were strewed with dead bodies; some had been killed by the falling of walls and arches, whilst a greater number had perished suffocated by the weight of rubbish which covered them; a few were dug out indeed alive, some after remaining four, some six, and others eight days under the ruins, and perhaps many more lives might have been saved, if it had been known where to look for them, or that sufficient number of hands could have been found to remove the stones, bricks, and mortar, which lay on the places where they

were interred: at the lowest calculation it would have taken months to remove them, and therefore after working for ten days or more, it was necessarily abandoned." "I think I read also," said William, "that a great deal of injury was done by the fires which broke out almost at the same instant in different parts of the city. How were they occasioned?" "The earthquake," replied Mr. Oliva, "took place at that hour of the day when all the kitchen fires were lighted against dinner time; and besides, as it was All Saints' day, the altars of every church were lighted up with a fresh number of wax candles, and both rolled against and set fire to, the various inflammable articles, that could not fail to burn their way. To quench the flames there was no water at hand; but even if it had been ever so plentiful, still the town could not have escaped, because every one had fled away from the tumbling ruins to the fields, the sea shore, and the open squares of the city; thus more loss was occasioned than by the earthquake itself, as it consumed all that people had in their houses, which might in a great measure have been dug out of the ruins, if it had not been consumed by the flames." "Was there any calculation made of the numbers who perished?" said William, whose interest had been wound up to the highest pitch by Mr. Oliva's recital: "returns, of course," answered the latter, "were made, and the result appeared to be, that not less than 30,000 people were destroyed; besides 8000 houses and buildings of different

kinds, such as churches, hospitals, convents, nunneries, and other public edifices.

"But I must now relate to you the circumstances of my father's escape, as well as one other well authenticated case of the same kind, which he used always to mention as equally providential with his own. At the time of the earthquake, he was going along one of the streets in his carriage, when he heard the noise which I have said preceded it; at first, he thought it the rolling of some heavy loaded waggon behind him. The shocks, however, that immediately succeeded, soon convinced him of what it was; he jumped out, therefore, and ran under the gateway of a house, thinking it was safer than to remain in a narrow street. He had but just taken shelter under the place, when he saw the opposite building fall upon the chaise, horses, and driver, and crush them to pieces. In about a minute more, the house under which he stood shared the same fate, and struck him senseless to the ground. Upon returning to himself, he found that the house had fallen hollow upon him; though he was confined to so small a compass, that he was able to touch the ruins on all sides with his hand. Having recovered his strength a little, he endeavoured to extricate himself, but so heavy a stone lay upon his body, that he could not shake it off, and his horror was greatly increased, when he found himself lying upon the body of a woman who had taken refuge in the same place, and

been killed by the falling of the house. At last, however, he removed the stone sufficiently to be able to crawl from beneath it; but still his situation was not much changed for the better, as the ruin did not permit him to stand up; after remaining some time in this melancholy situation, he thought he observed at a distance that a little light glimmered through the ruins. To this he immediately crept; and found it to be a small opening between the rubbish. This, by pulling away the stones gently, he gradually enlarged, for no small care was necessary to avoid bringing the whole down upon his head; after much trouble he worked an opening large enough for his body to pass through, and at length escaped with a severe bruise upon his thigh, and some of his ribs broken." "What a dismal sight must have presented itself to his view!" said William. "A fearful sight, indeed!" replied his friend; "the greater part of the city in ruins; people running to and fro, looking for their relatives; the streets covered with the dying, or the dead; and no possibility of giving any assistance. What made him think his escape more providential was, that the fire having broken out in that street, the place where he had taken refuge was one of the first in which it got to any head; so that had his escape been delayed an hour or two, he would have been either burnt or smothered.

"Another escape as providential he used to relate, almost in tears. It was about three

weeks after the calamity, that he was rambling through the ruins, with the hopes of rendering aid to some of the survivors, when a very old woman seized him by the hand with strong emotion, and pointing to a place just by, 'do you see,' said she, 'this cellar? It was only my cellar once; it is now my dwelling, because I have none else left. My house fell whilst I was in it, and here was I shut up for nine whole days, before I was extricated from my dark prison. I should have perished with hunger but for the grapes that I had hung to the ceiling. At the end of nine days, I heard people over my head, who were searching the rubbish. I cried as loud as I could, and they at last heard me, and drew me out.' He asked her what were her thoughts in that dismal situation: was she much frightened? 'I was terrified,' she replied, 'at first, but soon my fears were dispelled; I put my trust in Providence, and patiently awaited my deliverance; which I knew would take place when *He* thought fit. But, alas! I did not know the calamity that had befallen me. I came out unhurt; but what is life to me, now that I have lost all that rendered life sweet? I must now live the short remainder of my days in sorrow, in want, without a friend. My whole family perished! We were thirteen in all, daughter, son-in-law, and grand-children, and now—none left but myself.'"

The conversation which ensued upon this

melancholy narrative now took a very edifying turn, and all Mr. Oliva's family joined in it in a way which satisfied William that they were accustomed thus to improve upon such topics. He himself possessed a fervent and deep-rooted sense of religion. He had been accustomed, from early youth, to trace the supreme Ruler of the universe, not only in his revealed word, but in all his dispensations, his mercies as well as his chastisements; and the present was an occasion peculiarly calculated to call forth all his piety: they spoke of the disposition, (which too much prevails,) to forget the Bestower of all good, even when his gifts are most bountifully dispensed; of the various ways which, in his wisdom, he employs to awaken us to better feelings; the moral good which arises, not to a particular nation, but to every corner of the world, when the news of such a visitation is told; the lesson which it speaks to the present generation, though above seventy years have passed since, and which it will speak to generations yet unborn; whilst William failed not to express the thankfulness which his own countrymen ought to feel at receiving such a striking admonition, at the same time that they were spared the misery which such a calamity produces in the country where it took place. In such conversation they continued for the remainder of the evening, and at length separated for the night, (as people always do who sympathize on these important and most interesting

subjects,) esteeming each other more, from feeling that each was deserving of the other's esteem.

The following day Mr. Oliva took William and Duncan to see the famous aqueduct by which the city is supplied with water, from springs which are three leagues distant from the city. It was built in the year 1738, by Manuel de Maya, and is, perhaps, the noblest work of the kind which has been erected in Europe since the time of the Romans. It consists of a bridge thrown across the valley of Alcantara, which is a quarter of a mile broad. This bridge (supported by thirty-five arches, the centre one of which is 230 feet high, and 107 feet in the span,) conveys the water from the summit of the mountain, which lies on the eastern side of the valley, to the opposite summit, on the western side, from whence it is distributed to all parts of the city. A noble pathway, bordered by solid blocks of stone, leads the foot-passenger across, affording him an opportunity of looking over the parapet down into the valley, where a river passes under the great central arch: over this river a bridge is thrown, and a road leads through the valley, the traveller on which, when viewed by the party from above, seemed diminished considerably in size. The whole of the immense fabric is of fine white marble, dug out of a quarry not a musket-shot distant, and it is no weak proof of the excellence of the masonry,

that it did not receive the least injury from the shocks of the earthquake in 1755.

From the aqueduct, our travellers, accompanied by their kind host, extended their ride to Cintra, a village beautifully situated on the side of a mountain, at the distance of about fifteen miles from Lisbon. It is to the inhabitants of Lisbon what Richmond is to the Londoners, and thither the wealthy citizens, during the summer months, repair on the Saturday night to spend Sunday, returning to Lisbon on the Monday morning; here, also, the English merchants have their country-houses, half hid among the trees of different kinds, corks, elms, oaks, hazels, and walnuts, which clothe the mountain to the summit. As they proceeded slowly along, they had several opportunities of observing, as well as hearing from Mr. Oliva, many instances of that easy courtesy of manner for which the humbler classes on the continent of Europe are remarkable. For instance, a Portuguese peasant, when he walks beside a superior, an aged person, or a stranger, always gives him the right-hand side; he never passes a person on the road, without taking off his hat, and saluting him in these words: "The Lord preserve you for many years;" whilst saluting an acquaintance, they always address him with the hat off, and make inquiries after his little family. "These," as William remarked, "are by no means unimportant circumstances to a stranger,

they shew a people trained to respect their superiors, and taught to consider that respect as a duty; they speak as favourably, also, for the higher, as for the inferior ranks of society, for deference of this kind is never cheerfully paid on one side, unless it is deserved on the other."

"The labouring man in Portugal," said Mr. Oliva, "computes his work from the rising to the setting of the sun, out of which he is allowed half an hour for breakfast, and two hours for dinner, in order to refresh himself with a nap during the noon-day heat. If he labours in the vineyard, he is allowed a good draught of wine at his meals. When his work is over, he tunes his guitar, and joins in the national dance. His life is happy, because he is contented, and he imagines his country the happiest, and Lisbon the greatest city in the world. Thus they say, that he who has not seen Lisbon, has seen nothing; and though they have not the least curiosity to travel from home, they nevertheless think it most strange that foreigners do not come in greater numbers to see the delightful country they inhabit. It would be a vain attempt to set about persuading a Portuguese that he could enjoy such happiness in any other part of the globe; and if chance or misfortune should send him to a foreign land, he pines as if in a state of captivity."

In the evening William profited by the opportunity which it gave him, to make inquiries of

Mr. Oliva into the state of trade and manufactures in Portugal. The latter, he found, consisted chiefly of woollens, silks, and earthenware; but they were in a very backward state, owing to their being carried on in separate cottages, and not in large establishments, where the modern improvements in machinery could be made to aid the labours of the workmen: the commercial intercourse of Portugal, however, was more considerable, as might, indeed, be expected from the connexion existing between it and the empire of Brazil, in South America. "We trade," said Mr. Oliva, "with France, Holland, and other parts of Europe, but our chief dealings are with Great Britain, from whence we obtain almost all the manufactures we want; and hence our import and export trade is, for the most part, in the hands of English merchants, settled in Lisbon and Oporto. The productions we send out are chiefly raw produce, wine, salt, and wool; those we import are corn, flour, fish, woollen cloth, linen, cotton, lace, hardware, hats, shoes, stockings, in short, manufactures of almost every kind that can be supplied by a country like Great Britain, (where the division of labour, and the improvements in machinery, have been carried to such a state of perfection,) to one in which productive industry is still in its infancy." "Your manufactures, indeed, must be in a low state," said William, "if you actually export salt and wool, and receive back the same in

salted fish and woollen cloth, more especially the former, when, with such a line of coast as you possess, Providence, as it were, offers you the means of supplying yourselves with food, and of curing it when caught. I should not, however, wonder at it, when I remember that there was a time, and it is not very distant, when England used to purchase from the Dutch the herrings which that industrious people caught upon the English shores. But why, with such a fertile soil, do you import corn and flour? One would suppose that you could easily grow enough for your own consumption." "You would scarcely ask the question," said Mr. Oliva, "if you knew how little agriculture is understood. Our ground produces wheat, barley, oats, flax, hemp, vines, maize, or Indian corn, rice, olives, oranges, and lemons, and yet our farmers are quite unacquainted with rotations in crops, or even the difference between one kind of soil and another. Our plough is composed of three pieces of wood, encumbered with two clumsy wheels; the harrow and hoe are nearly unknown; and even thrashing is seldom practised, the grain being separated from the straw by trampling it under the feet of oxen, which was the mode adopted by the Jews in the time of Moses, above 3,300 years ago*, and is the same used by the Greeks, in the Morea, at

* "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out the corn." Deut. xxv. 4.

the present day. When I returned," added Mr. Oliva, " to this my native country, after a residence of some years in England, I brought over with me a complete set of farming implements, and thought that, by having them used on a small farm which I rented a few miles from Lisbon, their superiority would be so manifest, that they would soon be adopted throughout the country: but I could find no one who would take the trouble of making himself acquainted with them, and therefore, wearied with the fruitless attempt, I gave up my farm, and, with it, the hope of being instrumental in introducing amongst my countrymen the improvements of English husbandry."

" It strikes me, Sir," said William, " that this indolence of character may be traced to the fertility of the soil." " Unquestionably it may," replied his friend; " and a strong proof it affords us how apt we are to abuse the best gifts of the Almighty. Were the ground less rich, necessity would oblige the farmer to labour more industriously, and make him more disposed to adopt your agricultural improvements. With his rude implements, and with trifling exertion, he can raise a crop sufficient for his pressing wants, and indolence persuades him that he may be content with what satisfied his ancestors before him. This, however, is far removed from that virtuous contentment which, after every needful effort, bears, not only unrepiningly, but cheerfully, the will of Providence." " But how,"

said William, "is this defect of character to be removed?" "My residence in Great Britain," answered Mr. Oliva, "has taught me the only remedy. Amongst you there is a natural independence of character, the result of education, of free institutions, and impartial laws; these prompt every man to think for himself, and not servilely to adopt opinions and customs, solely because they have been the opinions and customs of his forefathers. Manufactures spring up; the spirit of commerce is fostered by wise and liberal regulations; wealth flows in to reward past, and incite to future exertions; whilst the supremacy of law secures to every man, not only personal safety, but the secure possession of the property which he has acquired." "Well, Sir," said William, with great good feeling, "you must allow that we have peculiar advantages, which, in a great measure, account for our prosperity as a nation." "And so have we," said Mr. Oliva; "we have a fine extent of coast, a kindly soil, and noble rivers; we have South America, also, as a market for our industry: but what are all these, unless a spirit of improvement exists amongst the people, and wise and enlightened views direct the energies which rational freedom has called forth? I do not say, because I do not think, that Great Britain has attained to a perfect system; but her people are industrious and intelligent, and so long as they have wisdom to appreciate the bless-

ings they enjoy, they cannot but be prosperous and happy."

With his kind friend, Mr. Oliva, William passed a fortnight, every day acquiring more knowledge of the country, and more insight into the manners of its inhabitants. In the course of this period, also, he made several valuable acquaintances amongst those to whom he had brought letters, and also dined with the British ambassador, who treated him with great kindness and condescension. He now, therefore, prepared for his departure; and as there were neither stage coaches nor postchaises between the two capitals of Lisbon and Madrid, he, by his friend's advice, purchased a small carriage, well hung, and tolerably neat, hiring a couple of mules and a driver, who engaged to conduct him to Madrid in fifteen days. Mr. Oliva would have recommended him a travelling attendant also; but Duncan appeared so much at home amongst the people, and was so well acquainted with the road, and the different places where they were to stop, that it was evidently unnecessary. "If you pass through Lisbon again," said his friends, as he gratefully expressed his sense of their attentions, and took his leave, "remember you have a welcome here; and the longer you stay with us, the more we shall be obliged to you."

As the Madrid road lay at the opposite side of the river Tagus, which we have already men-

tioned to be nine miles wide, William sent his carriage across the day before his departure, and joined it himself, after a passage of three hours in an open boat, being desirous of sleeping at Vendas Novas, which the driver said they could easily reach before six in the evening.

And so it appeared, if William and his companion might judge from the pace at which one of the mules set off, which had evidently never been between shafts before; the moment the rein was given to him, he set off as if it was his intention to get to Madrid without stopping. Mules, however, as Duncan shrewdly said, are like other animals which begin with extreme vehemence, they soon slacken their pace. In less than half an hour he ceased galloping, so that the strangers whom he drew had leisure to observe the country through which they were passing. For about eight miles it was covered with vines at each side of the road, but after this, it changed to a heavy, wide-stretched, sandy plain, thinly scattered with low bushes, and here and there a small thicket of fir-trees, which continued till they reached Vendas Novas, where they slept at a wretched inn, or estalagem. This resting-place, if such it may be called, for travellers, resembles very much, in size and appearance, an English barn. It was very simply divided; at one end was stabling for 50 or 60 mules, and at the other, without any partition between it and the place allotted to the animals, was the kitchen; above was a

large loft, with one or two corners boarded off, which were called bed-chambers, and furnished with mattresses. The stable was filled with mules, the kitchen with muleteers; and as the sleeping-rooms appeared very uninviting, William and Duncan wrapped themselves in their great coats, and slept on chairs. Had the place afforded any better accommodation, they would have hired it; but this is the mode in which people of respectability travel through Spain and Portugal; indeed, the estalagems are chiefly resorted to by muleteers, for whose accommodation, and to divide their journeys more equally, they are often built in spots two or three leagues distant from any town or village.

At this inn, however, bad as it was, William heard something to interest him. One of the muleteers had furnished mules for the British army in the Peninsular war, and Duncan and he soon fell into conversation. He had picked up a good deal of English, and Duncan had a smattering of Portuguese, so that they contrived to understand each other. By his account, the life of the muleteer is one of great hardship. He is ever on the road, exposed to all weathers, and often without shelter during the night. To every three or four mules there is a driver, whose labour in loading and unloading them daily, is not trifling. His food is coarse; a large dish of peas, boiled, with a morsel of pork, a sausage, or some dry salt fish fried in strong oil, are his most common and favourite dishes.

He drinks the wine of the country freely, though not to intoxication, and generally carries a large leathern bottle, or skin bag, filled with it.—He never undresses at night, but sleeps either in the stable with his mules, or on the floor of the kitchen; in the summer more frequently in the open air, with a pack-saddle for his pillow, and a mule-cloth for a blanket. A train of mules is seldom less than fifty in number; but it is not uncommon for two or three to travel together, especially when laden with the same merchandise; and each train has its captain or leader, who is invariably a trust-worthy man of the best character.

