excessive kindness of the Duke to some one or more of his friends his Grace had suffered severe losses, and in a strict economy the expenditure would not fail, I knew, to meet with his approval. I pointed this out to Mr. Edye, and told him that it was now February and I wanted a change of scene and rest, and business called me to go to Seville and Cordova, returning by way of Montilla, whence I should come back over the mountains to Molino del Rey. I begged him therefore to take every opportunity to retrench expenditure in everything which I had pointed out that he could deem prudently practicable.

CLX.

Thus I took my departure, leaving Mr. Edye in charge of everything. It was now sowing time, and he had been instructed to advance grain to the tenants for their sowing, and also to the town council to any extent they might require, always, however, within the limits of a wise economy. I also requested him to lose no time in preparing his books and making up his accounts. It was important that he should be diligent and accurate in these matters, for all would have to be sent up to the Duke's legal advisers, and would probably be scrutinised with severity, as this was the young agent's first trial in that line, and I wished he might show himself sufficiently exact in all things, that I might be enabled
to leave the estate ultimately in his keeping when I went home in the spring of 1868. For my own part I expected to be able to give a good account of my labours throughout the period of that sore famine, and to leave the Duke's accounts, as well as the crops, in the most promising condition.

CLXI.

I was absent only two or three weeks, when I returned to Montilla, and thence rode over the mountains to Molino del Rey. I soon became aware that things were not in a satisfactory state. My first surprise was to hear that my old friend Don Antonio Paula had been absent making a survey of the vineyards, and did not come back to me as usual. I was told that he was absent without my knowledge, which surprised me, and as soon as I had recovered from the fatigue of my journey I proceeded, as was my wont, to make a survey of the Soto de Roma, for the purpose of giving Mr. Edye instructions how and where he might be able to curtail all possible labour and expense as soon as I should have left for my home in England, because he could then explain and justify his retrenchment on the plea that in my absence he had neither the authority nor the means to keep the labourers in his employment.
CLXII.

I passed through the vineyards, and was surprised to see that the earth had been removed round the plants, without any intimation having been given to me of its necessity. I thought that instead of economising the Duke's agent had been going on surprisingly fast, and that it would only be a proper thing if, before doing so important a work, he had consulted me. But the Duke's agent, Mr. Edye, shunned me, as if unwilling to see me, and the clerks and every one I addressed seemed disposed to be uncommunicative. An ominous silence met me wherever I appeared.

Thus when I went into the office and asked how the accounts were getting on, and whether they would be ready for me to take them with me when I went home to England, I found that nothing had been done: no answer was given to my questions, as usual, and every employé was close and, I may say, sullen.

This made me uncomfortable, and on inquiring for the chief capataz and his three sous—those handsome, clean, nice, and intelligent people whom Don Luis Jurado had been six months searching out to oblige me, and who had made for the Duke 900 arrobas of
wine only the previous October—all of them, I was told, had left.

'Why so?' I asked.

Nobody could tell me the reason.

'Where is Mr. Edye?'

I was answered he had gone to the Soto with his new man, whom he had put in the former capataz's place.

'But why did these people leave? Was not the house good enough for them?'

'That was one of the reasons, I believe, but they would not have left had you been here.'

So I returned to La Torre, and was followed by Paula, by whom I was told the awful tale that as soon as I had left Mr. Edye had taken up with a fellow who flattered him by telling him what a great man he was as the Duke's agent, with his power of attorney, and how, now that I was gone, he should assume all his powers. The consequence was that the nice people Don Luis Jurado had sent me were gone, and this fellow, this new acquaintance of the Duke's agent, had been put into their place, and had set going a large number of men unearthing the plants weeks too early, so that the frost had cut the plants just under the soil, and the whole vineyard was lost.

I waited a little while to be quite sure that the plants were really lost, but as time was passing when
the buds should begin to show and none appeared it became only too evident that Paula and the old capatazas of the vineyard were right, and that the whole vineyard was really lost.

CLXIV.

I need hardly say how keenly and painfully I felt this. Here had I been four years roughing it, away from every comfort, absent from my business in Pall Mall, and had endured serious losses—all with this result! How I fretted, to be sure! I was not myself for several days, and became ill; but time brought me round, and serious thoughts had to be encountered.

