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JOURNAL

OF A

TOUR TO CONSTANTINOPLE.

VOL. II.

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Abdul Mehjid.

Henry Colburn, Publisher, Great Marlborough St. 1842

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A STEAM VOYAGE

TO

CONSTANTINOPLE,

BY THE RHINE AND THE DANUBE,

IN 1840-41,

AND TO

PORTUGAL, SPAIN, &c.,

IN 1839.

BY C. W. VANE,

MARQUESS OF LONDONDERRY, G.C.B., &c.

TO WHICH IS ANNEXED, THE AUTHOR'S

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

PRINCE METTERNICH, LORDS PONSONBY, PALMERSTON, &c.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

LONDON:

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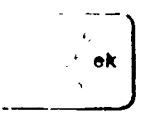

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JOURNAL.

CHAPTER XV.

It was finally settled that on Tuesday, 1st December, we were to take our passage by the Austrian Company's steam-packet for Smyrna. We had enjoyed a month of the most delicious summer weather in November: the sun sultry, the atmosphere clear, the heavens as blue above as the waters of the Bosphorus below; if we had not been so favoured, all our pleasurable anticipations at Constantinople would have failed. But, as if to prove the fierce reverse to which the firmament can rush from the most placid serenity, there arose, on the 30th November, one of the most dreadful hurricanes, night and day, of snow and hard frost with

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it, that ever was seen. The vessels in the Golden Horn were all driven from their anchorage; the steam-boats that were to arrive were missing; twelve ships were reported to be lost in the Black Sea; and the ship in which we were to depart had not come in.

These untoward events forced us to change our plan, and avail ourselves of the offers of Mr. Bentinck, of the "Dream" yacht cutter, and Captain Lyon, of the "Merlin." All our party embarked in those vessels for Smyrna, Lady L. and myself sailing in the "Dream." Our carriages and the servants, not immediately required, were left behind to take the French steamer for Malta, where we ourselves intended ultimately to repair. In bidding a final adieu to Constantinople—probably for ever—and, though venturing to deliver sentiments with regard to it, differing, probably, from all that have heretofore been given, I have to record that I sighed over its beauties as I departed, for it was then I appreciated them most.

Baron Stürmer insisted on attending us on board the yachts in his richly gilt galley. One of the

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attendant and necessary appurtenances to an ambassador are these large brilliant caïques, with their eighteen or twenty rowers, gaily dressed out. They carry at their prow the crest of the prophet; and when the Sultan ploughs the Golden Horn with his barge, which is pre-eminently gorgeous, and the ministers and pachas follow, the whole appears like a fairy fleet, eminently striking and beautiful.

Attended by our kind friends, we went on board ship at four p. m. on the evening of the 3d December; and, getting up our anchors, sailed for the Dardanelles that evening. On the 4th, in the morning, having run all night, we were abreast of the outer castles of Sestos and Abydos. The Hellespont here appeared to me three quarters of a mile across; the coast, on either side, was a succession of batteries and castles; and, of course, the passage of this formidable canal must mainly depend on the artillery and troops, and on the spirit and ability displayed in maintaining it. But it seems hardly possible to believe that any fleet could run up from the Archipelago without being placed

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hors de combat before it entered the Sea of Marmora, if the defences were served with courage, skill, and ability.

The general features of the Dardanelles disappointed me; and so did I remember, in a former hour, the entrance from the Baltic into the Sound. Objects which have been much vaunted always disappoint expectation.

The shores, both of Asia and Europe, are much lower than I had anticipated; the ground is poor and barren, and possesses no feature, except the batteries and defences, and I sought in vain, at daylight on the 4th, for all that has been portrayed by other writers.

In bidding adieu, and looking generally at the condition of Turkey as it is, I cannot avoid a few remarks upon the changes introduced into its social as well as political state, during the life of the late Sultan Mahmoud, as well as subsequently. In proportion to the direct intercourse with European powers held at Constantinople, from a very long period before the year 1821, pointed out by Mr. Slade, and even so far back as the time of General

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Sebastiani's visit, a certain and gradual, though but slow, change was taking place in the popular mind, at least of the better orders, in Turkey. The reforms of Sultan Selim, the English and Russian wars, had in a great degree counteracted this tendency; yet still it existed, though but faintly perceptible, in the class I have named. An impression began to gain ground that improvements might be made in some parts of the system of Turkey; that is to say, on points in which the nation was visibly defective, as contrasted with European powers.

For instance, a school of engineers has been established, but so miserably conducted, that it is related that, when Sebastiani visited it, he put to the professor of mathematics the every day question, of the sum of the angles of a right-angled triangle? The professor asked time to consult his brethren; and the Frenchman, instead of being told that it was equal to two right-angles, was gravely answered, that "all depended on the size of the triangle."

There was, then, a certain feeling that assisted

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the first steps of Mahmoud. He has been accused of precipitancy; but though this cannot be altogether denied, it seems to me that there are some grounds for defending him, even in this. The Sultan, undoubtedly, attempted too much at once; but he felt the extreme urgency of his position between Russia, hostile on the one hand, and Egypt advancing to emancipation on the other. He certainly concluded a treaty, giving very favourable terms to Russia, when she was hard pressed by Napoleon, in 1812. He also, at the same time, rejected, with great magnanimity, the offers of Bonaparte to assist his invasion; and, unfortunately, he allowed resentment at the conduct of Russia, in return, to overpower the advice of the friendly states who recommended him to preserve peace. But Mahmoud had no jealousies as to rival claims for his throne, for he was the sole descendant of Othman at the time; and, with this feeling to strengthen him, he was also aware that little time was to be lost for the reforms he meditated, as none would undertake them in case of his death.

The institutions of Christendom were adverse to

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the general feelings of the Turks, and their prejudices were strong; their consent could never, therefore, be obtained, and the gradual and slight innovations he began with, rendered him an object of suspicion to his own subjects. On the course he adopted I need not dwell in detail; but may notice, that the several grades in Turkish society are not marked, or rather do not exist—all stand in open and immediate relation to the sovereign alone, sustaining and sustained by their own long-established system; so that, unlike reforms in Europe, he might hope, by altering the system at once, to alter at the same time the feelings in proportion. I do not say this was correct, but it was far more probable and feasible in Turkey than in Europe.

All monarchical reforms are liable to be unpopular, because they concede less than is desired by the people; just as popular reforms appropriate too much. The attempt to change the dress of the nation was a bold step and ill-judged; for it not only degraded individuals in their own eyes, as to personal appearance, but assimilated the

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nation to those whom they had ever been taught to regard as enemies; it thus broke down one barrier against the Russians. This change of the national dress was not induced, like that of the Highlanders in 1746, to bring a part of the nation to join and intermingle with the rest, and thus strengthen the whole. On the contrary, where it produced in the nation generally any feeling beyond mortification and anger, it was evinced in a sullen disregard of national spirit and institutions; for, however we may affect to depreciate long-settled habits and opinions, prejudices though they are, they are still the depositories of higher and better things.

Had the Sultan, in the first instance, undermined the firm and deep-rooted errors of his subjects, instead of openly shocking them; had he introduced and perfected, by degrees, a system of education, and thus eradicated the evils, instead of merely cutting them down, to spring up again, he would have proceeded upon an intelligible basis, and to success: but the changes he introduced were not reforms, and were in many cases very

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questionable, and in many more very unnecessary. His decrees were chiefly confined to externals, of habits and manners, rather than minds; and while he thus sought to reform the upper ranks in particular, and left the lower in their ignorance, he was vainly endeavouring to build a new structure, that had no cohesion above, and no support from below. There were no natives educated to instruct the people, and foreigners were suspicious, even had they been capable of doing this to any extent. It was, however, the first experiment to engraft European civilization upon Asiatic forms; and, doubtless, many errors then committed might be easily rectified in a second essay of the same kind, and with the experience thus obtained.

But the most material of all Mahmoud's errors was, commencing reforms which required time and peace to consolidate and watch over, and turning them suddenly to purposes of war.

As to the destruction of the Janissaries, though the means are indefensible, I cannot consent, with Mr. Slade, to hold them the guardians of popular right, sufficiently to outweigh the ills their conduct

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entailed upon peaceful citizens, and the mischiefs they caused to the action of government in many cases of emergency. They had their uses, perhaps, but this was the usage of a past and obsolete period, and they opposed all changes, except what they themselves approved. Proper institutions should have supplied their place: but, however criminal and barbarous the act that put an end to their existence, I cannot think the opinion wrong that considers the loss a real benefit to Turkey. The vulgar there are not easily moved in masses; perhaps not so moved at all; but, with a government free to act upon the voice and wishes of the people, these will reach the sovereign's ear, either through the general notoriety of the fact, or through the duly constituted bodies, such as the mufti and ulemas, or doctors of the law, the constitutional advisers of the sovereign; or else through the viziers and other functionaries and servants of the crown; and even, in the last case, by popular outcries, with far less injury and danger to all parties, than by the janissary process of incendiary conflagrations and open revolution, and

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murders. If, as Mr. Slade observes, the popular discontent has now no channel for utterance in Turkey, this is no worse than in Persia and China; both Asiatic kingdoms, yet both subsist, it would seem, without it.

There is, however, a great want of the means of internal communication in Turkey as in Spain and Portugal. Roads, canals, and bridges, are in the reach of every administration, and ought to be the care of all who pretend to wish and effect the improvement of their country. With these inducements and facilities for trade in the interior, the state of the very numerous peasantry would be greatly improved, as these, however willing to labour, are really unable to get work; and in search of this, and to avoid the tax-masters, they and whole families flock to Constantinople, it is true, but I cannot feel with Mr. Slade, that, in conjunction with these causes, this accumulation of individuals, in want and poverty often, is any indication of the stability or prosperity of the capital, or the institutions of a country.

The state of cultivation of the soil is also a

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serious consideration; from want of encouragement of exports, and of the means of transport and communication, the growth is neglected, and languishes in the country. Little more than is needed for the support of the vicinity is grown in many places where the soil would bring ample returns for the outlay of labour, slight, too, as this is: but the harvests are scanty and neglected; the supply, even in this fertile land, is actually far short of the demand; the capital itself is dependent for supplies of this first necessary of life on Odessa and the Russian trade, whilst its own fields and native labourers are suffering from the negligence of the government. The export of Turkish grain ought at least, and in the opinion of natives themselves, to rival that of Russia, and would, with proper encouragement.

The continuance of peace, for the necessity of which all classes in Turkey are convinced, will enable the administration to turn their attention to these subjects, and also to the state of intercourse with Egypt. The plague, it is remarkable, is not indigenous to the capital, but, whenever it

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occurs, it is attributed by the Turks themselves to communication with Alexandria, direct, or through Smyrna. A diminution of the visits of this dreadful scourge, and a modification of the quarantine laws in the whole of the Mediterranean, would be of the greatest advantage to trade in this quarter; and proper precautions would, I feel certain, do a great deal in both cases, for natives as well as travellers, and commercial men.

It may be expected, before I conclude these hasty ideas on Turkey, that I should give some account of the existing system, and the reforms that have been lately made in the Turkish empire, and the success that has lately followed these changes; but this is so difficult a part of my task, since a stranger, after a short residence in the country, is incapable of forming any very satisfactory opinion, that I must content myself with a scanty outline, and a few passing remarks upon this intricate question.

I have already said that the changes introduced by Sultan Mahmoud were rather those of form, appearance, and manners, than of institutions. I may add, that the haste and levity with which

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many of them were made, and which, by their nature and suddenness, produced a strong feeling in the popular mind, joined with the admitted errors of the late monarch's own character, to induce the recal of several measures, through the influence and arts of those whom the innovations affected most disadvantageously, and who, by successively flattering, or piquing the Sultan's humours, obtained the end they sought. Mahmoud had commenced by raising and attaching to his person and designs various individuals of inferior rank, and whose interests were thus, he considered, bound up with his own. Some, of course, were more deserving than others, but none of them, any more than their master, had any thing like a thorough knowledge of European countries and their institutions; all, however, perfectly understood their own interests; so that, whenever any novel measure affected the views of these advisers or their friends, they contrived to infuse doubts into the Sultan's mind, and, by acting on his vanity, which was great, or his passions, which were strong, induced a fickle, contradictory, and

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inconsistent course; sometimes yielding to popular opinion, sometimes outraging it unnecessarily. Hence he suffered very severe private mortifications, and, not knowing how to rectify errors, he often committed excesses, to drown the pain he felt.

At Mahmoud's death, Reschid Pacha was, perhaps, the only one of the ministers who possessed both the will and the real ability to carry out his system properly, and to any great extent; and no one that knows this equally amiable and able man, can doubt that he was, in all respects, the fittest minister at that time, and for that purpose. He did not overlook the advantages of popular education; but this in Turkey was a singularly slow and difficult task, and it had been grievously neglected up to that time. There was then little or no previous and indispensable preparation in the public mind for the changes which it was absolutely necessary to introduce almost immediately; or else the enemies of the new order of things, and amongst these were the most influential persons of the State, and Khosrew Pacha, above all, would

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have seized the opportunity of intriguing with the public mind, and with the various functionaries every where, to procure a return to the old system. This, situated as the country was, would have been its destruction; for the new order, once established, could not be at once broken up and exchanged for the old, without unsettling every thing, and cherishing and confirming all the defects and vices of both, giving impunity to the corruption which had so early begun to manifest itself in the new system equally almost with the former.

But still there were some very great errors introduced in all the departments of the government: in the offices of state, in the capital, as well in the machinery of the provinces, the already excessive numbers of clerks, officials, and *employés* of all kinds was increased, in order that, by the subdivision of labour, each portion might be properly attended to: and very large salaries were bestowed, with no attempt to discriminate; calculated, it is said, nearly on the scale of British appointments, but, of course, far exceeding them in multitude, in

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order to obviate the existing system of bribes and extortions in all grades.

To encourage the various officials farther in the due performance of their new functions, and attach them to the government and its objects, the very expensive presents, which in oriental countries are bestowed as marks of high favour on deserving functionaries of the upper class, and upon distinguished strangers, as proofs of the liberality of the sovereign, were now given to merits of a very secondary nature at home; while a more parsimonious system was adopted towards foreigners and visiters. This last might be right, under certain reservations; but it, at any rate, lowered the position of the Ottoman Porte abroad, while the state of the Sultan himself was lessened by it also; but the extreme profusion with which, as it is stated, costly gifts were lavished on the parties alluded to, not only impoverished the treasury of the empire, but at the same time also created in the very receivers a thirst for fresh and constant acquisitions.

The evil consequences of all this may be easily

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imagined: wealth became more than ever the incentive to action: the formidable body of collectors of revenue and their officers could not be subjected to the system of checks proposed for them, because they were too numerous to be closely examined, and too rich, and with too much at stake, to hesitate at buying over, or ruining, if they could not corrupt, those who were from time to time appointed to inspect their proceedings. The government, too, was distracted by the intrigues of the minister and his opponents, to sustain or overthrow the new order; and, though the talents, and real honesty, and good faith, of Reschid Pacha were obvious, and for a very long time in such a country successful, the errors he made, some of them unavoidable, but serious, and the necessary imperfections in the working of a system totally different from all that had ever been known in the country, and requiring, perhaps, a far more cultivated state of public intellect and relations to operate effectively; all conspired to introduce much confusion, doubt, and dissatisfaction, and weaken the controlling power to a great extent. Thus,

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when the superintending power was impeded in its vigilance, the minor authorities acted as they pleased, and with little or no precaution, or alarm.

In addition to these causes, a very great difficulty and embarrassment was created by the alterations in the commercial system, and which were fundamental. I know I may be told that the Turkish mode was bad and faulty in the extreme, and that the French system, from its completeness, and the success of its procedure in its native country, might be fairly considered the fittest for transplanting to where an entire change was so needed.

It may be so, and, probably, this was the ground of its adoption by Turkey: but the Turks were not prepared for it: and I am by no means sure that the general leaning towards French institutions of all kinds, observable in Reschid Pacha's conduct, was best for the Turks. It is true the French code amounted to an entire change of system at home, after the great revolution; and so far there was some similarity between the circumstances of the two nations; but the Turks had

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had no insight whatever into the workings of any code but their own; and the stagnation consequent on so complete, and, to them, wholly incomprehensible an innovation, was not less distasteful, because it seemed, and, in reality was, nothing but an abandonment of their sacred law and lawgiver, in favour of an infidel mode of procedure. Thus religion aided the popular distress, and inflamed it.

Next comes the English treaty, which, amidst the general stagnation, increased the duties on every thing; affording a premium to smugglers, who have increased to an enormous extent.

The merchants and others began to feel that Russia alone would protect them; which, in fact, and in consonance with her usual policy, this power actually proceeded to do towards all who sought her protection. The Christian population of Constantinople, Mr. Slade says, are on the increase, while the Turks are declining in numbers; and perhaps this is correct: but, at any rate, there is a constantly increasing sympathy among the Greeks and Armenians towards the Russians, as their prompt and more immediate,

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as well as nearest defenders. The Haratch, or capitation-tax, so severely felt in the provinces, the rayah privilege, or berat, and the new imposts thus transferred all the fealty of the Turkish subjects to foreigners; for theirs, and especially Russian protection, was all potent with the Ottoman government, and was on the spot; while the British Embassy was supine, and at the distant abode of Therapia, as if purposely to avoid any promptitude or effective interference in the very matters it was its duty to watch and influence. Even when it did intervene, the favourable moment had been anticipated by its rival.

Thus, then, while the real habits of the Turks inclined them towards England, and perhaps also Austria; and their feelings run in the same channel, as from these two powers they have nothing they consider to fear; the steps taken by their own government internally, assimilated them to France, though the genius of the people, the Turkish portion I mean, is totally estranged from hers; and the external policy of the porte, and the errors of the British ministry, forced the ge-

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nerality towards Russia: a change to which, as I said before, the Christian subjects of the porte are already too much disposed.

I must think that the preference for the French system in Reschid Pacha arises, in a great measure, from this minister's thorough acquaintance with the language and manners of that fascinating people, while of English he is wholly ignorant. This is a sad defect in a great minister and diplomatist at foreign courts at any time. But still more so when he is called upon to weigh impartially the different institutions of the great European nations, that he may select from these the portions best adapted for his native land at a particular crisis.

I think it far easier to comprehend the Russian, Austrian, and Prussian systems through French spectacles and medium than the English: as the entire spirit of our own country is totally opposite, even in its modes of thought and phrases of language to the French.

It will be objected that our institutions are the slow growth of ages; but too much stress, I con-

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sider, has been laid on this argument, as unfitting our code for adoption elsewhere. But the first discoverers in every thing arrive more slowly and circuitously at their results; and, when once attained, others can far more easily follow them. If our system is as good as it is admitted to be, it will allow of a much wider and more general application than the reasoning I have alluded to would suffer, though not in all its points. However, it is remarkable, that while England was excluded, the example of the United States, in one instance, was followed: I mean, in the adoption of councils for every separate department of state, if I am rightly informed. Now, though this may very well suit in a republican government, because, the general rule being in the hands of many, the guidance of each department may, without violation of this principle, be assumed likewise by the many; and this, perhaps, is the reason why no warm and generous impulse, or course of action, is ever charged upon the American government; still, the regulation introduces a slow and inefficient mode of action in itself, and shifts, like councils of war, the

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responsibility of the one upon many; in fact, does away with it to a great degree. Whatever may be the results in America, it must be allowed that slowness and irresponsibility are not the proper characteristics of a government in a crisis like that of the Porte, where energy, vigour, and high resolve only could expect to succeed in abolishing the abuses and corruptions existing in both the present and recent systems.

In a word, so far as I can understand the spirit of these Orientals, they cannot, just yet at least, be trusted with a complicated and intricate form and code of regulations. Their pachas and governors, of all degrees, form a very simple, but bad and violent machinery, it may be; yet with them it is effective; and, till a better principle is not merely introduced, but established, by time, care, and education amongst the common people; and till they can be brought to see the advantages of union, order, and regularity, their blind and forced submission must be gradually and carefully relaxed, and not thrown aside in haste, to the injury of their domestic position, and their foreign influence and relations.

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But what constitutes the most remarkable feature of these changes is, that while all else was undergoing revision, the financial system was disregarded, and no means of any energy were adopted to raise the money requisite for the wants of the government. The mines might have been made available, but both native bankers and foreign capitalists were either neglected or alarmed: the taxes failed; the customs were diminishing, not only from the causes I have stated, but from peculation and fraud also: the people, the Greeks especially, would not pay their quotas without being forced to it; paper-money was tried without success; the currency was depreciated; the *suras*, or councils, of peasants in the different districts appointed to fix the sum of taxation in each, all opposed the government scheme; the provincial inspectors, who were anxious to regain their lucrative posts, traversed the projects of their adversary; and the Ulemas, whose authority had been superseded by the new commercial system, increased and stimulated, covertly and openly, also, the general resistance, assisted by the intrigues of the minister's own colleagues. An

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opinion was gaining ground that Reschid was a theorist merely, and would ruin the nation to carry out his notions: thus the ability of this minister, and his unquestionable honesty, have been exposed to a severe test. With all my opinion of his talents, the neglect or injury done to the finances of his country, even at this early period of his administration, when the receipts are fast diminishing on every side, force me to conclude that oversights have been committed, which require time, prudence, vigour, and also great modifications, to rectify.

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CHAPTER XVI.

Voyage to Smyrna — Appearance of Scio — The Greeks unworthy the sympathy of Europe — Rough Weather — Quarantine at Corfu — Arrangements and mode of Living in the Lazaretto — Family Reunion — Comfortless Quarters at the Club Hotel—Courtesies exhibited by the authorities at Corfu — Benefits conferred on the Ionian Islands, by the Lord High Commissioners — A Visit to the College of Education for Greek Youth — Excellent System of Tuition — Liberal Opposition—Greek Law of Divorce, and attempts at its Reform — Separation of the Civil and Military Government of the Island — Opinions as to the strength of the Defences — Necessity of their being strengthened, and the Garrison increased —Happiness of the People of Corfu—Intrigues of the Liberals.

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CHAPTER XVI.

We had strong winds through the Dardanelles and at the entrance of the Archipelago. We were anxious to run for Smyrna, but the wind blew so fresh as to baffle the tacking of the yachts, unless, indeed, we had taken more time in beating up than I was willing to bestow on the effort, and merely for the sake of passing a day or two at Smyrna. The fact was, the season was getting so late, that I could not be indifferent to the bad weather in the Archipelago and Adriatic, so proverbial at this season. I prevailed, therefore, on my companions, Mr. Bentinck and Captain Lyon, to bear up for Scio, which island we reached about mid-day on the 5th. We landed, and witnessed the dreadful desolation of houses overthrown, and a flourishing city wholly destroyed; the Turks reeking their ruth-

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less vengeance upon it for striving to throw off their domination, and declaring for the Greeks and independance. The place, however, is recovering; merchants are settling there again; the climate is salubrious, and the spot one of the most charming among the islands of the Archipelago.

With these I could not be pleased: I saw nothing but large masses of rock rising out of the sea, and of strange, uncouth feature, form, and fashion. Sunset gives them their only charm; they are nothing in daylight. No woods, nor vegetation in general, except at their base, where alone, and in the lowest parts of the land, the little they have of cultivation, is to be seen. The most singular circumstance in these barren, spotted dominions is, that the towns are so frequently built on the very summit of the wildest and highest crags. How they are approached is difficult to understand. The houses are of stone, but all with flat roofs, and look more wind and waterproof also than their Turkish neighbours within the Dardanelles. The Greeks who appeared, generally look like degenerate examples of a fallen race. They do not merit

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the independence that has been so unwisely and unnecessarily established for them; and, as Mr. Slade says, in a passage of his interesting book, to which I entirely subscribe,

"None have been more deceived in the Greeks than the English, &c. Europe, if she have not already opened them, will open her eyes, and be ready to regret that she has done so much—broken old ties, and committed a great act of injustice for so undeserving a race."

From Scio we had a prosperous gale to Milo on the 7th; but here the wind headed us, accompanied with torrents of rain, lightning, and thunder, in fearful succession; and we were forced to run for shelter into Milo Bay, where, owing to the gale continuing, we remained the following day, when the yacht, although the weather was still most unfavourable, beat out of the bay. It was a heavy sea, and bad and sickening work. Clearing the headlands before dark, we got into the open sea, having the wind a-beam during the night, and made a good run towards Cape St. Angelo, which we

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passed, as well as Cape Matapan and Navarino. On the 9th, though the weather was very tempestuous and rough, and we suffered greatly in our small cutter, the wind was not positively unpropitious. Our vessel made Paxo, Ante Paxo, and Corfu on the evening of the 10th; but, not liking running in by dark, we steered for the Albanian coast, got into a small bay for the night, and anchored in Corfu roadsted the following day, where we found the Tyne frigate, Captain Townshend, at anchor.

We were immediately visited by the quarantine inspector and commander; and the yacht was ordered into the ground appropriated for the yellow flag. So soon as we had made the necessary inquiries and arrangements, we learned, with great sorrow, that we should have to pass a long quarantine of fourteen or seventeen days, reckoning from the 6th, the day we took a clean bill of health from Scio. We could not get free before the 21st at soonest; and our troubles were increased by hearing the quarantine station was very bad, and in an island two miles off, where we

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should be deprived of the comforts Corfu could afford.

Under the kind assistance, however, of the Lord High Commissioner, Sir H. Douglas, who showed me every possible care and attention, we prevailed on the quarantine captain, at the office of health, to give us two rooms of his own on shore; and the physician, who held the office of inspector of health, had, subsequently, the very great kindness to vacate his own lodgings, two really good rooms, with fire-places. In these four small apartments we were stowed away, ourselves and our servants, with no inconsiderable satisfaction, on the 13th. Indeed, although we had eight weary days to pass in this imprisonment, I must say that as our friends from the yachts came and dined with us each day, as we had luxuries of all kinds sent from the governors, in viands, for the table; for the senses beautiful flowers, and for the mind quantities of books and newspapers, the time did not pass heavily nor disagreeably.

To those who have not moved, or rather halted, under the yellow flag, perhaps a short description

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of what is usually endured in such a situation will not be thought superfluous. In all places where quarantine laws are in force, there is a small spot, paled or railed off as a landing-place for the crews of the vessels arriving. Here the officer and guardians of health are placed. In a wooden hovel or enclosure the conferences are held between those arriving and those who are to examine and award the length of quarantine, and determine when they can receive a clean bill of health, or get pratique, as it is termed.

In the conversations which are thus held, the strangers are kept at arm's length; and if any papers, documents, or any thing else, is to be handed in or exchanged, it is put in boxes of tin, or taken in upon pincers, and undergoes the process of fumigating and smoking. Nothing can be more rigid than these laws of pestilential and pestiferous importance. The authorities or consuls will never relax the least in their power or authority, and the number of days confinement or delay in the Lazarattos, as these prisons are termed, is calculated according to orders received as to the

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state of the plague in different quarters, especially at Constantinople. In going from Turkey, fourteen days, as I have said, were imposed.

When you go out of doors for a walk, to breathe the air within the space allotted to you, a guardian with a stick is at your side; and, if any one approaches to address you, he keeps him at due distance. In fact, you never can stir without this keeper; and our situation, from having been long on board ship, so much required every comfort and advantage we could obtain, that we were obliged to make the men, women we wanted, and even washerwomen, come from the town into the quarantine with us.

Some Turkish piastres, which I desired to have exchanged for Spanish dollars, I had to throw into a tub of water; and the Greek authority hardly then thought it safe to touch them. The Lazaretto, at Syra, was cold, comfortless, and abominable in all ways; so it was fortunate we came forward to spend our imprisonment at Corfu.

Our friends were our society; and the day

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before we were liberated (or obtained pratique) the rest of our family most happily arrived from Trieste by Ancona, in the fine Austrian steam-vessel, the Mahmoud. And here I cannot help recording a singular piece of good fortune; namely, that having divided my family into two columns of march, separated by considerable distances, both by sea and land, and subjected likewise to all sorts of contingencies, illness, accident, or otherwise, the union of all should take place on the island of Corfu, and within one day of one divison of the party getting out of quarantine to receive and embrace the other. It was impossible not to feel grateful for circumstances so providential.

On the 21st of December we declined the very kind offer of the Lord High Commissioner to lodge in the Government house, and were installed in the Club Hotel, on the Esplanade of Corfu. The inn may be tolerable in the summer, and the people were civil and moderate in their demands; but, at that period of the year, there being only one fireplace in the house, the walls of wood or single lath and plaster only, and neither doors nor win-

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dows shutting, we found the quarters very comfortless and disagreeable.

The utmost civility and cordiality was shown to us; the general commanding the forces and garrison (Sir George Berkeley), a particular old friend and brother officer of mine in Spain, and the President of the Senate, all in succession, gave great dinner parties; and I was called upon to review the garrison, and was most considerately conducted over all the fortifications and other interesting and important features of the place.

Since the Ionian islands have been in the possession of England, much has been done for the increase of their commerce, for the improvement of their agriculture, and for the amelioration of their condition, and especially as regards the establishment of moral and religious institutions. Of the three late Lord High Commissioners I would observe, that unquestionably Sir Thomas Maitland first laid those admirable foundations, which his successors have carried out, and punctually pursued. From all I could learn, the great ability, firmness, talent, and decision, dis-

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played by this first Lord High Commissioner will ever be recorded in the seven islands. Sir Frederic Adam was an able and clever officer; he seems to have run, however, into unnecessarily large expences and luxuries, which, from all accounts, Government was under the necessity of liquidating. I consider a splendid country-house built, at an immense cost, within a mile of the palace in the town, and for the governor's own private enjoyment, one of the greatest absurdities that could have been committed. So much so has this appeared, that the edifice is now abandoned to the Government of the place. Next came Lord Nugent; he let loose the liberal spirit, and wished to accomplish great objects, but by strangely inadequate means.