The next morning our travellers were on the road at an early hour, intending to get over the dull uninteresting country as quickly as their mules would let them. As they cleared the village of Vendas Novas, their driver drew their attention to a royal palace, or hunting-seat, which John V. had caused to be built, having occasion to sleep there one night! It was half built by torch-light, the men working at it day and night. The road over which they passed was both rugged and steep: but as it lay through a wilderness of evergreens, shrubs, sweet-smelling herbs, among which the gum cistus, with its delicate snow-white flower, and myrtle, were found in abundance, the view was not so dreary. That night they intended to sleep at Estremos, thirty miles from Vendas Novas; but suddenly the sky became overcast,

heavy clouds were observed gathering over the distant hills, and every thing announced a violent fall of rain. For the last five leagues they had not passed a village, a country-house, or a cottage, or even seen a human being, except at Venda du Duque, which was the same kind of inn as that at Vendas Novas; but fortunately they now observed a cottage at some little distance from the road, and made towards it. It was inhabited by a woman who, though her appearance betokened poverty, received them with the most open-hearted cordiality. In a few moments she had the mules unharnessed and under cover, and was making preparations to give the strangers the best she had. She scraped up her little fire, killed and stewed two of the few chickens she had, and, as the rain was now coming down in torrents, spread for them two straw mattresses near the hearth, often expressing a wish that they were better for the sake of her guests. William and Duncan were hungry; and as the road had been rugged, they were tired, and gladly therefore they partook of the food set before them, and lay down upon the humble beds she had prepared for them. They slept soundly, and the next morning when they rose to depart, William offered her some money, with many thanks for her kindness; but to his surprise, she steadily refused it, and that, although the wretched appearance of her hovel, and the clothing of her children indicated great poverty. "Give me no thanks," she said, "I

did nothing more than I ought to do; my own husband was on the road last night, and, when the storm came on, he also knocked at some Christian's door and found shelter." As they went out, William caught one of the little children, and forced into its hand three dollars, saying to Duncan, when we return home, Duncan, this circumstance will prove that hospitality and benevolence are virtues peculiar to no country—they are found wherever the occasion calls them forth.

From Estremos, which they reached to breakfast, to Elvas, eighteen miles distant, the country was beautifully varied; single farm-houses and *quintas*, or country-seats, were observed here and there, with gardens attached to them, in the English style. Their drive, therefore, on the whole was agreeable; and the good humour of our travellers was still more increased by finding excellent accommodation in Elvas, where they had resolved to stop for the night.

This town, the frontier of Portugal, and, on that account, strongly fortified, is situated on the summit of a steep hill, overlooking the plain of the river Guadiana, which is not far distant. It is one of the strong holds of the kingdom, having a fortress which is looked upon as impregnable. The town, however, is old and badly built, having nothing worthy of observation in it save a very fine aqueduct, built, it is said, by the Moors, which conveys water to the inhabitants. It is 112 miles east of Lisbon, long. 6° 52′ west, lat. 38° 44′ north.

Those who have visited foreign countries, know what pleasure is experienced when crossing a chain of mountains, a river, or a channel, the traveller finds himself suddenly in another country. But the feeling was heightened in William by the peculiar circumstances under which he had set out from home. Spain was the spot more interesting to him than any other part of the globe, except his native land, because there his lamented brother had run his brief military career, and to see the place where he had fallen, and where he was interred, was one of the inducements he had for visiting it. Duncan, too, had his own reasons for feeling pleased as he drew near the little river Cava, which divides Spain from Portugal, and is in fact, as William, with the association natural to a Scotchman, called it, the Tweed* of the Peninsula. He had been present at the storming of Badajoz, on the 6th April, 1812; and it was natural for a soldier to revisit with interest the spot where he was conscious he had, as far as individual bravery could do so, contributed to the victory the army in which he served had gained. Badajoz is three leagues from Elvas; and the river which separates the two countries is exactly half way between the two towns.

But though William knew the moment that he placed his foot on Spanish ground, it was in

* The Tweed is the boundary between England and Scotland.

the different features, carriage, costume, language, and manners of every individual he met, that he perceived himself amongst a distinct race.

The countenance of the Spaniard is noble, his stature tall, his walk erect, his deportment reserved and haughty; his manner of speaking is generally grave, but sometimes it is animated beyond expression; and so William found it. But it was at the market-place of Badajoz that he had the opportunity of observing the striking variety of the Spanish costume. The peasant of Estramadura wore a brown jacket without a collar, having sleeves with lace at the shoulders, so that they can be removed at pleasure. They universally wear a red sash and carry a cloak over the left arm. "Look at that man," said Duncan, "with his jacket and waistcoat ornamented with silk lace, and silver filagree buttons; his hair clubbed, and tied with broad black ribbon, and his neat velvet cap; he is an Andalusian. Then again, there is the ass-driver of Cordova, clothed in a complete dress of the tawney brown leather of his native province. That man whom you see selling lemonade, is from Valencia; he has his linen shirt open at the neck, a fancy waistcoat without sleeves, a kilt of white cotton, white stockings rising to the calf of his leg, and sandals." "Were his kilt and stockings of tartan, Duncan," said William, smiling, "we might almost think him a stray Highlander from the banks of the Tay."

"It is not the plaid that makes the Scot, Sir," said Duncan; "but look at those muleteers; you know them by their broad body belts of buff leather; their captains or train masters, with the ancient cartridge belt and old Spanish gun." "And look," said William, "at the style of building—fewer windows to the streets, and most of them grated with long iron bars,—they look like prisons." "These houses," replied Duncan, "have square courts within, neatly dressed as gardens, ornamented with a fountain; and round this court the buildings run, and upon it the windows look out."

The town of Badajoz is the capital of the Spanish province of Estramadura, and lies in a beautiful plain on the river Guadiana; west long. 6° 47′, and north lat. 38° 49′. Outside the gate by which our travellers entered, is a handsome bridge, built in 1596, of twenty-eight arches, and nearly as long as Waterloo-bridge, in London. The population is about 16,000. Being the fortress town on the side of Portugal, and a military station of great importance, William had to present his passport to the military commandant before he could procure accommodation at the inn. This regulation, however, once complied with, Duncan conducted him to the house in which he had himself been billetted in 1812, where they found every thing very comfortable, and what was of great importance, cleanly. In the evening they walked on the Alameda, or public walk, which extends along

the bank of the river, close to the town, and is ornamented with fine poplar trees. Here he saw all the respectable people of Badajoz walking, after their siesta or nap, which they always take after dinner. The dress of the Spanish lady is remarkably elegant. Black is the universal colour; and the gown has deep fringes round the skirt: a mantilla or veil of black silk or lace, and sometimes of white lace, is thrown over the head, which, leaving the face uncovered, falls down on each side, and crosses over the bosom. All dress their feet with neatness, and walk with freedom. The countenance, also, is striking and expressive—large black eyes, dark complexion, approaching to an olive colour, and blood-tinged cheeks. "I prefer, however," said William, "the fair complexion and more timid air of my country-women, as better suited to the gentleness of the female character, though I confess there is something peculiarly imposing in the air and deportment of Spanish women."

On the following day our travellers walked over the fortifications of Badajoz; Duncan pointing out the different places against which the attack of the British was directed; but one point they noticed in particular, where the greatest loss had been experienced; two thousand men had fallen under the fire of the besieged. "There we stood, Sir," said Duncan, pointing to the ground in front, "and there you may still see the mark where the breach has been since repaired; it is remarkable,

that not a man penetrated into the town from this quarter; whole ranks were mowed down by a fire of grape as fast as they advanced, and still they pressed on over the bodies of their companions. The castle, however, was taken by escalade, and another division made its way into the town in an opposite direction, which at length caused the surrender of the place; but had all our efforts been directed here, there is no doubt but we should have failed. The besieged had dug a deep ditch—they had built a breast-work, from which they poured down upon us a destructive fire of musketry; and they planted besides a strong chevaux de frize of sword blades, which would have stopped our progress even if we had succeeded in crossing the ditch and climbing on the parapet." "How happy are we at home," said William, "who only read of these things, and are spared such trials! How grateful should we be to Providence, who keeps far from our shores war and its numerous miseries! I heard," said William, "that after we had gained the place, it was given up to the soldiers to plunder." "Such," said Duncan, "is always the custom when a town is taken by storm, perhaps more from the impossibility at such a moment of restraining the soldiery, excited and inflamed by the danger they have escaped and the opposition that has been made, than from any indifference on the part of our commanders to the calamities it brings upon the inhabitants. You see but

few marks of the violence that ensued when the army entered, for the damage has been all repaired; but I remember when there was scarcely a house that had not been broken open and plundered."

On the following morning after this melancholy survey, William and his companion resumed their journey, having permitted a Spanish gentleman, who was also travelling to the capital, to take a seat in their carriage. He proved sensible and well informed; and as he knew the French language, of which William was also master, they had a great deal of interesting conversation. At first the road lay over a broad and level plain, which extended as far as the eye could reach, though here and there, in the distance, a few blue mountains could be seen. At the end of three leagues, however, the country began to improve; the banks of the Guadiana, along which they travelled, were well cultivated and fertile; and the appearance of the few houses which they met, indicated that comfort and plenty which are the consequences and the reward of industry.

There was one circumstance, however, which struck William with surprise; and it was the more remarkable according as the country began to appear more capable of making a return to the farmer for cultivating it; and that was the great thinness of the population. "We have been travelling," said he to his companion, "for some hours, and we have not met a single vil-

lage; nor, except, now and then, a train of loaded mules, and their drivers—have we seen any thing to mark industry." "A superficial observer," said the Spaniard, "would ascribe this to the unhealthiness of the climate of Estramadura, numbers every year falling victims to fever, produced by stagnant pools, which are now dried up by the heat of the weather, but in autumn and winter send forth unwholesome vapours, and infect the air; but were the land better cultivated, were it drained and made to produce grain and other crops, these marshes would disappear, and the air become as wholesome as in other parts of Spain." "And why," said William, "when the consequences are so mischievous, and the remedy so obvious, why is the evil suffered to continue?" "To account for this," replied his fellow traveller, "I must explain to you the nature of the Mesta, and the reason why so long as that body is suffered to enjoy its privileges, we cannot hope for the introduction of a better system.

"In distant times the mountains of Soria and Segovia, which are part of the Sierra de Guadarama, were, during the summer months, the resort of the neighbouring flocks of sheep. In the winter, however, the cold being too severe for these delicate animals, the owners used to lead them down into the adjacent plains, and there they continued to pasture till the weather became again sufficiently mild to enable them to return. The owners of the

sheep soon converted this convenience into a right, and formed a society which, by degrees, being joined by all those who, upon acquiring flocks, became desirous of enjoying the same privilege of feeding them at the public expense, soon reckoned amongst its members a great number of powerful noblemen, and all those whose wealth consisted in sheep. Thus the space became larger in which the right of pasturage was exercised; and though the people of Estramadura and Andalusia for a long time resisted the encroachment upon their property, they were, unfortunately, unable to overthrow a system which so many noble and wealthy persons were interested in continuing; till at length the Mesta took a bolder tone, and insisted that it would be highly unjust to deprive them of a privilege which they and their ancestors had enjoyed for so many years; forgetting that no lapse of time can make it just for a man to detain that from its owner which had been originally acquired by fraud or violence."

"May I ask you," said William, "to what extent the evil spread: I can imagine it to be great and serious; but I am unable to understand how it could depopulate an extensive district, or paralyse the industry of an entire province?" "You will easily comprehend both when I tell you, that up to the present day millions of sheep descend from the mountains of Old Castile upon the plains of this province, where they remain from October to the fol-

lowing May, feeding, both coming and returning, upon the fields of the inhabitants. The regulations of the Mesta fix a breadth of 240 feet as a road through which they are to pass; and, not satisfied with that, they keep possession of the fields, at the same low rent at which they were let to them a great many years ago; and the proprietors seek in vain to increase it. Thus the unfortunate province of Estramadura, 150 miles long, and 120 broad, that is, nearly half as large as the whole of Ireland, and which could provide subsistence for four millions of people, scarcely contains the fortieth part of that number; nor can it be doubted that this depopulation must be ascribed to the Mesta, since the provinces which are not burdened with this baneful privilege, such as Galicia, the Asturias, and Biscay, in the north of Spain, are very populous."

"Is it not strange, however, that the Government of the country, whose duty it is to watch over and protect the rights of the people, do not correct an abuse so oppressive as well as ruinous?" "The Government," answered the Spaniard, "unfortunately is interested in the support of a system which encourages pasturage at the expense of agriculture, the tax levied on wool bringing in a large sum every year to the exchequer." "It is a short-sighted policy," said William, "for who can doubt that such a district, covered with an industrious population, would contribute more to the State,

than a flock of sheep, however numerous, which can only be fed by keeping it uncultivated ?"

"There are, however," said the Spaniard, "both in this province of Estramadura, and in that of Old Castile, stationary flocks, which never travel, and their wool is affirmed to be fully equal to that of the tras humantes, or wandering flocks. The numbers of the latter are continually varying. About two hundred years ago, they exceeded seven millions; and perhaps, in the present day, are not less than five millions. If we add to this number, eight millions which are always stationary, we shall have a total of thirteen millions.

"I have often met these flocks descending from the mountains, in the beginning of winter, and pursuing their way to the different pasturages; they travel in flocks of 1,000 or 1,200, under the guidance of two shepherds; the chief shepherd is called the Mayoral, the other the Tagal. Each flock belongs to one master, called a *Cavana*, and the whole produce from the wool of each flock is called a pila. The *Cavanas* bear the names of their proprietors; the most numerous are those of Bejar and Negretti, each of which consists of 60,000 sheep. That of the Escurial has 50,000. The duke del Infantado has 40,000. The duke del Bejar and the convents of Guadalupe and Paular, 30,000 each. Prejudice, or custom, makes the wool of certain Cavanas more sought

after than the others. At Guadalaxara, for example, where there is a factory, they employ no wool but that of Negretti, the Escurial, and the Carthusians of Paular.

"Upon the return of the wandering sheep, towards the end of May, the shearing is commenced; an operation of great magnitude, because performed in large buildings, so arranged as to receive whole flocks of forty, fifty, and even sixty thousand sheep. It is a time of festivity for the proprietors, as well as for the workmen; the latter are divided into certain classes, and to each a different branch of the operation is allotted. 125 persons are found requisite to shear 1000 sheep. Every animal yields wool of three kinds, finer or coarser, according to the part of the body from which it is taken. When the shearing is finished, the produce is collected in bales, and carried either to the seaport towns for exportation, without any other operation, or to certain places called washing stations." "We have Merino sheep in England," said William, "and I have always heard that they were brought thither from Spain." "Yes," replied the Spanish gentleman, "numbers are sent over every year into England; and it is a remarkable circumstance, that it is only returning the favour we received; since the very sheep you prize so much, have themselves proceeded from a few English sheep which were sent a present from a king of England to Alfonzo, king of Spain, towards the middle of the fourteenth century—

indeed, the word Merino is a corruption of the word marinas, as being imported over the sea."

The road along which our travellers now passed was undistinguished by any feature to break the dull uniformity of its character. Occasionally they reached a village; but the interval between was generally a plain without trees, and with but little uncultivated land. The town of Merida, however, deserves to be mentioned, as having been formerly the largest Roman city in the peninsula, the circumference being not less than eight miles. At present its boundaries are much abridged, and it does not contain more than 5,000 inhabitants. They entered Merida by a handsome stone bridge, built over the Guadiana by the Romans, and still in excellent preservation, except two arches, which were blown up by the British troops in 1812, in the course of their military operations in Estramadura. These, however, were afterwards repaired. It has 64 arches, and is about 1000 yards long. But it is in other buildings besides the bridge, that the Romans have left their traces; proving to us, that though they were ambitious of being the masters of the known world, they never forgot, by the erection of public works of magnificence or utility, to benefit the people whom they subdued.—Above the city, on an elevated spot, stands a Roman castle, the central area of which is 200 yards square; the ancient walls, though rough and discoloured by age, are still undecayed. In a

plain, also near the city, stand the striking remains of an amphitheatre, in which they used to exhibit games and sports for the amusement of the people. Its form, except in height, is still preserved; the seats appear quite perfect; the vaulted dens where the wild beasts were kept are uninjured, and their arched roofs are as strong as ever; the whole building is of stone, and the Roman cement used in its construction is as hard and as durable as the stone itself. As William and his companions passed from this scene towards the town, they were struck with the lofty ruins of two aqueducts. One of them erected by the Romans, the other by the Moors, who at a subsequent period were masters of the country.

There were other remains of antiquity in Merida, which the travellers visited, which it is not necessary here to describe. They brought the mind back upon the time, many centuries ago, when they were erected; and made them reflect how transitory is the life of man compared even with the works of his hands; how fugitive all earthly grandeur, where nothing remains to tell that these mighty people once were sovereigns of the country, but a bridge or a heap of ruins.

On leaving Merida, they crossed a mountain which, after a tedious drive, led them to Truxillo, formerly the residence of Pizarro, the celebrated conqueror of Peru, in South America. This bold and enterprising soldier, when a boy,

tended swine, and for years earned a livelihood by that humble occupation. He entered the army, however, and soon after distinguished himself by his bravery: at length he became leader of one of the expeditions which were fitted out by Spain for the conquest of South America, just then discovered by Christopher Columbus. In what manner he used his conquest, the sculpture in front of the mansion which was once his residence, and still belongs to his family, sufficiently declares, but in a manner very revolting to a generous mind. Peruvians are seen kneeling and prostrate in all the attitudes of terror and supplication, their wrists and ancles bound with chains, whilst Spanish soldiers, with their drawn swords, appear ready to take away their lives.