So I sent for Mr. Edye, and recalled to his mind all the serious talk I had had with him on our rides, and told him how the worst I feared when I left him in command had actually come to pass, concluding that now there was nothing to be done but for him to make up his accounts and betake himself by the shortest way to London, adding also that Mr. Mitchell, whom he had helping him for some time, had better go with him. I told him that I had written to the Duke, informing his Grace of what had happened, and that I was quite sure his Grace would share the same painful feelings I was now enduring.

At first the young agent seemed inclined to resist
and defy me altogether; but when I told him that whatever responsibility the Duke might have laid upon me on his behalf I had now renounced, I suggested that if he chose to write to the Duke and his legal advisers, taking upon himself the whole matter, he was perfectly free, and had my full consent to do so, but that he must erase from his mind all hope that I could do anything further for him, and the sooner he made his way to Pall Mall, and prepared his accounts against my return, the better for him.

CLXV.

Thus I put an end to Mr. Edye's agency, and the new man whom he had employed when he dismissed the former capataz and his sons went also about his business, without even making an appearance before me.

I was very much grieved at losing the capataz and his sons, and sent for them to come back, telling them that the Duke's agent had left and that they should have full command over the Molino del Rey estate. But no terms could induce them to come back: they sent word that 'if they lost their character they would lose their bread with it, and that the Duke's affairs were in such a state that no honest people would care to have aught to do with them.' I even failed to induce them to come to see me. Evidently their Spanish pride
had been wounded, and they could not easily get over their vexation.

Thus I was again without a master with sufficient ability to carry on the Duke's vineyards and olive-grounds, and after thinking the matter over I felt very sorry for the Duke, and thought that, if he would but get into the train and come out even in disguise and see for himself the real state of things here, all difficulties would soon be understood, and a settled plan for its future government laid down.

CLXVI.

'What will the Duke do? What can he do? What can I recommend him to do?' I considered the losses that my four years' absence had already entailed upon my affairs at home. My anxieties became almost unendurable, my health suffered, I became weary of the joyless life I had been so long enduring.

Nevertheless, I thought I must persevere. I felt that I must endure it, and so roused my sunken spirits. I called my faithful Paula, and sent him off to Montilla with instructions to endeavour to bring me a sufficient number of the best capatazes he could induce to come to me, and when they arrived set them at work at once digging the trenches round the plants still deeper, so that the frost-bitten plants could be cut off below the point to
which the frost had injured them, and thus start the whole vineyard into new life—an operation which I had to attend to myself, and which employed a large number of able capatazes from Montilla, besides labourers from the surrounding villages, for many weeks.

As regards the vineyards, at a very considerable cost of extra labour of scientific men from Montilla during the whole summer I renewed the half-lost plants, and no one but those experienced and well acquainted with the fact could have observed such a serious loss had taken place; but three years' growth lost cannot be recovered under three years' new growth, which loss is estimated by Don Luis Jurado's nephew as 500 butts of wine, one-half of which, according to the Duke's ideas of partnership before the estates came under my partial control, would have been mine. I therefore have much to mourn over in regard to the powers of the Duke's agents.

CLXVII.

But even while I was thus occupied I found time in early morning to go constantly to and from the Soto de Roma; and as I went I used to think over in my mind what could be done with so vast a property—a property whose tenantry, owing to the many judgment summonses that had been put in force against them, and to
the sore famine they had to go through, were seriously dissatisfied, and inclined to listen to the promptings of the revolutionary schemers who were at that time busy all over the Peninsula, and which led to the well-known outbreak in the autumn of that year—the revolution of September 1868.

All I could do was to employ as many of the men as I could find means to pay; and I also advanced to the town council all they deemed necessary, both for seed and for other requisite matters. This timely relief soothed their feelings, quieted them, and enabled my representative to keep order during my absence at home.

The Duke’s revenue from his tenants’ rents was always paid in wheat, hence the necessity for a large granary to receive it.