To the present governor very much of real merit and extraordinary labour and zeal in the performance of his arduous duties is to be ascribed. Lord Guildford having, as it is known, founded an university, though he left it unendowed at his death, Sir H. Douglas, with great judgment and benevolence, has established a college of education for one

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hundred of the Greek youth. It is admirably arranged; and, for eight dollars a month, which is the whole charge for learning, every Greek boy of honest and worthy parents can obtain a perfect education. It is established much upon the model of the Russian institutions. Having inspected it throughout, I can testify that, in cleanliness, order, attention to diet, health, exercise, and general conduct, as well as for all the rudiments of learning, it cannot be surpassed.

I was particularly struck by the director of this establishment informing me that, since he has had charge of it, he never had occasion to chastise or confine any of his *elèves*. On inquiring how this remarkable subordination could be maintained, and the young men kept in due order and obedience, he answered that it was done by his considering himself their father, and acting as such to them all; addressing their feelings, appealing to their understandings, and working on their affections patiently, quietly, and with vigilant perseverance. I told the director if he could once establish a system really effective for this end, he would be conferring an inestimable

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advantage on mankind. But I could not but doubt and fear the efficacy of his plan in countries where high-spirited, thoughtless youths were deaf to the persuasive tones that might influence the intellectual Greek.

Sir H. Douglas had to contend of late in Corfu with the great efforts of the liberal factions to press reform upon the government; and, while he was desirous of introducing improvements in the laws, especially of marriage and divorce, he with much judgment opposed the extension of power which the demagogues required. All this led to much contention. The patriarch of Constantinople opposed the improvements suggested in some of the legal ordinances of the church. As the Greek law now stands, divorces can be had on the easiest possible terms. Collusion between man and wife, a mere rough touch, suffices to establish cruelty, and a bribe can obtain proof of the necessity of separation. In marriages, there are many absurd, pernicious, and unnecessary laws, which, for the happiness and morals of the Greek people, had much better have been modified. To accomplish these and many

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other ameliorations, efforts were made by Sir Howard; but the bishops and patriarch opposed, and the latter, most hostile to English interests, endeavoured to bring about disaffection and rebellion. Lord Ponsonby, in consequence, at Sir Howard's instigation, tried to induce the Porte to suspend or remove the patriarch; but, perhaps, owing to inertness or want of influence in the former, nothing effective has been yet accomplished. In the midst of these and other very interesting objects of legislation, Sir Howard Douglas receives an order for his recall, for the purpose of placing Mr. M'Kenzie Stuart, from Ceylon, in his place. The civil and military government of these important islands was thus unsettled, at a moment, considering our policy and position with regard to France, teeming with difficulty and danger.

The right of the government and prerogative of the crown to make what changes they think proper, no one can dispute: but, when the naval and military committees of parliament have decided that the office of lord high commissioner should be vested in one head, to fulfil the duty both of civil

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and military governor, and that, in all respects, this plan has been found to answer, it is a perfect Whig exercise of power to separate the military and civil authority, merely for the sake of patronage.

The probability of a war with France had led Sir Howard, most properly and judiciously, to make every exertion for putting Corfu into the best possible state of defence. This was the more necessary, as the Whig government had very little attended to any representations; and, certainly, the defences that have been projected of late have been carried on upon far too extensive a scale, more especially if there are to be no troops to garrison the place, nor guns to place in the batteries.

The fortifications are not confined to two citadels at Corfu, but embrace very extensive works on the island of Vido, to protect the entrance to the roadsted. And I do not think five thousand men at all too large a force to occupy and defend this place, where there are at present only two regiments, the 59th and 60th.

I am not disposed to speak positively as to the na-

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ture of the defences, or the views of, doubtless, very able officers who have constructed them; but, in my opinion, the island, if attacked at all, would be attempted by a landing in the old Venetian bay; and, were this accomplished, a superior force might surround the fortress of Corfu, and, holding possession of the country behind, starve out the garrison for want of water as well as provisions. There is nothing to prevent a large fleet sailing into this bay, whereas no fleet would attempt going near Corfu or Vido; and if, instead of the very large scale of their works, a martello tower or two had been erected, and similar ones in the Venetian bay and at other points, as *appui* to the troops opposing a disembarkation, the arrangements, and especially for a small force,. such as we must keep there, would, in my humble judgment, be more judicious.

I doubt much, however, if the government at home attend as they ought to the reports of the governors of our possessions and colonies at a distance, or else surely Corfu would not be left without guns; nor would the 42nd regiment have been sent out, as I myself saw, to the island to relieve

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the 59th, with the new percussion locks, but wholly without any caps for them. This instance of extreme neglect ought not to pass unnoticed.

The most active exertions were making by the lord high commissioner to put Corfu into the best state of defence his means afforded. He had drilled his two regiments to practise the guns under the able advice of Colonel Browne of the Engineers, and had additional batteries planted at the castle and heights.

This island should be carefully looked after by England; the others are, in comparison, of no importance. The people throughout them all, however, are happy, for how can they be otherwise, when they pay no taxes, and the duties on oil and some other articles cover all the government expences? whereas in Greece every article is taxed, and a payment even levied on land, the peasant being forced to contribute to it, whether he cultivates the soil or not. How different, then, might be the condition of these last — the same people, from the same clime, of the same origin, and speaking the same language! and yet, with all these ad-

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vantages in the Ionian islands, the discontented liberals of Corfu are always actively intriguing against British dominion and interests, because they want to overturn those who are in the enjoyment of the best places and situations.

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CHAPTER XVII.

Courtesy of Sir Howard Douglas—Appearance of Paxo, Cephalonia, and St. Maur—Reported Brigandage of the Greeks—The British Consulate at Patras—Uncomfortable Inns—Conveyance to Corinth placed at our disposal by the Russian *chargé d' affaires* — Hospitality of Sir Edmund Lyons —New Year in the Parthenon—Immortal Memorials—Lords Elgin, Byron, and Durham — Singular etiquette established at the Court of Athens — Presentation to the King and Queen — A Royal Dinner at Athens — The King and Queen of Greece — Handsome Conduct of the King — Preposterous charge of the agents of an Austrian Lloyd's Company's vessel.

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CHAPTER XVII.

Having experienced every possible kindness from Sir Howard Douglas, I was on the point of sailing with my family for Malta, when he suggested our seeing Athens; and, to facilitate this object, placed the Ionian steamer at my disposal.

This was too tempting an offer to be refused; so, framing a plan to fall in again with our children at Zante on the way to Malta, Lady L. and I, accompanied by Captain Lyon and Doctor Forbes, sailed on the 20th December from Corfu for Patras and Athens.

We ran down through the islands towards the gulph of Patras on a lovely day, passing Paxo, Cephalonia, and St. Mauro; but these islands have only a very partially picturesque appearance, their general features being crag and barrenness. The

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night proved boisterous, and the wind heading us as we approached Patras, we thought it best to run in, especially as we had ample time before us. On going on shore to Mr. ———, the consul's, we found, to our great dismay, that the letters sent by Sir Howard Douglas to Sir E. Lyons, to announce our arrival, and prepare means for our crossing the Isthmus of Corinth, were lying on the consul's table, so that we had overtaken our own advanced guard. In this dilemma we could only remedy the evil by sending an express overland to Athens, begging Sir E. Lyons to communicate as soon as possible with us on our arrival in the Bay of Corinth, and also ask some ship at Calimachi to take us through the gulph of Egina to Athens.

All this, however, caused much unforeseen delay; and we stayed from the 28th to the 31st December on board our Ionian steamer, gradually making way by Delphi to Corinth, but not thinking it prudent to risk leaving our steamer, even in order to see either of these classic spots; in the first place, because their distance was so great

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from the shore, and there was no carriage-road, so that it would have been too fatiguing, and the weather was also too cold for a lady to ride; and, secondly, we heard unpleasant stories about the brigandage of the Greeks in this part of the country. A boat's crew had lately landed from an English ship, the purser loitered behind the rest, and had round his neck a strong silver chain; this it is supposed was the cause of his total disappearance and too probably fatal end, for, on his party returning to look for him, no trace of his existence could be discovered. This story so new and so alarming, threw a damp over the courage of our female party.

Nothing appeared to me more deplorable than the residence at Patras; a vice-consul, Mr. Robinson, assisted his chief; but what great business there was to employ two official men there, I was at a loss to discover. There seemed neither ships nor trade; and in the whole place, from consuls downwards, there was not a bottle of port wine to be had. These gentlemen of the British consular department are generally the kings or first magis-

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trates of the small ports where they reside, especially where there is a quarantine establishment. They can be very great men, and some I have found so; but they may be certain they hurt their own interest and situations by doing only what they are paid for, instead of protecting and assisting all classes of their countrymen.

There were two nominal inns at Patras, one had one fireplace in it and no stoves; the other none of either. The one was full of vermin; the other had not tables, chairs, or beds for four persons. The consul offered his house if we chose to take it, but it seemed displacing him and a large family; and we never like to see and feel that we inconvenience any one. The other places of halt within the gulph are merely two or three barns or rather outhouses, where Greeks keep a sort of bazaar or booth for eating and drinking. They are absolutely more filthy and wretched than any thing I witnessed in Africa; and the people, though strong and robust, have a hungry, cunning eye, and an impoverished *ensemble*, which makes you shrink from them in disgust and almost dread.

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Such was my first impression of the classic land, and such the general aspect approaching Patras, Delphi, and Corinth.

We landed on the 29th, opposite Corinth, in the hope of reaching Callomachi, and finding some sort of habitation therein, to wait further tidings of our conveyance across to Athens; but, on inspecting the place, it was more abominable than even Patras, so we were obliged to return and sleep on board our steamer. On the 31st, in the morning, we were going on an expedition in the interior, when we discovered from our vessel an estafette from Athens, sent overland; seizing the letters thus brought, we learnt that Sir E. Lyons, finding he could get no aid from the Greek authorities, had accepted the kind offer of Mr. ———, the *chargé d'affaires* of Russia, who placed a Russian cutter of war at our disposal; and this was sent to wait our arrival at Callimachi. Not a moment was now to be lost, and, instead of the exploit to the top of the fortress, we got a small car, or dog-cart, into which Lady L. and I mounted; and with three country

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waggons, escorted by Greeks, Russian sailors, and our English party, we started across the Isthmus, and arrived late on the 30th at Callimachi. The Russian barges were ready at the miserable stone place of embarkation; three of the cutter's boats conveyed us on board; and, as the sun went down, we found ourselves surrounded by a crew of fifty Russian sailors, hoisting their sails, and raising their anchor, by the various whistles which form part of the maritime code of conveying orders in the Russian navy. The vessel was cutter-rigged, and not two hundred tons burthen.

The captain's cabin, appropriated to us, was very small, but, as by the adverse wind, or rather dead calm that rose, we found we should stay on board all night, we divided the *salon* by a sail, giving Lady L. one half, with her maid, and we gentlemen took the other.

The Russian minister had not done things by halves. He had provided a sumptuous dinner for a ship-repast, sending his own cook and *maître d'hôtel* on board, so we sat down to *entrées* and *entre-mets*, which compensated for bad night accom-

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modation. At daylight we were still twelve miles from the Piræus, but not wishing to lose more time, the captain saw our anxiety, and very good-naturedly manned his three boats with more than twenty of his crew, who rowed us twelve miles to the shore. We landed at the Piræus on the 31st, about 11 a.m., and found our minister's (Sir Edmund Lyons) carriages, with much attention, waiting our arrival.

Sir Edward regretted not being able to lodge us all in his house, as his daughter had just been confined; but he insisted on our dining with him every day during our stay: and for this mark of kind hospitality, as well as the other, and extreme civilities we met at Athens, we are bound to be most grateful. I opened the new year in the Parthenon, having been conducted to the Acropolis by our minister, who insisted on being *ciceroni* to Lady L. The impression these matchless and magnificent ruins, of an undying glory, made upon one not versed in scholastic lore, exciting, elevating, and ennobling the mind with a sweet, though half melancholy feeling, indicates what they must feel,

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who, with book in hand, and stored with classic recollections, can wander over all this hallowed ground, and tell the tale of every ruin, or recognise the sight of every celebrated monument.

Sir Edmund, pointing to a hill at some short distance from the Acropolis, observed—" In that spot yonder Lord Aberdeen, with book in hand, and a party of workmen, dug and discovered the celebrated marbles in the British Museum. Yonder, on the top of that pillar, Byron wrote his name, and lampooned Elgin for carrying them away; and there, underneath, you may still read Durham's title; he, when here, engraved his name under that of Byron, and had all the earth, by which he mounted to effect it, removed, that no humbler name or mind might ever hereafter approach these two immortal memorials." These, and a thousand stories of the place, sunk deep on my mind; and I have no hesitation in recording, that the spectacle of the Acropolis and the ruins of Athens are the most extraordinary and impressive, even to an ignorant eye, to be met with in the world.

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To enumerate the ancient piles, the ruins, the temples, and other interesting features, the wonders of Athens, is not my intention; all these require more time and labour than could be comprised in many volumes. The sole, true way of estimating them properly is, to go and visit them.

We passed our time at Athens with great satisfaction and pleasure; our dinner at the minister's was followed by a presentation to the King and Queen of Greece. The etiquette King Otho has established at his court is singular; all the men he receives with the queen present; but he himself receives no ladies; and no ladies, except those in waiting on the queen, are ever allowed to dine at court, though his majesty invites distinguished gentlemen on such occasions. The queen's reception of ladies is in the morning, and in a walking or riding costume. In conformity with this arrangement, so different from that of all other courts of Europe, I had my audience of the king and queen on a Sunday evening, just before they were going to dinner: and I was asked to dine with his majesty on the following day, on which

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day also Lady Londonderry was received, in a morning dress, by the queen, of whom she had an hour's audience.

King Otho's dinner had the appearance of state and splendour, but Athens is yet sadly in her infancy as to modern living, luxuries, and enjoyments. The table was handsomely decorated, but the *cuisine* of Germany and of Athens was very indifferent, as well as the wines. A good deal of ceremony was observed, the Prince Royal of Bavaria being present. He sat next the queen, and I next his majesty. The king was in his magnificent Greek dress, and generally wears it on private occasions; but before his troops, or in public, he puts on his new modern Greek uniform, which is precisely the same as the Bavarian.

The queen is not tall, but graceful, and singularly pleasing; and the king has an amiable manner, with an expressive eye; but the rest of his countenance is not prepossessing. He was extremely courteous, and proposed to show me, the next morning, the Greek troops he had at Athens. He also, knowing, I presume, my difficulty as to

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getting back across the isthmus to the Corinth bay to our steam-boat, in the handsomest manner offered his own steamer for my service. This, under the peculiar circumstances of the moment, was not only a high personal honour, but was considered in the political circles as a return to those good feelings towards England which, from various causes, had been conjectured as for some time on the decline. In mentioning this favour, I may also state here, that some embarrassment had been caused me by what I considered an exorbitant demand for an Austrian Lloyd's Company's vessel, which had brought the Prince of Bavaria to Naples; she was still at the Piræus, and on my sending to hire it for the run of thirty hours to Callimachi, the people asked sixty pounds, which was more than I paid for steaming five hundred miles in the Corfu and Ionian steamers. I thought the charge preposterous, and I demurred, and hence, through the kind medium of my old brother-soldier, General Church, and the minister of the interior, it came to the king's knowledge, and led him to offer me his own vessel.

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Nothing can be more inexcusable than for a great speculating company to allow their agents to take advantage of persons placed under peculiar circumstances, and almost without a choice, in order to reap unwarrantable profits. I was heartily rejoiced to throw my Austrian friends, the Lloyd's Steam-company, overboard; more especially as I felt they ought, in common decency, to have acted fairly by me, for the services I was trying to render them.

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CHAPTER XVIII.

The King of Greece reviews his troops on the plains of Athens — Their number — System of the Greek tacticians — Peculiarity in their cavalry exercise — Hospitality of the Austrian Ambassador—Miserable appearance of Athens—The King's new Palace—Its defects—Places of worship—Immense expense of the new Palace—Greece, as a constitutional monarchy, more despotic in its government than when subjected to the alleged tyranny of the Ottoman empire—King Otho performs all the functions of the administration—General dissatisfaction — Employment of torture — Conference with the King—Extract from a Letter from Sir Edmund Lyons, stating that this conversation with the King has led to a change in his majesty's opinions.

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CHAPTER XVIII.

The king's review before the Prince Royal of Bavaria and myself took place the 4th January, on the plains of Athens. There were only two squadrons of lancers, six guns, two battalions of Greek infantry, and a battalion of chasseurs—little more than a parade of a guard. However, the king shewed us a specimen of each corps exercising separately. The Greek tacticians appeared to me to have established a system of their own, intermediate between the Prussian and Bavarian; and it differs materially in many points from ours, in which I think they are wrong. In their formations, they always place their artillery and cavalry on the left of their line; this is evidently an error, as in marching off from the right the cavalry and

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artillery, which move the quickest, must be delayed, and become unsteady in rear of the column.

Another point, trivial in itself perhaps, but at the same time objectionable, is, that the line is allowed to stand with their arms presented during the whole time of the reviewing general's going along it. Of course the men grow unsteady, and the arms present the appearance of a worse alignment than if the men were at carried arms.

The cavalry exercise was peculiar, and injudicious. They made the lancers charge in column, so that all the rear divisions are in a *melée* with the front. But enough of this; for, I admit, the Greeks are but very young beginners in modern military movements; the soldiers are nimble, active, and intelligent; and, if things are carried on by the government in an efficient manner, all may be rectified and improved.

After the inspection, the king, on alighting, begged me to follow him to his closet, in order to have half an hour's conversation.

We had to assist at a great dinner prepared for us by the attentions of Count Probet, the Austrian

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ambassador; and, I must say, that the Austrians, as well as our Russian friends, availed themselves of every occasion in their power to do us honour.

The Austrian minister's wife is a very charming person, and a first-rate musician. She played beautifully after dinner at her own musical soirée; which we left early, as we were obliged to embark at the Piræus at six, in order to get across the isthmus the following day before dark.

Considering Athens as a capital, it is, at the moment, poorer and more miserable than could be imagined without inspection. A general plan has been adopted for re-arranging and re-building the old town. At present the houses rise here and there, as sites are taken or merchants choose to erect them. A commencement of paving the streets is attempted, but the filthy bazaars have not been improved into good shops; and the mixture of ruin and restoration, the attempt to mask want under a show of display, are very remarkable. The police regulations of the town are strangely neglected, the dirt and abominations in it are shocking, and the more to be deprecated as a little diligent

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care and attention would remedy the most glaring nuisances.

At the top of the leading street of the city, and now in rapid progress towards completion, is the new palace for the king. The view from it is very fine, having the Acropolis, the Parthenon, and the Temple of Jupiter on its left, with the Piræus and ocean beyond; in the centre is the town of Athens, with the Temple of Theseus and other antiquities; while from the right your eye stretches over the mountains of the Peloponnesus. But further than the *emplacement* I cannot praise; neither the architectural plan nor the construction of the royal residence. There is not a fine room in the building; and the saloons for receiving company are placed in dark courts behind, instead of being open to the beautiful scenery which the spot commands.

There are no less than three chapels, at three of the corners of the edifice; one for Catholics, including the king; another, a Protestant chapel, for the queen; and a third, a Greek church, for their children, who, it is agreed, are to be brought up in that faith. At present, after four years, there are no signs of offspring. The crown, however, in

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failure of issue, descends to the next brother in Bavaria; and it is specially provided by treaty that the crowns of Bavaria and Greece cannot be placed on the same head.

The columns, pilasters, and windows of the palace are of the finest marble and stone; the latter, however, all of equal size, and very small in their proportion, run in straight lines along the façade, and give it the appearance of a barrack, or hospital. It is true there is a colonnade, but it is low, small, and destitute of effect. The main walls of the building are (strange to say) constructed of rubble, like park walls, not even ashler being used; and the contrast between the cornices of cut-stone, and the facing of the whole with rough mason-work, is absolutely lamentable. It is said, however, that, such as it is, this palace has already cost three hundred thousand pounds, and that six hundred thousand will not finish it; but where the money is to come from to pay for what has been done, much less to encounter the expences to the end, no one can divine. The roof is covered with zinc, which is stated to be as good as slate. Bava-

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rian sculptors, painters, &c., are employed in numbers from Munich to work at this building. Such is the new palace at Athens and its prospects.

I will now sketch my humble views of the position of this unhappy country of Greece, as far as its political interests are concerned, its government, its actual state, and the consequences that seem impending.

It is one of the phenomena in the legislation of the last ten years, that a nation, abstracted from an adjoining empire under the pretext of despotism and tyranny exercised over it by the latter, should now exhibit, under the mere semblance of a nominal and independent sovereignty, a far stronger example of bad government, and without one half the security for the person and property of the subject, than it did when under the sway of the Ottoman Empire; from which the makers of kingdoms have thought proper to tear it away.

But such is the fact. A constitutional monarchy was solemnly promised to this nation; and when their national assembly was sitting at Athens, the French and English ministers went to them, and

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declared, in the name of their governments, that, if they would separate, an immediate plan of constitutional administration should be established. On the faith of these declarations they dissolved; ten years have now passed over; and instead of any approach towards fulfilment of the promise, the Greeks are at present under more abject dominion and more in the sovereign's sole power, than when belonging to Turkey.

When Count Armansperg was directing the ministry at Athens, I understand there was a sort of communication between the allied ministers and the government, under a creditable and seemingly responsible minister. Since his departure, every thing of business is transacted by a clerk, with whom the accredited envoys will not communicate; the king himself performs (in imitation, I suppose, of Louis Philippe or Napoleon) all the functions of the administration; he is *chef* of the departments; and he manages the finance, having none but Bavarian *écrivains* employed in the offices. He has not allowed the nation to see a budget for three years. His councils of state are never called

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together, nor if they were, could it be of much avail; as, by some preliminary arrangements, framed artfully at Munich, the council was formed with an understanding that they could only accept or reject what was placed before them, but could neither initiate nor deliberate on other points. So they are merely nominal, and wholly useless. The king's ordinances prevail over all laws. The appointments, civil and military, are given to Bavarians; and the officers in the service from Bavaria are said to treat the natives like slaves. All parties seem in arms against the king, and are violently declaiming that things cannot remain as they are.

This state of affairs alarms his majesty, but he has too little experience, I fear, to extricate himself. Like a child who has grasped all the enjoyments of a toy, he is unwilling to part with any portion of it, and especially that which puts it in motion, and which is the most interesting. In the late disturbances in the interior, and the threatened insurrections, I fear that torture has been resorted to, for punishments and confessions; this is most

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unfortunate, to use the mildest term, as it greatly adds to the unpopularity of the young monarch.

After the review, when he was pleased to enter fully with me into the state of his kingdom, I told him with the utmost candour all that I had learnt; observing, that it might possibly be in some measure exaggerated; but I was afraid, unless the whole system was changed, a crisis would arrive which might prove fatal to his majesty.

To do him justice, he heard me with the utmost patience and good humour; stating, certainly with ability and ingenuity, his own embarrassments. His majesty urged that the allied ministers did not treat him fairly. They would not communicate with the person he had named as his minister. It was difficult for him to choose one; he was looking out for the best, but in the mean time they had no right to abstain from acting with the individual he nominated; he had the full power to name his own minister. Again, if he showed favour to one of the *accredités* more than another, the rest were jealous and up in arms. He was accused wrongfully about

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the finance; the Greeks were anxious for the outlay on particular favourite objects; but his great desire was to make his army and military defences strong. He was accused unjustly of ordering torture to be inflicted, which he never had done. In short, his majesty made out his own as a much aggrieved case; but, from the universal opinion and impression against him, some change, or crisis, appeared to be approaching.

The Prince Royal of Bavaria honoured me by a long conference. He was sent there to aid and assist his brother: this he did not deny; and I begged him to consult with all the persons round him, especially Sir E. Lyons and General Church, and I felt satisfied he would obtain the best information upon which he could found his opinion; for two abler men, or two more competent statesmen for Greece than the above two distinguished characters, could not be found.

It was a great satisfaction to me to find, from various persons, after this interview, that my representations had, in some degree, been listened to by the king; and some went so far as to pro-

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nounce, they would be the forerunner of a new æra, and of a constitution to be given to the nation.

The annexed extract of a letter from the minister, Sir E. Lyons, is interesting as to this point.

"The king was much pleased at your having written to him; your lordship will be glad to hear that your conversation with the king has had at least the effect of making his majesty promise to adopt, in some degree, your opinions.

"Athens, 10th January, 1841."

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CHAPTER XIX.

Leave Athens—Honours of the Harbour—Rapid voyage to Zante—Inferior steam-boat—Description of Zante—Earthquakes—Trade in currants—Society at Malta—Recent Improvements—Splendid orange-trees—The Harbour—Civil and Military Government—Dinner Parties of officers who had served in the Peninsular War—Palermo—The Sicilian army—A hard gale—Naples.

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CHAPTER XIX.

We were obliged, on the morning of the 6th, to leave Athens very early for the Piræus, about six or seven miles distant, in order to embark in the king's steamer, the "Otho," for Callimachi, on the isthmus of Corinth; it being necessary to traverse that space in daylight, and reach our Ionian vessel in the Gulph of Patras before nightfall. On embarkation we were saluted by the Russian brig and cutter of war in the harbour, the officers coming on board to pay their respects; and we got under weigh, with all the honours of the harbour. About eight a. m. landing, after a five hours' steaming in a most commodious and superb boat, on the isthmus, and then taking cars and carts for our baggage, we travelled fast, and, getting on board our own ship before dark, immediately made sail for the island of Zante.

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We heard from Admiral Louis that a fine steamer would touch there, on her passage from Corfu to Malta, on the 7th. We had directed our children to take their passage from Corfu in this vessel, to meet them at Zante. The winds and weather being propitious, and all our other arrangements being so fortunately settled at Athens, we actually arrived at Zante two days before the steamer from Corfu. But this was partly occasioned by the admiral's being disappointed in the steamer he was to have sent, and being under the necessity of despatching a most ill-conditioned and badly-found boat, the City of Dublin, which had been imposed on the government by a contract improvidently made, relative to the conveyance of mails and passengers from the islands to Malta. This vessel, formerly on the Liverpool station, was wholly unfit for the service which she was destined to perform.

However bad we found the accommodation in the vessel, we were favoured by the heavens, and had a calm and very favourable run to Malta, where we arrived on the 9th; and were immediately placed

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in the quarantine harbour, to suffer eight days' more infliction of the pains and penalties of a lazaretto.

I ought not to pass by Zante entirely without notice. It is one of the most picturesque of the Seven Islands. Nothing can be more beautiful than the view from the height above the town, which forms an amphitheatre below of so extended a nature, that in nothing does it fall short of the bay of Corfu, in splendid scenery and effect; and justifies the couplet—

"Zante, Zante,
Fior di Levante."

The island had lately felt some very severe shocks of earthquake; and Colonel Campbell, of the 38th regiment, who commanded the garrison, and had his quarters on the top of the mountain, had the barracks and his rooms shaken to pieces, and narrowly escaped destruction. Great mischief was done in various parts of the town; but so little fear do these motions of the earth inspire where they are frequent, that all the houses were building

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up again on the same spots, just as if the devastations had been produced by a common fire.

Major Parsons is the Lord High Commissioner's civil deputy, and manages the tribunals of law and justice. The people were stated to be turbulent and discontented; and, as wine here is not more than a penny a bottle, it was very difficult for the officers to keep their men sober, and free from the evils of association with the inhabitants.

The trade in currants is the principal commerce of this island; and, at the drying season, the extensive valley where they are gathered presents a scene of animation very rare and attractive. The currants are spread out, night and day, on large platforms, which, at dark, are lighted up, in order that the fruit may be kept continually turning, and in a regular process of drying. This valley and the height above the town form the most picturesque views of the place. It is famous for silk manufactories; and many beautiful Greek handkerchiefs are bought here. There are very few English merchants in the island; though there is one who has lately laid out seven thousand pounds on the house

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he resides in, which to-morrow's dawn may see swallowed up by the convulsions of the earth.

Our yacht friends arrived at Malta three or four days after us, starting about the same period. This is an instance of the superior certainty of steam-navigation over sailing; and, whatever may be the greater inconvenience of the former, especially in indifferent vessels, still it affords regular periods by which you can calculate your proceedings, despite the uncertainty of winds, calms, and sails; and this is very agreeable to those who have a distaste and horror of the sea.

It is useless to paint the weary moments of an eight days' quarantine. We were released from it on the 27th; and, on the following day, were entertained at the palace by the governor, at one of his reception dinners.

The society at Malta consists generally of the garrison, naval officers and their wives, and occasional visitors. The Maltese associate little or not at all with the English; and, after forty years' possession of this island by the British, I do not think there have been more than two or three intermar-

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riages. Indeed, I am of opinion that the islanders do not yet believe Great Britain means to keep permanent possession of their country; although Queen Adelaide's late visit, her endowment of a bishopric, and foundation of a magnificent church, should now lead them to consider that these measures have not the appearance of a mere temporary possession.