It was evening when they passed through Truxillo, but they hoped to reach the ancient and decayed town of Caracujo before nightfall. The mules, however, were tired, and a mistake of the driver caused them to leave the track; so, after proceeding on for about a league, they found they had lost their way: after wandering for some time in the hope of recovering the road, they discovered a fire at a considerable distance, and made towards it: as they approached, three shepherds were standing near it, and keeping in, with some difficulty, two very large dogs, which the approach of strangers had irritated and alarmed. The appearance of these shepherds was singularly picturesque; they wore an

upper dress of sheepskin, with the woolly side outwards, which covered the back and breast, and reached down below the thighs. These are made of white or black skins, according to convenience. Two of the party had white, the other black; two of them were armed with long Spanish guns, for the protection of their flocks, and the other had the ancient crook. Their dogs were of a dun or mouse colour, half bull-dog, half mastiff, but taller and larger than any shepherd dogs that William had ever seen. One of the shepherds went good naturedly some hundred yards with them to set them on the right road. It was very late, however, before they arrived at the end of their day's journey, and the apprehensions they felt at being so late travelling were not a little increased by having to traverse a circuitous and rugged track, through a wood notorious, as they were told by the shepherd, for robbers.

As they proceeded towards Madrid, they passed through the town of Talavera de la Reyna, or, as it is known by the name of Talavera; a place associated to Britons with the victory gained over the French by the duke of Wellington, on July 28, 1809. No traces of the battle, however, were then to be seen in the field where it was fought, and to which Duncan conducted his two fellow-travellers; the green sod covered the remains of the many thousands, French and English, who had fallen

there in the conflict; and, as if their blood had fertilized the land, the crop it was then bearing appeared most abundant.

Talavera was once a flourishing town, famous for its manufacture of silk and porcelain. It is finely situated on the Tagus, in the midst of a beautiful plain: and what made it most unlike the country they had passed through from Badajoz, it was rich in verdure, and adorned with trees and gardens. The houses, however, are low and ill-built, the streets narrow and badly paved. There are two handsome alamedas or public walks, but they were not frequented, the inhabitants, as William's Spanish acquaintance described them, being sunk in apathy and sloth.

From hence to Madrid, the distance of 19 leagues, no object of interest occurred, except that on the road they met a Spanish family of rank travelling, and as it was the first sight of the kind William had seen; he stopped the carriage to observe them. The ladies and female attendants were seated in a large heavy old-fashioned carriage, covered with carved work and richly gilt, like a Lord Mayor's coach. This vehicle was drawn by eight mules, which two men on foot guided by the voice, calling out their names, to which they appeared, by their movements, to answer with great docility. The gentlemen of the party rode with the male servants, all conversing familiarly together; and these last often put their heads into the carriage windows and spoke to the ladies. The freedom

which Spaniards of the wealthier class allow their inferiors to use towards them surprised William; but his companion informed him it was the custom of the country, and never led the latter to forget the respect they owed to those above them. The lower classes, said he, have much natural courtesy, equally removed from servility and presumption.

Madrid, the capital of Spain, is situated in the centre of the kingdom, in New Castile, near the small river Manzanares, about 300 miles from the Mediterranean Sea, on the east, the Straits of Gibraltar, on the south, and the Atlantic Ocean, on the west, in lat. 40° 25′ north, and long. 3° 38′ west. As our travellers approached it, they were disposed to form high expectations of its extent and magnificence. Numerous spires and cupolas promised well, and several large edifices, not deficient in taste, struck the sight. They entered by a magnificent stone bridge, over the river Manzanares, from whence, to the gate of the city, there was a straight and wide avenue of fine trees, which rendered the approach on that side very noble; on their left lay the king's palace, towering over all the country, and having the appearance rather of a mighty fortress than the peaceful residence of a monarch, 100 leagues removed from his frontiers. It looked well, however, being 470 feet in front and depth; and the gardens, being very extensive and well laid out, took away from the heavy appearance of the build-

ing. Proceeding farther, they saw that the streets were narrow and contracted, and that several crooked lanes and blind alleys branched off on both sides, like the worst parts of Edinburgh or Dublin. To the east of this quarter, which was the most ancient part of the city, the streets grew wider, however, and led them to the Plaza Major, situated nearly in the centre of the metropolis; and here they found an excellent hotel, kept by an Italian. The size of the square was not great, being only 370 feet in length, and 287 in breadth; the houses, however, being all five stories high, with a piazza, or covered way, supported by pillars, running along the four sides, and the rows of windows, all of the same height, and provided with uniform iron balconies, across which curtains were thrown to keep off the sun, whose heat was very powerful, produced an effect which was very striking.

The day after William's arrival, he sallied forth, accompanied by Duncan, for the purpose of making his way to the street Montero, where a person resided to whom he had a letter of introduction: he accosted a gentleman, in bad Spanish, to inquire his way, and, to his great pleasure and surprise, was answered in English —the stranger not only conducting him to the house where he was going, but, when he took his leave, inviting him to dine with him—which he very willingly consented to do. The gentleman proved to be one of the post-masters

general, Don Francisco di Puerta, who, having served with the English army in the peninsular war, and been selected to go to London on a mission from the Spanish government, thought it his duty, seeing William's respectable and prepossessing appearance, to return the civilities he had himself received from Englishmen.

He also made a valuable acquaintance in Dr. Harman, the physician who was attached to the British embassy, who had already passed more than two years in the Spanish capital, and was well acquainted, not only with the language, but also with the manners and customs of the people. In the society of these two friends he passed the greatest part of his time while he remained at Madrid, and found their conversation, not merely agreeable, but instructive. They introduced him to several families, by which means he obtained an insight into the domestic habits of the people, which few strangers, passing hastily through a foreign country, could hope to acquire.

Our travellers having entered Madrid from the west, which is the oldest part of it, Don Francisco conducted them to see the eastern part, which is the new city. They passed straight on from the Plaza Major into a kind of square, called Puerta del Sol—Gate of the Sun. It was formerly one of the gates of entrance from the east; but, since the extension of the city in that direction, it is now almost in

the centre of Madrid, and is used as the Exchange: at the time they passed it was crowded with persons, who appeared met, not only for commercial purposes, but to talk about the news. The next street, also, which is a continuation of the former, was also much frequented; it contained several gay and handsome shops. This led them to the street Alcala, which presented a magnificent view. It was long and wide, being formed on both sides by a line of private houses, built of white stone. Upon advancing a little, they came within view of the Prado, or public walk, which extended to a considerable distance on the left, and on the right reached as far as the horizon. It was this latter which William found was the most frequented. The central walk, which was very wide, was called the *Salon*, and at each side of it there were several narrow walks, which, being thickly shaded with elm trees, gave the Prado the appearance of a noble avenue to some royal palace. It was decorated with fountains beautifully ornamented.

Adjoining the Prado are public gardens called las Delicias—these were more frequented than the Prado, because furnished with more shady walks, and cooled by a large basin of limpid water, round which were fountains continually pouring out water, the greatest luxury of a warm climate; and immediately beyond the basin of las Delicias, were some remains of the royal palace of El Retiro, once so famous for the ex-

tent and beauty of its gardens. It was turned into a fortress by the French, who levelled all the trees around it, and made a desert of this once beauteous spot.

On their return from their walk it was nearly two o'clock, and the tradesmen were every where shutting their shops, as William learned, for dinner, and to take their siesta after it. They continue closed from half-past one till half-past three, when business again commences, and the streets fill with passengers.

On that day William dined with his friend, Dr. Harman, who proposed that in the evening they should go together to see the Prado, which at this season of the year is much frequented. The coaches were numerous, and the walks crowded. The former were in two long lines, and moved slowly up and down, the company in them saluting their friends when they met, and stopping to exchange a few words. But besides these, which filled the middle walk, the side walks were crowded with well-dressed people on foot. The ladies, almost without exception, were dressed in black silk gowns, and shawls of various colours, but principally violet. In fact, their costume was the same as that which William had observed at Badajoz. The hats of the men were like those worn in England; but they all wore the large cloak, though it is only in winter they wrap it about their persons—this they do to keep off the great coldness of the north wind, which pierces to

the very heart, producing colds and consumptions, so rapid in their progress, as to carry off the sufferer in three or four days. Hence, at that season, the Spaniards are seen muffled up to the eyes in their cloaks, in order that, by thus covering the lower part of their countenance, they may breathe a warmer air—a precaution almost indispensable to their safety.

"Have you observed," said Don Francisco one day, as they walked together, "the unfavourable situation of Madrid for either industry or trade? When Philip the Second removed his court hither, it was only an obscure town in a naked and barren district—distant from the sea, and even from a good river; for though the Manzanares swells into a torrent when the rains begin, at present, you see, it is an inconsiderable rivulet." "How fine," said William, "is the situation of Merida, the ancient capital of Spain, on the Guadiana!" "There were many fine situations," answered the Spaniard, "which might have been selected, by going only thirty or forty miles southward; but he preferred fixing his capital where he did, influenced, it would appear, merely by the purity of the air and its central situation." "But how do you obtain," said William, "a supply of water even for your domestic purposes?" "The river is always flowing," replied Don Francisco; "so that we have in summer enough, but not to waste it; as the heat increases, it is carefully husbanded, and led into narrow channels, where

several hundred washerwomen are constantly employed. In one of these channels square holes are dug, and little huts covered with mats are erected over them. These are the baths of Madrid. They are struck in the month of September, one after another, unless, perhaps, a single one is suffered to remain until heavy rains cause the river to rise, and to sweep away all vestiges of these summer buildings." "Do the rains come suddenly?" asked William. "They come suddenly," replied Don Francisco, "but not unawares. For several days large clouds collect on the summits of the Guadarama mountains, and announce the heavy rains which are falling near the sources of the river. A few drops even reach as far as Madrid; but in the morning the air, which for several days had been oppressive, becomes cool and refreshing; and the inhabitants, with some satisfaction, desire a stranger to go and see their river, the Manzanares."

After the walk, William dined with Don Francisco, who had asked some company to meet him; and this gave him an opportunity of witnessing, for the second time, the Spanish mode of living, which may be here described. The hour was two o'clock: the repast commenced by serving up the potaheiro, a stew of meat and peas, which is the regular national dish, being served every day at the king's table, as well as that of the humblest mechanic: then came the Gazpacho, another favourite dish, consisting

of bread, oil, vinegar, onions, salt, and red pepper, mixed together with water. These William tasted, but not liking them, he dined on very good beef, with which, and other kinds of meat, dressed after the Spanish fashion, the table was plentifully supplied. Grapes, melons, and peaches of delicious flavour, closed the repast. During dinner the Spaniards drank wine diluted with water; coffee was then served up; after which the company rose to take leave, each retiring to enjoy their siesta.

Though the Spaniard is temperate in the use of strong liquors, there is one custom in which he indulges to excess—he smokes immoderately, and at all hours from his first rising up to the hour of going to bed. They do not use pipes, but smoke the tobacco-leaf itself, rolled up, under the name of a cigar. Those wrapped up in the leaf of the maize are called pachillos, or little straws, and are chiefly used by women, those of the highest rank sometimes using them, even in company.

In the evening, William accompanied his friend to a tertulia, or evening party. He there found the gentlemen assembled in one room, the ladies being in an inner apartment. After refreshments were handed about, the two companies joined, when the ladies took their seats on a bench which ran round the room, close to the wall, the gentlemen standing near those they knew, and conversing with them. Refreshments were then a second time served—after

which the dance commenced, and lasted till a late hour.

Early on the following day, William and Duncan resolved to visit the royal palace, which we have already mentioned as standing at the western extremity of the city, entering from the Lisbon road. They went through the spacious and magnificent apartments—the armoury, containing a curious collection of arms and weapons, and the suits of armour actually worn by those military characters who have figured in the history of Spain—and many other curiosities which it is needless to mention. From thence, having ordered mules for the carriage, they went to see the Escurial, or more properly the monastery and palace of San Lorenzo, distant seven leagues north from Madrid. It was built, in 1563, by Philip II., in obedience to the will of his father, Charles V., in consequence of a vow made after the victory over the French at St. Quentin, on the festival of San Lorenzo, in the year 1557. In honour of the saint, the architect, Bantista, built it in imitation of a gridiron, the instrument on which he suffered: making the royal residence project by way of handle, and representing, not only the bars by a great many parallel divisions, but the legs by four high towers placed in the corners of the edifice. It measures from north to south, 744 feet, and from east to west, 580. Over the gate is a statue of Lorenzo in the vestments of a deacon, holding a book in his left hand, and in his right a gridiron of

gilt bronze. The whole building consists of three principal parts: the first, which occupies the whole breadth, comprehends the grand entrance, the square of the kings, and the temple; the second comprises the southern side, which contains the cells of the monks; the third comprehends the northern side, and is appropriated to the palace and two colleges.

On entering the great gate, our travellers found themselves in the square of the kings, so called from six statues of scriptural kings which it contains, twice as large as life; and it was a curious circumstance, that the six statues, as well as that of San Lorenzo before mentioned, were cut out of the same block of stone. It is more curious still, that as much of the block yet remains as would furnish materials for seven more statues equally large.

Beneath these statues is the principal entrance to the temple, which is a very noble building, and impresses the mind with a strong feeling of religious solemnity and awe. It consists of three aisles; the roof is vaulted, and there are eight compartments of it exquisitely painted by Lucas Jordano. The most interesting subjects of these paintings are, the Conception, the Birth of Christ, and the Adoration of the Angels. The whole building is 320 feet long, by 230 feet wide; the height in proportion.

From the temple our travellers were conducted to the pantheon, which is immediately under the great altar. They entered by a door

of rich wood, and, after descending a flight of twenty-five steps, they came to a landing-place, where is found the entrance to the principal staircase of the pantheon. Over the door is a slab of black Italian marble, upon which is an inscription in letters of gilt bronze, importing that the vault is sacred to the mortal remains of the Catholic kings; that it was directed to be constructed by Charles V., planned by Philip II., begun by Philip III. and finished by Philip IV. Passing this superb entrance, they descended by a staircase of thirty-four marble steps, the landing-place, roof, and sides, cased with jasper marble highly polished, and hung with two massive bronze gilt candelabras. The pantheon, where the remains are deposited, is a circular vault of thirty-six feet diameter, by thirty-eight feet in height. The materials of which the pantheon and chapel adjoining it are formed, are jasper and other marbles of fine polish, filled with ornaments of gilt bronze, in the composite order of architecture; and in all their parts the greatest uniformity and symmetry are observed. In the sides of the pantheon, to which but a very feeble light is admitted, are twenty-six niches, in which are deposited as many sepulchral urns of black marble, with bronze gilt mouldings, supported on lions' claws of bronze; and in the front of which are inscribed the names and titles of the sovereigns whose remains they enclose. In this principal pantheon only crowned kings are interred, and

such queens as continued the succession. The other queens, together with the princes and princesses, are deposited in another less splendid and more crowded vault, which is called the pantheon of the Infantes. "What a lesson," said William to his companion, "does this receptacle for departed monarchs give us upon the vanity and transitory nature of all earthly grandeur!"

From the pantheon, they ascended to the principal library, which is situated over the porch in the square of the kings, and occupies a great extent on that side of the building. Beneath the cornice the sons of Noah are seen building the tower of Babel, where God confounded their languages, and gave them different dialects; and on the opposite side is represented the first school that was ever founded in the world, as far as we know, in which, by order of Nebuchodonosor, the Israelitish and Chaldean boys were collected, in order to learn the Babylonian idiom and other sciences. The book-cases are ranged on both sides between the windows, and contain printed books in all languages. They are mostly bound in parchment; upon their edges, which are all gilt, the titles are written; and for this reason, as well as for that of enabling the librarian to take them out and put them in again with greater facility, the books are placed with the edges outwards. Amongst the curiosities of this library, is preserved with

much care a large folio volume, in which the four Gospels, and certain productions of the Fathers, are written in letters of gold. It was commenced by direction of the emperor Conrad, and finished in the time of his son, Henry II., and is, therefore, at least 780 years old; yet the letters appear as fresh as if they were recently executed. The pages are beautifully illuminated. Another curious volume is also shown, which contains the Apocalypse exquisitely written. At the beginning of each chapter there is an illuminated representation of its contents.

Over this library there is another apartment equally extensive, which is chiefly appropriated to manuscripts in Hebrew, Greek, Arabic, Latin, and other languages. Amongst these are several very ancient Bibles in different languages, particularly a Greek copy, a little injured, which belonged to the emperor Constantine. The total number of the manuscripts is at present estimated at 4,000; and that of printed books, in both libraries, at 24,000.

From the libraries, they descended to the sacristy, which, estimating it by the treasures it contains in paintings, may be considered the most valuable apartment in the building.

Besides the sacristy, there are the principal lower cloisters, the chapel hall, the prior's hall, the vicar's hall, the old chapel, the principal upper cloister, the hall of morality, and other

apartments, in which there are upwards of two hundred and fifty pictures, very many of them by the best Italian and Spanish masters.

One of the most magnificent things in the convent is the principal staircase. It is composed of two parallel flights of steps, each step being formed out of a single block of stone. The vaulted roof, with its fine fresco paintings, is, however, the great object of a stranger's attention. Below the cornice is an animated representation of the battle of St. Quintin, the history of which occupies a portion of three sides of this lofty hall.