This granary was inclosed by four square walls, raised up from the ground to the roof on the outside, and resting on square pillars on the inside, thus forming an open square. It was, therefore, well secured from the intrusion of all ladrones, safe from thieves and fire. It had two large opening doors for ingress, and two others for egress. Nothing better could have been contrived for the safety of the grain. The corn-chambers ran all round the building on the upper story,
so that the corn was properly preserved from dampness, mildew, and vermin of every kind whatsoever. The corn in quality was always of a second- or third-rate class, such being usually the case with all grain grown from irrigated lands.

CLXIX.

The Duke’s rents being always paid in wheat, the market price of wheat was an important point for the tenants, for the Duke’s agent, and for the Duke himself. Very many of the tenants, being always hard up for money, were obliged to sell at once, immediately after harvest time, be the price what it might, and about harvest time it was usually about thirty reals, or six shillings a fanega (100 lbs.) And so with the Duke’s agent: if he had no other means of his own to meet the current expenses of taxes and other pressing demands, he also must sell offhand, be the ruling price what it might. The Duke’s tenants called my attention to this, and begged me not to send any of the Duke’s corn into the market, as the competition would at once have the effect of lowering the price by two or three reals a fanega. Perceiving this must indeed be the case, I always considerately held over the Duke’s wheat until the following spring, when the price usually averaged about one-half higher, and sometimes twice.
as high as it fetched at harvest time. In this manner, while yielding to the wishes of the Duke's tenants, I made at the same time a very large increase in the Duke's revenue, and in the famine year I actually doubled it. By chance, too, the last transaction of this nature I made for the Duke turned out very profitable to his Grace, as it happened just in the season of great political commotion, in 1871, at a moment when the question of peace or war between France and Germany seemed to hang in the scale. By the 'Mark Lane Express,' 'Galignani,' and the Spanish papers, I learnt that the London prices took effect either up or down, within a very few days afterwards, both in Paris and in Spain—and in this way I made in my last sale for the Duke a clear gain of about 500l. by the earlier information I obtained of the drop of the London market on the removal of the immediate fear of the war continuing. The purchasers made an appeal to me to return the surplus profit, but I sent word that, 'as I was not acting for my own account, they really must excuse me,' and to soften their feelings I reminded them that upon the apprehension of the war they reaped an advantage that I could not have foreseen; and as they were rich people, and knew that all the money had been expended upon the starving poor, they very good-naturedly allowed the matter to pass without further complaint.
CLXX.

The delivery of the wheat, I noticed in the accounts, was always short in tale—sometimes ten, sometimes twelve sacks, more or less; a phenomenon for which neither Vega nor old Señor Torres could in any way account. It had so happened two or three times during my management, and likely enough on previous occasions. But I could not allow such malpractices to pass unnoticed, and was determined to find out the cause.

I went, therefore, to the Soto, and, unobserved and unperceived, took account of the number of the sacks prepared for delivery, then bade Señor Torres send me by a guard, the last thing at night, the number of sacks he had ready to send off, and the number of donkeys he had hired to take the corn away. Further, I prepared myself to be at the Soto early in the morning, when it was yet dark, to meet the donkeys on their crossing the river. Early as I was, however, I was not early enough, for I met the train of donkeys, each laden with two sacks of corn, just as they had crossed the river and had halted at the village of Asquerosa. The men had gone into the posada to take their drams of aguardiente and to smoke their cigarettes, so I found a hiding-place between two evergreen oak-trees, whence I could command a view of the entrances of the posada, both back and front.
Presently a start was made, when the last of the carrier fellows took four of the hindmost donkeys with eight sacks of corn and drove them into the stable behind the posada. The doors were opened to admit the animals and their loads, and immediately closed.

I then returned to La Torre, and about eleven o'clock, when I arrived at the Molino offices, I sent for Vega to know if the tale of corn had been received all right at the railway station.

'Oh yes, señor!' He was quite sure it would be all right this time, as 'he had seen Torres count the number of sacks, and Torres was not the man to make mistakes, and he never trusted his keys out of his pocket.'

'Well,' said I, 'Vega, you seem to me very easy of belief, but go to the railway station and count the number of sacks; and bear in mind I shall make both you and Torres answer for any deficiency.'