Occasional visitors and persons of note, especially since the great steam-conveyance has been so successfully and splendidly established with Malta, add much to the society of the place. Since the royal visit, Malta has been brought far more into repute, as beneficial, from its climate, for English invalids; and as being more quiet, and cheaper, as to living, than Italy; but with even this acquisition, it is impossible not to pronounce it a dull and dreary residence. A scorching sun, dust, and white stones on all sides; rocks above, rocks below, stone walls around; without a tree to shade, or a hedge-row to shelter; make the climate unbearable in summer, out of doors: and, in winter, although there is neither frost nor snow, the general dreary, pave-

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ment appearance of this calcareous rock would make it intolerable to dwell in, were it not for its most perfect and unequalled orange-trees, with fruit of such size and flavour as are not to be excelled in any clime in the world, unless it is to be found in the Bahamas. This luxury is the greatest in the island, which Lord Byron so aptly describes as the little military hotbed of the Mediterranean.

Malta is increasing in wealth and prosperity; a free press is filled with radical tirades, that seem designed for the natives of this and similar dependencies to disgorge their spleen in froth and slaver. They are worth little or no attention: but it was a mistake in our Secretary of the Colonies, not to have established the English language as the current tongue of the place: it had more claim than the Italian, which is as foreign to the Maltese as to the English. Had this been otherwise, the natives would have more easily amalgamated with the English.

Malta being the great naval station in the Mediterranean, the fine harbour, flanked by many and strong forts, is always full of ships of war; and an

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excellent naval arsenal is established now under the orders of Sir John Louis. The different works are in good order, and have been more attended to here than elsewhere. There were five regiments in garrison, which is as little as the place ought to have.

The civil government is managed by the civil secretary, under the colonial Secretary of State. The military government is confined to the troops, and is rather an inferior post, but still a tolerably good appointment of five thousand pounds per annum for a major-general: except in war, it is wholly devoid of interest, and very monotonous.

The governor lent us his country-house, where we stayed nearly three weeks, and nothing could exceed Sir H. Bouverie's kind attentions to an old brother officer. We had several dinner-parties in the town, and one of a military nature to Lord Lynedock and myself, from the officers of the garrison who had served in the Peninsular War. These numbered about twenty. Some few years more, and how many of them will be surviving?

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On the 1st of February we sailed for Palermo, on the way to Naples, in company with the Teresa, the Merlin, and the Dream; leaving our heavy baggage to follow in the steamer on the 6th.

We anchored in the Bay of Palermo on the 3rd, having had but an indifferent passage; the weather being calm, with light winds.

The entrance under the towering height of Pellegrini is commanding, and the city looks beautiful from the deck of the bark that enters. The Palazzo Reale, and the Favorita, both belonging to the crown, the church in the former, and the pagoda in the latter, well merit the attention of the traveller, and will amply repay his curiosity.

Palermo is said to resemble Dublin, it being to Naples as the Irish metropolis is to London, and managed by the King of the two Sicilies much in the same way.

The place has seen its best days, and is evidently in a state of *décadence*. The hotel was wretched; seldom has it a guest, or a visitor. In the principal streets, however, there seemed some movement, commerce, and trade. The sulphur question having

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alarmed the Sicilians, had caused them lately to put the defences in good repair. And there were about five thousand men, cavalry, artillery, and infantry, whom I saw reviewed. They were not badly appointed, but ill-disciplined; the cavalry, mounted on heavy animals, had the movement of cows, rather than of horses.

On the 6th we left Palermo, and had a beautiful run towards Naples, until we made, on the morning of the 8th, the island of Capri; here, with our accustomed ill-fortune, a hard gale of wind arose, and we were terribly knocked about in the cutter for several hours; but eventually got into the bay a few hours afterwards, and had the happiness to see the steamer arrive direct from Malta with the rest of our party, and all in health and safety.

On the 8th we were established in the Hotel de Belle Vue, and on the 10th in the Hotel Vittoria, at Naples.

It was after a short stay at Naples that I received from England the sad news that the Almighty had thought fit, in his wisdom, and for purposes alone known to an inscrutable Providence, to allow my

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residence at Wynyard Park, in the county of Durham, to be utterly and entirely destroyed by fire; with only the offices and some pictures and furniture saved, by the interposition and spirited conduct of the neighbouring population. To describe at all the manner this misfortune bent me to the earth is a task beyond my pen. The cares and anxiety of twenty years — the chief of my worldly, inanimate blessings — and the idol upon which my existence had long depended—all became at once enveloped in the thoughts of that heap of smouldering ashes, in which they were now buried. As the extent of the calamity could be known only to myself — as losses were sustained that nothing can ever replace, so is it best to draw a veil over one's own miseries, and with meek humility bow to the will of God, hoping that a merciful Creator, while he knows how to inflict, can equally determine the mode of pouring balm into the wound.

It may well be imagined, upon such an event, all faculty of writing—I would almost add of speaking —vanished; and it was in vain for me to attempt finishing the details of the tour I had commenced,

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when I was entirely bereft of the power of thought but upon one sad subject. I laid down, therefore, my pen; and we proceeded from Naples to England with the least possible delay.

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JOURNAL

OF

A TOUR

IN THE

SOUTHERN PART OF SPAIN,

INCLUDING

TANGIER, CEUTA, AND TETUAN;

PERFORMED IN THE AUTUMN OF 1839.

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PREFACE

TO

THE SPANISH TOUR.

Having made with my family an excursion to Portugal, Spain, and the south of Europe, as well as the coast of Africa, in the autumn of 1839; and, finding that some fifty copies or more of a manuscript I wrote had got circulation through magazines to the public, I have thought it as well, upon the present occasion, to add to my Turkish tour a more correct and detailed copy of that to Spain; and I do it the rather, as in one part of the former publication (that was partially known) some strong allusions were made to a Spanish general officer (General Olalor), who manages the Duke of Wellington's estates in Spain, in the Sote

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de Roma. Since that period I have learned, from the highest and best authority, that the information given to me, and on which I relied, was exaggerated, and not borne out by the facts. I have much satisfaction, therefore, in entirely omitting them in the present altered edition; nothing would be more painful to me than to write observations that could possibly be interpreted otherwise than as the true record of an impartial traveller on the spot from whence he wrote.

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CHAPTER XX.

Steam-ships—Their expence and accommodations — Disastrous Weather—Our Vessel strikes in the dead of the night—Alarm on board—Arrival at Vigo—The British Consul there—Recognition of the country after thirty years' absence—Change created in the lapse of time—Arrival at Lisbon—Palace of Marialva — Courtesy of the English Admiral — Diplomatic School on the banks of the Tagus—Civility of the Duc de Terceira — Funeral Ceremony in honour of Don Pedro's memory — Signs of poverty and decay in Portugal.

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CHAPTER XX.

Having resolved on visiting the south of Europe, and spending the autumn and winter in a more genial climate than the north of England, which did not agree with that health, the most valued and important in the circle to which it belonged, I engaged the best accommodation I could procure for my family in the Peninsular Navigation Steam Company's ship, the Braganza, to take us to Lisbon. Some friends had proposed sailing in yachts; others had suggested hiring a vessel for three months to attend upon our plans and projects; others again reprobated long sea-voyages for a young family; and since, as happens in all similar cases, no two consulting friends agreed, I was forced to the alternative of my own chance decision.

As to yacht sailing, I hold it cheap; in bad

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weather few gentlemen artists of the yacht tribe are fond of facing the Bay of Biscay in a gale of wind. The vessels are trimly decked, and above all well-stored aboard; and come forth, like summer flies, with the ladies they can persuade into their craft. They issue from their anchorage at Cowes, and, when fairly at sea, every thing connected with sails, masts, rigging, steering the vessel, giving directions, taking observations, noting the chronometer, and keeping the reckoning, is handed over to the professional deputy on board; that is, some half-pay captain or naval officer, master or mate, whom the amateur has enlisted in his especial service; and when the storm arises and the tempestuous winds blow, these gallant barks are sure to be heard of as putting back into Torbay, Plymouth, or Falmouth harbours, until the next fair wind sets in. I must, however, say, that to all general rules there are especial exceptions; and although my criticisms may attach to the majority, I can, from my own personal knowledge, declare that some owners of yachts are not only expert sailors and admirable seamen in all ways, but I

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question if our service can produce better than some men I could name.

I found I could not hire a steamer, all expenses included, under £800 or £1000 per month, and probably even then it would be ill-found and ill-appointed; and therefore I paid £300 to take my party at once from Blackwall to Lisbon. I may however observe, that I ran down with Lady Londonderry to Falmouth, and embarked there.

The steam-ships of this (the Falmouth) Company, who contract with the government to carry the mails weekly to the southern parts of Europe, are very fine vessels. The four principal are, the Tagus of 1000 tons, the Braganza, Royal Tar, and Liverpool, of 800 each. The accommodation in beds and cabin, however, is far too confined; people seem stowed away more in contemplation of close packing for increased gain, than with any real regard for convenience or comfort.

This was the worst feature of the arrangement in our own case: I think we had sixty first-cabin passengers. Now, let any one conceive sixty *maîtres* and all their servants assembled in a noble-

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man's or gentleman's country residence, and it will be allowed that they create no small confusion, even where space and convenience are ample: but when all this number is concentrated in one saloon, boarded off and divided at the lower end into small cabin compartments, each holding five or six close berths, in which you must lie as in your coffin, with scarce room to turn, I think it will be admitted that the love of gain should yield to a fairer and better arrangement.

The passengers of the first cabin all dine and breakfast, &c., at one general *table d'hôte*, the captain sitting at the head. The mixture of the society is as motley as their tastes; and while the most delicate are only venturing on chicken broth or barley water, their robust and boisterous neighbour is swallowing bottled porter, onion soup, or eggs and bacon. So, likewise, there is the high-bred, well-informed English gentleman, closely seated by the fat, ill-favoured, greasy Portuguese wine-merchant. These steamers, however, partake of the inconvenience now introducing and created by railway travelling: all is leading to a levelling

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system; and as in the railway I know, as I have already stated, that a titled lady, with her beautiful and accomplished daughter, were obliged to enter one of the public carriages where sat a malefactor in irons with a constable on each side of him, so in the steam-packets, the high and the low, the vulgar and the polished, the delicate and the *canaille*, are all crammed into one grand reservoir together. That this is advantageous I question; that it ought to be otherwise, I am sure; unless our existing system of morals and conduct is to be overthrown, and reform in legislation accompanied by levellings in society.

From the beauties of Devonshire you come to the wilds and mines of Cornwall, and Falmouth roads are peculiarly picturesque. To pass from the sublime to the ridiculous, our party were to be called at an early hour, Sept. 16th, to go on board the steamer; I have already described how full it was stowed. Many passengers had remained a week at Falmouth to sail in this preferable vessel, the Braganza. I slept little the last night on shore, but was disturbed at six in the morning by a violent ringing of bells. I thought the house was

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on fire, and rushed into a long passage to see what had occurred. In the midst of it, and at the threshold of one of the doors, I beheld the uncouth figure of a man, bawling at the top of his voice, and with the lungs of a Stentor, after the chambermaid, who seemed deaf to his attractions. The frame or garniture of this pictorial object riveted my attention. He was about as broad as he was long, and very nearly in the simplicity of nature, except a very short and indifferent apology for a shirt not half the proper length; a protuberance before corresponded exactly with a sub-sequent rotundity: his head was quite bald, and his face equipped with two immense white whiskers meeting at the chin.

Such was the amiable apparition that was striving to invite the damsel to his side; but his loud cries and singular appearance apparently frustrated his object; for although the two or three maids, after long delay, collected at the end of the passage, they were so fearful of approaching, that they summoned the Boots, and poked him on to ascertain if the creature was human or a ghoule, or

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simply belonged to the oran-outang tribes. He turned out, however, to be a Mr. B., an Oporto wine-merchant, who was as insufferable during the whole passage as he was alarming to the chamber-maids at starting.

The commanding officer of the navy at Falmouth, Captain ——, sent us on board in his barge; the collector of the customs and others attending our departure. The 17th and 18th were days of violent wind from the south-west, with squalls, lightning, and thunder. Unfortunately we had embarked at the time of the equinox, and we began to feel the effects of this well-known period of stormy weather.

Our vessel made little way, but gallantly stood up to the wind, and otherwise proved herself a good boat. It was impossible to have more cruel weather for the passengers. In a furious gale we might have layed to and not felt so much motion; but the heaving and lurching of a great steamer in squalls, accompanied with lightning and rain, surpass all description.

We flattered ourselves, however, on the 19th, that the worst was over; but how little can they

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calculate, and how futile are all the expectations of those, who once embark on the wide seas! I had been on deck, inquiring of the captain if the coast off Cape Finisterre and Vigo was not rocky and dangerous; and as he seemed to be steering closer to shore, round the cape, suggested to him that, as the night appeared thick and dark, we had better keep farther to sea. He informed me there were some isolated rocks under water about three miles and a half from the shore, but their position was known; that he knew all the bearings of the land, and was quite sure of his course. I know not why, but, without being a fatalist, I had a strong presentiment that some mischief or other would occur, and stayed on deck a long time. It was one of those blackest of nights that bury heaven and earth together in murky clouds of wind and rain.

Completely tired out at length, I turned into my berth about twelve. None of the passengers, I believe, could rest; the women were all alarmed. I fell into a broken slumber, but was suddenly waked by one of the most appalling crashes I ever heard.

"Great God! what has happened?" I ejaculated,

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leaped from my berth, and hurrying, as I was, rushed to the companion-ladder.

Two or three seamen's voices called out, "The ship has struck; we are aground!"

"Put up the helm," was roared out. In an instant, nearly all the male passengers were on deck. The captain was below, but appeared immediately, and endeavoured to restore order and quiet amidst cries of "We have struck—we shall go down! we are lost! all's over!"

In short, all waited in trembling anxiety for the next shock to be our last. I thought only of my own treasures aboard. I flew to their cabins, which were close by, and conjured them to be calm, as the vessel had got ahead, and I felt certain all danger was over. But in truth I merely hazarded the declaration, for no one knew what did, or what would, occur. The shock had struck the engine and broken away the paddles, and the machinery was at a stand. Under God's providence, however, this state of suspense did not last long. The captain reported that some hull of a wreck, or some floating timber, must have struck our sides and

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caused this frightful alarm; and, under the hope of our reaching Vigo by daylight, he felt confident there was no further ground for apprehension. Re-assured by these opinions, we returned to our respective berths, and in a few hours found ourselves in Vigo, making repairs.

Our ladies had suffered both from alarm and the stormy passage, and were anxious to go on shore here. However, as the weather was still atrocious, I persuaded them against the experiment; but landed myself, with some companions, and visited this wretched port. Nothing can be more forlorn, squalid, and miserable than the appearance of the place, except its starved population. The British consul is a Spaniard of the name of Menendez. I went to his office, where he sat like a bashaw chief, surrounded by his slaves: the whole town seemed under his sole dominion. The man, to do him justice, was civil, presented us with casks of fresh water, and sent a basket of fruit from his garden for our ladies. He told me the town had heard that the Marquis of Londonderry was on board the steamer, and that he was a bad man. This proved

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that the towns-people were all Christinos, and it appeared to me judicious to get away as soon as possible.

On returning to the ship, we sailed for the Tagus direct, the sea being too tempestuous to touch at Oporto, which generally is the order of these steamers. I should, however, relate here that our accident on the preceding night had such an effect on seven or eight of our passengers, who were bound for Spain, and had actually paid their passage as far as Gibraltar, that they in a body left the vessel; choosing to proceed on mule-back to Oporto, and so by land, rather than incur further risk in a ship which they now believed to be unsafe. Amongst these worthies the most conspicuous in ridiculous fears and absurdities was the Oporto wine-merchant, who has already been described.

The night of Friday, the 20th, brought the wind to the N.W. The weather cleared, and we entered the Tagus on Saturday, the 21st, on a most lovely afternoon.

I recognized all the old ground from Montego

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Bay to Belem Castle. Time had stolen twenty-five or thirty years away since I last visited these places in the long Peninsular war. My mind rapidly reverted to all the events of that period, and I cannot paint the rapidity with which the succession of former scenes flashed upon my recollection. In 1813 I left a country peopled with a stirring population, occupied by a brilliant army; ships, transports, battalions, all in movement: life appeared at its full stretch in every contemplation of the picture. I returned in 1839; stillness pervaded the prospect—commerce seemed quite or nearly at an end; the Tagus looked empty of shipping; three English line-of-battle ships, and a French frigate and sloop of war, alone appearing on the water. The loss of Brazil and their other colonies might fully account for the absence of the barks and numerous craft that formerly covered the river, but nothing but *décadence* and falling from a high estate could produce such a change as the eye now witnessed on the shores of the Alemtejo and the country round Lisbon.

We passed the forts of Cascaes, Saint Julian,

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and the Bugio. The first-named fortress was nearly a mass of ruins; no troops, cannon dismounted, embrasures broken up. St. Julian looked little better; all seemed tumbling to decay. The country also seemed deserted; and, on our ship's arrival, near dark, at Belem, I had already figured in my mind the change I was about to witness in a country where once enterprise and youthful vigour rendered every thing smiling and attractive.

I looked for my well-known quarters in the palace of Marialva, at Belem. There, in 1809, I commanded four squadrons of the 18th and four of the light cavalry of the King's German Legion, forming the advance guard of that part of Sir J. Moore's army that marched on Madrid, for the whole to assemble in Estremadura. Alas! the palace was now almost a ruin. It had, however, lately fallen into the possession of the Marquis of Loulé; and I heard from himself some days after that it was to be fully repaired.

On arrival at our anchorage, opposite the Black Horse Square, I was most anxious to get my family landed; as the following day, being Sunday, threat-

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ened the absence of the custom-house officers: but we were informed by the lieutenant in charge of the government bags in our steam-ship, that they never allowed landing after sunset. In despair, I wrote to Lord Howard de Walden, who, I learned, was at Cintra, eighteen miles distant, and where he usually resided. His *attachés*, &c., were with him, and there was no *employé* at the embassy house.

The men-of-war at anchor were, the Donegal, carrying the flag of Sir F. Ommaney, who commanded on the station; the Hercules, 74, and the Benbow, 74. The Juno, French frigate, and a sloop of war, were the other armed vessels. I must do the English admiral the justice to say that the instant he heard of our being on board, he sent his cutter with the greatest civility to us; and, under the protection of his lieutenant, Lady Londonderry and myself immediately landed, and happily got into some decent apartments in the hotel of Madame Belem, not far from the Black Horse Square. I heard nothing of my application to Lord Howard de Walden until Sunday evening, when I was informed that, if further difficulties occurred in my

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landing, I might be permitted to apply to Mr. Craven or Mr. Bonor; the latter of whom would be in Lisbon on the following day, and would be happy to render me his good offices.

For four days after I never heard or saw more of this very efficient and active mission. They seemed, from all I could learn, and from what I myself experienced, to have established a *nonchalant* indifference that, satisfied with the private retreat at Cintra for themselves, allowed the convenience of their countrymen to shift for itself; thus the off-hand, indifferent manner, so characteristic of the Melbourne Government, is admirably kept up by the disciples of the Diplomatic School on the banks of the Tagus. Whether their deeper diplomatic lore will be of the stamp exhibited by the heads of the school in which they have been brought up, time perhaps will show; but, as far as the comfort of their countrymen, and the attention due to these is concerned, I consider the conduct of the mission now at Lisbon to be anything but what the great British nation has a right to expect.

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The entire of Sunday, the 22d, was occupied in getting our baggage, &c., free from the Custom House: no order to respect our position in any shape was received, and a rigorous but civil search was made. I learned that if I landed only my small carriage, the Britchka, the duty upon it would be upwards of £100; and that even if it were re-embarked in a few days, no part of the money would be returned. Of course, I did not land my carriages, but sent them on to Gibraltar; but, having an English mission at this court, and having commenced relations with Portugal, one can hardly understand how such a state of bad arrangements should continue to exist.

It is always difficult to be well lodged for a short time; and, although the hotel of Madame Belem was noisy, having a coffee-room, which was open all night under our sleeping rooms; having likewise a batch of cocks, that, unlike the generality of their brethren, who confine themselves to crowing of a morning, literally rang their shrill notes from daybreak to sunset, on one side; and also, on the other, a large roost of pigeons, whose cooing

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was incessant; yet, with all this noise and nuisance, on making various inquiries, we found we could not be much better off elsewhere; so we determined to avoid the trouble of changing during our stay.

Next to lodging comes subsistence: in order to have as little trouble as possible, I desired the hostess to arrange her demand generally, which she did, and we were reasonably and well provided.

Admiral Ommaney called on Sunday, and again offered his services and the use of his barges during our stay. I feel we owe him every possible gratitude for his marks of attention and respect.

I had brought various letters to different persons at Lisbon, and, somewhat inconsiderately, sent them all for delivery to the Duc de Terceira, to whom I had been especially referred. On Monday, the 23d, he called: but so far from making me sensible that I had committed an indiscretion, I must say that I never met an individual who so immediately and completely overpowered me with attention, civility, and kindness. He placed his carriages and horses at our disposition; and, understanding there was to be a funeral ceremony, or

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solemn mass, performed on the following day at the Church of S. Vicente, in honour of Don Pedro's memory, and at which the king and queen were to assist, the Duc at once undertook to arrange our going, and obtain our places; and he managed every thing for us in the most agreeable manner. The Duc was the only Portuguese nobleman who as yet had called on me; many to whom I brought letters had sent their names and passed my door, but I had seen no other person.

On the same day I thought it but right to show my sense of his civility by returning his visit, though under circumstances of considerable inconvenience. This however did not deter me; and getting a small rowing boat, thinking to take the admiral in my way to Belem, four miles off, where the Duc de Terceira resided, I went on board the Donegal. The admiral seemed shocked at my poor conveyance, and instantly ordered and manned his cutter, which took me merrily along to my destination.

I obtained some curious information and anecdotes from the admiral, who seemed thoroughly acquainted with the Portuguese nation and present

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government: but more of this hereafter. The duc was not at home, but I presented myself to the duchess, one of the handsomest women and of the highest character in Portugal: the latter the greatest of virtues in a country where a lady of the highest rank and largest fortune is living with her coachman, and where there is a general and utterly inexcusable laxity of morals. During this short visit the duchess evinced every wish to be of use to Lady Londonderry and my family. I got back very late to the hotel; the day had been sultry beyond description; I took my ladies out in the cool of the evening, and Lady Londonderry visited the Black Horse Square, the Silver, the Gold, and the Cloth, Streets.

On the 24th the Duc de Terceira's carriage arrived at eleven o'clock to take us to the Church of S. Vicente, to hear the high mass and funeral ceremony performed on the anniversary of Don Pedro's death. The court were all present, also all the officers of the state and of the army. We were placed behind the altar, directly opposite the king and queen, whom we saw perfectly; the great con-

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course of attendants were in the body of the church. Their majesties sat together in a *loge*, or box, about the centre of one side of the cathedral. It is a large, ancient church, but what a remnant of fallen greatness and splendour in decay! — old tapestry, old cloth, gildings of past centuries; fretwork and stucco falling down and tumbling to pieces. The appearance of the whole forcibly impressed the mind with a conviction of the decline, and certainty of the end, of all things, rather than with a sense of the gorgeous exhibition and stately procession of a royal ceremony. The music, however, was certainly fine, and the service lasted altogether two hours; but it was very inferior to the celebrations of the Greek Church in the North of Europe.

A quantity of badly-clothed servants attended the royal *cortège*, and the carriages were in a state of utter misery, poverty, and dilapidation. I remember formerly in Portugal that the carriages of the nobles, though inconvenient, yet were gilt, clean, and handsome; and they generally had mules worth 300 moidores a pair. Now this race of animals seems extinct; and the poverty, awkwardness,

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and ill-shape of the carriages can only be surpassed by the wretchedness of the horses. I was informed that the Duc de Terceira, who is grand equerry, was taking great pains to improve the king's stables. There is need of it: and from his energy and ability I have no doubt that in due time an improvement will take place.

It may be interesting to devote a few words to the description of the young queen of this country as she now appears; and curiosity must be the more active regarding her, as she was for some time in England.

By her first husband, the Prince of Leuchtenburg, the queen had no children; by the second, Prince Ferdinand of Coburg, she has two princes born; and this gives the husband the right of being styled King of Portugal. He is extremely youthful, being not more than twenty-one; the queen is twenty. This Coburg prince is stated to be a well-meaning young man, without vices, and disposed to meddle very little in public affairs of any kind. He is much led and influenced by a clever German, a M. Deily, who came to Portugal with him; and another im-

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portant personage of his suite is a Monsieur St. Leger, a Frenchman, who married a Portuguese.

It is quite natural that this young and inexperienced king and queen should be in the hands of, and directed by, able and competent advisers; and it is only to be lamented, from all one sees and hears, that mischievous foreign influence should surround their persons; and that the revolutionary Septembrizers of the ministry are framing all their measures, not for a liberal, but a revolutionary, form of government, instead of the absolutism by which Portugal was so long governed.

But to return to Donna Maria. The small, interesting little person who was so much caressed by both George IV. and William IV., is now grown into a very large, fat woman. I believe it is rare to see a person of her age of such an extraordinary size. Her features are rather heavy, if of an interesting cast; her hair is light and dressed in ringlets, but without ornament, and is tied in a knot behind. She was dressed in black; and candour must pronounce that, judging from appearances, she was not an inviting personage. She is re-

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ported, however, to be of a harmless, inoffensive character, and fond of the pleasures of the table. When hanging on the arm of the king, who is a slender youth, the contrast between the two is singular; it recalls the line in Hamlet.

The misery to which the royal household is reduced can best be appreciated by stating the fact, that the government find it more convenient to take charge of and keep the royal establishment, than to pay a stated sum for the purpose to their sovereigns.

The salaries of all are greatly in arrear; and the royal personages are in such distress for money, that they are obliged to procure it on their own promissory notes, from Jews and private persons, at an immense discount.

The palace expenses are arranged and regulated under a board of direction. The queen and king dine almost always together, though the former takes her breakfasts and *déjeúners à la fourchette* separate. There are no tables for others; no hangers-on, no court-people kept. What remains from the royal board is immediately given to the

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poor. The servants and all the attendants are on board-wages. Few receptions of any sort are given at the palace, and even when there is an audience of the queen, she hardly opens her lips or has communication with any one. The priests have considerable influence with her majesty.

But, no longer to diverge from the Church of S. Vicente; high mass being ended, the court in procession, headed by the royal pair, went into the receptacle for kings and queens, a great vault, in which all the sovereigns of Portugal are interred, in order to pay their homage to the coffin and corpse of Don Pedro, on whose bier were placed two superb crowns, those of Portugal and the Brazils. The last might now have been dispensed with. When all had paid their devoirs, the church ceremony ended; the *cortège* returned to the Palace of the Necessidades, and the meeting dispersed.

The great Convent of the Necessidades has been recently fitted up, and added as accommodation to this modern residence of the kings of Portugal. The Palace of Ayudas is now only used upon state occasions.

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CHAPTER XXI.

State of Portugal—Political parties—Speculations as to the state of parties — Finances and Laws—The effects of changing long-established institutions—Visit to the Donegal—The Duc de Palmella—Indifference of the British Embassy—The Duc de Terceira's dinner—The English chapel—Insecurity of life and property in Lisbon—Don Pedro's constitution—Cintra—The Cork and Col de Penar Convents—Montserrat—Visit to the Marialva Palace—Excursion to Mafra — Road-making in Portugal — State of the palace of Mafra, the largest building in the world—Leave Portugal.

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CHAPTER XXI.

Portugal was in a state of political ferment at the period of my arrival. The English legislature had, at the close of the session of 1839, passed the bill against the slave-trade, despite the objection offered in an early stage of it by the Duke of Wellington; who alleged, that if Portugal had not acted in conformity to treaties, it was the business of the executive to make war and force her to fulfil her engagements: but that it was not the duty of parliament, nor constitutional, to force upon parliament itself, the responsibility of the measures which Lord Palmerston's bill enacted. The feelings of the Portuguese nation ran very high against this act of the English government. They appealed in a strong note to the different powers of Europe for protection and justice; and at this epoch the

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minister of the party of the Septembrisers, then in power, issued a very angry manifesto, accompanied by a publication of British confidential despatches;* all which excited great commotion in the capital.

It was a difficult task for any stranger, on arrival, to make himself rapidly acquainted with the state of parties, and with the different bearings of a complicated case, in which all sides perhaps have been equally to blame, and of which the various factions have their own readings. The state of Portugal, generally, as to its political power, means, and influence, has of late so much declined; the mistaken policy of the British government, since 1825, has so tended to weaken the influence of the wealthy, important, and intelligent part of the nation, and to throw the direction of government into the channel of liberalism, if not of anarchy and revolution, that it is far from easy to form just opi-

* N.B. The despatches of Lord Howard de Walden, marked "most confidential," were published by the Minister for Foreign Affairs; and they appear to me to contain a curious history of British diplomacy in Portugal.

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nions of the parties and interests that now guide this unfortunate and ill-treated kingdom. It is not my intention to travel back into the causes that have produced the government of the present hour; I write only a sketch of the position in which the parties that divide the country appear to me to be placed.

The royalist, or rather the Miguelite, party, not only exists in considerable force, but is composed of the most honest of the nobility and landowners; and though they may now no longer expect the return of Don Miguel, there is but little doubt that this party will continue to feel dissatisfied with the present order of things. I am of opinion that the sensible men of this body are desirous that the ancient Portuguese constitution should be re-established in its full vigour, and that some union of parties should heal the deep wounds sustained by Portugal, and save her from farther misery and destruction. This set of men have never been fully in power. The Duc de Cadoval and the Bishop of Vizeu belonged to it; but they could not overcome the difficulties which the Exaltados threw in their

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way; they were invariably intrigued against, and their counsels disregarded.