As the day was fine, William and his companion, on quitting the Escurial, directed the driver of the carriage to go slowly towards the metropolis, whilst they took a path through a field, which led them under the shade of some lofty elms, and screened them from the heat of the sun. As they were proceeding along, they saw a herd of oxen feeding under the care of a herdsman, and passed them without giving much attention to them, engrossed in conversation upon what they had just seen and heard, the vow of Philip, and the very extraordinary taste of the architect in choosing such a form for the building, when suddenly they heard some voice shouting behind them in a way which attracted their attention, and caused them to look back, when they saw a bull from the herd pursuing them at full gallop; and, it may well be supposed, their alarm was great—Duncan,

because he had often heard of the fierceness of these animals, which, when they quit the rest of their troop in this manner, seldom return till their horns are stained with blood; and William, because in his early youth he had very providentially escaped being gored by an animal of the same kind, in his father's fields. Both, however, knew that it was not by flight that they could hope to escape, the animal's fury being always increased by it. They therefore turned round, and calmly and resolutely waited his approach. And here was seen the devotedness and attachment of Duncan. Ere William knew his purpose, he had stepped before his young laird, resolved, if necessary, to sacrifice his life. Providentially such an act of disinterestedness was not necessary. The bull came in front of them, but instead of rushing to the attack, he made a sudden pause, as if to measure the distance between himself and his victims; at this moment, however, the herdsman struck his hands loudly against a large leathern belt which was round his waist, and such was the influence of training upon the animal, that he wheeled round, and with great rapidity returned towards the herd. William and Duncan now followed him, apprehensive for the herdsman, more especially as they saw the bull bounding towards the spot where he stood awaiting his approach, with an air of resolution which nothing but long practice could give, his arms extended, and crossed at the wrists, and his hands opened

ready to seize the animal's horns, when he should come sufficiently near for that purpose. The bull rushed upon him with tremendous violence; but in an instant he was stretched upon his back. The herdsman had caught him by the horns, and with a sudden twist of his arms had laid him on his back. He then tied around his horns a rope that went through the hole of a large stake fixed in the ground, and, taking the end of it, let the bull go; after which he pulled the rope till he brought his forehead close to the stake, in which state he could do nothing but roar and tear the ground with his feet. The herdsman then, taking a large pole, at the end of which was an iron pin, punished him till he conquered his fury. The danger thus past, our travellers went up to their courageous deliverer, when William gave him five dollars which he had in his pocket. After this he went up to Duncan, and taking his hand, said, with strong feeling, "How shall I ever express to you, my friend, the thanks I owe you for the generous design which Providence alone frustrated?" "It was but my duty," said Duncan, emphatically, "and I hope the time will never come when Duncan Grant will hesitate to endeavour to preserve your life, even at the sacrifice of his own."

Though William had now passed more than a fortnight in the Spanish metropolis, it must not be supposed that he had lost sight of one of the interesting objects which he had proposed to

himself in coming into the country. Between his brother's age and his own there was some years' difference, but the disparity was not so great as to separate them altogether in pursuits and tastes. Up to the time when the former had left home to join his regiment in the Peninsula, the closest fraternal affection had existed between them; and William often called to mind that the last letter which had been received from his brother, bore date the 20th June, 1813, the day before the battle in which he had fallen. The plains of Vittoria, therefore, were always present to his mind; and the wish to visit the spot where his brother's remains were deposited unabated. Let no one reprove this mode of shewing how dearly he held his brother's memory; perhaps there is no one, experiencing such a loss, but would find a melancholy satisfaction in doing the same; and we are quite certain that few could look upon the last home of a brother, without receiving a salutary admonition upon the shortness of human life, and the uncertainty and vanity of all earthly pursuits. Death, except to the very callous, always brings solemn thoughts; but, when a young man stands upon the grave of one who, young and strong as himself, has been suddenly cut off, and by a violent death, he is reminded of that period, when he too must appear before his Creator; and, learning to estimate the present more justly, he also acquires juster thoughts upon a future world, and of his own responsibility.

Resolving, therefore, to set out from Madrid, and to proceed without stopping, except for a few days at Valladolid, upon his pilgrimage of affection, he took leave of Don Francisco, Dr. Harman, and all his other friends, with a sincere expression of his acknowledgments for their kind and hospitable attentions. To the first, particularly, he felt no ordinary return was due, because in his society he had experienced both pleasure and instruction, besides being indebted to him for many attentions too minute to deserve mention, but not the less gratifying to a stranger to receive—indeed, to the last, Don Francisco continued them: he disposed of his carriage in which he had travelled from Lisbon; he had his passports countersigned by the Spanish minister—thus entitling him to claim the kindness and service of the public authorities, should he require them; he placed him under the care of an honest and intelligent calasseiros or mule owner, who engaged to take him the whole way to Vittoria; and even accompanied him some leagues of the way, as if loth to part with a young man whose frank and ingenuous disposition and cultivated mind had won his esteem. Nor could William forget the tone and manner in which, as they parted, he took his hand to bid him farewell, and expressed the Spanish adieu of "Viva mil annos," or, "Live a thousand years," by which the natives convey their hope that the friend whom

they esteem will be blessed with a long and happy life.

The road from Madrid to Segovia, where our travellers intended to rest for the night, lay across the Sierra Guadarama, which separates the kingdoms of Old and New Castile, and in their most elevated points are 8,000 feet above the level of the sea. The ascent to the top of the pass was four miles through mountains which, on their southern side, were bare, brown, and rocky. From the summit, however, the whole country, looking northward to Segovia, appeared as level as the surface of a lake—the foreground of the landscape, however, was majestically wild—large projecting masses of rock—dark and thick plantations of the mountain fir, —torrents rushing down to the plain,—and steep patches of the liveliest verdure. The descent into Old Castile was not less than eight miles; but the day was favourable, and the whole distance from Madrid, which is only 15 leagues, was made in eight hours. On their way they stopped to see the royal palace of San Ildefonso. It occupies three parts of a square, two opposite sides of which being joined each by a range of buildings, and closed in at bottom by iron gates and rails, the whole forms a spacious and beautiful area. The principal front, of 530 feet in length, is to the south, looking to the garden, which is beautifully laid out, and, being contrasted with the ruggedness of the

surrounding scenery, appears still more smiling and soft.

But the most remarkable feature in this truly royal residence, which, with its decorations, &c. cost nearly six millions and a half of our money, and at a time when the same sum was nearly twice as valuable as at present, is the great height at which it stands, 3,800 feet above the level of the sea. "One would imagine," said William to his fellow-traveller, "such a situation would be the last a monarch would choose for his residence—but with such a command of funds, I suppose its builder, Philip V., when in 1721 he bought the barn which then stood upon this site, was determined to shew how far art and cultivation could change the face of a country. I have read," he continued, "that at that time the soil was rugged, barren, and destitute of necessary moisture; but the elevations were levelled, the cavities filled up, the scattered rills of the mountains collected, so as to form a small river,—and we see the result." "Yes," said Duncan: "it looks well certainly, and by Spaniards is considered the eighth wonder of the world; but all the efforts used have not made it as beautiful as nature made a thousand others ready for his hand. Had he chosen the banks of one of the many noble rivers which water Spain, it would have been truly beautiful."

From the palace they went to see the plate-glass manufactory, which is here carried to a

degree of perfection unknown in England. The largest mirrors are cast in a brass frame, 162 inches, or 13½ feet long, 93 inches wide, and six deep, weighing nearly nine tons. "They are designed," said their guide, "wholly for royal palaces, being sent as presents from the king—yet, even for such a purpose, the situation is ill chosen, provisions being dear, fuel scarce, and carriage expensive."

From hence to Segovia, which was two leagues, there was little appearance of cultivation, and the reason was obviously the continual depredations occasioned by the royal deer. As our travellers passed along, they saw great herds of them unconfined, and free to range unobstructed over the whole country.

The town of Segovia is situated upon a rocky eminence between two deep valleys, and surrounded with a wall crowned at intervals with turrets. Its form Duncan immediately remarked to be like that of a ship with its stern turned towards the east. The streets they found narrow, crooked, and in several parts steep; the houses made of wood; but it is for its traces of the Moors, who formerly had possession of the greater part of Spain, that it is chiefly remarkable. Our travellers put up at an inn which had been a magnificent abode, built in the Moorish fashion, besides which, the city contains the Alcazar, or ancient palace of the Moors, now a college for about 100 young men, who are prepared for a military life, and receive

instruction in engineering. But the most striking monument of antiquity in Segovia is the aqueduct, a work built by the Romans, of great antiquity and grandeur. It is 2,400 feet in length, and consists of 159 arches, some of which, when it crosses the valley, are 104 feet high, and is composed of a double row of arches. As they remarked, the stones were put together without cement—notwithstanding which it has withstood the violence of the seasons and other accidents for nearly 2,000 years.

Segovia was once famous for its manufactory of cloth—25,000 pieces having given employment to above 34,000 persons in 1612; at present it only makes 4,000 pieces annually, and has all the appearance of still farther declining.

From Segovia to Valladolid the distance is 60 miles, but the journey did not present any occurrence of interest to deserve mention. Valladolid is situated on the banks of the Esgueva, which divides it into two parts, and of the Pisverga, which bathes its walls. Philip II. made it his occasional residence; and its great square, the houses of which are built upon porticos, still bears the marks of having belonged to those noble families who were attached to the court, though now they are falling rapidly into decay, and, of course, exhibit the appearance of the utmost desolation. Indeed, the inhabitants appeared to partake of the same decline which the buildings manifested. Poverty and misery were painted in their looks and tattered gar-

ments. In the time of the emperor Charles V. the population was estimated at 200,000 souls; at present it does not exceed a tenth of that number.

William had with him a letter from Don Francisco at Madrid to a gentleman at Valladolid, who held an employment under the government, and in consequence was obliged to reside at Valladolid: but he was not aware, until he presented it, that he was destined to find in Don Ignacio Herrera, a friend as kind and cordial as the one he had left behind at Madrid. He insisted on our travellers removing to his house, and remaining with him for some days, in order that he might introduce them to his family; and though William pleaded his desire to proceed on his journey, and his great unwillingness to put him to inconvenience, he was obliged to yield to his pressing and cordial solicitations. Don Ignacio was a pleasing specimen of the Spanish high-bred gentleman. Dignified yet affable—well-informed and polished—the kindness of his disposition appeared upon his forehead, and made our young traveller as much at ease in his society at the end of the first five minutes as if they had been long acquainted with each other. Nor was it possible to observe any of that stateliness and reserve which to strangers appear like haughtiness and pride.

Though Valladolid is at present so much sunk from what it was, it covers a large extent of ground, and at a distance, from the many spires,

domes, and turrets of the churches and convents, might be mistaken for a great metropolis. A large proportion, however, of the ground within the walls is occupied with gardens, squares, and orchards. It contains fifteen parish churches, five chapels of ease, forty-six convents, six hospitals, and seven colleges. Among the colleges there are two for British subjects—one for the Scotch, and the other English. The Scotch occupy the college of Saint Ambrose, and have a magnificent country-house, eight miles from Valladolid, where Don Ignacio and William spent an agreeable day—a pleasure in no small degree enhanced to the latter by his finding amongst the professors some of his own countrymen. He found it proudly situated on a woody eminence overlooking the Douro and the whole plain, with several fine vineyards adjoining. After inspecting the college, they went to the Plaza Major, a spacious and venerable square, yet evidently modern compared with the great body of the city. Here bull-fights, which we shall have another opportunity of describing, were held every three years; and it will give some idea of the popular taste for this amusement, revolting as it is to a stranger, that it is surrounded with three rows of balconies, in which it is computed 24,000 persons might be seated.

In conversing with Don Ignacio upon the declining appearance of the city, the latter explained to his young companion that a canal

had been projected about forty years ago, the completion of which had been delayed, at first, by inertness in the government, and, subsequently, by the unsettled state of the country, but if ever perfected, would not only prove a national benefit, but perhaps restore the city to its former rank and respectability. "The canal," added he, "was to begin at Segovia, and being conducted by a straight line thence to Valladolid, it was to cross the Pisverga hard by at its junction with the Douro—the cut was then intended to be carried to the left of Palencia, and on past Reynosa, where it would communicate with the canal of Arragon, which unites the Mediterranean Sea with the Bay of Biscay—above Palencia, a side branch was to go westward to Zamora, making the whole length 320 miles." "The expense of such a work must be enormous," said William. "You may conceive its magnitude, when I tell you," said Don Ignacio "that the work was actually carried on for sixty miles, commencing at its northern extremity, and cost, with twenty-four locks, three bridges for aqueducts, and one league and a half of open cut through a high mountain, 80,000*l.* sterling, or 1,320*l.* a mile." "I suppose," said William, "it would have opened a communication between places which at present have no market for their produce." "So it was expected," answered Don Ignacio. "It would bring the coals of the Asturias to all the country about us in Valladolid, where, from neglect of

the woods, fuel is extremely scarce; it would encourage the establishment of manufactures in Castile and Leon, which would find a ready sale through the commerce of the Bay of Biscay. The excellent wines of these northern provinces would come down to us; oils, the produce of the olive, which grows so luxuriantly, would fetch their price both for the table, and in the manufacture of soap; and the corn, which now lies upon hands in abundant seasons, would be a source of wealth to the farmer, and stimulate his industry to fresh exertions. For want of such outlets," concluded he, "provinces designed by Providence to rejoice in plenty, and to furnish abundance for exportation, are often reduced to famine, and obliged to purchase corn from the surrounding nations."

At dinner that day, Don Ignacio presented William to his family, consisting of Donna Medora de Herrera and two sons, fine intelligent young lads, who were pursuing their studies under their father's eye, assisted by a domestic tutor, who was an ecclesiastic; they dined at three—took the siesta, which William and Duncan now always indulged in, the great heat of the weather bringing on a drowsiness which was irresistible; afterwards they took a walk upon the alameda, then returned home to coffee and tea, (which last was almost a necessary refreshment in thiswarm climate,) and enjoyed a very agreeable and instructive conversation, till the hour arrived for retiring to rest. William was

asked a great many questions respecting the manners of his highland countrymen—a subject on which, we may suppose, he loved to expatiate—and he asked a great many in return.

Don Ignacio had never been in England, but both he and his sons had so improved the opportunity afforded to them by the English, Irish, and Scotch students who had, at different times, pursued their theological studies at the two colleges, that they spoke the English language, if not with fluency, at least with great purity. William knew but little of Spanish as yet—though he had received instructions in it whilst at Madrid, and was insensibly becoming more accustomed to its sounds—the conversation, therefore, was carried on in his own tongue, and with so much spirit and good sense, that he afterwards told Duncan it was the pleasantest evening he had passed since he had left Dunkeld.

It was now approaching the month of September, the vintage-time of Spain, and in that country a season of great festivity, like the harvest-home of Great Britain, so that William gladly accepted an invitation from Don Ignacio, after they had been a week at Valladolid, to spend a week at his country-seat; and, as he offered to provide him and Duncan with mules, in order that they might join his party, he had thus an opportunity of witnessing a new scene in Spanish life.

On the day of departure from Valladolid, our travellers were ready at the appointed hour in the morning, when they found the cavalcade ready to set out. Don Ignacio's two sons rode first on horses, along with their tutor and Duncan—next came a coche de colleras, or hired travelling carriage, drawn by mules, in which sat Don Ignacio and his lady, William and a relative of the family, an officer in the army, then on leave of absence—after this proceeded a carro mato, or covered waggon, in which the female servants were placed—whilst the rear was brought up by the male servants, riding on asses, not like the miserable little animals we see in Britain, but full-fed and sleek, and nearly of the same height as the horses.

In this little journey, William was exceedingly diverted and surprised with the docility of the mules which drew the carriage, and the agility of their drivers. He had more than once been struck with the intelligence of these animals, and the address of the coachmen, for there were two of them; but, till now, he had no idea to what extent the one could be made to act upon the other. The two coachmen sat on the driving-box, and of the six mules none but the two nearest to the wheels had reins—the four leaders being perfectly at liberty, and governed only by the voice, except when they came to a difficult part of the road, when the third attendant, the groom, or feeder of the mules, ran between the two first, holding them by the halter.

Their heads were gaily ornamented with tufts and hanging strings of different colours, and with little bells, of which each mule has eighteen or twenty. They all knew their names perfectly well, and obeyed the voice with surprising docility,—galloping the whole way, and when they came to a short turning, whether to the right or left, bending to it like a spring. If any one of them, however, failed, the groom sprang in an instant from the box, and, quickly overtaking the offender, threshed him soundly —after which, without stopping their speed, he nimbly regained his seat—taking up the conversation he had been carrying on with his companion at the very word at which he had left off, and finishing it as calmly as if it had not been interrupted.

In this manner they proceeded the whole way, amidst the noise of bells, and the cries of the principal coachman, who never ceases calling out, in a varying tone, the names of the mules, running rapidly over the two first syllables, more slowly on the third, and lingering on the fourth—Coro-ne-laar—Gene-ral-ana—Capito-naera.