He went and came back, and still believed the sacks were all right, but the van had been so closely packed that he could not quite count them. As I thought the stolen sacks would soon disappear, I told him of my early morning exploit, and to ascertain the fact he went to the village of Asquerosa, and there sure enough he found the four donkeys with their eight sacks of corn still on their backs. And this—probably the first—time the tale of sacks was really all right.
This proved that the buyers' complaints about the shortcomings in the tale of sacks were well grounded, that Vega was at least always careless, and his donkey-drivers always well-disposed to thieving as long as they could hope to levy blackmail on the Duke's property with impunity.

The following letters were sent to me during the famine:—

Alcaldía Constitucional de Illora.

Loja, Granada: Jan. 1, 1868.

Sir,—The benefits which H.G. the Duke de Ciudad Rodrigo and Wellington is so doing by you its worthy representative, sometimes by the advance of taxes, others helping to the support of so many workmen as there are in this district, bettering the estate of the illustrious Duke, for which reason a large number of them have work, and can therefore attend to the support of their respective families, which, if it were not so, must die of misfortune and want, so much experienced at this time; helping at the same time with medicines for the sick poor of the district, which are applied by the doctors named by my authority, are very satisfactory. We should fail in a sacred duty if more time was to be let run without the municipality and chief persons of the town manifesting to you through me how very grateful we all live, and shall live, in remembering so many charitable deeds as you bestow in favour of the unfortunate classes, and other services done by you in favour of this town and its neighbourhood. You may be sure you will never be forgotten, which I have the honour of letting you know for your satisfaction. May God save you many years!

Christoval Gomez.
Sir,—With reference to your communication dated 5th inst., informing me of the philanthropic acts performed by Don Horacio H. Hammick, administrator of H.G. the Duke of Ciudad Rodrigo and Wellington, in aid of the needy classes of your town, I have arranged that so humane a donation shall be published in the official bulletin of the province, and offer through you, in the name of the Government of this province, thanks for that gentleman's excellent behaviour in favour of the poorer classes of your town. This I have the satisfaction to tell you for his knowledge and yours. God keep you many years!

JOSE CASTILLON.

Capitanía-Generál de Granada.

April 18, 1868.

Sir,—His Excellency the Minister of War, on the 4th inst., communicated to me the following royal order:

'Your Excellency,—With reference to your communication of the 27th of March, inclosing statements from the chiefs and officers who have lent their valuable services in the discharge of their respective duties after the occurrence in your capital on the 25th and 26th of February last, and from the Corporations and proprietors who have had occasion to distinguish themselves more particularly by their goodwill and charity in favour of the poor, the Queen, whom God save, has been so good as to determine that you should make known to those mentioned in the statements the satisfaction with which her Majesty has heard of their services. By royal order I tell you this for your information and that of your neighbourhood; and as in this statement is mentioned, as administrator of the Duke of Ciudad Rodrigo and Wellington, Don Horacio H. Hammick, I forward it to you for his information, and satisfaction of those concerned. God keep you many years!'

ANTONIO M. BLANCO.
I now began to feel it a great relief that I was indeed rid of the responsibility of Mr. Edye; and the time was at hand when I could follow him—when I should be able to avail myself of some opportunity to get relieved of these serious concerns I had to attend to on behalf of the Duke. This relief I made up my mind to obtain, no matter what the sacrifice might be, for the burden of life amid such constant worry arising from the Duke's late agents, besides the discomfort in roughing it for so long a time, was no longer endurable.

There was some very considerable anxiety on my mind with respect to the thirty butts of wine which had been made out of the Duke's vineyards in October 1867, for I was not sure how long it might keep, as it was indeed a rare circumstance that a vineyard only three years old could be deemed capable of producing wine good enough for the purpose of keeping. To make sure of a favourable result, I sent over to Moriles for some of my own produce of the same year, 1867, and placed it side by side with the Duke's wines, determined for my own instruction to watch the maturing of both wines together.

The Duke's late agent made the most of this proceeding: he declared that the Duke's vineyards were still a failure; that the wine we had at Molino del Rey
was not grown or made there, but had been brought over from other vineyards. This he said, and the Duke and his advisers seemed to give credence to his statement. I was worn out by the Duke and his advisers' want of understanding, and I was determined therefore to get released from the Duke's affairs.