The ultra-royalist party being the most numerous and powerful, the more moderate can achieve no permanent settlement. But they are, I believe, employing means to unite and bring about some common understanding.

The chartist party is the most unpopular in Portugal, and far weaker than the royalists. It is composed of men who were either personal enemies to Don Miguel, or were bought by money, or else act from motives of self-interest at the moment; and though it boasts, on its lists, of Palmella, Saldanha, Terceira, and others, yet, like the Whig party in England, it is neither respected, looked up to, nor beloved.

Many individuals of importance, who were averse to the old established order of things, either from want of confidence in Don Miguel, or from despair of ever obtaining him again as sovereign, have joined the now dominant party of the Septembrists. This, generally speaking, is composed of manufacturers, journeymen, and shopkeepers in

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Lisbon, and from Oporto; its leaders are of some literary merit, and are intrinsically revolutionists.

But it is strange to observe a real similarity existing between the state of parties in England and in Portugal; for the Royalist party is less averse to the Septembrists than to the Chartists, as the Tories lean to the Radicals rather than towards the base and shabby Whigs. The Royalists have been much less persecuted by the Septembrists than by the Chartists, and agree besides with the former on some essential points. The Septembrists maintain that Don Pedro had lost his right to the crown, and that the Charter was unlawful; they dislike the Cobourg connexion, and hate the queen, in quality of succeeding to her father's usurpation, as much as the Royalists.

On the other hand, the Royalist or Miguelite party have no wish to see Absolutism established again in Portugal: their desire is for the ancient constitution; and Don Miguel, through his embassies from Rome, still holds out this expectation to his adherents. If these Legitimists or Royalists

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abandon absolutism in the person of their own prince, how can they be induced to support it when directed by foreigners, and advised by the most wretched characters in the country? The Portuguese formerly were as confident in the good intentions of their sovereigns, as they are now apprehensive of their evil designs: and they dread what might follow absolutism in the hands of the present dynasty. Looking to the characters who surround the queen, it seems vain to speculate on uniting the Royalists to her. She appears forced, by a mischievous policy, to uphold the flag of revolution, and to be a victim in the hands of the most contemptible of her people: this very resolution, therefore, is her bitterest enemy. It seems to me that a middle course of government might be decided on between the partisans of the queen and those of Don Miguel, consistent with the principles of legitimacy, and of the ancient Portuguese constitution. If the cause of Don Miguel becomes more desperate from the fate and fall of Don Carlos, the Septembrists, having no farther apprehension from the Royalists, would treat them kindly in order to

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obtain their support in the elections; and this, in my opinion, would induce the Royalists to unite themselves to that ultra-republican party, to free the country from a foreign dominion, imposed by foreign bayonets.

The finances of the country are notoriously in the most embarrassed state. Many say that only a total bankruptcy can relieve them, and this will come sooner or later. The laws, under the different names of Decretos, Alvaras, Posturas, and Avisos, issued by the present government, amount to no less than 14,000 different ordinances: they are generally copied from the French, and are not only opposed in many instances to Portuguese habits and customs, but are drawn up so clumsily as to contradict each other. This confusion is very general; and it is only in Lisbon, Oporto, and some other of the great towns, that tranquillity reigns. In the provinces, and even thirty miles distant from Lisbon, the country is in a state of almost lawless barbarity and outrage. I may return to this subject when I have seen more.

The state of parties in Portugal at this hour

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strongly shews the necessity of avoiding sudden and violent changes in long-established institutions. Is it not extravagant to transplant institutions that are the slow growth of centuries in one country, to another totally different from it in every thing, and which has been taught to detest the social and religious system of the land whence those institutions are derived? The struggling factions, dilapidated resources, and degraded state of the royalty, law-courts, and country of Portugal, shew the folly of these sweeping alterations.

On the day subsequent to attending the high mass, we visited the different streets and squares of Lisbon. Although little or no progress has been made during thirty years in the articles of luxury, comforts of any kind, or in cleanliness; and, though wretchedness and poverty appear to me to be increased, I must notice one essential improvement in the town itself, in the establishment of flag-ways for the foot passengers.

Some of the Portuguese assured me very gravely that the greatest possible *propreté* was observed now: that, though formerly it was universally per-

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mitted to empty every thing, at all hours of the day and night, into the streets from the windows, now it was strictly confined to between ten o'clock at night and five in the morning: To those who have witnessed the horror and abominations of the narrow streets of Lisbon no description is necessary; the untravelled may refer to Lord Byron's descriptions.

The shops in the silver and gold streets, like every thing else, had fallen off; no fine topazes even (once so common) were to be purchased; and all the merchandize seemed very mediocre.

The admiral, Sir F. Ommaney, sent us his cutter one morning, and we all went on board the Donegal flag-ship, which he was so courteous as to get into full order to receive us. The vessel is an old French one, captured formerly at Bantry Bay. She has therefore nothing remarkable in the shape of modern improvements; and, as her anchor has never been up since she has been on the station, it is not difficult to keep her in high apparent stationary order.

On Saturday the 26th we dined by invitation with the Duc de Terceira at Belem. He had in-

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vited the most important and principal personages of his own true party to meet us.

I apprehend the Duc de Palmella declined to meet me because, when he was in London, as ambassador at the coronation, I did not pay him the same attentions as the ambassadors of the other powers, with whom I have been more intimate. I do not complain of this; more especially when neither the British minister resident, nor any of his mission, thought fit to take the smallest notice of me or my family during our fortnight's sojourn at Lisbon. Formerly our residents at the different courts of Europe considered such notice a part of their bounden duty, they having large salaries bestowed with a view to their showing hospitality to their countrymen, and employing all means in their power to assist and serve them. But, at present, to judge from the Lisbon mission, the minister considers too much of his pocket and what will give him trouble, and too little of other things. Politics never used to interfere in the proper attentions to rank and station: but it seems quite another case now.

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To return to Palmella: although I did not see him, I was told, from good authority, that he had just finally settled the important affair of his son's marriage with Mademoiselle de Fajal, Sanpayo's daughter. After carrying her away from the San payo family, who wanted to lay hold of her in France — and had they succeeded in this they might, according to the legal opinions received, have stopped the marriage — Palmella contrived, on his return to Lisbon with his prize, to keep her concealed, so that the Sanpayo family never could take possession of her. The Portuguese laws also favoured the rights of the betrothed. When she was but nine years old, Palmella had interest sufficient with the queen, Donna Maria, to urge her applying to Mademoiselle de Fajal's mother for the dissolution of a promise of marriage, made by her late husband Sanpayo, for this only child, and to give her to his (Palmella's) son instead. Donna Maria would not hear of a refusal; she was present at the ceremony, and had the child put under Madame Palmella's care. All the relations of the Sanpayo family then took up the matter, and the

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public remember well what occurred. Finally, at eleven years old, Palmella had the marriage ceremony celebrated; and, after this, the relations and family yielded. Palmella comes into the receipt, it is said, of two millions sterling by this adventure, the girl's family not receiving more than £50,000: but if the girl dies without issue, then her family receive back all her fortune, and Palmella takes the £50,000. With great deference to the Duc de Palmella's diplomatic abilities, I question whether this is not his greatest *coup de force.*

The Duc de Terceira's dinner was served in a handsome style, considering the present impoverishment of the *noblesse* of the country. There was a party of Portuguese in the evening: but we ourselves came home early, having to attend church service on the following day.

The English chapel is a very fine edifice, and the burial-ground is deserving of notice amongst the few things at Lisbon which can attract the eye of a stranger, as buildings and objects of the first interest. But nothing can ever make the interior

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of this capital handsome, until the masses of ruins, and dilapidations of buildings, standing in mournful remembrance of what they once were, are cleared away.

Why some steps are not taken for this purpose I cannot imagine. The municipal body, to whom are consigned all the improvements of the town, accomplish what they undertake with regularity and system, although they get on very slowly. In addition to the *trottoirs* now almost universally laid down, they are finishing the edifices in the Black Horse Square, some of which were destroyed by fire twelve years ago; and they are ornamenting with columns of stone and iron railings the new public gardens established at the northern extremity of the city. I could not understand if this body has the control of the police as well as the embellishment of the place: but certainly nothing can be in a more disgraceful state than the protection of life and property now is at Lisbon. Several murders, in houses which were afterwards plundered, occurred during my short stay, and these close to Madame Belem's hotel, where I lived;

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amongst others, an English doctor O'Neil's mansion was broken into in his absence; his wife, daughter, and maid were deliberately stabbed; the property carried off; and the doctor, when he came home from the country, on entering his house, was the first to discover the horrors that had been committed.

Similar acts were continually occurring, and persons could not safely walk in the streets at night: but there seems no desire to seize or to punish the assassin; and the law is so lax and remiss that, when the murderers are taken, they are generally let off with a few months' imprisonment. The best explanation I could obtain of this indifference as to crime was, that Don Pedro's new laws and constitution had entirely overturned the former criminal code, so that no tribunal could now be found to convict malefactors; and farther, that the new system was not yet so thoroughly in action as to enable the civil power to understand how to act under it.

Whatever changes Don Pedro may have made, these, according to all appearance, have tended to

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any thing but the general advantage. The destruction of ancient and long-accustomed habits and laws, the abolition of the convents, the spoliation of the aristocracy, have all tended to produce in Portugal the appearance of a fallen nation; and the sole charms and attractions which seem at present left, are its climate, its orange groves, and its vineyards, which even the most erring legislature cannot take away.

Monday 30th found us at Cintra. It is needless to describe here this chaos of rocks, cliffs, mountains, dells, mingling with the cork, the pine, the vineyards, the geraniums, and the wild heaths of every description.

The three great pyramidal heights that crown this craggy, singular, and almost marvellous locality are known to have on their tops three old buildings, or convents. The first in note is the Cork Convent, made entirely of that tree. Here, till very recently, eighteen or twenty monks resided; but they were banished and sent adrift by Don Pedro's laws. When the reader is told that, in order to view this building, he must bestride a donkey or mule, and

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wind round the circumference of the mountain, enduring the broil of the sun's burning rays, and subject to all the *désagrémens* of such an undertaking, it must be allowed, that they who undertake it, especially if ladies, ought to be richly repaid for their labour: and it is so with those who admire the sublime or romantic, and can be satisfied with figuring to themselves times that are passed; but, at present, the Cork Convent is an entire ruin, and not worth the trouble of ascending the rocky pinnacle to examine.

The Col de Penar Convent, which is in the centre, and comes next in succession, is higher than the other, and the general view stupendous, vast, and wild. The king is now repairing this strange place, formerly a monastery, and means to establish it as a summer residence. The third old convent or building is not worth visiting. When the British army was in Portugal, a capital inn was kept at Cintra by a Mr. Carey, and many an officer on sick leave of absence can doubtless revert to his recovery and to scenes of renewed health in that establishment. Now this house, like every

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thing else here, contains only a sad picture of the past. There is another hotel, kept by Madame Belem; a third by an Italian: and to these the visitors to Cintra resort.

The best mode of seeing the place in the shortest space is, to get your donkeys in the morning early and start for Montserrat, an edifice built by that singular person Mr. Beckford, who seems to have created wonders only to have them pulled down and destroyed. Montserrat Palace, as once Fonthill Abbey, sleeps in solitude; tombs of a similar cast in different climes. After beholding this, the palace of former luxury and by-gone greatness, you can proceed to the Cork Convent; from thence to the Col de Penar, by the back road, behind the mountain: and finish your labours with the Palace of Marialva, the only respectable edifice in the place; not excepting the palace of the queen.

These two last buildings we visited on the 1st of October. The royal residence is more miserable than can be conceived; destitute of even commonly decent furniture, and composed of a number of small apartments, one more insignificant than ano-

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ther. At the top of the palace there is a large *salle de billard.* The walls are lined with blue tiles, on which are painted old historical events; the manufacture of this kind of china is handsome, and dates from the time of the Moors. On the first floor of the palace is the dining-room; and adjoining it the bath-room, which is likewise lined with the blue-painted tiling before described; and by some mechanical apparatus, on your touching a spring or screw, the room is immediately inundated with torrents of water, as if pouring from the heavens; which has a singular effect. The Marialva Chateau celebrates now the room in which the Cintra Convention was signed. It is sadly gone to ruin since I saw it in 1809.

The Marchioness de Lorival, sister to the late Marquis, resides here; I saw her after an absence of above twenty-five years, and was received by her in the kindest manner. She still enjoys in Portugal all the respect to which she is so deservedly entitled, and has never mixed in any party politics.

On the following morning we set off for Mafra,

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having ordered carriages from Lisbon, and taking our donkeys with us, to use when the roads were bad. We found them throughout so execrable that one can hardly conceive a civilized nation allowing such a miserable state of inland communication; it is a strong proof of the utterly abject and inefficient state of all the administration of the kingdom. But bad as the road was to Cintra, that from thence to Mafra for carriages is still worse, causing dislocation and requiring bone-setting. With respect to the Cintra road, I heard that some English engineers had offered to contract for mac-adamizing it for seven thousand pounds, which the Government refused as exorbitant: since that period they have been attempting to do a part of it themselves, and have already expended more than thirty thousand pounds in the task; so much for their knowledge and good management.

The Duc de Terceira had sent to the intendant of the palace of Mafra, to have it prepared for our reception: that is, to give us dry lodging. Neither in this nor in any other of the royal palaces,

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where the King and Queen occasionally reside, are there any establishment, conveniences, or *ameublement;* and when the royal party come, waggons, mules, and carriages without number are all in requisition, to bring the accommodation actually wanted for a few days. It is hardly conceivable and extremely ridiculous to see the intendant come forward with a large bunch of keys, to show you the palace, and then to follow him through so many empty apartments, all of which he unlocks and locks with as much care and ceremony as if they contained ingots or caskets of jewels; though they do not contain even a chair or stool to rest upon in passing, and are fit only for the abode of rats and mice, bugs, and musquitoes.

The palace of Mafra is well known to Englishmen. In the late war it was chiefly used as an hospital for the Portuguese reserves, and they had usually seven thousand or eight thousand men in it; it would hold forty thousand, at least. This is, I believe, the largest building in the world; and was founded by Don John the First to expiate some vow. It is said there was a contest between the

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monks of Mafra, where there had been a convent, and the citizens of Lisbon, as to whether this palace, or a magnificent quay along the banks of the Tagus, should be constructed. The power of the monastery prevailed over the inhabitants of the capital, and this huge structure was undertaken, situate in the wilds, almost incapable of access, and unfit now for any purpose whatsoever. The convent, that for ages had been filled with monks, is now broken up; and the hundreds of apartments are tenantless. The splendid marble cathedral doubtless demands a better fate than to be buried in its own ruins, which some few years will accomplish; already the roof is going, for want of needful repairs. A magnificent library, however, with twenty-nine thousand volumes in the very best order, is not the least valuable property belonging to this interesting palace; which richly deserves examination by the curious in architectural structure, notwithstanding the fatigue and difficulty you must go through to arrive in its precincts.

Having visited Mafra, we returned on the following morning (the 3d) to Lisbon, and remained till

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the 5th, without any particular occurrence. On that day the Tagus steam-vessel arrived from England, and again brought no letters for us; which was very provoking, and did not increase our good humour. It is usual for the packet to proceed in the evening to Cadiz, but by great good fortune she waited till the following morning; and on Saturday the 5th we went on board of her, barely finding, with the greatest difficulty, the most wretched accommodation; she having eighty passengers on board, when she could not decently accommodate forty. I must admit she is a very fine vessel, though not so nicely managed and looked after as the Braganza. Three ships of the line, proceeding off Alexandria to reinforce Admiral Sir R. Stopford's fleet, came into the Tagus this day. We took an affectionate leave of the Duc de Terceira, the only Portuguese who had shown us literally the smallest civility, hurried on board, and sailed with a fair wind for Cadiz, where we anchored very safely on Sunday the 6th October.

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CHAPTER XXII.

Approach to Cadiz—Description of the City and its Inhabitants — The Cathedrals — Promenades — Visit on board the Trinculo brig and Merlin yacht — Mr. Brackenburg — The British Consul — Voyage to Seville — Banks of the Guadalquiver—Promenades—Seville Cathedral—The Civil War in Spain—Impressions as to the state of parties in the country—Political measures of the Government — Dissolution of the Monasteries—Working of the Liberal System in the hands of the Spaniards—Dispersion of the Priests—Influence of Napoleon in Spain.

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CHAPTER XXII.

I pass over the *désagrémens* of the public, overloaded, government packets; the horrors to a delicate woman are beyond all imagination, and my family suffered indescribably. Yet the rapidity and certainty with which, in spite of wind and weather, the regular communication between England and the south of Europe is now kept up, are as remarkable in themselves as praiseworthy to the contractors and the government.

It is a delightful *coup dœil*, approaching the fair city, white as the driven snow, and rising almost like Venice out of the waters; a sky without a cloud; a sea as blue as azure, while on its bosom float hundreds of picturesque fishing boats,—such is the aspect of Cadiz:—and, when you land,

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what a contrast with that filthy Lisbon! It is true the streets are equally narrow; but they are as clean as the boarded walls of the houses, or the matting of the apartments. From the peculiar position of Cadiz on a peninsular neck of land, there are no carriages in the city, as they would be useless. You have no country to drive into; the communications are entirely on foot, or by mules or donkeys; and porters carry on all the commerce, as at Lisbon, on their shoulders.

The shore about the town is low, and looks sandy and parched up; not a tree is to be seen. The harbour extends four or five miles up the bay. Here formerly existed magnificent arsenals, called the *caraccas*, all now gone to ruin; the houses have many of them small towers, which give a novelty to the aspect of this island city. The port is always full of shipping; and the lateen sails of the vessels appear, to one who has never seen them before, graceful beyond description; skimming along like sea-birds with their broad white wings gleaming in sunshine, they speak of the sunny south, and give a marked character to the picture,

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which increases their effect the more you watch their course over the deep blue waters.

On landing at Cadiz you enter, as at Calais, through an arched gateway, and the square before you is filled with hundreds of people. There is a great confusion of tongues, but an unusual stillness, owing to the absence of carriages and horses. The whole area may vie with a bakehouse as to temperature, for the houses, being very high and white, after the sun has been upon them all day, retain the heat. The groups that meet the eye are difficult to describe; all sorts of costume are before you; from the peasant in his national macho, and the muleteer and the water-carrier to the shabby native ruffian muffled in his cloak, with, perhaps, no coat under it; or the dirty foreign dandy.

Some figures are beautifully got up, with sashes, sombreros, ornamented sachets, and silver and gilt buttons; others, again, with their mantles folded close to their eyes, seem to wish to hide all the nakedness of their interior. All talked, all smoked, all smelt. There were women with fine, fierce,

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brilliant eyes, and finer hair, but the men are a still finer race.

In the centre of the town is the large and very fine cathedral, partially destroyed in the French war, but lately restored, finished, and roofed in again by the liberality of the present bishop, who has done it out of his own funds. The streets surround and hem in this edifice; they run parallel, forming right angles with the cross streets with singular regularity. The balconies, Venetian lattices, and curtains of all colours, to each story of the lofty houses, produce a very gay and cheerful effect. Cadiz is by far the cleanest town I ever saw in Europe. It is surrounded by a strong rampart and parapet; and the principal side is towards the bay, where the ships lie and the anchorage is good. Formerly the commerce of this town was immense; but with the loss of South America it is very much reduced. There is a handsome public walk on the ramparts, called the Alameda. It is to be compared to a poor attempt at imitation of the Paris Boulevard; this, and the Plaza de la Constitucion, as it is termed, are now the only

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places of public promenade. The shops are good, as much is manufactured here for exportation; and the living is cheap and economical: generally speaking, a dollar is charged where in England they would demand a pound.

The streets are scarcely twelve feet wide, and the high houses almost seem to touch at the top with their gables and green blinds. The locking up of the gates of the town at night, and the shutting out all communication with the harbour, are very inconvenient for travellers. The gates are closed at sunset, and not opened except at nine and eleven, and if you are not exact to these hours, you must stay in or out, there being no remedy. There is a nationality about Cadiz, although it may be more frequented by strangers than towns in the interior, that makes it more deeply interesting than almost any other place.

The Trinculo, a brig of war under the command of Captain Coffin, was the only English armed vessel here; the captain was extremely obliging. I visited him on board, and he mustered his crew, showed me all over his ship, and (notwithstanding

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some recent orders) paid me the compliments always formerly paid to a general officer.

Besides the Trinculo, I went here on board a very nice schooner called the Merlin, belonging to Captain Lyon, and was happy in making the acquaintance of this very agreeable man, who joined our party a little while, and from whom we derived much information and pleasure, as he had been for some time in these countries. He was going with his schooner to the West Indies, which I thought venturesome, and likely to afford far more toil than pleasure; no glory, and much discomfort: but there is no reasoning upon, or understanding, the mania of these yacht amateurs.

At Cadiz we were most hospitably received and treated by Mr. Brakenburg, the British consul, who had been fifteen or sixteen years resident there. He has a charming family; and his daughters enlivened the evenings passed at his house by their amiable and agreeable manners and conversation; they have perfectly acquired the Spanish music, the guitar, the bolero, and the castagnettes; so that from their accomplishments you would think

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yourself in a Spanish family. Mr. Brakenburg gave us a very handsome dinner; and on the 8th of October he assisted and superintended our passage to Seville, whither we were desirous of going, to see the cathedral, and to witness a bull-fight, which we understood was to be given there.

Orders had come from Madrid to have Te Deums and rejoicings in all the towns, for the restoration of peace and the destruction of the Carlist bands; there was no intention of any great festivity at Cadiz, as the municipality pleaded poverty, but much was looked for at Seville. The voyage thither from Cadiz is managed three times a week by small and very indifferent steamers. The best of them, however, is the Peninsula steam vessel, in which we sailed; but, to our great discomfort, we found, from the sands and shallow water in various parts of the Guadalquiver, that we were doomed to transfer ourselves, our luggage, and our suite, when about four miles from Seville, into a very inferior and very small vessel, with but a shallow draught of water, and only a twenty-horse power machinery.

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The landing at Seville is barbarous; you are not merely searched, through all your baggage, on the quays, but undergo another opening of boxes and parcels at the gate entering the town. It is not that they are strict, but the system is, to give trouble unless you give bribes. These go far in Spain. I detail this for the information of such as wish to pursue the same route, and advise them to take as little baggage as possible. The banks of the Guadalquiver are as low, flat, marshy, muddy, and barbarous in every sense of the word, until nearly approaching Seville, as can well be imagined. The river is muddy, and its depth various and unequal. It is said that heavy taxes are laid on the shipping to keep the navigation deep and in proper order; but, like most arrangements in Spain, trickery and mismanagement put the money in the pockets of the officers, and the river is entirely neglected.

You land on arrival at a small tower on the Delicias promenade. These are walks that the governor, M. Ajora, (who was afterwards suspected of Carlism, and dismissed,) caused to be con-

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structed ten years ago, for driving and riding, on the borders of the river, and must make this town in summer and hot weather much more delightful than Cadiz; for here you can get shade, mountain, hill, and dale—in short, the country—while in the fair city you are confined solely to sun and latticed houses. The governor above alluded to also embellished the town, dilapidated by French occupation and invasion; he also rebuilt the palace, and the greater part of the Plaza Isabel; but, since he was removed, little or nothing has been going on, the great want being money here, as in all places in Spain.

The Christina promenade is more striking and convenient than the Delicias, from its slated terrace, and its seats, which are delightful in summer evenings, by the side of the river, after a day of from eighty to ninety degrees Fahrenheit.

Every one knows that the principal attraction in Seville is the magnificent gothic cathedral, the largest and finest in Europe. We fortunately arrived on the 9th, the day Te Deum and high mass were celebrated, and all the official autho-

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rities of the city in attendance. We obtained good places at ten in the morning. Nothing ever struck me as more truly sublime than this edifice: Westminster Abbey, York and Durham cathedrals, are the pride of our own land; but the lofty arches, the fretted ceilings, the singularly beautiful painted glass, composing windows which, when the sun shines upon them, seem like illuminated stars in the firmament, and, above all, the wonderful oak and ebony carvings, impress the mind of the beholder with greater astonishment and far more religious awe than our English edifices of the same class. The playing on the organ was particularly fine, but there was no singing. The cathedral is adorned with many exquisite pictures by Murillo, who was a native of the city, and Zuberan; and here is also to be seen the tomb of Columbus, decorated with emblems of the discovery of the new world.

Reports were in circulation in the town that Cabrera intended making an excursion here from Valencia and Arragon, with a view of raising supplies; and it was also stated that some ships of

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war had brought metropolitan troops to the southern coast of Spain; this induced the acting captain-general to assemble the municipality, and levy on the monied men twelve thousand piastres, in order to send out some militia, and be prepared in case of any inroads from the Carlists.

It was not easy to discover the prevalent opinion in Spain. Whether the late events will put an end to the civil war is not only problematical, but scarcely any two Spaniards will give the same opinion upon the subject. One gentleman informed me that Espartero was moving from the north down upon Cabrera; that he had 35,000 men; and that O'Donnell on the other side was marching upon him with 12,000; that Cabrera must be placed between the two armies, and must surrender, he having now not more than 8,000 or 10,000 troops. Another person gave a different version; his speculation was, that these absurd rejoicings would make the Christinos so elate and off their guard, as to give fresh advantages to the Carlists in every quarter of Spain; that Cabrera and Don C. d'Espana were determined to throw

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themselves into the mountains, and never to abandon the cause; and that in every town and province the sentiments of the people were so divided that the country would continue a prey to perpetual strife.

Between such conflicting information it is totally impossible at this time to pronounce any decided opinion; but my own impression is, that the war is by no means at an end; the advantage, however great, having been gained over one party, not by a victory, not by amicable negotiation, but by the blackest artifice and the most base and abominable treason; and, that thirst of vengeance for these proceedings will sink deep into the minds of the conquered party, serving only to renew their fury, and nursing embers that will ultimately blaze forth in a fresh and equally devouring flame. It is, however, to be remarked, that future events may, in a great measure, depend upon the wisdom of the manner in which the queen and the Christino party now conduct themselves, and on the laws and regulations which the Cortes may adopt.

A general amnesty is at present declared, which

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directs all property sequestrated heretofore to be returned to the owners, of whatsoever party they may be, provided only that they come in and take the oath of allegiance and fidelity to the young queen. Another measure, equally judicious, is the intention that is said to exist of giving, not only the Basque, but all the provinces their fueros and privileges: this, accorded, will tend greatly to soften and allay the public and general discontent. It is curious to observe, with regard to party sentiments, that in all the maritime places, the spirit of the people and politics is of a liberal character; but, as you come into the large cities of the interior, you immediately meet with a more royalist and determined feeling; the farther you advance into Spain the more decided does this appear.

The measure of abolishing the monasteries and monks has been carried into effect most injudiciously, and I consider it a great loss to Spain. I do not defend much of the conduct of this set; but, surely, nothing ever was more cruel than turning the whole of them out at once to starve. It was certainly said at first that they were to be

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paid a franc per day, which is a bare sustenance; but this, like all other Spanish payments, soon went to speculators, and the unfortunate wandering priests and friars were obliged to take service with the Carlists, or with any body, to escape dying from want.

Had the government broken up these monasteries by degrees, and as their inmates died off, I could understand such an arrangement, and do not think it would have been unpopular in any part of Spain, as there was very much that was reprehensible in the monasteries and some of the orders; but the wholesale annihilation of them all is one of the many acts of folly and injustice committed by the late rulers of the country.

I arrive here at another opinion, deduced from my own personal observation in this country. It is, that although a far finer people than the Portuguese, I think that, equally with these their neighbours, the Spaniards are not civilized enough for liberal institutions; and that the ancient firm and despotic governments of Spain and Portugal are far better suited to national habits and charac-

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ter. In fact, in presenting them with these baubles of constitutions, you have introduced, into the municipal government of their provinces and cities, the lowest and most artful and intriguing attorneys and lawyers; men of no character, devoid of principle, and only bent on making their own fortunes. The real power and enjoyment of liberal laws and usages are left to these sort of authorities, while the old blood and birth in Spain are crumbling into insignificance and poverty. By the liberal system you are working a revolution, raising up equality, and placing the hitherto artisan, mechanic, and merchant, upon the same footing with the grandee or noble; and will the country be benefited when it has undergone this metamorphosis?

In inspecting also all the cathedrals and churches, I cannot help observing, with reference to the friars and monks, that their absence takes off very greatly from the former solemnity and high ceremonials of religion. The dress, appearance, and often the age and demeanour, of a body of friars, proceeding from a monastery, with all their

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religious attributes, to attend high mass, added largely to the effect within the sacred edifice where they were assembled. When you saw them also mixed at other times with the population, receiving and interchanging the friendly salute, and bestowing good advice or instruction in the public markets and plazas, it breathed a feeling of union, of bonds cemented between the peasant and the pastor. All this I once saw in Portugal and Spain. It is now all gone. The monks are scattered to the winds, the nunneries are abolishing; and, it will be seen in the next generation, whether order, morality, or religion, is benefited by the present ruin of what so long existed.