In less than two hours the party reached Don Ignacio's country-seat, where they found the vintagers waiting to receive them, to the number of sixty. On the arrival of their master, they welcomed him with shouts of joy, and, falling into a line, preceded the cavalcade to the house, singing one of their country airs, which

they accompanied with the music of the guitar, and the rattling sound of the merry castanet. The pleasure with which they greeted their landlord, and the benevolent smile with which he thanked them for the welcome, shewed the happy terms on which they lived together, and the correctness with which they mutually discharged their duties to each other. Between two and three the next morning they were all stirring, and ready to proceed to the vineyard: the overseers now formed them into parties of four, each placing himself at the head of one, and in this order they proceeded; the women followed with their cymbals, which they began to strike as soon as they left the house, and accompanied themselves with the voice, in which they were joined by all the male vintagers, till they reached the vineyard. Here the singing ceased, the cymbals were laid aside, and the vintagers commenced gathering the grapes; for which purpose each was furnished with a small basket, which he handed to the basket-bearer, who carried it to a larger basket, set at the entrance of the vineyard, into which he threw the grapes. Here the loaders were busy tying these baskets, and loading the mules and asses, which conveyed them to the pressing-places—as soon as these animals were loaded, the trotadores, or trotters, drew from their leather belts a little switch, generally taken from the ash-tree, and applied it to the beasts, so as to make them keep up a constant trot till they reached

the wine-press, from which custom they derive their name.

The wine-press, into which the grapes are put to have their juice squeezed out, has generally three different compartments: one, in which the grapes are actually pressed, standing higher than the others, with a slanting floor, to allow the juice of the grapes to run down into the second, which is a large square vat or kieve, holding in this case above 30,000 gallons; and the third was a kind of room close by the first compartment, where the refuse of the grapes was thrown after being perfectly pressed. The office of the treaders now begins, and this they perform by treading with their naked legs up to their knees in grapes, whilst others carry the wine in skins to the wine-cellars, which are under ground, and contain large casks for holding it.

Such are the various offices of these vintagers, amongst whom the utmost gaiety and good-humour prevail. It was a new and interesting scene to William, to see these poor people returning home at sun-set, after the labour of the day, performing rustic dances, and singing with so much cheerfulness. On their arrival at Don Ignacio's, they all sat round a large fire-place in the kitchen, and received each a large basin of garlic soup, a plate of beans, a piece of cheese, a pound of bread, and a pint of wine, for their supper, or rather for their dinner, as all they had eaten during the day was a piece of

bread and as many grapes as they pleased. The overseers and the treaders, however, had a stew consisting of meat sausages, bacon, beans, and cabbage, which they ate at the table with the steward, who gave out the portions to each with the most scrupulous equality, keeping up an air of great consequence and self-importance.

The manner in which William spent this week was highly gratifying to one who wished to become acquainted with the country through which he was travelling: the fore-part of each day, after the vintage, which has been described, was spent with Don Ignacio in visiting his tenants; and this afforded him an opportunity of discoursing with his friend upon many subjects calculated to give him an insight into the manners and habits of the people. He found, for instance, Don Ignacio full of attachment to his native land, and yet open to those defects of character which prevented his countrymen from profiting by the blessings which Providence had bestowed in a fine climate and a fertile soil. He was, therefore, willing to state his opinions frankly and without reserve, and this readiness to communicate them to William was increased by the friendly feelings he entertained towards the English nation, which he looked upon as having rendered the most essential services to Spain in the late war in the Peninsula; for he subscribed with his whole heart to the well-known adage, Con todo el mundo guerra y pas con Ingleterra, which means, "Though we

should be at war with all the world, let us be at peace with England."

Taking leave of their friends in Don Ignacio's family, our travellers resumed their journey with their guide, (whom William was obliged to compensate for the delay,) being resolved not to halt longer than a night till they should reach Vittoria. The country through which they passed wore a much more cheerful appearance than the district between Segovia and Valladolid. The number of small towns and villages was considerable, and on most of the hills were seen ruined castles and towers, which added greatly to the beauty of the landscape. It was bare of trees, however, though tolerably well cultivated. As they advanced, they saw more timber growing, but the houses were built with sun-dried bricks, which had a mean appearance. On every steeple they saw one or more storks' nests, that bird being regarded with the same superstitious veneration by the inhabitants as in Holland and Turkey. The approach to Burgos (where they slept the second night) up a long valley, chiefly corn land, was pleasing; the castle, the ancient walls sloping down from it, and the cathedral a little below, forming a picturesque termination of the prospect.

Burgos, the capital of Old Castile, situated on the right bank of the Aclancon, a tributary of the Douro, is situated 112 miles north of Madrid, in long. 2° 40′ west, and in north lat. 42° 50′. It was formerly remarkable for its industry,

riches, and commerce: like most of the towns of Spain, however, it now presents an image of poverty, idleness, and depopulation. In its prosperity, it contained 40,000 inhabitants; the present number is reduced to 9,000. Its manufactures, if we except that of leather, scarcely deserve mention; the only branch of active commerce being now confined to the carriage of wool, which, on its way to the northern ports for exportation, must pass through Burgos. The cathedral, a magnificent edifice, is of such extent, that service can be performed in eight different chapels of it at the same time without causing confusion.

As they passed the gates the next morning, leaving the town, William remarked to Duncan, that the British troops had been obliged to retreat from it in the year 1812, after an unsuccessful siege. "Yes, Sir," replied he, "and well I remember that retreat: we suffered more than if we had fought a pitched battle. The cold weather had come on; we were deluged with rain; the roads were deep and miry; and we had repeatedly to ford rivers and streams, some of which were breast-high: if we halted for the night, it was upon ground soaked with wet; no dry wood to be had, and our fires, if any, were smoky and cheerless; in addition to which, we had neither bread, biscuit, nor flour; wet, shivering, perishing with cold, we sat down upon our knapsacks, our guns between our legs, and our heads resting upon our hands." "Did you

sleep in such circumstances?" said William. "Yes," replied Duncan, "and soundly; but in the morning when the order was given to march, our limbs were stiff and benumbed, and for a time we could scarcely move. This is the life of a soldier—how few at home, we often thought, had any idea, when they read of our marching and countermarching, that we were enduring such hardships! besides the risk, every hour, of losing our lives by the enemy; for they followed us close, cutting down or making prisoner every one that left the line, or dropped down through fatigue. I remember, once we thought we had given the French the slip—not one was to be seen, and we thought we might be allowed to cook a dinner, for which a little flour had just been served out; scones, (flat cakes) were the order of the day, for we had plenty of water from the sky, and in a few minutes every man was at work baking for himself—mine, I remember, was mixed, and laid on the fire, and I was promising myself a hearty meal, when, on a sudden, a column of the enemy's horse appeared in view. They were about 2,000 in number, all covered with large white cloaks, and certainly looked remarkably well. Immediately the bugle sounded, and we were obliged to get under arms. How vexatious! thought I, as I snatched my scone from the fire, raw as it was, and hastily thrust it into my haversack, as I fell into rank." "Did they attack you?" asked William. "No." replied Duncan; "it would have been a dan-

gerous thing for a body of cavalry, without artillery, to charge a steady body of infantry—so, after looking at each other for about a quarter of an hour, they suffered us to retire, and eat our raw scones, seasoned with hunger." "My poor brother," said William, "had not joined at that time." "No, sir," answered Duncan; "he came up with us just as we were moving out of our winter quarters to begin the following campaign." "I am glad," said William with a sigh, "that he was spared such suffering as you endured, though, I suppose, the officers were better off than the privates." "Sometimes," replied his companion, "and only sometimes. In quarters, for instance, they were better lodged and had better fare, as might be expected; but in the field, they had their full share of our privations, and they set us an example, too, how to bear them. They lay upon the ground, like ourselves, broiled their morsel of meat upon the point of their swords, or baked their scones, as we did, when no better was to be had—though many of them had been used to feather-beds, and carpeted rooms, and every luxury of life. We may talk, sir, of military fame, and shout for victory, but perhaps the bravest soldiers in an army will, at such moments, heartily acknowledge that it would be happy for mankind if war was unknown, and men could be induced to live at peace together."

In such conversation the journey from Burgos northwards to Vittoria was made; William's

seriousness increasing as he drew nearer, and often looked out with feverish anxiety, when the spires of the town were seen, to try if he could discover by the appearance of the country, the spot on which thousands had fallen. But nothing indicated it. Every thing spoke peace: the vintagers were busy in the vineyards, the roads were filled with peasantry, going to and returning from the town, and not a soldier was to be seen. How infinitely preferable, thought William, such a scene to all the pomp of martial array! how delightful, if men knew what is calculated to conduce to their real happiness!

Vittoria stands partly on the slope of a hill, partly at the entrance of a beautiful valley watered by the river Zadera, which is a branch of the Ebro. It is surrounded by a wall; the streets, however, are narrow and gloomy, the houses being built of a very dark-coloured stone; a considerable degree of industry, however, prevails in it, owing to its being a depot between New Castile and the northern provinces. It has a population of about 6,500.

When William had arranged for himself at the inn, which is in the principal square, he went out of the town, accompanied by Duncan, and with melancholy interest walked over the field of battle. "The appearance of the two armies," said the latter, "was very grand before the action began. We could not have had less than 74,000 men, including Spaniards and Portuguese, while the French had 60,000, besides

a fine corps of artillery. Farther than this I can say nothing; for, once the firing began, we knew little of what was passing, except in our own brigade. We were ordered to charge up the hill which rises above the town, on the summit of which the French were posted with several pieces of artillery, which kept firing as we advanced. The enemy, when in active engagement, kept up a constant but irregular shouting. In our line not a word was to be heard, except the officers keeping the men in—"*steady, lads, steady!*" and that in an under tone. When we got to the foot of the hill, we gave one cheer, and then, silent again, ran up the hill, our guns at the trail; when near the top, we brought them to the charge, the pipes of a Scotch regiment in our brigade playing Hey Johnny Cope, which was a well-known air amongst Highlanders. We drove the French before us, at the point of the bayonet, and formed on the heights. The firing, however, had been very heavy during the engagement, and our loss great, as we could guess by the constant closing in of the line to the right, to fill up the spaces which had been made by the enemy." While Duncan was thus describing the battle, they were walking towards the place, and now stopped on the very summit which had been just described. "Here," said he, "we stood for some time; and I well remember, your brother was still unhurt, for, as I looked round, I saw him within a few yards of me.

But now we experienced a heavy check from a strong column, dressed in great coats, with white covers on their hats, and whom, on that account, we thought to be Spaniards. They gave us a volley which made us retreat, the French being after us; when we reached the bottom, we were preparing to make a stand, when a well-directed volley from another regiment in the brigade stopped our pursuers, and gave us a moment's pause. I was employed to serve out sixty rounds of ammunition to the men, and was going through the line on this service, when I found your brother was no longer to be seen. He had received a ball in the side, in that fatal attack from those we thought friends; and though, on our return up the hill, we found him living and sensible, he did not survive long enough to know that the enemy, flying in all directions, left us in possession of the field. Never," concluded Duncan, "was there a more sorrowful victory. We had marched in the morning 1,000 strong, and in the evening did not muster more than 300; and you may conceive how weary we were, when I tell you that I could scarcely touch my head with my right hand, my shoulder was so bruised by the recoil of my gun, having fired 108 rounds."

William and Duncan had now reached the place where the killed had been interred; but there was no mark to distinguish it, except a gentle rise in the ground, about 100 feet square; neither was there any possibility of William's

knowing the precise spot where his brother's remains rested; French and English, friend and foe, now lay together in one common grave; but Duncan mentioned one circumstance of a cheering nature: the peasantry employed in this service laid the bodies of the British in the grave with their hands crossed, as if in prayer, imagining that the greatest respect they could pay to the remains of those who fought in their cause, was to bury them the same way they did their own countrymen.

When William returned home, he was silent and thoughtful, and occasionally uttered some reflection upon the sorrow war produces amongst those who lose a son, a brother, a parent, or a friend; and the sufferings it brings upon the inhabitants of the country which is the scene of combat. It may be unavoidable in this sinful world; but it is not less, on that account, opposed to the precepts of that Redeemer who came to establish peace on earth. Duncan saw this gloom increasing on him, and therefore, with well-meant efforts, he endeavoured to divert his thoughts into another channel. "I remember once, sir," said he, "to have witnessed a remarkable proof that, the battle once over, those who have been opposed to each other do not feel any personal hostility, but, were the opportunity to present itself, would embrace as friends. It was at Busaco, in Portugal; we had repulsed two desperate attacks of the enemy, and lay upon our arms, expecting

another on the following day: midway between the two armies was a small brook, to which our men went down at intervals for water; the French did the same, so that those who, a few hours before, had appeared actuated with the fiercest enmity against each other, might be seen drinking out of the same narrow stream, and even leaning over to shake hands; and a private in the same regiment with me actually exchanged forage-caps with a Frenchman, as a token of regard and good-will." "Such anecdotes," said William, "disguise, they do not change the horrid features of war; for I myself have read of another incident of a totally opposite nature, which no plea of necessity can in the least palliate. The British troops had entered France across the Pyrenees, and the ruins of the bridge, which had been blown up to stop the pursuit, lay between the armies. Something like what you mentioned occurred; for the French used to come down each evening with their band of music, to play a few tunes. The French centinel was posted on one side of the broken arch, and ours on the other, not five yards asunder. At length it was resolved to ford the stream, and to advance: a detachment was ordered to a certain part of the bank, to cover a party who were raising a battery opposite to the fording-ground. An alarm-gun was to fire, as the signal for the army to cross, and it was also to be the signal for our centinel on the broken bridge to shoot the opposite soldier.

Both were walking from one parapet to another —the Frenchman unconscious of any unusual danger; the other listening, and often looking at his enemy—his heart revolting, no doubt, at the deed he dared not disobey. The great gun at length was fired, and the next moment the Frenchman fell into the river, pierced by a ball. No, no, Duncan, I do not doubt that civilized nations will carry as much humanity into the field as the nature of the service permits. There will be generous actions performed, and many instances of what is called heroism displayed; the prayer for mercy will sometimes arrest the uplifted arm when the victory is won; but in the excitement of a battle, when the danger is so imminent, how can we expect that the better feelings of our nature shall have free room to shew themselves, or that soldiers shall not persuade themselves that self-preservation justifies the shedding of blood?"

We have mentioned that William's intention, when leaving England, was to raise a simple tablet to the memory of his brother; but at that time he erroneously supposed that each soldier was laid in a separate grave: finding it, however, impossible to select a spot where it would be safe from injury, he gave up the plan, resolving to do it in the church which was the burial-place of his family. Let the Spanish nation set up some monument of their gratitude to those who fought against their invaders,

or, rather, let the name of the place be the appropriate memorial of British gallantry.

After staying two days and a part of a third at Vittoria, our travellers set out for Pampeluna, the capital of Navarre, a town containing 14,000 inhabitants, and situated in west long. 1° 40′, and north lat. 42° 49′. The country which they traversed has a bold and interesting character, the road winding through defiles and amidst mountains. In the neighbourhood of the villages, the eye, fatigued with the want of cultivation which the more southerly parts of Spain exhibit, rests with pleasure on vineyards and corn-fields, overhanging each other, on the sloping sides of the mountain, and watered by numerous streams and rivulets. From Pampeluna, by a southerly course, they reached Tudela, 16 leagues distant, and embarked on the canal of Arragon, which commences two miles from the town; their object being to follow the course of the Ebro, in the valley of which their road lay, to the city of Barcelona.

On their way they stopped to visit Zaragoza, which is one of the largest cities in the peninsula, and will be celebrated in the history of Spain for its dreadful sieges in 1808 and 1809, at the beginning of the Peninsular War. This town had no fortifications, or any other means of defence, except the bravery of its inhabitants; so that the French expected it would fall an easy prey to their assault: they were repulsed, however, with loss; on the 28th June

they returned with increased forces, and were again repulsed to the Torrero, a high ground, a mile distant from the city on the south-west; and from this spot they showered down shells and grenades into the city, which set fire to a great many houses, and obliged the inhabitants to retire into the cellars, where alone they could be safe. After a dreadful carnage, they at length established themselves in the heart of the city; but still the spirit of the inhabitants was unconquerable. The batteries were served by men and women: many of the latter sex, also, formed themselves into companies, and might be seen in the midst of the thickest fire, some bringing refreshments to those who were fighting, others carrying off the wounded to the hospitals. On one occasion, when the Spaniards who served a particular battery were slain, or driven from the guns, the French were advancing to take possession of them, when a young woman of the lower class, who had come with refreshments, seeing the emergency, snatched a match from the hand of a dead artillery-man, and fired off a twenty-six pounder, declaring she never would quit the gun alive: at the sight of this the Spaniards rushed forward, and, renewing the fire with greater vigour than before, the French were repulsed at all points with great slaughter. The Spanish gentleman who gave William and his companion this information, and pointed out to them the different parts of the city where the contest had been hottest, de-

clared to them that the Countess Burita, a young and delicate woman, not only exposed herself in the midst of the most tremendous fire of shot and shells, directing the wounded to be removed, but continued her efforts through the whole of the two months during which the siege lasted. Some of the monks bore arms, others paid the last offices to the dead and dying: the nuns were busied in making cartridges: and even children distributed them amongst the people. It was when the French had established themselves in the street called the Cozo, that they addressed a note to Palafox, the Spanish commandant, containing these few words: "Head Quarters, Santa Engracia. Capitulation." The answer to which was equally brief and expressive: "Head Quarters, Zaragoza. War at the knife's point." The engagement was now continued from street to street, from house to house, and from room to room; and it continued thus for eleven days: at length, however, the French, finding that they made no progress, and that the Spaniards were recovering, inch by inch, the ground which they had lost, retired from the city on the 14th of August, after a close investment and bombardment of forty-nine days.