After completing the restoration of the Duke's vineyards, I left them in the charge of the Montilla capatazes, and of my expert accountant and his assistants. For my own part I started for Montilla with Don Antonio Paula, as I was anxious to see my old friend Don Luis Jurado, and try to induce his nephew to go and see that all was going right for me during the summer at Soto de Roma. Having accomplished this, I went out with Paula to Don Luis Jurado's cortijo, or farm, which was on my way to Cordova, and there I remained for the night; my object being to see how Don Luis managed to feed and tether as many as four hundred oxen and cows. They were kept entirely for breeding purposes, never milked, but the calves always running with their mothers.

The next morning I proceeded with Paula along the river to Cordova, where I took leave of the dear old man, who embraced me with tears running down his face; and thus, having left the Duke's estate in the spring of 1868, I travelled home to England, only halting for a few days at Bordeaux.
The following is the state of the Duke's affairs in Spain as collected from all sources during the partial control of Don Horacio H. Hammick, as the Duke's personal friend, from 1864–1868, by request of the Duke:

The Origin and Planting of the Duke of Wellington's Vineyard (free of charge) by Don Horacio H. Hammick.

THE VINEYARDS.

November 1862—

Two journeys to Soto de Roma and Molino del Rey; inspecting both estates minutely; also the ruins of Casa Real and Casa Grande, the granaries, water-courses, modes of irrigation, alamedas, boundaries, &c.; reporting to his Grace minute particulars as regards Molino del Rey, pointing out its favourable situation, its beautiful soil, climate, &c., as suited for a vineyard, and showing its similitude yet superiority in every way to the vineyards of Moriles and Montilla, which are situated direct northwards, separated by a ridge of mountains rising immediately from the Molino, forming a back to it of 2,500 feet above it, and continuing so to Cabra, near the Moriles and Montilla vineyards.

Due south, in beautiful view, stands the Alhambra and Granada, with the Sierra Nevada.

To hire of horses, baggage, mules, labourers to dig pits to ascertain the nature of the soil, and other expenses.

December 1863—

Journey to Malaga, pointing out to his Grace's agent all the above-named particulars, and tendering him every assistance necessary to make trial of the waste lands at the Molino.
Writing to my friends at Montilla, requesting them to go to the vineyards at Moriles and procure 2,000 of the choicest plants of the Pedro Xemenez kind and take them to Montilla and intrench them in the earth ready for delivery to the Duke's agent's order, which was done accordingly.

Writing to my friend the proprietor of the celebrated vineyard Latour Blanche requesting him to select 600 of the choicest plants of Château Lafitte and others, and get them forwarded by first steamer to the Duke's agent at Malaga, which was done accordingly.

To cost of labour, carriage from Pauillac to Bordeaux, thence to Malaga and Molino del Rey, shipping charges, freights, &c. &c.

Writing to the chief broker at Geisenheim, who acts for the chief vineyard proprietors at Johannisberg and the Duke of Nassau, requesting him to gather 600 of the choicest kind of plants and forward per steamer to the Duke's agent, which was done accordingly.

To cost of labour, carriage, and shipping charges and freights to Malaga, &c.

These plants were received by the Duke's agent and planted under his direction at Molino del Rey, but it was done without knowledge or understanding, and the result is that the plants are dead.

1864—

To collecting 20 plants from the vineyards of Eschol before Hebron in Palestine, taking the same to Jerusalem, embedding them in a barrel of earth, and covering the same with canvas; fees to the sailors to water them for preservation; hire of mules to take them to Joppa; shipping charges; freight to Alexandria; thence by P. & O. steamer to Southampton and London.
ORIGIN AND PLANTING OF THE VINEYARDS. 235

Writing to his Grace from Montilla, showing the then state of things—that no steps whatsoever had been taken by his agent to make trial of the waste land of Molino; that from my interview and conversation with him I was satisfied he had no knowledge how to set about the work, and the engagements of his own business matters appeared such that he showed no will to set about it; consequently, he set up ridiculous excuses, such as the rabbits would eat the buds, &c., which caused a loss of a year's growth of the vineyard.