But, on recurring to the great changes in Europe within the last thirty years, I feel confident they are all to be traced to the French revolution; and to the singular career of Napoleon, who not only subjugated all countries within his reach, with the exception of our own, but understood and disseminated a feeling of universality, as to language, taste, manners, and customs. Now, travel where you will, from the Neva to the Gua-

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dalquiver, from one end of Europe to the other, through all its states, and you will not fail to observe a general approximation to the habits, customs, usages, dress, and manners of France, which was not known fifty years ago.

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CHAPTER XXIII.

Rejoicing at Seville for the victories of Espartero—Preparations for a Bullfight—Description of the company assembled in the Amphitheatre—Their amusements previously to the commencement of the entertainment—Absence of vice and disorder — Amateur Bullfighting — Preparations for the regular Exhibition — Mounted Picadors — Banderilleros — The Matador—Death of the Bull—Revolting Spectacle—Ancient Bullfights contrasted with those of modern times — State Bullfights — Visit to the Alcazar—Promenade in the Galleries of the Palace—Government Tobacco Manufacture—Murillos—Spanish Ladies.

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CHAPTER XXIII.

I have now to describe a bullfight. I have seen one, and never desire to witness another.

This strange form of rejoicing, given to celebrate the victories of Espartero, was settled for the 11th October, at Seville; and we thought ourselves singularly fortunate in arriving so opportunely to witness a bullfight there, having a month before been participating in a tournament at Eglinton Castle. What scenes had we not beheld; what distance traversed; what changes before our eyes, and themes for contemplation, within one short month!

For these bullfights an immense amphitheatre is constructed, outside one of the gates at Seville. To compare the form and arrangement of the building, but magnified six fold, to Astley's, is the nearest and best idea I can give. It is made to hold about 15,000 persons. As this national amusement is

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so much run after, and talked of by all strangers visiting Spain, it may not be amiss to give a regular detail of the spectacle from beginning to end, supplied partly by a friend.

The real amateur of the bullfight prepares himself, first of all, for the encierro (the stalling or shutting in the bulls), to attend which he must find himself without the city walls before daylight; there he sees a long barrier running from the Plaza de Toro to the open country, and through this the bulls are to be driven (passing through the Plaza itself) into the stable, where they remain till after midday, when the fight itself takes place. Cruel and disgusting as the bullfights are, still they afford many points which cannot fail to make one, in some degree, partake the excitement and interest they awaken. To accompany the Sevillano as he gropes his way through the narrow streets of Seville, dressed in his majo (or smartest) costume; emerge with him into the beautiful gardens that surround his native town, and which, in spring, literally fill the air with the perfume of their flowers; then to join the anxious crowd who are meeting from all

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points, and hastening onwards to gain a seat in the Plaza, forms a scene both curious and novel; and, joining in the flowing stream, you are led towards the Plaza, and enter whilst it is still shrouded in the cloak of night; and yet you will find the places already occupied, for so great are the excitement and interest raised in the minds of this usually dilatory people, that the pleasures of the Encierro will induce them to take their seats in the bull-ring the night before, and sit out the whole time, in order to ensure a good place for witnessing their beloved amusement.

The amateur then takes his station near the door by which the bulls enter, or, perhaps, from want of room, upon the barrier itself; there, lighting a cigar, he wraps his cloak round him, and, like the thousands by whom he is surrounded, shuts his eyes and falls asleep, to dream of the scenes of joy that fill his mind. If he dreams not, every minute seems an hour, until at length the eastern sky is lighted up, and shortly seems on fire from the rising sun. Seville and its bull-ring then offer to the stranger (however little disposed to enjoy

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the savage amusement he is about to witness), a scene which he will long remember. Firstly; the hour of daybreak, in more northern climates, so chilly and uncomfortable, is here the happy medium between heat and cold: the sun, like a fiery ball, grandly rising, seems to give life as well as light to all around. The richly ornamented cathedral stands out with increased magnificence against the eastern sky; the silent mass of thousands of human beings who have been hitherto lost in sleep; the men in their sombre cloaks, the women in more sad-coloured matillas, seem at once to receive life from the glowing beams; and the whole scene is changed as by a touch of magic from that hushed obscurity to bright day, and noise, and joyfulness.

All eyes are eagerly bent towards the entrance doors in anticipation of the long-delayed arrival of the bulls; videttes place themselves on the highest parts of the building; and, from time to time, as they see a circle of dust raised by the morning breeze, give false alarms that the bulls are coming. The stranger cannot help here observing one of the

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most remarkable traits in the Spanish character, namely, their sobriety and gentleness of manners. Certainly, upon such an occasion as the encierro, there are many more of the lower than of the higher classes assembled; and yet, one witnesses very little, if any, quarrelling or drunkenness.

This absence of vice and disorder does not arise from any interference of a police or armed force; but it is the character of the people to amuse themselves with innocent pastimes rather than vice and rioting. To dissipate this ennui until the bulls arrive, sometimes one begins a favourite national air, which is soon taken up and sung by many voices. Now and then great merriment is excited by the arrival of some buxom country lass, who, seeing some of her friends well seated in the circus, very unceremoniously makes her way to them over the heads and shoulders of the crowd; and where it would appear impossible to wedge in a shaving, the country belle, aided by the gallantry of her neighbours, and by dint of elbowings and pinchings, amidst the jeers and laughter of all around, will soon loudly announce that "Thanks to God, she has

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got a good place!" Thus easily and innocently are these people amused and kept in good humour; at length the cry is raised, "They come!"

> "The signal falls—
> The den expands, and expectation mute
> Gapes round the silent circle's peopled walls."
> *Childe Harold,* Stanza lxxv. Canto 1.

The doors that open into the Plaza are thrown wide open, and also those that lead out of the Plaza into the stables; in through the barrier gallops a picador, having twenty bulls at his heels, half of them tame, the other half wild, the former being mixed with the latter, to induce them to go into the stable or shed into which the picador gallops. It often happens, however, that the wild bulls, when they find themselves in the centre of the Plaza, surrounded on all sides by thousands of people, either do not see the exit left for them, or else grow bewildered at the sudden change from their own native and solitary hills to this confined space and its numerous crowd, who further confuse and enrage them by cheering, screaming, and throwing things into the arena. Sometimes one or more of

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the bulls separates from his companions, and looks rage and defiance at the assembled crowd: his anger is met by repeated peals of applause, and oranges, handkerchiefs, &c., showered down from all sides, aid in driving him to desperation. The picadors now bring back the tame animals, using every device, and exhibiting much skill and bravery in attempting to get the unruly bulls from the area to the stables. This at last accomplished, the first act is at an end.

Next in order comes the turning a bull into the Plaza, to be killed by such of the people as are "aficiniados (or amateurs) as they are termed, no horsemen (or picadors) being admitted. The cruel and disgusting part of the bullfight, viz. the goring the horses, is here avoided; and the bull appears to have some sort of chance against his persecutors; indeed, it rarely happens but that, at the beginning of the encounter, the bull has the best of it; and several novices are sent high into the air as a punishment for their awkwardness and temerity. The efforts of the bull always meet with the readiest and most impartial applause; and "Bravo Toro!"

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is shouted on all sides, when an amateur is discomfited. Sometimes a fresh bull will completely clear the ring, and keep undisputed possession of his domain for a time; but neither courage nor strength can prevail against a host of enemies, who escape and return again at pleasure, and thus, at length—

"Foiled, bleeding, breathless, furious to the last,
Full in the centre stands the bull at bay,
'Mid wounds, and clinging darts, and lances brast,
And foes disabled in the brutal fray:
And now the matadors around him play,
Shake the red cloak, and poise the ready brand.
Once more through all he bursts his thundering way—
Vain rage! the mantle quits the conynge hand,
Wraps his fierce eye—'tis past—he sinks upon the sand."

Here ceases the encierro, but it frequently happens that the crowd insist upon more, and thus three or four bulls are killed amidst much clamour and confusion.

To pass, however, from this medley of mischief and confusion, the regular sight commences at three o'clock. The whole of the respectable and better part of the population of the city is at that

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hour assembled in their balconies or boxes, with tiers of seats rising one above another, within the interior of this very spacious theatre. In the centre is the *loge* of state, appropriated to the captain-general and military officers of the province; on the two sides of the edifice are two other boxes, gaily decorated, where the judges and various public officers sit. Four apertures, with double folding gates, present themselves in the four quarters of the circle. Two of these are devoted to the entrance of the bulls, and the picadors, knights on horseback, and armed men; the other two are appropriated, one to draw off the dead horses, the other the slain bulls, as I shall presently describe.

When the bull-fight is really good, the beasts to be fought with should be the most savage and splendid of their kind; and the horses, the noblest animals in the world, should be really worthy of the name in symmetry, strength, and power. But when, instead of this, the bulls are young, miserable, and tame rather than wild; and that the horses are contracted for, and furnished for slaughter, at the most moderate price; it may be well

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conceived that a combat, at all times savage and disgusting, is turned into an exhibition not only less ludicrous than contemptible, but disgraceful for humanity to witness. I understood there were six bulls to be killed, and for each it was averaged four horses might be slain, so that twenty-four horses were contracted for; and, literally, no dog horses given to a kennel in England could be worse than the animals upon which the *soi-disant* picadors were mounted. They themselves were rolled up in tow, flannels, and all sorts of old pieces of armour, with a broad white Mambrino helmet-hat upon their heads.

You may figure to yourself the half dozen of these fellows, mounted as I have described, entering the lists with spears having a short point, and parading round the arena with the flourish of trumpets. They make their obeisance to the chiefs in the principal *balcons*, and take their stand by threes, at different distances, round the encircled space.

Another flourish of trumpets, and a yell as of hell-hounds, now announces the arrival of bull the

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first. Then in comes a beast, with coloured ribbons tied on his back, at a round trot or half-canter: he runs up to the mounted picador, who defends himself with his spear, while the magnanimous bull gores his horns into the entrails of the horse, which he raises on high, and throws off the picador, who scrambles out of the barrier as well as he is able. The bull trots away after this, or some feat of the same sort, and then in rush a number of gaily dressed assailants, in coloured jackets, laced and covered with buttons, short hose, white stockings and slippers, and with immense clubs of hair; all bearing streamers of cloth of different colours, in order to entice or irritate the bull. They surround him, each trying to attract his attention; and, when he runs at any one, the rest are all upon his flanks and rear. They confound him effectually by rolling the coloured streamer into a narrow compass, and then with great dexterity running and throwing it suddenly near the bull's nose or eyes. He darts at the person who thus attacks; but, on his very agile retreat, the cloth opens out, and entangles the bull's

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fore feet, when another and another assailant succeeds.

Simultaneously with these, the mounted picadors advance, and tempt the bull to run at them; but they studiously avoid charging upon him, and only expect the assault, which, if he undertakes, his flanks and rear are instantly assailed by the whole body of the combatants. Another clang of the trumpets resounds, and there enter two men, called banderilleros, with sharp-pointed darts decked with ribbons; they run with great dexterity at the head of the bull, and plant their javelins in his neck and shoulders. The animal now grows more furious and maddened with the pain—and, to distract him further, the crackers and fireworks attached to the javelins ignite and explode by some spontaneous process, while these darts are sticking in his flesh. The attack proceeds, perhaps, for half an hour, until the animal, by great loss of blood, which streams from his flanks, becomes exhausted and nearly beaten: but, during this time, he may have contrived to tumble over some of his assailants, and kill with his horns two or three more horses.

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The last trumpet now sounds, and a general excitement is apparent; and then enters the great chief of the spectacle, the matador, to whom is awarded the distinguished and honourable employment of running a sword into the neck of a goaded, jaded, mangled bull. This man appears with a finer dress than the other combatants, carrying a scarlet streamer as his distinguishing mark, and bearing a long sword. He proceeds to say that he will kill the bull in honour of the queen, or alcalde, or any one whom he chooses to name, and then, waiting until the animal, attracted by the scarlet flag, rushes towards it, he places the sword so that the bull receives it near his spine.

The amphitheatre then resounds with acclamations; the matador bows; a set of mules caparisoned, and harnessed four a-breast, arrive, and the dead beast is tied to their heels. Another set of the same description also appear, to which the dead horses in the ring are likewise fastened; and these two separate *cortéges*, with all their followers, trot out by the different folding-doors I have before described. No sooner are the slain animals hauled

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out, than the shrill horns with loud voice proclaim a renewed fight, and Bull No. 2 is let loose into the circle. He is of a different hue from the first, and equally ornamented with various coloured ribbons.

The same proceedings are now repeated; and although I might describe the various disgusting exhibitions of five successive beasts, and detail how their gored carcases floated in blood, and the entrails of the poor, miserable, wounded horses were dragging on the ground; and although I might relate more or less minutely the agility of the combatants, it is doubtful whether my readers would more thoroughly comprehend the scene I have witnessed than by the description already given. I turn then from dwelling on these detestable and revolting spectacles; and, though I cannot but admit that there is a certain degree of excitement as the attack on the animal proceeds, still the whole sickens you with indescribable horror when all is over. I must state, however, in fairness, that it was universally declared the bulls were very indifferent, and the whole affair very badly got up, and that the managers of the concern were to be pu-

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nished accordingly: but I think I have related and seen enough to be certain that a bull-fight, under any circumstances or arrangements, far from being considered an exhibition of festivity and gratification, should be banished for ever from the eyes of a civilized nation.

It is but right to observe that, though the spectacle as at present is sufficiently revolting, it has, according to competent authority, lost, in the course of time, and in the confusion and distresses of the whole country, very much of the splendours that formerly rendered the bull-fight of Spain so celebrated in other lands as well as in its own. When the flower of the chivalry of the proudest nation in the world descended into the arena, and the highest names of Spain sought distinction and renown by their exploits in the circus, the barbarity of the amusement was in a great degree veiled from the eye, or compensated by the extreme magnificence of the appointments, and often by the real dangers attendant on the scene. But now that the whole has sunk into a mere exhibition of hired combatants, men of a very low caste in society, instead of the chiefs and heroes of former

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days, and that the noble war-steeds of olden time have given way to the wretched and miserable hacks that alone are now brought forward, the harness and trappings of the horses, and the decorations of the picadors, matadors, and banderilleros —in short, the whole display being deteriorated to a mere paltry show, the spectacle is any thing but ennobling, and affords no better idea of the former glories that illustrated it, than the processions and tinsel glitter of a booth at the fair gives of a royal pageant in its reality.

The bull-fights, as got up now in general, are not to be compared to those on the more rare occasions, when the sovereign, or any part of the royal family, attend in state. The last instance of this was in the time of Ferdinand VII., who was present at one such spectacle, with his queen and the court. On that occasion, as is stated by an eye-witness, the ancient feudal forms were revived with great splendour; the hirelings were dispensed with; and the exhibitors of the circus were really, it is said, the nobles of the land. The bulls, too, were the finest that could be procured; and the horses, equipages, and appointments, are affirmed to have

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sustained their ancient renown, and to have formed a splendid contrast to the miserable proceedings of the present day.

We had a very interesting inspection on Saturday, the 12th of October, of the remaining lions of Seville, under the guidance of Mr. Williams, our vice-consul, who is married to a Spanish lady, has considerable property in Spain, and brings up his family as Spanish citizens. This gentleman first conducted us to the Alcazar, the old Moorish residence of the kings of Spain. It was inhabited a short time ago by Ferdinand VII., who removed, however, its splendid furniture to Madrid. It is now entirely empty; and we had once more the intendant, with his bunch of interminable keys, and interminable lockings and unlockings, with which we had previously been so familiarized. The style of the Moorish architecture it is difficult to describe without drawings. In the interior of their houses are small courts with arches all round, and lined with china or tiles; small columns of marble of different colours, and in groups, with arches springing from them; ceiling of the most beautiful fretwork, and inlaid entablatures. The queen had

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ordered this palace to be renewed, and the workmen were in the building.

Connected with the palace is a long double gallery, above and below, which communicates at a great distance with the towers of one of the gates of the city, from whence you can walk all round the walls: and the royal personages have thus, in fine weather, the advantage of a most extensive and beautiful ground promenade adjoining the splendid gardens, which are arranged in the old French style, with square box borders, and orange, citron, myrtle, and jessamine trees, together with numerous fountains in the centre. They can also walk in the first floor of the same gallery in like manner, completely protected from rain and bad weather, when necessary. This palace is an exquisite model of Moorish taste, and drawings that are preparing for the public will soon give a better notion of it than any description of mine.

We next went to the government tobacco manufactory. This building cost one million and a half sterling, and is devoted wholly to tobacco and cigars: it is one of the most curious exhibitions imaginable.

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In its court at this time a sort of arsenal was formed. The Sevillians had feared the entrance of Gomez into the place when he made his extraordinary march in 1838, and they drew all the cannon from the ramparts, thinking these too extended, and determining to make this building their citadel. In the interior of the edifice, the tobacco, as it arrives from the Havannah and South America, is pounded by mills and machinery, the former worked entirely by mules. After seeing this very curious process, you are ushered up stairs into a quadrangular arched space of immense extent, where you behold no less than 2500 girls, all making cigars from the bruised leaves of the tobacco plant. They sit at square tables, or squads, as it were, and over each hundred there is a female inspector. They assemble from the city and villages for this work at ten in the morning, and are allowed to bring their dinner; they dine at one o'clock, and are dismissed home at five. Amongst so many girls, strange to say, nearly all were ugly; fine eyes and hair occasionally; but, for the most part, though gay-looking, happy, and healthy, they were excessively diminutive and plain. It is

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singular to conceive that this filthy and poisonous habit of smoking, producing, I believe, no possible good to mankind, but, on the contrary, heaviness, stench, and stupidity, should employ and give a livelihood to near 3000 of the female sex, who are occupied in the sole process of rolling the tobacco-leaf up into the shape of that odious implement of filth, a cigar.

From this manufactory we went to the hospital and church of St. John. In the latter there are three of the finest Murillos in Seville. Indeed I have seldom been more enchanted than in viewing one of these *chefs d'œuvre*. The subject is St. John carrying a sick man to the hospital, but, when borne down by the weight, and sinking under it, he turns round, and beholds an angel at his side, come to assist him. The expression of the old man, and the light and shade, and brightness and transparency of the angel, are wonderful evidences of this painter's art. The two other Murillos are Scripture pieces — the one, Moses striking the rock in the desert; and the other, Jesus feeding the multitude with loaves and fishes. These are placed very high in the church, and are not in a

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good light: they are highly esteemed, but they did not awaken my sensations like the painting above described.

The king of the French recently sent a celebrated painter to take a copy of this Murillo of Saint John and the Angel, and bought also several pictures in Seville; amongst others, the portrait of Murillo, by himself, which he got from Mr. Williams, our vice-consul, at a high price. This gentleman has a considerable collection; and many very good pictures of the Spanish school have recently been purchased by Mr. Standish, a gentleman of considerable fortune, who is spending his time and money with the natives of Seville, where he has a fine house, painted *à l'Italienne*, and fitted up brilliantly. He was so kind as to give us a concert with all the opera performers, after which was a sitting-down supper, and a ball which lasted till a late hour in the morning.

Since writing this account, it was with great regret I learned the decease of Mr. Standish, and that he had left his collection of pictures to the King of the French instead of to the National Gallery in England; which, it is said, would have been

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the case, could he have prevailed on the minister of the day to create him a baronet.

The Spanish ladies, I regret to say, are almost universally leaving off the national dress of black and the mantilla; wherever they can, they now adopt colours, and ape the modern French and English fashions. Indeed, it is a question, whether the mantilla itself would not be entirely laid aside also, if they were not compelled to go in it to church and to their priests. Nothing saves it but its connexion with religious forms, and these will always have a dominating influence in Spain. There was, however, formerly so much character in the mantilla, the Spanish eyes, the Spanish forms, and the gait;—the joint attraction of all was so peculiarly national, that abandoning them for a very bad imitation of French toilette detracts largely from the appearance of the Spanish fair. The generality of the better class in Seville are by no means handsome, and the women are singularly little; except one new-married lady, a Marquesa Ventosa, there was not any striking person amongst Mr. Standish's numerous visitors.

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CHAPTER XXIV.

Shops in Seville — Spanish Luxuries — Interior Chapels of the Cathedral—Visit to the Nunnery of St. Agnes—Legend of Santa Inez—Injustice inflicted on the Nuns of Spain by the Government of the country —Interior of a Convent — Body of Doña Inez—A new crime—Public Entertainments — Cadiz — —Visit to Xeres—Manufacture of Sherry—An early Marriage —Fortifications of Cadiz—Cape Trafalgar — African Coast— Voyage to Tanjier.

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CHAPTER XXIV.

The shops in Seville are poor and indifferent; the proprietors, nevertheless, spend all their time in them, greedy to catch a farthing; and while this cupidity is evident in every little transaction, they allay another habitual thirst by tumblers of cold water, which they are constantly swallowing, and which is sold at every corner of the streets; indeed, water and cigars appear to be the only luxuries of the Spaniards. I ought, however, also to specify the garlic, which ladies in society inflict upon you; but they can have no idea of the disgust it produces in a stranger, or a Spanish maid would hardly care so little about her charms as to overwhelm them all with an effluvium that really forbids approach.

On Sunday there was an Astley's exhibition in

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the bull-fight theatre, which, however, I did not attend.

On the 14th, as early as ten o'clock in the morning, we once more visited the cathedral, to see the interior chapels. The five Murillos that adorn them require from artists the longest and most attentive examination; they are generally hung high; and this is the more to be lamented, as the painter's style is dark. The composition that pleased me most was, that of an archbishop giving alms to a miserable peasant; but others have described all the paintings so accurately, that there is no occasion for me to add more on the subject.

The remaining extraordinary curiosities of this gothic edifice are, the silver temple, and the jewels and relics belonging to the chapter, together with various other rare and valuable property. The temple, composed of solid silver, may be by weight estimated at not more than three or four thousand pounds; but its workmanship surpasses all description. The figures and subjects upon it are allegorical, and extracted from the bible. It stands

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thirty or thirty-five high, is enclosed in a recess, and below are various candelabra, and other rich and ancient articles, preserved from the time of the Moors. When Soult commanded at Seville, his soldiers wanted to carry off the temple, but, to his honour, he would not allow it. There is an especial privilege in this cathedral, and connected with this temple, which is placed expressly for the ceremony on the altar; namely, that dancing before it is permitted, and even enjoined, as a mode of divine worship; and it is performed accordingly on certain solemn and particular days.

This custom is almost obsolete in the Christian church, and seems more pagan than Christian; as in the whirling dervises of Persia and Turkey, and the Pagoda dancing girls, who exhibited in England and Europe some few years ago.

From the inspection of the cathedral, we proceeded, by great and especial favour, to see the nunnery of St. Agnes. It is seldom that gentlemen are suffered to enter; but, in all our attempts to examine every thing worthy of remark in this town, we were greatly facilitated by the experience

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and zeal of Mr. Williams; and, I must add, very kindly attended to by all the municipal authorities of the place. The nunnery was founded about the year 1250, not more than seventy years after the expulsion of the Moors from this part of the country, by a young Andalusian lady, Doña Maria Coronela, whose husband had rebelled against Don Pedro, and was put to death, and who was equally famed for her beauty and riches. The former attracted the attention of her sovereign, Peter the Cruel, who, for a length of time, endeavoured, by every means in his power, (and who possessed so many advantages as a despotic sovereign,) to obtain the love of Doña Maria. His efforts, however, proving abortive, (flowers, says a miraculous legend, sprang up to their full growth in a single night, to conceal her,) the failure but the more inflamed the passions of Peter, and he determined to obtain by violence the favours which he was unable to obtain by fair means. For this purpose, he one day paid a visit to Doña Maria, unattended, and finding his prayers, as usual, disregarded by the fair one, he suddenly attempted to seize her;

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but, in the struggle, she contrived to escape from the grasp of her persecutor, and, rushing from the room, reached the kitchen, where she seized hold of a jar which happened to contain boiling oil, and threw it over her face and neck, making herself from that moment as repulsive an object as can be imagined; but she gloried in the preservation of her honour, at the expense of her beauty. Doña Maria became a devotee, and finally a nun, devoting her whole fortune—which had been confiscated by Don Pedro, for her husband's rebellion, but was restored her by King Henry when he came to the throne—to endowing a convent, in which she herself became an inmate, as the sister Inez and her house at Seville formed the nunnery, and was called, after her, the Convent of Santa Inez.

We were kept, I know not how long, waiting at the parlitorio by the Lady Abbess, who expressed her surprise at our having selected the poor convent of Santa Inez to visit, out of so many larger and finer at Seville, assuring us that we should be the first party of gentlemen who ever put their feet within the walls since the days of Doña Maria.

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I asked the Lady Abbess if they were happy in their present neglected impoverished state; she said, if they could get wherewithal to live upon, they would be as happy as ever they were; that, although they were all now free to leave the convent if they pleased, the young, as well as the old, all remained; and that many had friends who would be glad to take them to their houses, but that the habit of living together, without cares or troubles, and with the comfort of their religion, was preferable to any other existence. She assured me, (and which I am certain was the fact,) that they had been left now *eleven* months without the promised pittance from the government of tenpence a-day.

There is no party, I believe, or no man in the country, who can approve of the shameful cruelty and injustice inflicted upon the poor nuns of Spain; their case is quite different from that of the monks; and so strong is the feeling upon the subject, that where the property of the monks, during the late revolution, could find ready purchasers, that of the nuns was seldom or with difficulty disposed of, or at a very low rate, and this from the conviction,

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that, whenever a strong government should arise in Spain, the case of the property of the nuns will be fairly dealt with. The facts are simply these:— every lady becoming a nun in Spain is obliged to bring a certain sum of money with her as a sort of dowry; and the amount thus subscribed together by the nuns of any one convent was invested in the purchase of property, from the proceeds of which these poor creatures existed. However wise or politic it may be to decide that monasteries and nunneries should be abolished, no possible excuse or reason can be given for taking from these poor women the property which they have had invested for them by their families, and which afforded them a bare subsistence. This is not the opinion of any one political party, but must be the feeling in every honourable and manly breast.

The nuns of Santa Inez now amount to only twenty-nine, and are literally in a state of starvation; about seven or eight of the elder nuns accompanied us through the building, which was remarkable for neatness and cleanness in every part. The interior arrangements differ but little from those

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of the generality of monasteries, excepting that monks generally sleep in separate cells, whereas the nuns have two very large dormitories, one for winter and the other for summer; they were using the summer one during our visit, and the beds were separated by curtains, running entirely round each. The dormitorio was a fine airy hall, and the linen of snowy whiteness; in the centre of the building was a large court, (or patio,) stored with a quantity of shrubs and flowers. The most interesting part of the convent was the chapel, in a corner of which is a large glass coffin, containing the embalmed body of Doña Inez, dressed in a rich robe of blue silk and silver. The body had remained two hundred years under ground, before it was taken up and placed in the coffin it now occupies. The marks of the hot oil are still plainly visible on the dry parchment-looking face of the corpse; and a medical gentleman who was with us corroborated our suppositions on this point.

When first the curtain was withdrawn which concealed the dried-up remains of the lady whose beauty and misfortunes had just been related to

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us, a deep feeling of interest and sadness seemed to come over the whole party; nor would it be possible, I think, for the merriest or most thoughtless person to have viewed the sunken features of this lady, with her thin bony hands crossed upon her breast, without a momentary pang of sorrow —recollecting, that the unsightly object now looked upon had once outshone all rivals in this far-famed land of beauty; and that this highly-prized but fatal gift had brought its possessor with such pain or sorrow to the grave—the destroyer and the destroyed have now each their splendid tomb;—a daily spectacle for idle tourists, and differing only in this, that against the former is often uttered a curse, in remembrance of his many cruel acts; at the latter, a silent tear falls at the recollection of her beauty, her virtues, and her woes.

Outside of the town, and near the gate of Xeres, stood formerly the Quemadero, a raised square or place for burning heretics condemned by the Inquisition to death; and for the execution of its minor punishments also. The last who suffered death

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here was a poor woman, convicted of witchcraft about sixty years ago, her crime being the laying of eggs after the manner of hens!

We also saw on Monday, the 14th, the Longa, or library. There is nothing remarkable in the latter, except some curious missals.

At night we attended a public concert and funçion ball, to which the authorities of the city invited us. The funçion seems to be the name for all public ceremonies, or grand exhibitions of every kind. The one we attended was held in the magnificent palace and room of the longa; the outer court of which was covered with an awning. It commenced with a concert, performed by public artists and private amateurs; after this, an improvisitore made an extempore oration in favour of the peace just concluded, and in honour of Espartero and Christina. All this passed (curiously enough amidst such rejoicings for the event) in solemn silence. At one in the morning the ball commenced, and it continued till five or six; but there were no national dances. They attempted only a sort of quadrille and waltz mixed. I did

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not remain long, but was happy to get relieved from a great crowd and mixture of people, more plain, (always barring the eyes), and more ill-formed than I had ever seen collected before.

Previously to taking leave of Seville, I must do justice to our Vice-Consul's extraordinary taste for pictures. He has aided Mr. Standish in making a singularly fine collection. I should also name here M. Berquet, a young Spanish painter of peculiar merit, from whom I bought a few works.

On arriving early in the morning of the 15th, when the gates were shut, at Cadiz, we found that our kind friend the consul, Mr. Brakenbury, had been so obliging as to have an order from the Governor-General, Villa Loboz, to open them; and his carriage was there to convey us to our hotel. That morning we really needed repose, and took it completely; the consul and some friends dining with us at the hotel.