"There was a second siege, however," said Duncan, "in the following year; but we were told that it had a different result." "Yes," said their informant; "in 1809 we were attacked by a powerful army, who, finding that

p. 113.

Hermitage of Santa Ana Montserrat.

the people were not to be tempted into a surrender, and that we were not to be subdued by close fighting, proceeded to destroy the city, by sapping the streets one after the other, while an incessant bombardment was kept up from without; and this continued for forty-two days, during which 17,000 bombs were thrown into the town. Famine and sickness, also, came to the aid of our besiegers, so that we were forced to capitulate; but not until 30,000 of the inhabitants perished, and we had but 2,800 troops fit for service.

From Zaragoza our travellers pursued their way, still by the canal of Arragon, to Lerida, where they arrived in the evening. Lerida is delightfully situated, the surrounding country being one continued garden, covered with corn, vines, and olive trees; its population is about 18,000. From hence to Barcelona was 100 miles, the road passing through Montserrat, famous for its rich Benedictine monastery. William had been recommended by his Spanish acquaintance at Zaragoza to visit this convent, which is built in the nook of a mountain, rising 3,000 feet above the sea; but he was anxious to press on to Barcelona. As he passed below, the rocks which formed this elevation appeared naked of vegetation; but he was told that, viewed at a nearer distance, they enclosed evergreen forests, and glens of romantic beauty. They were four days reaching Barcelona, there being no regular post, which circumstance

obliged them to take the same mules the whole way. The journey, on the whole, however, was pleasant, the advance of autumn, and the approach towards the sea, combining to moderate the intense heat of a southern climate.

They were, also, now, instead of journeying through the defiles of the Spanish mountains, about to behold that noble expanse of waters which, from its position, is called the Mediterranean Sea; which washes the northern shore of Africa, the western coast of Syria, or the Holy Land, the southern and western coast of Turkey in Asia, the whole of the Morea, the western shore of Albania, the peninsula of Italy, the southern shore of France, as well as the east and south coast of Spain. It may well be supposed, therefore, that, like true islanders, they were glad when they saw this noble arm of the ocean, and thought upon the many blessings to which the energy of man has made it subservient—approximating to each other, if we may say so, the four quarters of the world, and enabling the inhabitants of different climates to enjoy the various productions which are peculiar to each. "We have seen," said William to his companion, as they conversed upon the pleasure they were about to enjoy, "we have seen two provinces of Spain, for want of roads and inland navigation, almost enjoying as little commercial intercourse as if they were in different hemispheres, and were separated by an impassable barrier; and we are about to witness the pro-

ductions of countries thousands of miles distant, as plentiful, and almost as cheap, as if the ocean did not flow between them: such are the advantages commerce and the art of navigation have produced."

Catalonia, of which Barcelona is the capital, is a province on the eastern coast of the peninsula, and occupies a surface 132 miles long, and 120 broad; and is bounded on the north by the Pyrenean mountains, on the south by the province of Valencia, and on the west by that of Arragon. Less extensive, and naturally much less fertile, than either of the Castiles, it far surpasses both, and, indeed, every other province of Spain, in the industry of its inhabitants, as well as in the improvement which they have made in manufactures, agriculture, and commerce.

One of the letters of introduction which William had brought with him from England was to the British consul at Barcelona, and therefore, immediately after his arrival, he waited on that gentleman to present it. Mr. Ward was a merchant very largely engaged in commerce, and therefore unable to act the part of a guide to our traveller; but he placed him under the conduct of his son, a well-informed young man, of prepossessing manners, and he added an invitation to his house, where, he said, he would meet a cordial welcome at three o'clock, when he met his family at dinner; he also caused one of his clerks to make the same kind invitation to

Duncan; and it is scarcely necessary to say that the satisfaction with which this worthy follower accepted it was not in the least diminished when he found in Mr. James M'Leod a native of Perth, who could talk with him of home, and recall the scenes in which both of them had spent their boyish days.

On the first day, William and Duncan, accompanied by Mr. Ward, walked about the city, without visiting any of the public buildings or institutions, in order that they might judge, in the first instance, of the boasted advantages of its situation. They found that it stands on a plain, bounded on the north-east by an amphitheatre of hills; whilst, on the south-west, a lofty mountain shelters it from the unwholesome winds which blow over the marshes which lie in that direction; to the north, the coast, projecting into the sea, forms a noble bay; and the Mediterranean Sea closes the prospect on the east. The form of the city, Mr. Ward made them remark, is almost circular, being built round the old Roman town, which occupied a small eminence in the centre, where they saw traces of the ancient walls. They then walked to Barcelonetta, or the new town, which was built in 1760, upon the neck of land which runs out into the sea on the south-east; it consists of four and twenty regular streets, twenty-five feet in breadth, intersecting each other at right angles, and forming a perfect square. From thence they went to the port, which is a basin formed

by piers, in which vessels lie secure and sheltered from storms: a great impediment to the approach of large ships to the town arises from a bar of sand, which lies at the entrance into the harbour, and has only twelve feet water. "At high tide, however," said William to his new friend, "I suppose the depth is greater." "When the wind," replied Mr. Ward, "blows in a particular direction, it causes the water to rise a little, but in the Mediterranean Sea the tides are feeble and irregular. Here, however, may be seen ships of all nations, the number annually entering the harbour being about 2,000."

This gave William an opportunity of enquiring into the commerce of Barcelona, a subject on which Mr. Ward was able to give him accurate information. "Our exports," he said, "consist of the precious metals, silks, woollens, flowered cottons and calicoes, lace, shoes, firearms, cork, fruit, wines, and brandies; of shoes we export 700,000 pairs annually, but the price is not so high as in England, our shoemakers think it enough to receive *2s. 1d.* a pair." "Are your woollen manufactures in a forward state?" asked William. "Yes," replied Mr. Ward; "we ship about half a million's worth every year; but that does not prevent our receiving large consignments from England of cloth and cottons, those which we make being only of a certain fineness and pattern. In return for these, we receive silks from Lyons and

Nismes in France; jewellery from Paris; wax from Africa; and hardware, corn, oil of vitriol, besides the goods I have mentioned, from Great Britain." "I was told, sir," said Duncan, "that the tailors and shoemakers of Barcelona are famous." "They form the two principal trades here," replied Mr. Ward; "and it is a curious fact, that we supply all the rest of Spain with them." "It is not the only instance," said William, "of a place furnishing particular kinds of workmen, whose skill in their several branches becomes proverbial. I have heard that all the bricklayers' labourers in London are Irishmen: and I know that Scotland sends out the best gardeners." "Yes," said Mr. Ward; "and I may also add, that Savoyards, from Savoy, in Italy, have monopolized chimney-sweeping in Paris; whilst there is a district of Switzerland, in the Grisons, called Engadina, which supplies Germany with coffee-house keepers and confectioners. Our other principal trades," resumed Mr. Ward, "are silk-weavers, cutlers, armourers, and cabinet-makers; every trade having its particular district to reside in."

Mr. Ward now took them along the pier or mole, which forms the sides of the basin in which the shipping is moored. It was of hewn stone, and a masterpiece of solidity and convenience. Above was a platform for carriages, and below extensive magazines for merchandise. But a far nobler improvement was the great walk constructed by the Marquess de la Mura, about

sixty years ago, which extends upon the ramparts the whole length of the harbour; like the other, it is built upon arches, with stores below, and a broad coach-road and foot-path above.

As they walked through the old town, on their return, the streets appeared, for the most part, narrow and crooked: in the new town, as we have seen, they are sufficiently broad and handsome; they are paved with square flat stones, which, if kept in good repair, would be extremely convenient, from the facility with which they could be kept clean; they are suffered, however, to sink and form inequalities in the surface, in which, in wet weather, the water lodges and becomes stagnant. The houses are plain, but lofty; the fronts are painted in fresco, and, being ornamented with balconies, present a pleasing appearance. The population of the place is probably not under 150,000.

The dress of the Catalans is different from that of Spaniards in the other provinces which our travellers had visited. Those immediately above the humblest class wear red night-caps over a black net, which receives the hair, and hangs low down upon their backs; breeches of black velvet, and a close waistcoat or short jacket with silver buttons, and bound with a long silk sash passing many times round the loins, and then tucked in. In general, they wear no stockings, and sandals supply the place of shoes, notwithstanding their excellence and cheapness.

At three o'clock, William having gone over the whole of the town, the party concluded their walk, and arrived at Mr. Ward's in time for dinner: it was served in the English style, and as there was no siesta after it, and a heavy rain prevented their going to the public walk, William was enabled, in a conversation which was not only amusing but instructive, to obtain much information respecting the province of Catalonia and its inhabitants. They spoke of the commercial spirit that appears amongst the people, which has made Barcelona the most thriving city upon the coast of Spain; of the patient industry and fidelity which have caused the Catalans to be preferred as guides and muleteers all over Spain, and to be trusted without reserve; of the fertility of the soil, which, aided by the mildness of the climate, enables them to raise two crops in the year—the first being always gathered in before midsummer. Mr. Ward gave him, also, a brief sketch of the history of Catalonia; by which he learned that it was in it the Romans first established their dominion; that, afterwards, it had been wrested from them by the Goths, towards the year 470; from the latter, by the Moors from Barbary, in the year 712; and from them by the French, in the ninth century. It was then, he said, that Barcelona became the capital of Catalonia, under the government of a family which subsequently extended its sway over the whole of Spain; and finally, he mentioned a fact, of which

William would have been very sorry to have remained in ignorance, that it was in the city of Barcelona that the illustrious discoverer, Christopher Columbus, had his audience of Ferdinand and Isabella, king and queen of Spain, after his return from the discovery of the new world; and from the port of Barcelona he set sail upon his second voyage to America.

On the following four days, during which William remained at Barcelona, he employed his time before dinner in visiting the cathedral and several other churches, the custom house, and other public buildings, and, lastly, the fort or citadel, a place of considerable strength, which commands and overawes the town. In the evening, he generally walked upon the public promenade, which was always at such times crowded with company; and then returned to converse for a couple of hours with Mr. Ward, before he retired to his hotel. In this way he gained a great deal of useful information; and as Duncan was during the same period collecting all the knowledge he could from his countryman, Mr. M'Leod, and the two travellers always communicated what each had learned, when they met in the morning and evening, they not only found themselves well acquainted with the place, and the various subjects which a stranger wishes to be informed upon, but, as a consequence of it, began to feel a wish to get down southward, in order to complete the tour of the peninsula.

William having determined to proceed on his journey, his friend suggested that he should go by sea, and advised him to take his passage in an English vessel then in the harbour, which, having discharged its cargo, and taken in a freight of cork, fruit, and brandy, was to touch at Alicant, in Valencia, in order to take in a quantity of Spanish wine. "You may, therefore, enjoy," said his friend, "an agreeable variety, by taking your passage hence for that port; you will thus not only have a pleasant voyage along the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, but also escape the dull and uninteresting journey which is before you, if you go by land; a part of the road being covered with heath, unpeopled, and uncultivated, and intersected by ravines, extremely laborious to travel over."

In this way, therefore, it was resolved that William and Duncan should proceed; and their berths being engaged, they bade farewell to Mr. Ward and his family, and set sail from Barcelona on the 19th October, the wind being tolerably fair, and the Mediterranean Sea presenting a smooth, unruffled surface. The passage, however, was tedious, for they did not make the harbour of Alicant until the morning of the third day. During the voyage, however, he learned from the captain, Mr. Mitchell, who had been for forty years trading between the port of London and the different ports of Spain, France, and Italy, on the Mediterranean Sea, that it is the largest expanse of water in the world that

does not bear the name of the ocean. "Its communications," said Captain Mitchell, "are with the Atlantic Ocean, on the west, by the straits of Gibraltar, and on the north-east with the Euxine or Black Sea, by the straits of the Dardanelles. Its length from west to east is 2,000 miles, and from north to south averaging from 400 to 500."

William also enquired some particulars respecting the Balearic Isles, the principal of which are four in number; Majorca, which means the larger, Minorca, the less, Ivica, and Cabrera.

Alicant ranks next to Cadiz and Barcelona, as a commercial town. It stands on a sort of peninsula, in a bay of the Mediterranean, at the bottom of a rocky mountain, on the summit of which is a fortified castle. The harbour is at some distance from the town, and is one of the best in Valencia, being large and secure, though not deep. It lies thirty-seven miles north-east of Murcia, seventy-five miles south of Valencia, in longitude 0° 25′ west, latitude 38° 35′ north; and its population numbers about 17,000 souls.

It was now the favourable time of the year for visiting it; but in summer, our travellers were told that the heat is like that of a furnace; the white colour of the plaister which covers all the houses dazzling the eyes, and the mountains behind shutting out the winds which blow from the cool quarter, and which would refresh the

atmosphere. In a place so hot, water is, of course, an article of prime necessity; and there being no natural lake or river which can supply it, great pains are taken to collect whatever falls. Our travellers went to see the artificial lake called El Pantano, constructed in the mountains at the distance of five leagues from Alicant: it is formed between two mountains by two walls at the extremities, which are sixty-seven feet thick at the top, and 121 at the bottom, and covers a space 130 feet in length, and 230 in breadth; and from this water is suffered, according to the price paid for it by the farmers, to flow upon their lands: the management is given in charge to officers appointed for the purpose of regulating it; and we may conceive the necessity of such a supply in irrigating the parched up soil, when a guinea has often been paid by the farmer for letting the water flow upon his grounds for an hour extraordinary.

From thence they went to see the fertile plain, called the Huerta, which lies behind the castle hill; and here, from a height, they looked down upon a wide expanse of nearly 30,000 acres, every where enclosed by lofty mountains, excepting towards the sea, and covered with orange, lemon, fig, mulberry, almond, apricot, peach, plum, apple, pomegranate, and olive trees, with the vine, also, and the liquorice, and every species of grain, and rich herbage for cattle.

This vale, they were told, contains 20,000 persons; and our travellers could well believe it; for in every direction they saw the marks of an abundant and industrious population—old and young, men, women, and children, all busily employed in the various occupations of agriculture. "The land never rests; for no sooner has it rewarded the farmer with one crop, than he begins to prepare it for another. In September he sows barley; and having reaped it about the latter end of April, he puts in another of maize or Indian corn, which is fit to cut about the middle of September: in November he sows wheat, and in June reaps it: flax is put into the ground, and is pulled in May—leaving the ground ready for another crop. These, together with cucumbers, melons, peas, French beans, lettuce, &c. form a rich succession and variety of crops, which, cherished by a bright sun, and fed by abundant streams from the Pantano, form a never-failing source of plenty.

"In the spring, the country abounds with oranges and lemons; in summer with plums, cherries, figs, apricots, and nectarines: in autumn the inhabitants gather grapes; whilst in winter a great variety of fruits supply their tables."

"It is a curious fact," said the gentleman at whose house they lodged, and to whom they related what they had seen, "that Alicant stood formerly about a league further eastward, and

that this modern city, so late as the year 1519, consisted merely of six cottages; but in forty-three years subsequently to that period, 1,000 families had taken refuge under the castle against the incursions of the Algerines. Even so late," added he, "as 1776, these corsairs invaded all the sea coast of Catalonia, Valencia, and Granada, though they were soon repulsed." "Was it for plunder they came?" asked Duncan. "No," replied the Spaniard, "but for prisoners; because they knew that their captives would be redeemed by the Fathers of Mercy, an order of monks instituted for the purpose: it was, therefore, not to make slaves that they invaded our shores; but in the hope of receiving a valuable ransom."

On the following day, William and his companion went to see the castle, which is now fortified after the modern method, and completely overhangs the town. It was a place interesting to a British subject; for it was, in the year 1707, garrisoned by Englishmen, who refused to surrender it to the French, who were then besieging it, although they had sprung a mine underneath, in which they lodged 1,300 barrels of gunpowder; and even allowed the governor to send an officer of engineers to satisfy himself that their destruction was inevitable, if they did not capitulate. This story he mentioned to Duncan, who immediately became interested to know what had been the result. "It was generous of the besiegers," said he,

"to warn them of their danger; and I suppose they at once surrendered." "No," replied William: "the account I read states that they steadily refused; and, in consequence, the match was laid to it, and General Richards and his officers were blown into the air, having previously allowed the rest of the garrison to retire. I read also, that on the day appointed for the springing of the mine, people from every part of the country assembled on the opposite hill, to witness the catastrophe, and actually were looking on when the explosion took place." "I cannot blame a man," said Duncan, "who acts from a sense of duty; but I think that, when resistance was no longer availing, it was a useless, not to say criminal, sacrifice of their lives."

We need not detail the route which our travellers followed, on leaving Alicant for Granada, because it afforded no incident deserving of particular mention. They had to cross the Sierra Nevada, a chain of very high mountains, which forms a branch of the Alpuxarras; and, as it would have proved very fatiguing for a carriage, they engaged mules, and a Catalonian guide who was well accustomed to the road, and known in Alicant, not only for his fidelity, but his intelligence: he did not speak English, but he knew French remarkably well; and thus not only Duncan could converse with him in his broken Spanish, but William, also, could enjoy the advantage of his information. Their luggage was to be carried by a third mule, and

Pedro was to ride on a fourth, and he engaged that they should travel not less than twelve leagues a day. Leaving Alicant, therefore, they passed through a considerable village, called Elehi, famous for its palm trees, the branches of which, the guide assured them, were exported, at the proper season, by ship-loads to Genoa, and other parts of Italy, and also inland to Madrid, and other parts of Spain, for the grand procession of Palm Sunday, which is a great festival in Roman Catholic countries. The country hence to Orihuela is beautiful, and so fertile as to give rise to the Spanish proverb, Llueva o no llueva trigo en Orihuela—"Rain or no rain, there is wheat in Orihuela."

Murcia, where they stopped for the night, was the next town of consequence, lying on the Segura, a river which, by its numerous tributaries, fertilizes all the country through which it passes. It was late when they arrived, but they contrived to get admission into its grand and beautiful cathedral, formerly remarkable for its immense treasures of gold and silver ornaments. In the invasion, however, of Spain by the French in 1808, they were all carried off. Their Catalonian guide repeated to them the character formerly given of the Murcians by one of their own countrymen, which, if true, would shew them to be far below the moral standard of the rest of the Spanish provinces: "The sky and the soil are good—all between them is bad:" but William would not allow himself to give

credit to such a sweeping condemnation. "There are," said he, "in all countries, wicked characters, and in some places, no doubt, they form the majority; but I cannot suppose, if pains were taken to improve their moral condition, and to give them education, the Spaniards of Murcia would be worse than the Spaniards of the other provinces." The censure, he thought, might have been caused by the Murcian's well-known indolence of character, which keeps him constantly at home, and makes him stand aloof from all intercourse, even with his own countrymen.

On the following day, as they passed along, William remarked the dress of the people to be very different from what he had observed elsewhere. The lower order, in towns, wore a round hat over a black net, a black short jacket, and a large brown or black mantle. The peasant wore, instead of a cloak, a piece of coarse striped woollen cloth, three-quarters of a yard wide, and three yards long, thrown over the right shoulder, a white jacket, short white trowsers, not covering the knee, a red woollen girdle, shoes of hemp, and either a slouched hat or leather cap. "The Murcian," said Pedro, "eats five meals a day: perhaps that is no great fault, since it shews he has plenty; but why he will not touch beef we have never been able to discover, though the fact is unquestionable."

The part of Spain through which our travellers were now journeying, is subject to the

depredations of the migratory locust; and many stories were related to them by Pedro of the ravages which this animal commits when he lights upon the ground. They also heard, what surprised them not a little, that its power to do mischief is greatly increased by the neglect of agriculture, it being an incontrovertible fact, that the females never deposit their eggs in arable lands, but always in those that are uncultivated; and only come forth from their haunts in a very dry season. On these occasions they darken the air, fall upon the rich pastures, strip the vines and olives of their foliage, devour the corn, enter the houses, and, in short, lay waste every thing before them; such, for instance, was the devastation committed by the locusts in the neighbourhood of Murcia for four succeeding years, from 1756.

The animal which was so destructive to the country in those years, says Townsend, in his "Travels through Spain," was distinguished from other locusts by the redness of its wings; the jaw-bones were strong, and dented like a saw; the head bore a strong resemblance to that of the horse, and the sound of the wings was like the noise of distant chariots. The usual resort of these insects is in the forests, and in the deserts, where they safely lodge their eggs, without fear of having them disturbed. The male, at a particular time of the year, hastens to the river, and is drowned in the stream. The female then deposits her eggs in the securest

uncultivated spot, and protects them from the rain by a covering of glue. Having finished this work, exhausted with fatigue, she drinks and dies.

The eggs are hatched in March, April, or May, according to their situation and the season. When hatched, the assembled tribes continue together for about three weeks, till their legs, and teeth, and wings, have acquired strength; after which they are ready for their work of destruction.

When the provincial government of Murcia is informed that these locusts have been seen, they collect the soldiers and the peasants, divide them into companies, and surround the districts. Every man is furnished with a long broom, with which he strikes the ground, and this drives the young locusts towards a common centre, where a great hole is dug for their reception, and filled with brushwood, which is set on fire, and they are destroyed in the flames. In 1780, 3000 men were thus employed, and it was reckoned that the quantity collected and destroyed exceeded 3,000 bushels.

In concluding this account, Mr. Townsend very appositely quotes the following passage from Scripture, in which the prophet Joel, chap. ii. verse 1—11, describes the gloomy effects produced by an army of locusts, whose coming he predicts as a scourge from the Almighty.

"Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an

alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand.

"A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations."

From Murcia to Lorca, thirteen leagues, our travellers remarked that the country, unlike that through which they had passed on the preceding day, had a wild and neglected appearance, as if some great calamity had desolated the whole country; and on inquiring of their intelligent guide, they found it owing to a great pantano, or reservoir, which, in the year 1802 had burst its walls, and sent a flood on the whole country, which swept away every thing before it, and changed a garden into a desert.

"It was on the 30th April, 1802," said Pedro, "I remember it well, for I was travelling, as now, with four mules, laden with goods, which I was carrying to Granada, and I lost them every one, with difficulty escaping with my life. It swept before it public buildings, rocks, trees, men, and cattle. One of the suburbs of Lorca, consisting of about 600 houses, the parish church, two convents, and the barracks, were swallowed up, and in an instant disappeared; besides which, many villages were destroyed, and the lives lost were estimated at 600 people,

and of cattle, 2,400. The fields were formerly beautiful; you see still some spots covered with sand, rubbish, and heaps of stones, whilst in many places marshes have been formed."

The ascent of the mountain between Lorca and Granada was difficult even to the mules, and they were, therefore, often obliged to dismount and walk. They were repaid, however, at last, by coming in sight of the royal city of Granada, whose appearance, from a distance, struck them with admiration; and the pleasure was not a little enhanced when Pedro led them to an excellent hotel, where they found the luxury of good clean beds and excellent fare.

Before we proceed to describe the various objects which our travellers saw in Granada, and the many monuments of Moorish splendour which it contains, it will be useful to give a brief sketch of the rise and decline of the power of the Moors in Spain.

The Moors, who derived their name from Mauritania (the north-western part of Africa) which they inhabited, were followers of Mahomet; who, in 622, pretending that he was a messenger from God, founded that sect whose opinions are now professed by a great part of the population of Asia, and almost all that of Africa. His followers, acting upon his assurance, that all those who died in battle against Christians, were sure of happiness in a future world, and that it was their duty to exterminate all who refused to join his creed, extended their

victorious rule over the whole of Arabia, and all the northern part of Africa. The Mahometan army thus came to be made up of a mixed multitude of Saracens from the former, and Moors from the latter country; and hence, when speaking of those who subsequently extended their empire into Spain, history indifferently calls them Moors or Saracens. In the year 709, the African Mahometans resolved to invade the opposite coast of Europe, and were assisted in their designs by the treachery of Count Julian, who commanded the army which should have opposed them; but who, disgusted by the vices of his sovereign, Roderic, and the injuries his family had received from him, willingly joined the enemies of his country; who, in number about 500, under the command of Tarif, landed upon a rock, the most southern part of Spain, which, from this circumstance, took its name of Gibel-al-Tarif, or Gibraltar, which signifies the rock of Tarif. They were followed by 5,000 of their countrymen; and, in the year 712, gained the battle of Xeres, in Andalusia, took Cordova by assault, and, by a succession of victories, in a short time extended their power over the whole of Spain, with the exception of the provinces of Asturias and Biscay, behind the mountains of which the vanquished Spaniards took refuge; and their kings and their descendants fixed their residence at Oviedo. The Moorish part of Spain was governed by emirs, or lieutenants of the caliph,

who reigned at Damascus, until the year 764; when Abderaman, who is also called Almanzor, threw off his allegiance to the caliph, and, having formed Spain into an independent kingdom, was proclaimed king, and fixed his residence at Cordova, where his descendants for 250 years enjoyed an undivided sceptre. Afterwards the Moorish kingdom was broken up, and divided into the separate independent states of Cordova, Seville, Valencia, and Granada. The Spaniards, who had retired behind the Asturias, profited by this division to recover Leon, Arragon, and Old Castile as far as Toledo. At length, in 1474, the two kingdoms into which the Christian part of Spain had been divided, were united by the marriage of Ferdinand of Arragon with Isabella of Castile; and, in twenty years afterwards, Granada, the last and most valuable of the Moorish possessions in Spain, surrendered to their arms, and the Mahometan power in that kingdom was finally extinguished, after it had continued 780 years. The Moors were an intelligent people, and under their dominion Spain attained a degree of prosperity, to which its present impoverished and sunken state offers a striking and unhappy contrast.

But to return from this digression. Our travellers, on the day after their arrival, engaged an intelligent guide, who, accustomed to conduct strangers, led them to one of the neighbouring hills, from whence they could take in at one view the whole of the city and

its environs. In the foreground lay a rich and populous country, well furnished with trees, amongst which their guide pointed out numerous plantations of mulberry trees, on which great quantities of silk-worms are annually reared; behind which, the city stretched in the form of a half-moon; the streets, rising one above another upon the sides of the hills on which it is placed, are adorned with a vast number of turrets and gilded cupolas. The summit of one of the hills is crowned with the Alhambra, a royal palace built by the Moors; whilst in the back-ground the Sierra Nevada (or snowy mountains) raised their snowy tops to the sky. William remained for some minutes gazing on the beautiful prospect which lay before him, and which amply repaid for the fatigue he had undergone in the journey from Alicant.

Having been so much pleased by the distant view, our travellers regretted to find, on nearer inspection, that Granada contains little more than the remains of ancient grandeur. Its streets are choked up with filth; its aqueducts crumbled to dust; its woods destroyed, and its trade lost; and nothing but the ruins scattered over the hills can induce one to believe that the bleak and barren wastes, which make up near two-thirds of the province, were formerly covered with luxuriant plantations of fruit-trees, abundant harvests, or noble forests. Still, however, the plain of Granada is one of the most

beautiful spots in the world, and the Alhambra remains the monument of those who were, for so many centuries, masters of the country.

The guide next led our travellers to see the interior of the city, when they found the streets of the modern town in general narrow, and the houses by no means handsome. The market-place was spacious, but the houses round it were mean,—few of the upper apartments having glass in the windows, and the shops below being indifferently supplied with goods. The cathedral is a very splendid building, 425 feet long, 249 broad, and surmounted by a dome 169 feet high, by 80 in diameter: in it Ferdinand and Isabella, king and queen of Spain, were buried, who in the year 1492 retook Granada from the Moors. There are also several other places of worship, which, before the French got possession of Spain, were adorned with a great many valuable paintings and costly ornaments; but they were all carried away. They remarked also, that a great many of the smaller houses were evidently, from their architecture, built by the Moors; whilst the fragments of former Moorish houses were used as materials for others afterwards erected by the Spaniards.

The pride, however, of Granada is the Alhambra, or palace of the Moorish kings, to the inspection of which William and Duncan devoted an entire day. It stands, as we have mentioned, on the brow of one of the hills on

which the city is built, commanding an extensive prospect over the fertile vale, and towering with venerable grandeur over the town; the ascent to it leads through a wood of poplars, oleanders, and orange trees, with marble fountains by the road-side, perpetually discharging their streams of clear water. The buildings of the Alhambra are very extensive; the appearance of the whole, to one viewing it after he has entered the great gate, being that of an old town surrounded by high embattled walls, interrupted at certain distances by large, lofty, square towers. Inside the wall, they came to a large square, containing a number of cisterns, which run under it from end to end, and are constantly fed by a supply of running water; and beyond this is the Moorish palace, which appears a collection of mean and unornamented buildings, and having nothing to denote the regal splendour or the beauty of the interior chambers: our travellers were disappointed, as they looked at the outside; but this feeling was of short continuance, for, on entering through a plain, unornamented door, they found themselves in an instant surrounded with wonders. The rooms were all paved with beautiful marble, cut from the neighbouring quarries, and ornamented with marble pillars, supporting arches of a horse-shoe form, and adorned with stucco, and a species of porcelain, the gilding of which is perfectly fresh, after a lapse of 500 years. In

every division were Arabic sentences, expressive of these meanings: "There is no conqueror but God"—and, "Obedience to our sovereign, Abonabdoulah." The hall of lions next engaged their attention. It is an oblong court, 100 feet in length, and fifty in breadth, with a colonnade of 120 marble pillars running round it, paved with white marble. In the centre of it are the marble figures of twelve lions muzzled, which bear upon their backs an enormous marble basin, out of which a smaller one of alabaster rises. While the pipes were in good order, a great column of water was thrown up, which fell into the basins, and issued out of the lions' mouths into a large reservoir, which fed the numerous fountains dispersed through the apartments of the palace.

From the hall of lions they entered the common bath, an oblong square, with a deep basin of clear water in the middle; two flights of marble steps led down to the bottom, and on each side was a parterre of flowers, and a row of orange trees. The private baths, also, were numerous—all beautifully finished, and lighted from the top.

From hence they came to a circular room used by the men for drinking coffee and sherbets; and passed through a magnificent gate into the tower of the two sisters, so named from two very beautiful pieces of marble, laid as flags in the pavement; and here the prospect extended through a range of successive apartments, opening

into each other by a grand arch, and terminated by a large window which looked out upon the country. The last apartment they visited was the hall of the ambassadors, magnificently decorated with varieties of mosaic, and with the mottos of the Saracen kings of Granada.

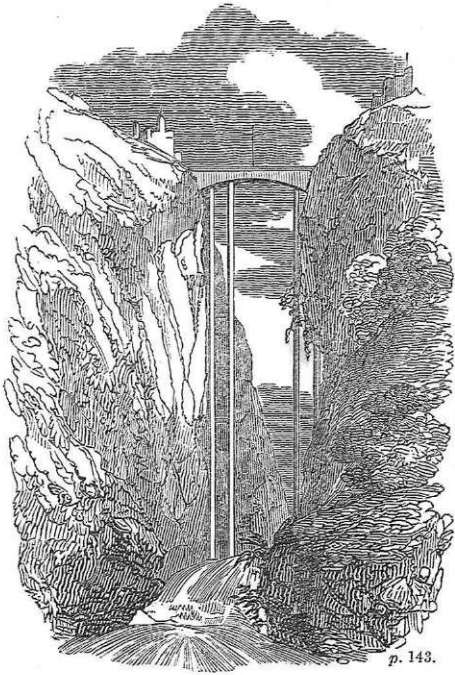
William and Duncan were also led through a great many other apartments, some more magnificent than others,—but all intended to minister to the luxurious style in which the Moorish princes then lived. It is not necessary, however, to give a more minute description of them; partly because an idea may be formed of them from what we have said, and partly because William was too much absorbed in reflections upon the superior knowledge of the arts and elegancies of life possessed by these Arab conquerors, compared with the inhabitants of other parts of Europe. Here were halls and galleries, porticos and columns, arches and mosaics, with plants and flowers of every hue, and beautiful fountains constantly sending forth streams of water to moderate the heat of the climate; here, also, as is known from other sources, was collected an abundance of the most costly furniture—vases of curious and elegant workmanship, filled with the perfumes of Arabia, rich hangings, flowery carpets, and luxurious sofas. Here the Moorish sovereigns and their nobles lived, robed in fine linens, silks, and embroidery, and glittering with gold and gems; whilst, at the very same period, the style and habits of

living amongst the English was rude and homely in the extreme: nay, even in the middle of the sixteenth century, the apartments of our nobles were strewed with straw; chimneys and glass windows were unknown; substantial farmers lay upon straw, with a log of wood for a pillow, and ate and drank out of wooden and pewter utensils.

From the palace of the Alhambra, our travellers went to see the royal edifice which Charles V. caused to be commenced on the ruins of the offices of the old palace, with the view of making it his constant residence; but it was never completed, and the parts which were constructed are falling rapidly to decay. Indeed, it is remarkable to observe that, whilst in the Alhambra the beams and wood-work of the ceilings present no sign of decay, whilst the colours of the paintings on the walls are as fresh as when laid on, though there is no mixture of oil in them, and spiders, flies, and all other insects shun these apartments;—the walls, paintings, and wood-work of Charles's palace are mouldering rapidly away.

Having visited every thing worth his attention at Granada, and feeling anxious to return home, to which he now felt that he was approaching at every step, William engaged a carriage to take him to Gibraltar; and having paid one more visit to the Alhambra, set out at six o'clock in the morning with his companion. For some time after leaving the city, they con-

tinued their route across the plain in which it is situated, without knowing by what avenue they were to get out of the valley, which appeared to be on all sides enclosed by lofty and perpendicular mountains. By following the course of the Xenil, however, they at last found an opening, but through a chasm so extremely narrow, that it hardly admitted of more than a passage for the stream. This pass brought them to Loxa, a town containing 9,000 inhabitants; and from this point the ascent of the mountains commenced; and, after five hours, sometimes ascending, and sometimes descending, they at length reached the town of Antequiera, twenty-five miles from Granada, where they slept. They afterwards successively passed through the towns,—Alona, Casarabonela, and El Burgo, still climbing the chain which separates Granada from Andalusia,—until at last the elevation at which they stood was 10,000 feet above the sea, which is the line where snow lies perpetually. Here the air was intensely cold, but, as they descended into the plain, they got into a warm climate again, and were surrounded with trees of every variety of foliage. In this day's journey they saw wolves at a distance; and their guide told them that these animals were often so fierce as to attack horses or mules while their riders were on their backs. "For which reason," added he, "we never travel without a gun to scare them away." The situation of Ronda, he was told, was so exceedingly healthy, that it



p. 143.