On the 15th, too, the various shops at Cadiz were visited; the Governor, Villa Loboz, whom I called on, was extremely civil; he talked most valiantly of all Espartero would do on his arrival in Arra-

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gon and Valencia, but he admitted that Cabrera was very powerful, and had two millions of piastres in the bank at Naples; and farther, that he would continue the struggle till he was exterminated.

It was proposed to us now by our friends, Captain Lyon of the Merlin, and Captain Bentinck of the Antelope, who placed their yachts at our disposition, to make an expedition to Tangier; but in order to do so with the greatest advantage it was necessary to arrive there on one of their grand days, Thursday or Sunday. It certainly was a case of considerable hurry and fatigue to leave Cadiz so soon as the following Thursday, and we had not yet visited Xeres; but the same spirit that marked the course of my companion's decisions during our tour did not desert her here; it became, therefore, absolutely necessary to go on Wednesday, the 16th, (being the last day) to Xeres, as we had determined not to miss choosing wine from that extraordinary vineyard.

We engaged one of the steamers, of about twenty-four horse power, that ply between Cadiz

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and Port St. Mary's, to take us at eight o'clock; but, arriving too late, we were under the necessity of embarking in an open felucca of the place, which added not a little to the interest of the sailing trip. We found at St. Mary's Mr. Gordon's two sons, whom he had sent with his equipage to receive us; this consisted, 1st, of a large double open cabriolet, to which were harnessed seven fine long-tailed gray stallions, the coachman driving all the team with one rein; he was dressed out with slouched hat, clubbed hair, sash, &c., and had a large whip; but a single rein, as stated, guided his animals. 2nd, and next to this turn out, was an armed cavalier, on a prancing Spanish steed, with demi-pique saddle, pistols, carbines, &c. 3rd, came a very old fashioned "one-horse-shay," in which the two young men preceded the escort. We had about ten miles to go to Xeres town, in the centre of which Mr. Gordon lives; the road, where it was paved, was so abominable as to surpass description, and we were all shaken to jelly: indeed, in every part it was very bad.

The rain unfortunately now came down in tor-

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rents; and having had no protection but coats and umbrellas, we arrived, tolerably drenched, at our journey's end. We were most kindly and hospitably received, and were told dinner would be ready at two o'clock, in order to enable us to return early to Cadiz; and in the meantime were invited to see the cellars, and taste the wine. Some description of these cellars may be acceptable to amateurs.

Mr. Gordon took us to various vaulted, long rooms, or barns, in each of which were the wines of the different years, disposed in rows one above another. He told me that, altogether, I saw collected 4500 butts of sherry.

His people then brought trays with many glasses, and the first three wines he made me taste were pale sherry of £75 per butt, brown sherry of ditto, and common sherry of £30 ditto. It may well be conceived that the last was as bad as the wine at an English inn; and Mr. Gordon admitted that it was made up only for the most ordinary export to America. Of his two finer class wines I preferred the pale; but he next produced the two same sorts

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at £100 per butt, and they were very far superior. On my inquiring the cause of difference between pale and brown sherry, and the enormous disparity of prices in the article, Mr. Gordon frankly told me that all sherry wine was of the same light colour in its infancy, getting dark and brown the older it grows and the longer it is kept in the butt; but the artificial process of making it dark is accomplished by keeping the oldest kind of sherry, which is called *Madre*, and colouring the younger wine with it. In short, the whole history seems to lie in the mixing of the wine, its age, and the number of voyages it has made to the East Indies; and the degree of management of all the mixing and manufacturing, before it is started for exportation, rests, after all, in the discretion of the proprietor alone.

Getting perfectly pure wine is therefore a chimera; and the wine drinkers in England may do well to consider what changes it goes through in our merchants' hands. The best I tasted at Mr. Gordon's was £100 pale sherry, and this I ordered for myself and friends. We next tasted wines of

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different ages, the oldest always certainly the best; and lastly, the wine just come from the vineyard, and still fermenting, which looked like a dose of rhubarb, and was as luscious as it was nasty.

Going through such a process in two hours gave me a tolerably severe head-ache; but I rallied for dinner, which was served in the Spanish fashion. Two of Mr. Gordon's sons are married to their two cousins in the same family; and I was particularly struck with the lady-like manners and charming appearance of Mrs. Charles Gordon, who I understood had been educated in Ireland. Her husband told me that at eleven years old he went over with her, then only six, in the same ship to Dublin; that he fell in love with her on the passage; and married her, with his father's consent, the first moment he could do so, when she was fourteen or fifteen, and himself only nineteen or twenty.

After dinner there was much bargaining for fine old fans, the ware of this part of the world; and we returned at six o'clock to Cadiz in a shut-up carriage, or rather old English chariot, escorted by the two Messrs. Gordon on their barbed steeds,

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half armed, with cloaks and caparisoned accoutrements; strongly reminding us of the land of Don Quixote and his achievements. Nothing could be more obliging than the conduct of these young men.

Before leaving Cadiz it may be as well to remark that if you approach the town by land, it is so strongly fortified as to appear almost impregnable. There is a narrow causeway extending for some miles, which is commanded by upwards of eighty pieces of cannon. They are now in a great measure dismantled, and probably the improvements of steam navigation, and other considerations, may bear upon the policy of placing all these works again in their previous state. But in former times they presented an insuperable barrier to approaching Cadiz by land. The present greatly dilapidated state of the works, and the large barracks all desolate and deserted, going fast to decay, like the fortunes that originally created them, give a gloom to this portion of the city, and stand strongly in contrast with the dwellings of many rich merchants who still remain, and carry your imagina-

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tion back to the palmy days of Cadiz, when her port teemed with successful commerce, and she boasted and deserved the name of the Tyre of the West.

After leaving Cadiz, you shortly weather Cape Trafalgar.

> Peace to the souls of those who sleep
> Full many a fathom deep
> By thy wild and stormy steep !

A small rock or island is at the foot of the cape. The coast is high and bold, but rocky, parched, and bare; further on shows another headland, Cape Meca; it is a fine bluff point, with also a small rock at its base. Both these islands are marked by a small watch tower on each; there are various others along the high coast, said to be places of look-out, formerly, for the Moors, who used to make forays here in by-gone days. How beautiful the feluccas here are? They have a sort of a mop on the bow which prevents the yard from chafing, and has the appearance of a powdered head. On each side of the bow is generally painted a large eye, as if the whole was a monstrous head.

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On nearing Tarifa you pass the small town of Couel, and shortly after discover the coast of Africa. Cape Spartel is very conspicuous, and the high mountain called the Apes Hill. The highest house at Tarifa rises like a ship in the middle of the strait. The shore of Spain here is beautiful, from its abrupt feature. Near Tarifa Point, the Spaniards met the Moors in battle, and the place bears the name of the Lances of Tarifa.

On the 21st, we were obliged to go on board the yacht at an early hour to proceed to Tangier. We took leave of the Brakenburys with real regret and gratitude for their constant attentions. Lady L. was unable to get through the fatigue of walking in the hot streets of Cadiz, and Mr. B's. pony carriage was, as always, at her disposal.

As we were embarking, the Xarifa with Lord and Lady Wilton sailed into the Bay of Cadiz. They had started from England a week before us, and we were now five weeks before them in the necessary lions they had, like ourselves, to go through. This is a tolerably good specimen of the advantage

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of steam over yacht arrangements. They pressed us to stay and join their party, and argued ill of our attempts to put to sea: but our commodore, Captain Lyon, laughed at their fears; adding, with a seaman's boldness, that neither adverse winds nor threatening clouds ever altered his course; and that as to the prophecy held out by them to intimidate us, viz. that if we put to sea we should anchor again in the bay before dark, he would sooner carry us to the West Indies, where he himself was bound, than act thus like landsmen. This was certainly rather alarming; nevertheless we sailed, and a pretty dance we had of it all night; the wind right in our teeth, and a very heavy swell. However, we beat up well to the windward, and the Antelope cutter, anchoring an hour before the Merlin schooner, brought us to Tangier about noon on the 22d.

On going ashore I waited on Mr. Hay Drummond, the British consul, who, with unexampled readiness and courtesy, placed his house at our disposal; and as, except the government-houses, which the consuls occupy, there is no residence at Tangier fit to receive an English

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lady, we were too glad to avail ourselves of our consul's kind and generous offer. The boats of the yacht were soon lowered, and the whole party set ashore. Mrs. Hay had literally abandoned her own apartments for her guests. These are traits of character and kindness that should be known, and which must be duly appreciated by our travelling countrymen.

The contrast between a liberal and obliging consul, and a parsimonious, indifferent, and forbidding minister, is always sure to be marked in the records of travellers in a manner injurious and derogatory to the character of the latter class of public servants, even as gentlemen.

The first view of Tangier Bay is extremely imposing, with the well-wooded high ground of Africa behind, and the white elevated tiers of houses, which form in a cluster and compose the town. A once strong, but old and dilapidated mole, or defence, runs far into the ocean on the southern side of the bay; the northern part of it is entirely destroyed, and what remains of the portion alluded to is in a state of decay and demolition. There

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was formerly a magnificent port here, and a well-defended harbour, sufficient to contain a large fleet of ships. It is well known that Charles II. received Tangier with a Portuguese princess as her dowry, and that it was long occupied by the English, and money voted for continuing and maintaining the possession; but Charles possessed himself of the money, and then recalled the troops, abandoning the place, which fell into the hands of the Moors and Arabs, headed by a pacha, under the dominion of the Sultan.

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CHAPTER XXV.

First Impressions on Landing in Africa — The Moors of Africa at the present Day a Degenerate Race—Moorish Market —Arab Encampment—Visit to a Moorish Village—A Moorish Concert—Lady L.'s Interview with the Pacha's Wives—Ill-Treatment of the Jews by the Moors—Arabs on their way to Mecca—Voyage to Gibraltar—Visit on Board a Dutch Frigate to Prince Henry of Orange — Grand Review — Inspection of the Fortifications—Weakness of the Sea Defences—Gibraltar and Cintra—Excursion to Algesiras—Expedition to Ceuta—Smuggling at Gibraltar — Strength of Ceuta—The French in Africa.

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CHAPTER XXV.

The effect of first landing in Africa is most extraordinary to the mind and senses of an European. You read of the Arabs in the desert, you hear of the Moors in Africa; but seeing objects before you so different from any upon which your eye has ever previously dwelt, produces a singular impression. Though not of a contemplative character, I own that, on treading this strange land, my first thoughts were turned to the discriminating beneficence of a bountiful Providence, who seems to have supplied for every climate, for every country, for every soil, the very and essential requisites which the welfare and condition of the beings that inhabit it demand.

This is strongly apparent in the exquisitely verdant valleys, the aloes, the plane and orange trees,

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the pumpkins, the grapes, and the reviving showers; and also in the soil itself, which, even with scanty, indolent, rude, and unskilful culture produces the finest growth in every object that is planted.

The next reflection arises from the fact of these Moors, formerly one of the finest people under heaven, being now degenerated into the most brutal and barbarous race. Whence can this *décadence* have originated? For what object is it placed before our eyes? To the Moors of Africa and Spain we owe much of our proficiency in the sciences—mathematics, medicine, chemistry, astronomy, law, history, poetry, &c.; all arts then in existence were theirs; Spain overflows with the wonders of their greatness and works; Tangier and Africa present arches, bridges, and columns; records matchless beyond all that modern times have ever imagined or achieved: and yet all this is passed away, and

> "Like the baseless fabric of a vision,
> Leaves *scarce* a wreck behind."

What data, then, have we not for presuming

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that a similar fate in ages to come may hover over our own now powerful and happy island! At all events, it is not possible to see the shores of Africa without a thousand reflections of this and a similar nature occupying the mind and imagination.

Tangier has the apparent remains of strength; but the mole is in total decay, and the fortifications mostly in ruins. It is well known that it was a long time held as a British possession, and sold by one of the Charles's. I confess I wish it was still belonging to the British crown.

The first impressions are beyond measure amusing. I was carried from a boat in the arms of two Moors, men of large stature and tawny colour, enveloped in white coarse cloaks, or tunics, which likewise cover all their head in a turban-like shape, leaving only the legs and arms, which are quite bare, and black rather than brown—I mean of such even as are not positively negroes, which many of the Moors are. I was then tumbled into a *melée* of Jews, Turks, and Arabs from the desert, with their camels and dromedaries at hand, laden with provisions for the market; this was the first scene of my enjoy-

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and a sort of broad way ran down the middle of them, but no female figure was visible. The Moorish woman is instantly put to death if she has intercourse with a Christian. Most of the men and boys in the village go with their heads bare; the Arabs have one long lock of hair, which is allowed to grow from the top or side of their heads, and has a singular effect. After inspecting the villages, I was much pleased by the examination of an old Moorish arch and bridge, which were stated to have existed from the time of the Carthaginians.

We had a long ride in the interior of the country, and I noticed every thing growing almost without culture. The hedges were of aloes and prickly pear, the fields well tilled, the rivers meandering and clear; but the roads and ways, except for beasts, quite impracticable. On our return, we had an excellent dinner; and our entertainment in the evening was a Moorish concert, in which four Moors outvied each other in screeching and loud shouting. The instruments were a three-stringed fiddle, played as a violoncello, a tambourine, a guitar, and a two-stringed bass, incapable of either description or name.

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Lady L., during our stay, was introduced to the pacha's three wives. They were all very plain; and one of them, the most ill-looking of the three, is a black, but she is of royal extraction. The interpretess on the occasion was a very pretty and smartly-dressed Jewess, a race universally persecuted in this country, although the pachas seem much in their power in all their financial affairs.

As we passed in the streets with this radiant-eyed and picturesque girl, the curses, loud and deep, that were heaped upon her, inoffensive and harmless as she seemed, by the barbarians, excited our surprise; and in passing a mosque, and, afterwards, in the palace, these brawny-shouldered Moors were ready to knock her down because she was not barefooted.

We saw, previously to our departure, an assemblage of wild Arabs, encamped on the sea-shore, having come in a mass to take shipping at Tangiers, on their way to Mecca. It would be hard to paint the misery and filth of these objects: there were, however, some venerable chiefs of the party. Their picturesque heads would have formed fine subjects for the pencil of a Lawrence or a Wilkie — both,

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alas! now no more. We shall never see their like again; for, let who will succeed them, who can ever surpass them!

The chiefs, squatted outside their miserable, low, rag-tents, looking sedate and solemn, and turning their eyes contemptuously towards us, appeared to inquire — "Whose dogs are you?" We left them, on our departure, on the same ground where last we parted, on the same spot where first we met, not with the feelings that inspired the bard, but with our astonishment at the apparently patient attitude in which they seemed waiting until Providence, or some Greek dog, should bring a ship into the bay to further them on their journey eastward.

We left, in the morning, our kind host and excellent quarters, and sailed through the straits of Gibraltar, where we landed at sunset. It is difficult to describe this extraordinary sea and passage. The rival mountains of Africa and Europe, vying with each other in splendour and magnificent altitudes — Apes' Hill, in Africa, touching the clouds; and the insulated rock of Gibraltar standing boldly out in the sea; toge-

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ther, with the narrow passage of the entrance, giving the idea that the waters of the Atlantic had forced their way through a cleft in the mountains. The scene is generally enlivened by a brilliant sun, with tints and colours of the Mediterranean sky of singularly gorgeous hues; and the whole forms a panorama of natural and magnificent feature, which, unless seen, can scarcely be conceived. On a calm day, especially, the rays of the sun, reflected from the dark blue sea; the stupendous height of the rock, 1600 feet above its level; the white, clean terraces, and gardens round the houses; with the long, straight lines of the curtains of the fortifications, and the prominent bastions, produce, in their combination, a scenic effect unknown but in this singular place.

On the evening of the 22nd we found, on arriving at the anchorage off the New Mole, that the governor, Sir Alexander Woodford, had sent his carriages to wait our disembarking; and when we got on shore, His Excellency, as well as his sons, were at the landing-place to receive us. We shortly after joined our family, all well; they being quar-

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tered in commodious apartments at the Club House Hotel, and having received every possible attention and civility from the governor and his wife previously to our arrival. Indeed, I might enlarge here on the governor's kind conduct, not in mere justice to Sir Alexander Woodford and his charming wife, but for the information of all travellers, that there never was an individual who, added to his known ability and constant zeal in his arduous military duties, evinced such marked and gratifying attention, not to his countrymen alone, but to all royal or great personages who visit Gibraltar—an attention, hospitality, and generous reception, that must largely encroach on a very inadequate and inefficient salary for so great and conspicuous a situation.

In the bay was a Dutch frigate, having on board Prince Henry of Orange, who had accompanied the Grand Duke, the Cesarowitch, to England, and was now on a cruize, by way of learning and commencing his profession — the navy. In addition, there was the Wasp sloop of war, commanded by a son of Lord Yarborough's, and the Tribune, English corvette, Captain Hammelyn Williams, sent,

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apparently, to this coast for exploits against the Spaniards, or rather to watch that no arms or supplies were sent in to the Carlists from the southern shores.

The day after disembarking, we were occupied, as is usual, in taking up new positions and paying the necessary visits. Amongst these I made a point of going on board the Dutch frigate; for whatever incivilities I experienced formerly myself in Holland, I was determined it should not prevent my paying due respect to the members of the House of Orange when I met them elsewhere. The prince was very gracious; he had resolved to put off sailing for one day beyond that which he had originally fixed, in order to be present at a great review of the garrison and a large military dinner, which the governor had prepared for the following day. With a desire to honour a royal prince, on the one side, and anxiety to show respect to a general officer on the other, Sir Alexander determined to pay due honours to both the prince and myself.

The garrison was composed of the 33d, 45th, 81st, 82nd regiments, and artillery. That distin-

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guished officer, Sir C. Smith, commanded the engineers, and was *en second* in the place; and Colonel Browne had just come from England to command the artillery. The troops were assembled on the neutral ground, behind the rock, and between it and the Spanish lines; and, without detailing their movements, it will suffice to say they gave us a fair field day and tolerable practice in firing. The 33d regiment appeared to me in best condition; but the appearance of the whole of the troops, and the good order which seemed to reign throughout all the military arrangements, reflected the highest credit on the governor.

The ladies of our party were escorted in open carriages by Lady Woodford; and the governor mounted the reviewing officers, although it was not clear which would, or did, take the precedence. Prince Henry declined the general salute, which I then felt myself called on to acknowledge; and, in marching past, the colours were dropped to a royal house, to which, of course, I had nothing to say. These little anecdotes only show the anxiety that was apparent on the part of the excellent governor to do the utmost honour to all.

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A very numerously attended and most excellent military dinner, with a *soirée* in the evening, terminated this interesting day. The gigantic rock; the natural strength of the fortifications, aided by every thing that art could achieve; the burning sun, though near the end of October; the green trees and soil, the blue waters, and the brilliant uniforms displayed on the sandy beach below the rock, presented a very different spectacle from Hounslow Heath or Wormwood Scrubs.

We were urged, next day, to visit the fortifications, the signal-house at the top of the rock, the galleries, and St. Michael's Cave. The same obliging attention which marked our first reception continued. His Excellency's horses and boricos were in attendance; and the commanding officer of artillery, and the governor himself, were present to escort Lady L. through this very interesting exhibition. We started, however, too late in the day, and darkness came suddenly upon us in the galleries (for there is little or no twilight in these climates), before we had got half up the rock. Our expedition was, therefore, deferred till the following

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day, when more regular arrangements were made, and an earlier hour was fixed on.

The delight of the young people, and the wonder of the ladies, surpassed even my own astonishment at these marvellous spectacles. They have the effect of enchantment rather than of the works of man, however aided by the singular formation and creations of nature.

A separate day was subsequently given exclusively to St. Michael's Cave, which was lighted up expressly, and a band stationed within it, for the occasion of our visit. All these honours and attentions were to ourselves alone, Prince Henry having left Gibraltar.

From merely cursory observations, and but a very few days' stay at this unique and wonderful place, it would be perfectly idle to write in any length the passing thoughts that occurred to my mind. So many have seen and written, so much is known, of Gibraltar, that in my short journal I shall only touch upon the points that struck me most.

I should consider the sea-defences of the place

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weaker than those on the land-side. Here I should say, as far as human judgment can pass an opinion, it is quite impregnable; not so along its very extended ocean-line of batteries, curtains, parapets, &c. Farther, it seems to me, that as the town has from sixteen to eighteen thousand inhabitants, all of whom, except about three thousand, are foreigners, in case of a serious attack, you could not turn out towards the sea, or outside the lines, this population, foreign as I have described it. If a French or Russian fleet were ever to come within the bay, and batter the town to pieces, the disaffection of these inhabitants might be extremely embarrassing. The stores, depôts, and *places d' armes*, also appear widely separated and dispersed — all would require a great and commensurate separation of the defensive force, which might thus, in detail, become a prey to internal disaffection. Even beyond this, there is no citadel or place for troops to retire to in case of any reverse. These are very serious considerations; and the British government would do well to look to them in times of peace and quiet; it will be too late when danger

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is at hand; and, in the present political relations of the world, no one can assume to pronounce what European combinations or alliances may take place.

"Drinkwater's Siege of Gibraltar" contains the best details and descriptions of this fortress. There are some minor works on the subject; and a memoir of the curiosities and most interesting features of the place is now in the press, which would make any partial account needless. It is given to the world by a very meritorious and excellent officer, Major Hort. The most prominent feature on the excavated caverns and works, no doubt, is St. George's Hall, a large chamber in the cliff, with guns of every calibre, issuing from various points of its lateral sides; all the galleries, in like manner, are studded with howitzers and artillery of every description, and seeing one of these galleries is seeing the whole. I do not think there is much to repay you for the laborious ascent to the very top of the rock beyond the view which, on a clear day, is surprisingly grand and enchanting. The rock itself is stony, craggy, and exhibits broken masses of huge flints on every side.

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The town is walled around, and this defence is covered with dwarf palms, growing amongst the crevices, and all sorts of curious wild plants. Lower down the declivity you get to the aloe and the cactus; these latter are enormous, and the tall stalk gives a picturesque appearance. The gardens, which are still lower again, are laid out chiefly in terraces, and look lovely. Hedges of twenty or thirty yards long, entirely of heliotrope and myrtle; jasmine and rose hedges, of similiar dimensions, are universally to be found in these beautiful flower gardens, and orange and lemon trees are really a drug here. All grow most luxuriantly in full flower and fruit; and the perfume that is exhaled from the mixture with the jasmine, and the tuberose, and verbina, impregnates the air, and makes you breathe an elysium.

There is little of note in the town; it is like an English garrison: except for the mixture of Jews, Moors, Spaniards, &c., in the streets, the whole feature is English — horses, gigs, carriages, as in London. The theatre is dark and gloomy, and always a bad company.

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The governor gave us another very numerously attended and splendid dinner on the 28th of October, after a visit to St. Michael's Cave, which was made in grand procession. The various traditions and absurdities about this cave are too numerous to record: one tells you that O'Hara went to the bottom of it, more than any other person ever accomplished before, and there left his hat, sword, and stick. Another assures you there is a passage to Africa by thence. Let it however suffice for me to add that, judging from the two shafts I saw, and the depth to which they appear to descend, probably no one has ever dared to go very far under ground in this unfathomable abyss.

It strikes me that the nearest assimilation to the line of the Gibraltar Rock from the bay is the parallel feature of the Cintra mountains. There is the same singular perpendicular altitude; the same rugged escarpment of rock; the same terraces at the bottom, with the trees of southern climes, affording beautiful recesses and *emplacements* for houses or quintas (as called in Portugal) of all denominations and dimensions. But of the two posi-

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tions to dwell in, Cintra must have far the preference. In Gibraltar you are in a great vessel, in a garrison; and while at that lovely spot, Cintra, you may roam unobserved and unobtruded on, in all directions; in the former you are always, as it were, "*en evidence;*" in the latter, in sweet seclusion and profound retreat.

I should now mention that we had a very agreeable sail and excursion to Algesiras, a Spanish town, directly opposite to Gibraltar. The governor had announced his intention to celebrate, by rejoicings, &c., the general peace and tranquillization of the country, produced by the surrender of Don Carlos, and of which we had witnessed the celebration at Seville; and Sir Alexander Woodford had three days to choose out of, to honour the same by his presence. He went in his barge, our party in the yacht. We proceeded, on reaching the town, to the great market-place, and there the most ridiculous procession I ever saw was exhibited. A large picture, the portraits of Isabel and Christina, was supported on a platform, held by two girls, dressed like cherubim, with wings and chaplets of

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olives. This buffoonery was carried about by Carlists, prisoners to the Christino forces, sixteen or eighteen of whom were dressed up like merry-andrews, with arms and legs bare. Flags innumerable, with mottoes, military music, cavalry, and infantry, formed a procession, at the head of which they placed our English governor, making him, however loth, parade the streets with them. After this they had a grand repast. An attempt at vivas and speeches was got up; but, as the greater part of the town are Carlists, there was no feeling of exultation exhibited. The English governor took leave at dark; as our yachts were calmed, he took our party into his barge; and, after a very long row of four miles, we arrived at Gibraltar at eight at night.

We had now determined to visit Malaga and Granada, but were anxious to see, previously, Ceuta and Tetuan. Having been so singularly struck with Tangier, it occurred to me that a larger town belonging to the Moors would be still more interesting and worthy of remark. With the aid, therefore, of our yacht friends, we decided to embark

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(with them) on the 30th, for the aforesaid destination, leaving our children and baggage under the affectionate care of Lady Woodford till our return. We had made arrangements for sailing, when the Xarifa, Lord Wilton, from Cadiz, came into the bay; and he again most kindly pressed us, as before, to put off our going for a day at least, in order to dine with him.

True, however, to our compass, and adhering firmly to our decisions, we got under weigh on the 30th, at mid-day, for Ceuta. The African hills appeared now rivalling the splendid ridge near Ronda. The rock appears to great advantage, standing out like an island, bold and bare, in the midst of the sea; and Europa point, bold, bluff, and low, covered with cannon, has a remarkable appearance. This is the place where the contrabandistas lie for shelter, under the English flag. There is an immense deal of smuggling carried on here, under the very nose of the Spanish authorities, English goods being strictly prohibited for the sake of encouraging the native productions, principally to benefit Catalonia and Barcelona; but, notwithstanding all

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the efforts of the Douainiers, it is curious to observe there is scarce a Spanish peasant who has not a printed cotton dress, from Glasgow or Manchester; scarce a mountaineer who will not have his shirt of English linen. Handkerchiefs, shawls, muslins—in short, every article of wear of British manufacturing—is found in Spain.

These are forced in by scores of large and small smuggling boats, who watch their time, when the Spanish guarda costa are not on the alert; steal from under the rock, run along the shore, and land their goods by previously planned stratagems. If chased, they retire under cover of Europa point; and our guns do not hesitate to fire on any Spanish boat chasing within range of the fortress; our policy being to give every encouragement and protection to the smugglers. There are vast stores of goods in Gibraltar, all of which are for Spanish consumption. Some of the smuggling boats are as large as one hundred and fifty tons, and carry thirty-two pounders; the Spanish vessels are equally heavily armed; the smugglers are sometimes taken; but the profit of one successful adventure is so

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great that they always incur new risks. A large smuggler, called the Terrible, was lately taken, which was built at Gibraltar for the trade.

On the morning of the 31st I sent the letters with which I was furnished from Sir Alexander Woodford to the Spanish governor of Ceuta. He instantly dispatched his ten-oared barge, and the captain of the port, to bring the party ashore; and, to my surprise, received me with all the honours and distinctions possible, notwithstanding he must have been aware that I was not a great partizan of the Christinos. Lady L. being very unwell, was unable to land; so, accompanied by Captain Lyon, Major Hort, &c., we went to pay our respects to the governor, and to excuse ourselves for not making any long *séjour*.

His excellency, on our landing from his barge, met us with all the officers of the garrison, a battalion drawn up, and a squadron of lancers. I felt regret that, not having my uniform, I could not appear as became a British officer. I put on the riband of the Bath, however, as all foreign officers and troops think nothing of a military man with-

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out orders; and, excusing my appearance to the governor, returned him my warmest thanks for his civilities and honours, and begged of him to allow me to see his fortifications and outposts, which are the only things worth landing for at Ceuta.

It is a poor town, of the same description as Algesiras; and is most strongly fortified, particularly on the land side; but it has little or no territory, the Moorish outposts coming close to the town, which stands on a sort of peninsula, with large bays for anchorage-ground on each side of it. There are two cuts through the land; one by a sort of canal, and the other by a ditch, forming part of the fortifications of the town, which allows of small-boat navigation from one of the bays to the other. The heights above the town are as steep as the whole line of the African territory, or more so. The governor had his own steed (a clever barb) saddled for me, with horses for my companions; and, mounting himself on his colonel's charger, we filed through the streets of the town, and then through the works towards the land-side.

Ceuta is unquestionably very strong; and pro-

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jects for its capture, such as have been entertained in England, should be well considered, for it is far easier said than done. Of course there was much *fanfaronnade* amongst the officers who surrounded me as to its strength and powers. One said it was quite as strong as Gibraltar; another that they had 1000 guns mounted. Gibraltar has not above 700; and my own eyes comprised the whole of what I saw as within 300 or 400. However, to do the commanding general but common justice, he seemed to have his garrison in the best order that small means, and troops with extremely irregular pay, would allow of. This place is exempt from civil control; all power being exercised by the military law of the despot for the time being. All kind of supplies to the place pay a heavy tax to the military chest, and therefore the poverty that seemed to exist was not surprising. The governor returned with us on board our squadron, to pay his respects to Lady L., and take leave of me; and on November 1st, 1839, we sailed for Tetuan.