Bridge at Ronda.

was a common proverb, "In Ronda a man of eighty is a boy."

The town of Ronda is encircled by the river Guadiaro, and its position is so singular that our travellers were induced to stop a day there, for the purpose of examining it more particularly. It is placed on a rock, with cliffs either perpendicular and abrupt towards the river, or with broken crags, whose jutting prominences are planted with orange and fig trees. A fissure in this rock surrounds the city on three sides, and at the bottom of the fissure the river rushes along with impetuous rapidity. Two bridges are thrown across the fissure, one of which is 120 feet above the water, the second 280—so that the monument near London Bridge might stand beneath it. From below, the bridge appeared to William suspended in the air: from above, the river appeared no longer a mighty torrent, but a rippling brook. To one looking from the bridge, the torrent of water appeared, by an optical illusion, to run up a hill towards the bridge. One of the streets of this extraordinary city is built almost close to the edge of the precipice, and stairs are hewn out of the solid rock, which leads to nooks in the lower precipices, in which gardens have been formed, where fig and orange trees grow with considerable luxuriance, and greatly contribute to the beauty of the scenery. Stairs are constructed down to the river, by means of which the inhabitants supply themselves with water. Wil-

liam and Duncan descended by a flight of 350 steps, and at the bottom found a fine spring in a large cave, which, after turning a mill at its source, enters the Guadiaro. From this spot, the view of the lofty bridge was most striking and impressive, and the houses and churches of the city, impending over their heads, had a most singular effect. Beyond the bridge, the river takes a turn to the right, and passes under the alameda, from which the precipice of 500 feet is very bold and abrupt, though interspersed with jutting prominences, covered with shrubs and trees. The alameda of this city is by far the most beautiful public walk in Spain. The paths are paved with marble; the parterres are filled with evergreens; over the paths vines are trained on trellices, which in the warmest weather afford a grateful shade.

Soon after the Guadiaro quits the rocks of Ronda, it receives the tributary streams of the Guadalevi, the Culebras, and the Alcobacen, and passes over the plain with this increase of water, till, at the distance of a league, it is precipitated over some lofty rocks, forming a cataract of striking beauty—and is at length received into a cavern, where it disappears. The entrance to this cavern, which is called Cueva del Gato, is very lofty. William was informed, by those who had explored it, that, after advancing about a mile, it extends itself into a large lake, on the banks of which are the ruins of an ancient edifice; that, beyond the lake, which is of unfathom-

able depth, the passage made by the water is too narrow to admit of further discovery; and that sometimes the difficulty of discharging all the water by this aperture causes the lake to rise almost to the roof. The termination of this cave is about four miles from its commencement, where the Guadiaro again becomes visible, and continues its course by Algaucin, till it enters the Mediterranean Sea.

For the first hour and a half after leaving Ronda, the road ascends, and from the summit our travellers caught the first view of Gibraltar. It was like a glimpse of home; for there they knew the British flag was to be seen waving over the walls, and it was garrisoned by their countrymen: the rest of the road, therefore, appeared easy. About two o'clock on the second day after quitting Ronda, they reached San Roque, where they found what might be called an English inn, being the resort of officers from Gibraltar, when they make an excursion into Spain. San Roque was the site of the encampment and works of the French and Spanish armies which invested Gibraltar in the years 1779—82. It is now, however, only a heap of ruins. A little farther on, they came to Buena Resta, a large house on an eminence, from which the rock is seen lifting itself out of the sea; while, beyond, the eye ranges over the Mediterranean Sea, the Atlantic Ocean, and the African coast.

Arrived at Gibraltar, William's first care was

to seek out his relation, Captain Walker, of the Engineers, who was at that time quartered there. The reader may suppose the pleasure with which they met so far from home. Captain Walker kindly introduced him to his brother officers, from whom he received the most hospitable invitation to dine with them at their mess as long as he should stay in the fortress. Duncan, also, found himself as happy; for a Highland regiment was also quartered in Gibraltar, and, as several were from his own country, he was soon surrounded by acquaintances and friends. Whilst, therefore, they are each making enquiries about home, we shall give the reader a short description of the position and strength of this celebrated and impregnable fortress.

The promontory of Gibraltar is joined to the Spanish main by a neck of land so narrow, that from some points of view it has the appearance of an island. It is about three miles in length from north to south, from one half to three quarters of a mile in width, and from 1,200 to 1,400 feet high. The northern front of the rock is almost perpendicular; the eastern is full of frightful precipices; the southern, being narrow and abrupt, presents hardly any possibility of approach, even to a force in command of the sea; on the western side, it gradually declines towards the bay, which is at that side; but a swamp lies at its base, between it and the bay, which leaves only space sufficient for a very narrow causeway, which is flanked by 100 pieces of cannon.

The town stands at the foot of the promontory; on the north-western side, strongly fortified, indeed, but chiefly protected by the batteries on the neighbouring heights, which command both the isthmus and the approach by water.

The importance of Gibraltar to England arises chiefly from its bay, which is nine miles long and five broad, and forms a convenient naval station. One side of the bay is formed by the promontory and isthmus; on the south is the sea; whilst the other sides of the bay are formed by the main land of Spain. The Straits which separate Europe from Africa are about 24 miles in length, but their breadth in the narrowest part is only 15 miles.

Gibraltar was taken by the English, under the command of Sir George Rooke, in 1704. It has since been repeatedly besieged by the Spaniards, but always without success—the natural strength of the place enabling it to bid defiance to the utmost efforts of an enemy. The last attempt to recover it was made in the year 1779, and the siege continued till 1782; but it was completely foiled by the bravery of the garrison under General Elliott.

The particulars of this siege William learned from Captain Walker, who brought him round the various batteries, and shewed him the different points at which the attacks were made. He next took him through the town, which is nearly new, the old one having been destroyed by the bombardment it suffered. The houses

have flat roofs, and large bow windows, and are generally painted black, with a white stripe to mark each story or floor—the black being intended to blunt the dazzling rays of the sun. One street, nearly half a mile in length, almost traverses the town, and is full of shops. In other parts, the inhabitants are too much crowded, as was fatally proved in the rapid spreading of a contagion in 1804, communicated from Cadiz, which swept away a great many thousand inhabitants: the garrison, however, escaped, from the observance of due precaution, and from their being lodged on higher ground. The population, exclusive of the garrison, is above 12,000, partly English, partly Spaniards, Moors, Italians, and Jews, all attracted by mercantile enterprise.

Gibraltar, as may be supposed, has no commodities of its own production; nevertheless it trades in a great variety of articles, being a kind of entrepot, where Spain and other countries may provide themselves with British produce. Here are to be procured cottons and other articles of English manufacture—sugar, rum, and other produce of the West Indies—tobacco, rice, and flour, from North America—while wine, fruit, silk, wax, and other Mediterranean articles are brought in from the east.

Here William spent a week, not, indeed, in seeing the place, for a couple of days were sufficient to satisfy his curiosity,—but in the pleasing society of Captain Walker and his brother

officers, whom he found intelligent and well-informed men. Several had served in the Spanish war, and, therefore, many of the scenes over which William had just passed were familiar to them; so that he found no small advantage accrue to himself in listening to their sensible remarks. Here also both William and Duncan received letters from home, which had been directed to Madrid, and from thence forwarded to Mr. Ward at Barcelona, who had sent them on to Gibraltar. All were well, and Mr. and Mrs. Grant were anxiously looking out for a promise of speedy return, that they might hear from his own lips an account of those incidents and places which could be but imperfectly described by letter.

At length William bade farewell to Captain Walker, and, along with Duncan, took a passage for Cadiz in a Spanish vessel which had run over to Gibraltar with some sherry wine from Xeres, the place where it is made. On their way, they passed the well-known Cape Trafalgar, thirty miles south-east of Cadiz, lat. 36° 10′ north; long. 6° 8′ west; off which Lord Nelson gained the victory in which he fell. It was dark when they neared it, but William and Duncan both were on deck to try and catch a sight of a spot so celebrated; and as the moon shone brightly, they thought at least they saw it.

The captain having thought it prudent to wait for daylight to enter the harbour of Cadiz, gave them an opportunity of seeing the city to

great advantage. The houses are all painted white, so that at a distance, in the rising sun, it had the appearance of being built of ivory; besides which, the sea broke with great magnificence over the rocks which line the south side of the bay in rugged and craggy masses.

To understand the situation of Cadiz, we must mention that the Isle of Leon lies at the mouth of the small river Guadalete, forty miles north of the rock of Gibraltar. From this island, a tongue of land stretches in a north-westerly direction, and communicates with the rest of the island by an isthmus of nearly five miles in length. At the point where the isthmus joins the tongue before-mentioned, stands Cadiz, covering a site a mile and a half square, and nearly extending across the isthmus from shore to shore. The town, therefore, has the sea on the west and north-east, and, being defended towards the south by the narrowness of the isthmus, and on the north by a fort, it is a place of great strength. The bay, which, from the description given, will be understood to lie to the east of the city, is twelve leagues in extent; so that it would afford anchorage and shelter for a great number of ships. Indeed, so large is it, that different places have been assigned to vessels according to their destination. It is the principal station for the Spanish navy, which ride in the eastern bosom of the bay; lower down, the merchantmen were spread far and near; whilst, close to the town,

an incredible number of barks, of various shapes and sizes, cover the surface of the water. The opposite shore of the main land was studded with white houses, and enlivened by the towns of Santa Maria, Puerta Real, and others; whilst behind these last stood Medina Sidonia, and further back the mountains of Granada. "It is a beautiful prospect," said William to Duncan, as the vessel stood for the city, under a press of sail. "And not the less so," replied the latter, "for its being, perhaps, the last that we shall see until we draw near the shores of our native country."

William had a letter from his friend, Captain Walker, to an English merchant long resident at Cadiz, besides having a credit upon another for a supply of money, in case he should want it; but, even though he had arrived without these, he would not have found himself at a loss; for the kindness of Mr. Ward had preceded him, and procured him a hospitable reception in the family of Mr. Thompson, a Scotchman, who, as it happened, knew his father, and was happy at the opportunity of paying attention to the son. The Hotel of England was the place to which his countrymen always resorted, and to it, therefore, he repaired on landing; but, as he found a letter from Mr. Thompson, communicating his wish that he and Duncan should take an apartment in his house, and mentioning Mr. Ward's name, he did not hesitate to remove his trunks thither at once; a step which gratified

his countryman, whom he found expecting his arrival.

When William walked through the town with his new acquaintance, he found the streets narrow, and the houses lofty, owing to the confined space in which so great a population was contained. The place of St. Antonio was the only one that deserved the name of a square. The houses, however, were handsome. It had a fine appearance, and was, as he perceived, the principal resort of the inhabitants. There was a pleasant alameda or walk close by the sea, whither he next repaired. It was crowded with people, and looked very gay, from the assemblage of well-dressed company, though the sea air prevented the trees which were planted there from thriving.

It was ebb-tide when William took this walk to the shore, and it was with no small surprise that he saw some traces of what had been the city, but which the sea had covered. Indeed, Mr. Thompson assured him that, at the time of the earthquake at Lisbon, the sea had risen in such an extraordinary manner, that it threatened to overwhelm the whole town. Providentially, however, the fort of St. Sebastian first received the stupendous wave, as it rolled on, and it proved so solid as to withstand the shock, and to break the immense volume of water, causing it to flow off on each side harmless.

We have already mentioned that, up to the year 1748, the city of Seville had the greatest

share of the trade with Spanish America; but that, when the navigation of the Guadalquiver became interrupted, this source of wealth was transferred to Cadiz, and the consequence was immediately visible in its prosperity. Now, however, that the Spanish provinces in South America have declared themselves independent, and have broken off all connexion with the mother country, Cadiz is declining, and is not likely to recover, until Spain becomes, what she has every means of becoming, an industrious manufacturing country.

Our traveller, however, learned that there was another more distressing cause for the decay of Cadiz. In the year 1800, the yellow fever broke out in the town, the contagion being brought thither in a merchant vessel from America: it attacked nearly 50,000 persons, in a population of 80,000, and carried off about 10,000: in 1804, it broke out again, and cut off no less than 70 persons, on an average, a day: in 1813 and 1815, it returned, and each time not only caused the death of numbers, but also greatly diminished the population, by causing many to emigrate to America and elsewhere. When William heard this account, he could not avoid remarking to Duncan, how thankful the inhabitants of Great Britain ought to be to Providence for keeping far away from them such a fatal scourge.

In company with his friends, William visited all the public buildings in Cadiz, and found little

in them to deserve attention. There are two cathedrals; one remarkable only for the treasures it is said to contain; the other, a lofty pile, but unfortunately built so near the sea, which is every year advancing upon the land, that it is probable in a few years it will be swept away. When our travellers saw it, it was only ten feet from the water's edge, though at the time it was erected, in 1722, the distance was considerable. The private houses are all built with their windows looking into a court: they have brick floors, and stone or marble stairs; the ground floor is generally a warehouse, and, as no attention is paid to the entrance, it is generally a receptacle for all kinds of nuisances.

It was, however, at the tertulias, or evening parties, to which he was introduced by his friends, that William saw the people of Cadiz to the best advantage. Their manners appeared easy and cheerful; they entered when they pleased, and, after paying their respects to the master and mistress of the house, were at liberty to depart when it suited them; whilst music and some light "rinfresco," refreshments, were ready for the entertainment of the guests.

Here our travellers spent a week with great pleasure, William's friends every day striking out some new plan for his amusement. The time, however, was at hand, when he and Duncan should quit a country in which a great many happy days had been passed. He was one day walking along the quay, when he saw a

large merchantman with her sails bent, whilst the English flag told him what country she belonged to: but what were his surprise and gratification at learning, on going a-board, that she was actually bound for Port Glasgow! having come with a cargo of muslin goods and linens, consigned to a Cadiz merchant, for the South American market; and, having taken in her lading, was only waiting to clear out, in order that she might proceed on her homeward destination. "We shall sail, sir," said the captain, "by to-morrow evening's tide at farthest, and, if you please, I can accommodate you with a passage." William stopped no longer than to engage the berths, and then returned home to acquaint Duncan with what he had done, and to direct him to have all things ready for their embarkation at the appointed time. "In a few days," said he, for home returned upon his mind, with all its delightful associations, "in a few days, if Providence permit, we shall be in Scotland, and amongst the friends and relatives from whom we have been so long separated."

The joy that William felt was, no doubt, enhanced by the unexpectedness of the opportunity; but it is, perhaps, what every Briton feels, who, long absent from home, is about to return. We do not mean to say that, while travelling for amusement or business, a Briton, like the inhabitant of some other countries, pines after his native land; but his attachment to it is rationally founded upon the conviction

that there, above all other places, there are security for life and property, equitable laws, industry, and moral worth; and this persuasion becomes so strengthened by every thing he sees and hears elsewhere, that we must not be surprised at William and Duncan feeling what, perhaps, every one in similar circumstances has felt, an increase of pleasure as he turns his face homewards, and knows that every moment is drawing him nearer the land which, he knows, deserves to be preferred to every other.

This closes our travels in Spain; for, on the following morning, instead of the evening, he received an unexpected message from the captain, to say that the necessary papers had come down from the custom-house, and, as the wind was fair, he thought it right to take advantage of this tide: taking a hearty leave, therefore, of his friend, Mr. Thompson, and begging of him to assure his other friends that he did not carry away with him a less grateful sense of the kindness he had received, though he was unable personally to express it, William had his trunks put upon the backs of some sturdy gallegos, or Gallician porters, and, with Duncan, took his way towards the quay, where they embarked.

It is unnecessary to detail the progress of their voyage, which was as prosperous as could be expected. The wind was unsteady, and for two days they were becalmed in the Bay of Biscay. William, too, was as ill as persons unaccustomed to the sea, and who feel no plea-

sure aboard ship, usually are. But they had no foul weather, and made their course so well, that the captain, an experienced seaman, was able by his reckoning to tell them, on the eighth morning of the voyage, that before night they would see the Scilly lights; which was actually verified, they leaving them to leeward as the sun was setting. Along the Irish Channel the wind was as fair as it could blow; so that on the eleventh day, at two o'clock, p. m. they were actually at anchor alongside the quay of Port Glasgow, and in a few hours were on the road to Perthshire.

Nor will the young reader require to be told of the joy which William's arrival produced at his father's house, or what he himself felt as he leaped from the chaise, and ran to embrace his parents and sisters, who were all at the door to receive him. Those who feel as they ought the ties of affection which bind a family together, and many such, we hope, will peruse our travels in Spain, can easily imagine all that followed; and they can as faithfully picture out what ensued when William and his family, after the first burst of joy had subsided, drew their chairs around the cheerful ingle-side, while he endeavoured to satisfy their first inquiries by a rapid sketch of the course he had pursued. They will not require to be told with what a thankful prayer to the Being who had protected him they heard of his providential escape from the bull; or how they felt towards Duncan, who had

risked his life to save him; or, lastly, the silent but overflowing sorrow which filled their eyes, as they listened to William's visit to the field of Vittoria. Those who have lost a child under such circumstances, will know that such a wound is never perfectly healed, but is always ready to open at the touch of memory. But then, those who have bowed as Christians beneath such a chastisement, will also be ready to say, as William's parents said, when they looked upon the son who had been spared, "His will be done: he never chastens, but mercy softens the blow. Blessed be his name for what he has taken away. Blessed also be his name for what he has left!"

THE END.

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