Here it may not be irrelevant to enter upon

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some notice and discussion of the bloody, uncertain, and prolonged war the French have established in Africa—an undertaking, be it remembered, that was commenced only under a declaration from the then government of France, through Prince Polignac to Lord Aberdeen, that a mere indemnity and redress for grievances were alone to be demanded; the conquest of Africa, at that period, being never contemplated: for, if otherwise, it was concealed under a subterfuge, unworthy of a great nation. This case, however, stands on very delicate grounds. The success at Algiers seems to have established and founded a right of possession. If this is surrendered or quietly yielded to, and France obtains possession by degrees of the shores of the Mediterranean, and colonizes Africa, what will be the position of Great Britain and her fleets in those seas, as contrasted with and deteriorating from her situation at present?

Can it be supposed that France aims at the subjugation of Africa — a task, it is to be hoped, not only too Herculean, but also too costly both in men and money for her to achieve; keeping on, as

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at present, a bloody strife for successive years. Yet will she be satisfied with what she can wrest from the gallant Emir, Abdel Kader, who sustains with the noblest valour and independence his fatal struggle against the powerful legions of the French? Will France, in the event of success, not also look to subduing the states of Barbary, Tunis, Morocco, Ethican, and Tripoli, which are now independent of her sway? It is impossible not to admire that undaunted leader, Abdel Kader, who has hitherto contended, and contended successfully, against the repeated French commanders that have been sent to annihilate him. Nor can we look to the continuation of the war without feeling an anxious hope that this brave people may not be robbed of their independence. On the graver question, as to what would arise, or must arise if the French projects in Africa took a belligerent aspect towards England, this is not the time, nor is it in my province, to pronounce. But I must say that the question, sooner or later, may become one of the most difficult which the two countries will perhaps ever have to treat upon.

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CHAPTER XXVI.

Landing at Tetuan, in stormy weather—Embouchure of the Tetuan river—A Moorish Captain—Description of Tetuan—The British Consul and his Family — Moorish Houses — A Visit to the Pacha of Tetuan — Return to Gibraltar—Malaga —Spanish houses—Curious manufactures—Our cavalcade at starting from Malaga for an expedition to Granada—Difficulties at the commencement of the march—Ascent of the Sierra—A mountain village—A Spanish inn—Ill manners—Travelling accommodations—Important services.

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CHAPTER XXVI.

On entering the bay of Tetuan, on the morning of the 2d November, the weather became extremely lowering, and there was every appearance of storm and rain. We had anchored, the preceding evening, at a considerable distance from the shore, as it was not deemed prudent to approach land at night; especially since the bay is very open, and, with an easterly wind blowing strong, the danger of a lee-shore is evident. Our boats landed the messenger whom we expedited to the governor and consul, notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather, to announce our arrival and procure horses and donkeys, in readiness for us to go ashore the following morning. Some of our party got into the boats with fowling-pieces, with a view

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of shooting ducks and partridges, there appearing to be a considerable quantity of game.

The *embouchure* of the Tetuan River is about seven or eight English miles from the town: the country lying between is entirely flat, until you ascend the ridges of hills on which the city of Tetuan is situate, and which runs along them in one straight line, with a large palace of the pacha, or caid, in the centre. The place is surrounded by a very high Moorish wall, in which there are embrasures and some few guns mounted. The low ground I have above mentioned is entirely a morass and swamp, near the river; and, as you approach the town, the land is ploughed, or rather turned up, in cultivation. There are no roads, but only bad, crooked, beaten tracks: as is the case throughout Africa.

When our boats, &c. returned to the yachts, we were preparing to land; but the weather had become so awful, from torrents of rain and its blowing almost a hurricane, that, however annoying it was to our anxieties, we thought it more prudent to remain on board our ships, and defer farther

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progress until another day. We had a very stormy morning on the 3d, and much deliberation ensued if it were wise to land. About noon the rain fell in heavy showers, and, whether to brave the elements, or to get up our anchors and return to Gibraltar, was the question. It was believed the yachts could not remain at anchor: there was a choice of difficulties; but decision, even in a wrong sense, is preferable to uncertainty and wavering.

We determined to land, and with great difficulty about two o'clock made the shore. There is a tower at the landing-place, commanded by a Moorish Captain Hash, and to which you ascend by a ladder: the individual is as great a character as his mansion is a wonder. This person holds the key of entrance to the Tetuan territory, and his importance is very laughable. Under his close inspection, and through a formidable surf, we were carried out of our boats by bare-legged Moors. Horses, donkeys, and mules were then, by direction of Mr. Butler, the consul, in attendance; and the equestrians, anestrians, and mulestrians, were shortly marshalled, under the orders of Captain Hash and the con-

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sul, into a cavalcade; the rain all this while coming down in torrents, and the winds blowing a gale. A handsome mule had been sent for Lady L.; and having her own English saddle, she was placed in the midst of our column, the baggage on horses, and we waded in this order through the deep swamps and mud for five long miles. Every part of our clothing was drenched; and in a state of perfect cold, wet, and misery, we arrived at the city, and about six o'clock p. m. reached the consul's house.

Tetuan is more filthy, uncivilized, barbarous, and beastly than Tangier; the streets are narrower, the Jews' houses more abundant, the starving children more numerous; and the squalid groups resemble apes or oran-outangs rather than human creatures. The town differs little from any other Moorish town, all being as I have described them. It is, however, prettily and imposingly situated on the side of a steep hill, facing the eastward. Our quarter, as is always the case in Moorish countries, was in the Jewish district, the most wretched of all. Its misery was increased by the continual rain.

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The Jewesses are here celebrated for their beauty, and on gala days they display their under-costume of great richness, and are certainly fine-looking creatures. Our discomforts became greater by the setting-in of the dreadful Levanter, and the consequent inability to move out of our wretched tenements, and nothing but barbarism around us.

Amongst such a set, one English family alone presents itself to the traveller; and how painfully is this situated! The mother, an amiable person, after sixteen years' residence, has nearly forgotten her own language; her husband also speaking it imperfectly: all the young people, interesting in their appearance, only able to express themselves in Spanish or in Arabic. No masters, no tuition, no religion, no society. Such is the picture of the unfortunate consul's family in the midst of these barbarous people. I should, nevertheless, be unjust if I did not advert to their general amiability and gentleness, and to the lady-like appearance and conduct of the female part of the family. Mr. Butler lived as much like an Englishman as was practicable in this savage place. His house was one of

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the best in the town; the rent eight dollars per month—about £2. His hospitality and style of living were handsome; and how it was practicable, with nine children, to accomplish all he did, appeared inconceivable.

The Moorish houses are all open in the centre, or rather they have an inside square, above and below, with a balcony and an arcade; in the middle of the square are trees, exotics, or curious plants. The doors of the rooms on each story open into the balcony; there are few or no windows; and in chill or rainy weather, and with a bad supply of fuel, the cold, wet, and discomfort that rush in from these portal apertures are horrible: but the mansions seem only built for immoderate heat.

Lady L. was so intensely fatigued by the march and all she had gone through, that we pitched her bed, and she lay still for some hours, which happily prevented all cold or bad effects from our disagreeable march. But had our decision been otherwise, and had we not landed, as the yachts were obliged to put to sea from the tempest, our hardships and fate might have been much

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worse. The vessels encountered, off Ceuta point, and within the straits, as heavy a gale as they ever experienced, which they gallantly rode out, beating to windward and keeping an offing. Had the party been on board, we should without doubt have been obliged to run for Gibraltar; and, discomfited and disappointed, it was more than probable we should never have crossed the straits again.

The pacha, on my arrival, sent an officer with the usual present to persons of rank, consisting of two sheep, twenty-four fowls, and two hundred eggs; and I announced the intention of paying my respects to him on the following day. We set out after breakfasting at the consul's; the ladies were mounted on mules; the pacha sending one for me covered with scarlet housings and a fine bridle, ornamented with shells. The mule was one of the largest and tallest I ever saw; and with a saddle singularly high behind and before, it required getting on a ladder to mount. The rest of our party, in column, and with their best dresses, orders, &c., paraded up the high hill to the castle, where we

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were met by the second in command, and the black Moorish secretary, with a large guard of Moorish soldiers, cavalry and infantry, or rather irregular foot. Our consul, Mr. Butler, had his interpreter with him.

This pacha is the richest in Barbary, but he is also the most sordid. He has only one wife, and two sons, between twenty and twenty-five, very handsome men. To these we were first introduced. Both occupy situations in his establishment; and the younger had lately taken to himself a wife of twelve or thirteen years of age.

In the great palace there is neither furniture nor establishment. It would probably cost too much to the avaricious Caid, who hoards his wealth in large chests of doubloons, burying them under ground. The place we were received in was the dwelling-house of another person, furnished by the pacha in a more private style. When we entered, he was sitting with his legs under him upon a carpet opposite the door, wrapped up in his great white casique; and he exhibited a face like that of a swelled hog. Though a more powerful chief, he

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had neither the information nor the intellectual appearance of the pacha of Tangier.

After the usual compliments, tea was served: three very low round tables were brought in; on one of them small tea-cups were placed round a tray: on the second were the kettles, or rather vases, and vessels for making the tea: on the third, having the largest circumference of any, was a very rich old Moorish tray of gold, on which stood four immense dishes, consisting of dates and milk, sugared cakes of peculiar niceness, sweetmeats, and grapes. The Moors and slaves in abundance served round the tea. His excellency insisted on each taking three cups; no great difficulty, as it might be compared to three table-spoonfuls.

After the repast, the ladies went to see his wife and son's wife, who were far superior to the harem at Tangier; the son's wife had very beautiful eyes. The stables and gardens were afterwards shown to us. I saw in the former only one horse of real value; his excellency told me the Sultan had given it to him, and that all the others were the Sultan's; as much as to say that none were to be asked for

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purchase. I was unwilling, on taking leave, to receive the presents without suitable return; and consulted with the Jew interpreter, Levi, the richest merchant in the place, to know how I should make a compliment to the pacha, as also to the soldiers and attendants: and I mention this, to prove the despotic avarice of these chiefs, that Levi advised me, if I meant to do the thing handsomely, to send through the black secretary two pieces of gold, about £10, and he would report to the chief the amount of my present. Of course I followed this advice; and the next day Levi told me the pacha had taken about £8 of it for himself, and left two for his people. Such is the Moorish pacha, or caid.

Towards mid-day we were relieved from our visit, and happy to pass the evening in repose at home. The Misses Butler brought Jewish women full dressed to show us, and in every possible manner endeavoured to entertain us. The weather was still stormy; but, as our yachts had returned to their anchorage, we deemed it best to re-embark.

On the morning of the 5th of November it was fair, and the heavens favoured us in our *route à*

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cheval to Captain Hash's tower, from whence our boats took us on board; and, with the aid of a brisk breeze, we anchored at the Old Mole, Gibraltar, in the evening, delighted to return to a civilised land; for to imagine human creatures and a strange nation, within only a few hours' sail, and so wide as the poles asunder in every thing approaching to civilization, as Barbary is from Spain, is quite impossible, without visiting the *locale*.

We were greeted with the same hospitality by the governor that we had so amply experienced before, and renewed our dinners with him, and our visits to friends in Gibraltar. The Xarifa yacht had arrived from England, as I have before mentioned, with Lord and Lady Wilton; and in our absence from Gibraltar they visited the lions, as we had done before them. On our return they pressed us to make the journey from Malaga to Grenada together. We had been told that travelling in small parties in Spain was always more prudent, as regarded accommodation and getting on; wishing, therefore, to avoid any union of movements as much as possible, we proposed to our

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friends that we should wait a day or two after them at Gibraltar, in order to give them the start upon the road into Spain. With this understanding they sailed on the 4th; and we finally made our arrangements to follow them to Malaga on the 6th.

Our last evening and dinner at the governor's were most agreeable; he collected all our particular friends and allies; his *cuisine* is really perfect, as his hospitality, as I have before said, is universal. On departing, he followed us to our carriage, and only regretted that an inspection of the 82nd regiment prevented him from seeing us on board our yacht in the morning.

However, to our surprise, at eight o'clock the following day Lady Woodford and her sons were at the Ragged Staff, to bid a last adieu; and we parted with the sincerest regret from these most warm and affectionate friends, whom we had only a few weeks ago greeted as strangers.

The morning was beautiful, and the bay of Algeziras was covered with boats, and the sky so serene and clear that it seemed to reflect all the

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objects below it. Our little squadron, the Merlin and the Antelope, got under weigh with all their sails crowded and their colours flying, wafting signs and adieus to those who were behind us, while their sharp prows cut through the blue waters with the utmost energy, to gain rapidly the new shores and havens to which our destiny directed them.

The most lovely sail of the lovely sailings in the Mediterranean blessed our passage to Malaga. It was a morn and evening which hardly any July in England could ever boast; the heat during day time made us fly from its rays, and take shelter in the cabin from its power; but the noon and the night afforded indescribable enjoyment in watching the bright, glimmering stars, while our vessel glided imperceptibly along through a beautiful, glassy surface, which seemed to disclaim ever heaving in anger.

We were not able to anchor within the pier at Malaga that evening. The next day, the consul, Mr. Penrose Mark, came on board, and acquainted us that the Wiltons were still at their anchorage, and that it was impossible to make the journey

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forward into Spain except we combined arrangements and joined parties. Lord Wilton had had an escort ordered him, through the means of General Alava's interest at Madrid. We, on the other hand, had previously engaged the only two carriages in the town in which ladies could go. The escort could not proceed without the carriages, and the carriages required the escort. Whatever inconveniences or want of accommodation might be encountered on the road, there was no mode of advance but by a single column; this was therefore shortly arranged by the consul, who kindly offered to accompany the party, and manage all matters during our route.

We were anxiously pressed to start that day, which to us was next to impossible; but on the 9th we commenced our march, and had hardly a moment to see Malaga.

A fine new pier and lighthouse are building; the bay spreads in a semicircular basin; the city is built round its base; a grand cathedral stands prominent in the centre of the town, and there is a handsome public walk, or Alameda. The houses of

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the English merchants are especially large, and on a superior scale. They seem to have a great taste for large old carved doors: as an instance; an English commercial gentleman had bought a fine house, which was pointed out to me, and for which he had given £7000 or £8000, while the street doors alone had cost £800; they were of mahogany, and richly carved. Another mansion near it, equally conspicuous, had the portals made of old mahogany, triangular nails apparently disposed in circles, and other figures upon the panels. The inside squares of these mansions had almost universally the Moorish court, and the evergreens and gardens. The interiors are fitted up with matting and handsome furniture.

There is a pretty large English society in this town, and it is said to be an agreeable residence. The consul occupies an excellent house in the Alameda. The most remarkable shop is a manufactory for the famous Malaga wooden figures, representing the costumes of the nation: the most renowned of these are the twenty-one personages of the bull-fight. This magazine is worth inspect-

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ing. The figures are about three dollars, or fourteen shillings each, and are only to be had at Malaga.

Lord Cantalupe and a party of young Englishmen were in possession of the best inn in the place. They, however, kindly and gallantly yielded us their apartments while we stayed; and we all dined, a large party, on board the Xarifa, before we commenced our expedition up the country.

I waited upon the Governor Alvarez, captain-general of the province. He was unfortunately ill, but showed every civility by sending his aid-de-camp to me, with letters to General Mir, commanding at Grenada, desiring him to be of every use, and to show us all possible attention.

The day of the 9th shone with a brilliant sun at our starting on our march. The party mustered at the inn: two coaches, with six mules each, one for the ladies, and the other, of an inferior description, for the servants; together with horses for the gentlemen, and an escort, consisting of a non-commissioned officer and six Lancers; and, finally, a baggage-waggon formed

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our cavalcade. The consul, as chief manager and director, turned out *à l'Espagnol*, armed with arquebuse and dagger; and it was jestingly observed that he was well got up. I must do him the justice to say he spared no effort or apparent zeal; but particular interests cannot command the same attention in numerous parties as general arrangement.

Our first station was marked out for the Venta Nova, about eight or nine leagues from Malaga. We were, however, much behind the time of setting out, and after a very laborious march up the high Sierra that hangs over the city of Malaga, found the day closing in upon us without our having scarce accomplished a league of our road. This was ominous for the close of our operations, which turned out most deplorable and unfortunate. The weather changed very much after our departure, and grew worse as the day advanced. Our baggage-waggon was overloaded, and could move but very slowly; and then came the knotty point of discussion, whether it was wise to leave our baggage with part of our escort, and trot on ourselves

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in order to escape as speedily as possible from the pelting of the rain and wind. The dread of losing the baggage by an attack from robbers, who might be in league with the muleteers, and overcome a diminished escort, was fearfully debated by the ladies. The impossibility of comfort of any kind without the beds, canteens, &c., which the heavy waggons contained, was also put forward; and in short, though there appeared to me little danger in forming a suitable rear-guard, and making a more rapid movement ourselves, the consul and the ladies decided the point, and slowly we advanced after dark, at the rate of about one mile an hour.

Towards eight o'clock we reached the village of El Colmenar, still two leagues short of our night quarters, where preparations had been made for us; as is absolutely necessary with a large party travelling in Spain. The muleteers were now tired and began to grumble, declaring that neither they nor their beasts could move much further: the storm continued with violence, and all the party were wet and out of humour. The

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various and clashing opinions in an allied force, without a decided general-in-chief, always militates against a prompt and sound decision; much precious time was lost in arguing: many thought the muleteers were manœuvring in order to ensure another day's employment; others believed that if we went on we should be benighted, robbed, and possibly murdered at last. However, the cavalcade continued its march.

We had progressed above a league over the never-ending Sierra, when the mules entirely knocked up; the heavy mountain we had yet to climb stood threateningly before us; the rain and hail pelted with all the fury of the most violent squalls; the wind was so boisterous that it almost blew our coaches over the precipice; our guides and escort, helpless and immoveable, crouched under the rock on the side of the road: and thus did our convoy exhibit, in a dark night, at the summit of one of the Apulduxaras, a picture of dismay and woe unutterable, till at length the tempest somewhat abated. If there was a discussion before, Babel itself could not go off at a score in the way the

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assembled tongues did now, as to the course we were to pursue. Although mules and donkeys would not move up, it was suggested that they would move down; on the other hand, it was proposed to wait, as we had sent to the station, and the people there, foreseeing our dilemma from the black and lowering night, would come back to our assistance. Yet to wait exposed to the blast, with timid women dreaming of robbery and attack, was impossible; so, after much difficulty, we turned our carriages on the narrow way, flanked on both sides by precipices, and urged our weary frames and still more weary beasts to retrace their steps to El Colmenar.

No one can imagine what a Spanish mountain village is that has never seen one. The streets of El Colmenar were never made, or intended to be made, for the passage of carriages, but only of mules; consequently, ladies could not enter the village but on foot — the weather worse than can be described, the ways ancle-deep in mud and water. Leaving the carriages in the high road,

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some of the escort went to reconnoitre anything in the shape of an inn, but found shelter difficult to obtain—good accommodation impossible. At last we succeeded in reaching a posada; on opening its door we found two small rooms and a kitchen entirely filled with Spanish travellers, their mules occupying the back of the premises, and themselves so thickly surrounding the only glimmering of fire they had in the kitchen, that there was not space for one of our party to make way through and get his clothes dried; much less was it possible for our cook to obtain a place for dressing any thing for us to eat; neither did it appear in any manner practicable for the ladies to obtain a hole, however small and inconvenient, to lie down in.

The host, unwilling to receive us, declared his inn to be worse than two others in the village; another long and laborious search was therefore made by myself and Captain Lyon through a scattered pueblo, over impracticable pavement, knocking up old women and alarming the place to such an extent that they set the church bells ringing, as they do in all cases when these hamlets are at-

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tacked by troops in the night. The whole place was shortly in an uproar. Although we discovered a venta with some little more room, we soon saw that if the carriages were moved down to it we should never get them back again, and there was no possible means of transporting baggage without the carriages in the middle of a dark night; so, after an hour's useless search, we travelled back, discomfited and harassed, by the light of a single lantern carried by a lancer, over fragments, gutters, and drains, and joined our ladies, who had remained waiting most impatiently to know their fate. Finally, there was nothing for us but to turn to the posada again. We experienced at first the greatest brutality; no entreaties would drive the cigar squadron from its position round the fire; no money would bribe them; they were travellers, and paid as well as we, and they would give way to no one. The situation of our ladies had no effect on these ruffians.

In the midst of our despair, we heard an approach of voices in an authoritative tone, and an advance

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of two persons towards the door. These turned out to be the alcalde, with his municipality, alarmed at this nocturnal invasion of the hamlet. He discovered by inquiry who we were, and hastened in the handsomest manner to offer his own house and the best accommodation the village could afford. When we declined this, from its distance and the lateness of the hour, and only asked sufficient space in the posada, he exhibited to us in a few moments what a Spanish alcalde in the mountains can accomplish. With his stick and his fist, pushing down one and knocking off the hat of another, he cleared every part of the premises before we could look round; turned the mules away: forced the travellers to the other inn: and after a scene as ludicrous as it was advantageous to ourselves, the alcalde and his corporation stood before us like the Slaves of the Lamp, and only asked what more we required.

It may well be imagined what were our relief and joy when one of our ladies was deposited in a small garret, where, with true female ingenuity, she contrived to place her little white bed and toilet-table,

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while the wet ran in from the roof, and the floor seemed bending under the tread. The other fair traveller took possession of the parlour below; while we all waited, half famished, for our dinner till half-past nine o'clock, when it did come, and did immortal honour to M. Perron; and in this wretched hovel for the first, and I suspect for the last time, did a party of English travellers dine off plate from our commodious canteens, and regale our repast with excellent cool champagne and claret. The little white bed above alluded to was placed at the extremity of a long loft, and I suspect its occupier enjoyed as light a slumber as is to be obtained on the gilded couch under the painted roof of any palace or mansion. The men occupied a large space in which were corn stores, fruit, and all the winter provisions of the establishment. Such was the picture of the first night's bivouac of a pleasure party in Spain, while our escort and muleteers made common cause and common fare with us. Through much campaigning and long service, I never saw a more wretched encampment. How our ladies sus-

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tained this and farther hardships, without permanent sufferings, it is difficult to imagine; our cook alone saved the whole party from perishing.

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CHAPTER XXVII.

Having marched two leagues short of our station on the first day, it was at once apparent we could not reach the destination marked out for us on the second; accordingly, it was decided to stop at the town of Loxa, just half-way between Malaga and Grenada, where a good hotel was promised, and with an easier day's journey, after the inexpressible fatigues of the preceding. This place, however, was notorious for robbers and cut-throats of all descriptions, which not a little added to the fears of our ladies.

It was near nine o'clock the next morning before we could get our baggage packed and under weigh; camp-beds taken down at night require much trouble and labour to put up in the morning;

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and to this was added, preparing breakfasts, stowing provisions, &c. In short, I found it required two full hours to put the column, after a halt, again in marching order. The carts broke down several times with the luggage, the mules fell repeatedly; we had an onerous day through mountain-pass, crag, ravine, and torrents, and did not arrive till very late at Loxa. Here, however, we had tolerable quarters; the hotel was really good; the place is built on the side of the mountain; and the streets, consequently, are continually ascending and descending. The country round is rude and rustic, and the town is often the resort of horse and cattle dealers, and jockies, matadors, gipsies, idlers and vagabonds of every description; but nothing of consequence occurred, save keeping up the character of Loxa for robberies, by one of our silver spoons being stolen.

Anxious to set out the following morning early enough to reach Grenada, I gave myself uncommon pains to get all off in good time; but it often happens when you try the most you fail the most signally. It is true we were on the start at four, and

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marched at seven; but the same hour in the evening found us still leagues from Grenada, and horses, mules, &c. in bad plight for proceeding. Lavellar, the first village on the Duke of Wellington's estate at the Sote de Roma, presented itself. The usual debate occurred as to our course; and the usual indecision was the consequence. Fortunately in the end we halted. The day, if possible, proved the most trying of any. The wind was much colder upon us as it came down from the Nesia Nevada, which we were now approaching. Moreover, the incessant rain of the two preceding days increased the difficulties and depth of the road; our former misfortunes appeared light compared with the present. The valleys we had to pass through appeared like lakes. To avoid one of them, we attempted to pass some fields, and gain the road further on. But the horses refused to drag the carriages, and we had to return to the road we had so unwisely quitted. At night-fall we were still, as I have said, many leagues from Grenada. Our horses and people completely knocked up, and it seemed impossible to proceed. It was proved to us next day

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that the road was impracticable, and fatal accidents would have occurred had we gone on. The best peasant's Casa in the village was occupied by us, but bad indeed was that best; a kitchen as black as the nether regions, one small room within another, the outer having melons, grapes, and winter food suspended from its ceiling, a loft full of grain and an outer shed, were literally the whole accommodation for two noblemen's families with their establishments; altogether consisting of six guests and ten servants; this is really no exaggeration. One family party took the inner, and the other the outer room; the strangers were in the loft, and the kitchen in common: happily we here again found the advantage of not neglecting it.

Our hosts were not very inviting looking people, though turned out more honest than their looks bespoke. Our French cook rather startled some of our party, by telling us that the last time he had dressed a dinner in the place (which was for Marshal Soult in the last war) one or two of his underlings had been murdered in the night by the peasantry.

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The village of El Hacha, which lodged us, is on the borders of the Sote di Roma, which contains sixteen small towns, the river Xenil running through it. Our party being sadly fatigued, the ladies repaired to rest in the best manner they could. The supper of the consul and two or three of the party may be thus described. Some half-dozen Spanish peasants stood by the light of the fire and a small lamp, looking darker than Moors, with many naked children, and some dogs and cats, all squabbling for the best and warmest place; the consul with a large barn-door cock in one hand, and a knife in the other; the cock's voice drowning all others, as long as his life remained; another of the group with a long string of onions in his hand, which he was counting as a good Catholic counts his beads; the hostess boiling some water, into which the consul's victim was to be plunged, feathers and all; and then, after an hour's cooking, a soup was produced, which, from the ravenous cravings of all present, was deemed excellent; and all was soon forgotten in sound sleep.

Our progress next morning was through the

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great plain that bounds the Sierra of the Apulduxaras, and on which Grenada is situated. The principal part of the extent which the eye embraces forms the property that was conferred, with the title of Duc de Ciudad Rodrigo, on the Duke of Wellington, at the close of the Spanish war. This beautiful estate is one mass of fine corn lands, and appeared in the highest state of cultition.

And here I must in some measure do justice to a country I think greatly maligned and vilified, in the representations made to England of its state. We had passed three nights in the midst of the mountain, with a nominal escort, it is true; but they regularly turned off to their quarters the instant they entered the villages. Our party at any moment might have been attacked; and the silver plate and canteens exhibited nightly at our repasts offered ample temptation; whereas we found the peasantry not only kind and civil, but ready to give us every thing we wanted, for fair remuneration; and I feel perfectly satisfied that, with kind words, a good guide, and civility, any party

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might travel with as great security over Spain and Portugal as in most parts of France. The habit and supposed necessity of taking escorts afford one means of paying the soldiery; and so long as this system is kept up there is a reason for enhancing fears and alarms. But once generally dispensed with, I am sure all would be safe and as secure as in other lands. At our quarters in the villages we noticed that the families staid up, and were prying and looking all night at our proceedings; but surely it was as natural for them to be suspicious of our servants, as for us to be on the *qui vive* about them.

The farmers in the province of Grenada are industrious, hard-working people; their houses are abundantly stored with provisions; they themselves are well clothed, have oxen as well as mules at command, and their climate is so heavenly, that in this, if in any thing, lies their misfortune. It induces such an absolute cheapness of subsistence as to beget indolence; and Spaniards in the pueblos, both men and women, pass days after days with a bit of a paper cigar in their mouths, or looking out

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of door or window, and positively without making exertion from morning till night.

I have mentioned the miserable state of the roads in this, as indeed in most parts of the south of Spain, with the exception of a few of the Estradas Reales; but this is not so great a disadvantage to the country as would appear at first sight. The inland commerce, in Russia, kept up by swarms of little carts, is here managed by crowds of mules, donkeys, and pack-horses. These are, like locusts, perpetually moving; and so ingeniously are they loaded, and so expert are the muleteers, that, except from the slow pace and consequent length of time occupied by a journey, with an average stock of patience, travelling in Spain is not disagreeable.

The road from Malaga to Grenada is little cheering; being one uninterrupted range of the highest mountains and passes. After Loxa you descend to some picturesque valleys, where ilex, cork, and olive-trees abound; and wherever there is a sheltered vale, or a piece of good soil, you are sure to

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perceive that flourishing vineyards have taken possession of it.

We entered the renowned city of Grenada la Moresca, or the Moorish, as it is styled, *par excellence*, by the Spaniards, on the 12th November; our lodgings had been provided by the consul at the best inn, which I must say was bad enough, especially the accommodations and rooms.

This place is certainly inferior as a town to Seville, but no place I have yet seen equals in my mind the beauty of Cadiz. It is quite evident, however, from the moment you drive through the streets of Grenada, that it has not the style, the wealth, or, what I should designate, the "*savoir vivre*" of Seville. The streets, except one or two, are narrow and dirty. The pavement is execrable, and difficult to walk upon without being accustomed to it; the shops are poor, and range chiefly in one bazaar-sort of establishment; but the articles are not good, nor is any kind of *vertu* to be procured in the place.

The black mantilla for ladies, and the black suit and cloak for the men, predominate here, which

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give a gloomy look to the numerous crowds that congregate together for the purpose of discussion and news. The most striking features of the town are, the cathedral, and the Alameda, or great public walk. On approaching from the lower ground to the range or height on which Grenada stands, you see a long and broad mass of white buildings rising one above another, with Moorish towers, cathedral turrets, convents, belfries, flat-roofed houses, &c.; and above these again, the walls and various projecting defences of the most wonderful palace or place in the known world—the Alhambra.

It is difficult to select the right designation for this edifice, the master-piece of the arts, and of human skill. It is more difficult to describe it in detail, and quite impossible to conceive the matchless enchantment of the scene, unless the eye has embraced it.

Of all the writers that have attempted this subject, I believe Swinburne and Washington Irvine have given the best and most minute description of it; the sketches taken by various British artists will far better instruct the untravelled world than

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any thing from my pen. I think it combines every thing that can be imagined of the sublimity of human genius with the highest perfection of executive art.

While lost in wonder on gazing upon the tableaux that is thus presented before you, one becomes more powerfully excited by the thought, that the Moslem power, which created such elaborately wonderful works, taught Europe the marvels of art and science, and preserved so much of the refinements of learning for her use, has vanished from the land like the dreams of its morning, but bequeathing the mighty monuments of a real existence; and now surviving only in another clime, and with a barbarous race, that retain but the name of Moors, and the faith of Mahommed. These stupendous masses and piles of building, the churches, the cathedrals, and their carvings, the marble columns, hewn from apparently inaccessible mountains, and wrought and finished by the nicest art of the chisel and the most indefatigable labour, to decorate the interiors; all belong to that occupation of the Peninsula which it seems so incom-

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prehensible could ever have existed to come to an end.

But to return to the Alhambra; it is not a fortress, it is not a palace, but partakes of both. The wall that surrounds it has projecting defences, and is very high. The place is situated as the hills rise about a mile from the lower end of the town. Between the wall and the structure the space is occupied by gardens, beautifully adorned with the orange, pomegranate, and jessamine; vines, verbinum hedges, and every fragrant shrub under the canopy of heaven.

Your first entrance within the walled defence is by an old Moorish portal of great antiquity and beauty. You then wind round the ascending mountain to the great doors which form the portals of the Alhambra. Passing these, and coming to a flat surface, you are struck with amazement at the ruined façade of one of the finest palaces imagination can paint; the carvings of marble on its exterior surpass belief, and are a perfect prodigy.

This wonderful building has never been finished;

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and they inform you that Charles the Fifth of Spain erected it as a palace for his horses, saying, they should have a finer abode than any Moorish potentate. In the interior court are enormous circular arched galleries, above and below; in the lower of which the horses were to be established. All this presents now an utterly desolate ruin; but you are conducted on to the great doors of the Alhambra palace, and at once ushered into an oblong open square, called the Court of Fishes. The style of these courts, of a larger or smaller size, are found generally the same in every Moorish edifice.

A long reservoir of water, the shape of the quadrangle, with every species of coloured fish, occupies the centre; and round it are innumerable specimens of the shrubs and trees, partaking of the peculiar luxuriance of this climate. Many of the trees here are cut into various forms and shapes, giving the appearance of an old French garden to the small interior parterres. At each side of this court are recesses, or corridors, opening into other spacious halls or saloons. Passing

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through one of these, they inform you it was the spot where the Abencerrages were successively beheaded. Proceeding to another, it is pointed out as the hall where the ambassadors were received; a third, the hall of justice, and so on. In short, Mr. Matteo, the guide, jabbered his Spanish with such rapidity and fluency, that I must leave others to narrate, for the sake of the curious reader, what I feel incapable of accomplishing.

The predominant and characteristic feature of this court was its infinity of marble pillars, of the most beautiful cream colour, and with often-repeated capitals, supporting the low Moorish arches. This peculiar and most beautiful architecture is no where imitated in England; of which I know not the cause. Besides these arches, the inlaid ceilings, carvings, and variegated colours of the fretwork, worked in every pattern and form, not only indicate the time, labour, and ingenuity that must have been employed by the artists, but impart also to the *tout ensemble* an indescribable effect of lightness and beauty. I should not forget to add, that the sides of the rooms are all

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overlaid with tiles painted with allegorical or scripture subjects, or are also of variegated colours, which give a look of cheerfulness and gaiety to the apartments.

From the Court of Fishes you enter the Court of Lions, a more spacious and splendid place, and with countless columns and arabesques. In the middle is a large fountain, surrounded by carved marble lions, from whose mouths the clear limpid stream irrigates the various beds of the surrounding flower-garden. You are then conducted through successive halls and spacious saloons, and arrive on one story at a long suite of lodging rooms. These, the governor of the Alhambra, who is named by the sovereign, and has a sort of sinecure, and who attended us in our inspection, declared he was always willing to give to strangers, especially English, who would come and reside in the palace, bringing their own beds and cooking utensils. Many of my countrymen, he informed me, had availed themselves of this permission, especially those who have written on the wonders of the Alhambra and the lions of Spain; and I really

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think, any persons or families who love tranquillity and romantic scenes, could never do better than pass a summer in such an abode, rent free, where they could have the most economical living, and, in addition, a certain society in Grenada—though I will not say of the first or most extensive description.

But to resume—the summit of the Alhambra contains what is denominated the king's and queen's apartments. Here are large marble baths, and the decorations and chiselings are more exquisite than even in the rooms below. They show you a square stone, on which the Moorish queen used always to stand when receiving homage from her company; and this is in an arched space at the top of the building, which commands a view, not only of the town of Grenada below, but of the whole surrounding country, with the snow-topped mountains at its side.

I have now done, and leave to others to describe further what my powers are unequal to. The two governors, of the town and of the Alhambra, accompanied us throughout our visit; nothing could sur-

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pass the civility I received from General Mir, who commanded in the place. We were likewise assisted in all our plans by M. and Madame Lopez. The lady, an Englishwoman and daughter of Sir Gerard Noel, is married to the above-named Spanish nobleman, whose property is in Castile; but he has become a resident of Grenada, in consequence of having received from the government the *funçion* of collector of civil dues at the gates. Partial to England, and having received hospitality from us, he takes every possible pains to return the civilities, by paying attention to all our countrymen that arrive; he placed his carriage at our disposition, asked us to his house, and undertook for us all those little offices of kindness which travellers always stand so much in need of.

The more I have contemplated this magnificent country, this extraordinary climate, superabundant soil, and bold and sturdy peasantry, the more I am at a loss to understand the causes that make all these gifts of Providence of no avail, and why such a nation should be plunged in a seemingly interminable civil war, devastating the cities, the

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fields, and the face of the provinces. An acute Spaniard observed to me—"If we had but six honest men, and they the ministers, we should have peace, order, and tranquillity; but there are no such persons to be found." Again he remarked: "The climate which you so much eulogize is one cause of our wretchedness; every article of life is so cheap that a Spaniard can live on three half-pence a day, and would rather idle all his time away than undertake any labour." And this is probably much of the cause of Spanish deterioration: where the earth produces easily, as in warm climates, the people are unaccustomed to work and activity, and to the valuable habits resulting from steady exertion; so they sink satisfied under a despotic government, because it saves them the trouble of thinking and acting for themselves, having no institutions to cherish a different spirit among them. The old system, too, of Spain, when each province had its own peculiar laws, customs, and privileges, was a bar to free internal communication throughout the country, and roads and bridges, and public works and enterprise, were and

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are almost entirely wanting. There was no national opinion, for national education was at a low ebb; corruption existed in and tainted every thing, from the highest minister to the humblest of his officials; the public departments and the law courts were filled with favouritism, servility, and venality; services and rights were disregarded in favour of the highest bidder. This was the complaint of the Spaniards themselves.

The mines of Spain have been no less neglected than the above-ground produce. There are said to be coal-mines of a good quality in Asturias, but no one cares to lay out capital in working them. The quicksilver mines of Almaden, &c., are the property of the government; they pay no taxes, and produce about one quarter of a million sterling: these constitute one sixth of the whole, and the revenue from the remainder does not exceed £50,000 annually. The same number of beasts of draught and burthen are said to be employed in these mines, and half a million of men. Were they properly looked after — which becomes the more important since the loss of America to Spain—

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the increase, it is generally considered, would be enormous, and the results highly beneficial to the government and country at large, in the vast impulse thus given to national activity. As it is, the south of Spain is far superior to the north in the development of resources, and the merchants of Cadiz have certainly set an example to their countrymen.

The Spaniards excuse their long intestine war by reference to the quarrels of the Roses in England. But this is so far back, that the excuse seems to furnish the strongest grounds of accusation against the tardy and laggard spirit of the nation, and the apathy and imbecility of its government.

In all my thoughts, views, and information about Spain, I have strongly differed from that administration which, by a most ill-timed interference, aided to plunge the nation into all the horrors and cruelties of that civil war, the merits or demerits of which the British Parliament, during the last few years, have been so continually occupied in discussing. Had the rule of non-intervention been adhered to,

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Spain would have been spared torrents of blood, and this country a most useless and prodigal expenditure. The late ambassador in Spain (Lord Clarendon, however talented or great his acquirements may be, which far be it from me to dispute) gave a most florid and brilliant description of that nation, to bolster up which he was obliged to laud the traitor Marotto to the skies, and our government to confer the order of the Grand Cross of the Bath on Espartero; accompanied, too, by a letter from a royal personage, which stands on record as a sad memento of the fatally ill-conducted policy of the government of that day. With respect to that nation, I could much enlarge on this subject, but, having gone over the ground so often, I will only now ask if the visionary prospects of Lord Clarendon will ever be realized in our time? Let us hope our present ministry will take a far different course, and, profiting by sad experience, leave the Spaniards to themselves.

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CHAPTER XXVIII.

The Cathedral of Grenada — The Summer Gardens of the Alhambra — The Convent of Cantuja — A Tertulia — Departure for Motril — Novel route and mode of travelling — A Village Bivouac — Sagacity of Mules — Bezaen — Its Annoyances—Motril—A Spanish Posada—Spanish Exaction — A Compliment at Parting — A Night Embarkation — Carthagena — The Vice-Consul — Voyage to Barcelona — A Storm—Female Endurance—Arrival at Barcelona — Description of the Bay and City—The English Consul—A Ball—The Ladies of Barcelona — Valdez and Cabrera — Departure —Voyage to Marseilles — Conclusion.

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CHAPTER XXVIII.

On the 14th of November we visited the cathedral, which is magnificent from its dimensions, and from the exquisitely carved marble monuments of the Spanish sovereigns. The painted glass does not equal that of Seville, neither does the edifice itself; and the matchless Murillos are wanting; nevertheless, it must be admitted that the cathedral of Grenada presents some most interesting objects for contemplation.

The summer-houses in the Alhambra gardens, and the extensive views from the pinnacle of the height immediately facing the Alhambra, were also visited; and, on the following morning, we went in carriages to the convent of Cantuja. This is one of the finest monasteries, with the richest revenue, of those from which the monks have been

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most unjustly driven, and in the cruellest manner. The surrounding domains have been purchased by a private individual, who now enjoys them. The convent itself is the property of the government. The interior is gorgeous in marble carvings, columns, pilasters, slabs, altar-pieces, with doors of ebony, mother of pearl, and silver, beautifully combined and inlaid. Here, in the sacristy, they show you a temple of gold, silver, and precious stones; but this temple has now four black wooden pillars to support it, instead of those of massive silver which it formerly possessed, and which, you are informed, were carried off as plunder by Sebastiani when he commanded at Grenada, for which he was removed by Marshal Soult. How far this is really true I cannot vouch; but it is the story of the place.

We had a tertulia (as an evening-party is termed) given us by our friends the Count and Countess Lopez, where there was a fine pianist, who entertained the company, but there was little else to boast of in the way of amusement. Finally, on the morning of the 17th, we left Grenada for Motril.

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Undoubtedly, our party incurred great risk in adopting the resolution of proceeding to Motril, it being a very small port, where the bay is entirely exposed, and open to all winds; where there is no quay or pier for embarkation, and nothing but a gravelly beach, with the sea beating in, and almost always producing a great surf. But there was a common disinclination to renew the bivouacs of El Colmenar and Lavellar; and it was urged that, by going to Motril, we should escape sixty miles of sea from Malaga, and have only ten leagues to go, instead of twenty or twenty-two, back to the latter place. These considerations decided our friends, with their yachts, the Antelope and Xarifa, to order them round from Malaga, and to wait for us at Motril.

The Xarifa had been directed by Lord Wilton, the day we left Malaga, to return to Gibraltar for English letters; but now orders were sent for her, on her return thence, to follow us. And here we were under the disagreeable necessity of parting with one of our most agreeable and useful *compagnons de voyage*. Captain Lyons, with his yacht,

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the Merlin, had now, for nearly two months, postponed, with the greatest amiability, a voyage to the West Indies, whither he was bound when we met him at Cadiz. He had accompanied us through all our dangers and difficulties; and, I believe literally, would still have remained with us, if we could have surmounted the indelicacy of pressing him for our sakes, against arrangements long made, and against the solicitation of friends to whom he had engaged himself.

It is useless, for it is impossible, to describe the regret with which we all parted from him. He returned on horseback with his friend, Major Hort, whose society we had also enjoyed and prized, to Malaga, where he joined his ship, and sailed for Gibraltar and Madeira, taking our letters and directions for the former place.

The route from Grenada to Motril has never before been travelled by English ladies on donkeys, so far at least as we could gain information. The distance between the places is ten leagues; and for only four of these is there carriage road. We were told that the government were intending to form

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an *estrada real* from Grenada to this little port, which does considerable business in commerce; and that several convicts had been working at it of late, but had been taken off for some more important undertaking. We determined, on the above intelligence, that our ladies should go four leagues in a coach, and ride two more on mules, on the first day's march; while the second day's journey was to be performed entirely on the mules. We arranged a bivouac at a village called Bezaen, which was to be our first day's halt; put our column in motion very early; and having less lumber than on our former march, there being no cart or waggon, all our baggage was carried on mules. And here a very wholesome lesson was taught by experience to future travellers' expeditions in Spain: namely, first, that you never should join two domestic establishments together; there being nowhere any adequate accommodation for them. And, secondly, that you should never have baggage carried in any manner but on mules.

The sierras, mountain torrents, stupendous crags, and beautiful valleys, which we passed in two days'

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march, it is superfluous to describe. The scenery was far more picturesque than on the road to Grenada. A fordable river in a romantic pass afforded subject of merriment and even danger: the lusty muleteers and other Spaniards stripped themselves to their waists, to aid their donkeys and mules through the water with their heavy burthens; while those poor animals were almost carried off their legs by the rush of the swollen current as they passed. The way in which the docile and tractable creatures carried up their heavy loads, over broken stones, flints, and sliding fragments, where bipeds could scarcely keep their feet; and in like manner descended the steep and fearful precipice where it seemed as if every step would plunge burthen, beast, and rider into eternity; cannot be remembered without wonder.

Our quarters at Bezaen had more than the usual provision of bugs and fleas. Bonfires were actually made of them, on the walls and in their holes, by the ladies' maids. There never was any sight more disgusting to cleanly, civilized, and delicate English women. But what our ladies went through I had

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much rather bury in oblivion than record here; and, be it observed, all this fatigue and hardship is not inflicted, as on soldier or sailor upon service, by a sense of duty, but is undertaken entirely to gratify a craving curiosity. My doubt, however, is whether they do not pay too dear for their merchandize, or are compensated, for much and lengthened inconvenience and misery, by any thing they get in return.

On the 18th we entered Motril. The *posado* was so miserably small that it was impossible for all the party to put up in it. I made, therefore, a bold attempt, calling upon the governor, and insisting upon having a private house. After some time I accomplished the point, and separated our establishment from the other party. I had, however, to pay largely for my success, as the unconscionable Spaniard had the effrontery to ask me forty dollars, (about £8), for one night's quarters. I positively resisted this imposition, and got off for twenty, which was also far too much.

The last compliment paid to us at Motril by the inhabitants was designed to show us great honour.

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They collected in a large body the evening previous to our sailing, with numerous flambeaux and bands of music: half the population of the place proceeded to our quarters and serenaded us for an hour, while the reciprocal *vivas* showed a good understanding on all sides. I had brought letters from General Mir at Grenada for the colonel commanding, and all the military, joined in the tribute of honour and applause that was thus paid us.

An embarrassment arose this evening. Lord Wilton's yacht, the Xarifa, had not arrived from Malaga: the Antelope, in which my family sailed, was come. It threatened to blow; and if we did not avail ourselves of the night, to go on board, it was urged that we might be prevented embarking from the open beach by unfavourable weather for days to come. On the other hand, by going we were obliged to leave our *compagnons de voyage*, which was distressing. However, there was hardly any choice; by remaining, we could do them, without their vessel, no good; by embarking we ensured an offing for ourselves; and, probably, if their yacht did not arrive, they would be obliged to return to Malaga. We determined finally on the

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night embarkation, which was extremely disagreeable, difficult, and hazardous, from a very exposed beach. Happily, however, we accomplished it without accident, and, weighing anchor at twelve at night, sailed for Carthagena.

After a prosperous run, with a westerly breeze in the day, and an offshore wind at night, we discovered the heights and city of Carthagena in the evening of the 28th. It was a close run between the sun setting and our entrance into the bay. By not saving the former, you are prevented sending your boat ashore, or getting pratique—that is, the bill of health, so as to land any one from the ship that night. This regulation is adopted with the greatest strictness and severity in all the ports of the Mediterranean. A quarantine officer comes on board, so soon as the vessel arrives in the harbour, and desires to see your bill of health, which you must be furnished with from the place you last left. He then examines your crew, &c.; and if he finds all right, you are permitted to go on shore in your boat; but you cannot sail again without a certificate of the last examination.

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Our yacht-sailing crew, but, above all, our admirable captain (whose skill and seamanship no amateur sailor ever surpassed), was so experienced that they never required a pilot for entering any of these bays and places; but the Spaniards are always determined to force one upon you, for the dollars; so we had some squabbling on this subject before we came to anchor. After all, we found we could not land until the following morning, the 21st November.

Carthagena exhibits a melancholy spectacle of fallen grandeur. It formerly enjoyed the reputation of being the greatest naval arsenal in Spain. The finest feature in the place is, doubtless, the excavation of an immense basin, which can hold, at least, fifteen or sixteen line of battle ships afloat. This splendid dock is surrounded by storehouses, warehouses, and machinery of all kinds for the construction and repairs of ships. But all are now in a state of complete destruction and ruin. With the loss of the Spanish navy, the annihilation of her docks and arsenals has followed. It is melancholy to see, in this city, the decadence that has ensued.

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There is now little or no commerce with the port; the houses are inhabited only by persons of very moderate means; and some of the former, like the works on the basin and quays, are tumbling down, while others seem neither in a state of cleanliness nor repair. The shops are miserable, but the market is good; and here, because there was not a large requisition from any military body near the place, all supplies were plentiful.

The English consul was absent. The vice-consul, a Spaniard, conducted us into the house of his chief, which we found comfortable; and we were provided with all necessaries for our *ménage* during our stay. The captain of the port, an old Spanish officer, was our English interpreter with our nation's vice-consul, the latter not knowing one word of our language. We were taken round the arsenal and the city, but in the latter there is nothing to see.

The commander of the place is of Irish extraction. His name is O'Daly; and he has been many years in possession of a command which, from peculiar circumstances, has become much of a sinecure.

From Carthagena we proceeded, on the 24th, to

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Barcelona. We sailed in company with the Xarifa, which had now joined us. The wind was unfavourable, and the weather-lowering; and we commenced by beating to windward, an operation never agreeable in a small vessel. On the 25th the tempestuous weather continued, and, as the evening fell, became very dusky and thick.

The Xarifa hailed the Antelope, and proposed that we should anchor in the bay of Calpe, or Amorica Bay. Consenting to this, we came to an anchor at night; but we found the sea so rough, and so much swell when the cutter was riding in the bay, that we weighed at two o'clock in the morning of the 26th, and stood out to sea; our first object being to get round Cape St. Martin, when we expected to steer a straight course for Barcelona.

We had no great desire to delay at Alicant or Valencia, having seen enough of the generality of Spanish cities, although the latter is described as interesting and beautiful; but we heard there was difficulty in landing, and going from the beach to the town, which was two miles off. Besides which, that roadstead, with the wind blowing to shore, as

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happened now to be the case, might place the little cutter in jeopardy. We laboured very hard all day to get round Cape St. Martin, the weather increasing in severity; having accomplished it, we bore up towards Peniscola and Tarragona, owing to a change in the wind. Towards dusk, the breeze increased so violently that we took in the mainsail, set a trysail, and prepared for a very rough night, the storm coming on to head us more and more.

Towards two o'clock in the morning of the 27th it blew a perfect hurricane; our little vessel gallantly bore up against the violence of the dashing waves, which often covered her with water, and the rush of the seas down the companion-ladder and hatchway of the cabin inspired an awe which (however you are told, or you know, is of no consequence and forbodes no danger) it is impossible to describe. Separated from her family and home, I saw a tender and delicate mother and wife launched in a little bark upon the dangerous coast of Spain, for the object of gratification and amusement, alone; and I could not but picture to myself what would be thought of me, and said in that world which weighs

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and scrutinizes the actions of all, if any fatal mischief occurred to so valuable a life. It was consolation, however, to see the great firmness and heavenly patience that were displayed by the party referred to.

To do our commander here again justice, he hardly ever left the helm, and was incessant in his cares and zealous efforts to diminish every inconvenience as far as possible; and I feel satisfied that it was owing to his judgment and nautical knowledge that we were ultimately brought safe into port, after lying to under trysail for twenty-four hours, in a small yacht of seventy tons, and suffering as much as any unfortunate persons ever went through in a gale of wind.

This dreadful storm, we learned afterwards, not only did great damage along the Spanish coast, at Alicant, Valencia, Peniscola, and Barcelona, by destroying chimneys, roofs, &c., of houses, but actually drove on shore H.M.S. the Tribune, then lying at anchor at Tarragona, together with thirty-two other vessels, which were wrecked or destroyed at different ports by the same gale. It was impossible therefore for us, on landing at Barcelona,

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not to be grateful to Providence for having so well weathered the storm. It ceased towards the evening, and we went on prosperously on the 28th; the 29th we were becalmed, but made the harbour of Barcelona on the 30th in the morning.

The entrance to the bay adds greatly to the beauty of the place; it is remarkably striking. The city is built in a semicircle, and the houses are far more imposing than those of any other town on the coast. There is a splendid quay, and a rampart, fronting the sea, where the esplanade is so wide and extensive as to form a delightful promenade. The two miles north of the port form large harbours, with a lighthouse, and afford anchorage for all vessels trading with this great commercial depot. Formerly, and when civil war was not the cruel fate of this unhappy land, all kinds of goods were transported hence, by excellent roads, to Madrid and the interior of the country; a convenience such as no other town could boast, in the same degree. In addition to the old city, the merchants are now building large modern edifices, like the arcade, which is built in a spacious square, with

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two bold entrance gates, exactly in the centre of the amphitheatre formed by the town towards the sea. These new buildings will be very superb when finished, and the entrance adds greatly to the appearance of the place, which is bounded by its forests of masts in the Bana, or one side of the bay, while rises proudly, on the other, the famed fortress of Monjui, admitted to be one of the finest fortifications in existence.

In the new buildings here described the rich merchants of Barcelona have laid out their capital, created and brought from South America, from finding, perhaps, at this period no other means of getting interest, or otherwise turning it to account. The large houses are let and taken as soon as built, by Spanish Americans or others; and so full was the city when we arrived that we found it impossible to get any accommodation but of the most miserable description. The population consists of about 120,000 inhabitants; and added to these there were upwards of 30,000 refugees, who had fled from the seat of war in the mountains, for protection, and filled every corner of the city.

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We found Mr. Annesly, the English consul, united to Mademoiselle Brockhausen, a Swedish lady of the most interesting and fascinating manners, and both were ready immediately to give up their house, and be of every possible assistance to us; but, declining these offers, we put up with two wretched rooms without fireplaces, and with only brazeros, which are as odious as they are unwholesome, and lived thus uncomfortably, to repose from the terrible knocking about we had sustained in the storm.

It constantly happens, especially with travellers when they have entertained great hopes, and indulged agreeable ideas of the comforts and pleasures of a place, that the reality falls very short of the expectation; though, sometimes, the direct contrary occurs: yet Barcelona is a fine town, and, had we not been so ill lodged, we might have enjoyed ourselves during our stay.

The consul, Mr. Annesly, gave us as splendid a ball as the city afforded; and all the authorities, civil and military, were invited. Though there were evidently no ladies of the *première noblesse*, the party was gay; but the women were dressed in

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bad French style, and many looked more like Dutch women than Spanish; which, after all the descriptions I had heard of Barcelona shapes and Barcelona walking, rather disappointed me.

At the moment, there was a good deal of excitement in the political and military state of Barcelona and the province of Catalonia. The Captain-General, Valdez, had had an action with Cabrera, at Solsona. Valdez claimed the victory, but it was very hardly contested; and, unless relieving a garrison by throwing in supplies, and carrying off the sick and wounded of the place, both which he certainly effected at Solsona, can be called success, all the rest of the combat told entirely in favour of the Carlists, who, under Cabrera, were daily becoming more formidable. It also seemed more certain that Espartero's army would be confined to defensive operations during the remainder of the winter; and that they would likewise be exposed to continual harass and attack on their long line of occupation, from Cabrera's central position. Placed as Morella was, nearly impregnable by nature, and improved by art, Cabrera possessed the

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rare advantage of a position from which he could move at any time, with a strong force, against any weak point of the Duc de Victoria's lengthened line of communication; and after performing some great exploit, or striking a formidable blow, he could re-enter his fortress and fastnesses by the various roads and passes, which, as an active partizan, he held in his own hands.

From all that I could learn, it was idle to suppose the contest in Spain likely to be brought to an end; on the contrary, deep-settled revenge for the treachery and baseness of Maroto, and for the loss of the Carlist army in the north, seemed to grow up on all sides amongst the Spaniards of the south. The change, however, that now took place in the government of Madrid, and the dissolution of the Cortez, by bringing the Moderados into power and distressing the Exaltados, had great effect, and produced various corresponding changes in Catalonia. General Valdez and General Seoane saw their approaching fate; and about the time of our arrival had sent in their resignations to the queen's government. Their partisans in the province were

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filled, of course, with discontent and vexation, and very serious riots were apprehended at Barcelona. Nothing could be more insecure than the actual state of affairs; for, notwithstanding that General Seoane had a large garrison to protect one of the greatest depôts of commercial riches in Spain, it is a fact that neither the governor nor a single officer could stir out of the place without an escort, so much did they dread the Carlist bands that were hovering continually about.

An anecdote here deserves to be mentioned, as indicative of the state of feeling towards the late British minister at the court of Madrid. It will be remembered that his lordship, after leaving the embassy, and at the close of the last session, made an important speech, already alluded to, as it was considered at that time, upon the state of Spain, and its progress towards tranquillity, improvement in institutions, finance, and on the consolidation of the power of the queen and the government. On what data all these statements were founded, or from which offices in Madrid such glowing imagery was got together, it was difficult to say; but it is certain

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that his lordship's friends and flatterers in Spain cried up this discourse so eloquently, that it was said a subscription was raising to present the ambassador with a service of plate, in grateful remembrance of this, to Spain, most satisfactory oration.

Whether the monies came in, and the piastres were subscribed—whether it succeeded to any and what extent, in Madrid or elsewhere, or if his lordship has received the plate, I really am not informed; but I was told, and on good authority, at Barcelona, that, finding all notion of a subscription failed, some friends tried to get signatures to an address, which was handed about the town in every quarter; but that it was a fact that not five names of any respectability were attached to it; that at the head of this copious list was the important and valuable autograph of a botching tailor, who keeps a small shop in the town, and that the other names were signed by the lowest of the rabble. A gentleman, who saw the parchment, told me he was satisfied they would be ashamed, ultimately, to send it to England. A British minister can sometimes be deceived as to the state of the country in which he is resident.

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Our companions, the Wiltons, not receiving favourable accounts from England, became very impatient to get to Marseilles, where they expected further letters; and we were no less eager to arrive there to meet our children, from whom we had now been a month separated.

On Thursday evening, the 5th of December, the Xarifa got under weigh. The weather was bad, and the wind adverse. We pressed them not to go to sea then, but to remain till Saturday. Friday, all by common consent agreed, was an inauspicious day to begin a voyage; why the superstition exists I never could discover. All entreaty, however, was vain; but the result proved how much better it would have been if our prayers had been listened to. The schooner sailed at three o'clock on the 5th, the yacht at one o'clock on the 7th; and, strange to say, both anchored in the port of Marseilles within the same hour on the Monday.

The Antelope cutter had a most beautiful run of it till Sunday evening; indeed, had she had two hours more daylight, she would have arrived in port twelve hours before the Xarifa: but,

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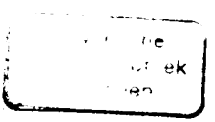
unwilling to make the land at night, she hauled off, when a very stiff contrary gale arose, and she was beating off and on in view of the harbour-light all night long, and ran in only the next morning.

Some unfavourable accounts now reached us of the ill-health of our son Seaham, who was to have joined us at Marseilles, and to have proceeded with us to Malta, Alexandria, &c. But Lady L. being alarmed respecting him, we resolved to return home by Paris without delay; which put an end at once to my writing and further observations.



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