Believing his Grace was desirous of putting the waste lands to a trial, and to make sure that another year's growth should not be lost, in accordance with his Grace's wishes I entered into an engagement with the chief corredor and head planter of Montilla and his chief capatazes to hold themselves engaged to me to do the work, and bound them accordingly.

To journeys to Cordova, their time, horses, and other expenses.

As the excuse and opposition of his Grace's agents was now most manifest, and being unwilling that the Duke should rely entirely on my own knowledge and judgment, I wrote to my friends at Montilla to take two or three of the most intelligent capatazes of the district and go to Molino del Rey and make examination of the lands, and call to their aid any reputed persons they thought proper, and make their report to me, which was done accordingly.

Their reports confirmed my own observations: they were unanimously of opinion that if the lands were properly planted and properly attended to the estate must become one of the very best vineyards in Spain. Its favoured situation, its soil, its superior climate, and sheltered position from the north and east must all tend to work out a grand result.

To expenses of their journey, hire of horses, mules, and labourers to dig pits, and other expenses.
To conferring with his Grace in Pall Mall on full details, when it was arranged that the house at the Molino should be given up to my agent for the work, and that it should so continue until after the third vintage, when the grapes would be in a proper state of maturity for making wine; that the necessary bodegas, presses, casks, and other necessaries should be erected under my superintendence and instructions, and for the greater security of this work being well done there should be no other power or control to interfere with my arrangements for the time being.

Writing to Montilla to have the capatazes engaged and every other necessary prepared, with full details of arrangements, and to make ready their departure for Molino del Rey on September 20, all of which was done accordingly.

To journey expenses, horse hire, baggage, mules, &c.

Necessaries for the work sent to Molino del Rey.

1 steel land measuring chain marked Spanish and English; 1 vara measure marked Spanish and English; 1 thermometer; 1 level; 6 trenching lines; 2 rabbit nets; 9 planting lines; 6 small rabbit nets; 1 marquee; 2 iron beds; 2 iron chair beds; 2 hair mattresses; 2 bolsters; 2 pillows; 3 hair mattresses for iron chair beds; 2 pillows; head fixings for mosquito curtains; 4 pairs of blankets; 4 quilts; 4 pairs of sheets; 2 bolster slips; 4 pillow slips; 2 pairs mosquito curtains; 1 bath and washtub; 1 camp bath; 1 tea kettle; 1 bread grater; 1 knife; 12 dinner knives; 12 small dinner knives; 12 kitchen knives; 2 carvers and forks; 12 tin dinner plates; 12 small kitchen knives; 1 small carver and fork; 12 tin soup plates; 2 steels; 1 vice; 1 corkscrew; 2 tin dishes with spirit light and stand.
1 lantern; 1 spirit can; 1 short knife; 1 turn screw; 3 padlocks; 1 sponge bath; 2 dozen electro-plated table forks; 2 dozen electro-plated dessert forks; 1 dozen tin-plated dessert forks; 1 soup ladle; 12 wine glasses; 6 water bottles; 8 tumblers; 1 brown tea pot; 1 coffee pot; 3 candlesticks; 1 mug; 6 breakfast cups and saucers; 24 tins preserved meats; 7 lbs. tea; 14 lbs. sugar; 14 lbs. coffee; 14 lbs. salt; 1 lb. spices; 6 bottles brandy; 12 bottles port; 12 bottles champagne; 12 bottles hock; 12 bottles claret; packages, cartage, freight, duties, &c.

The above goods remain at the Molino del Rey locked up, packed in a small closet.

The spot chosen for the vineyard is an angle of land running north and south adjoining the olive plantation, and on the south end bound by the common road and railroad running parallel with it towards Loja.

To hired measurers to measure off 20 fanegas, and marking out the same, which measured in length 3,964 English feet, and in breadth 636 English feet.

To trenching the above at an average depth of 40 inches, effectually getting out the roots of the oak-trees, &c., ripping and blasting all large stones and all rocky spots, of which there were very many, as will be seen by the labour employed, viz.:—

17,654 workmen,
2,392 superiors.
787 vineyard capatazes,
2 head capatazes.

1,432 square yards done by contract.

To gathering, loading, and carting off all the roots, burning the small roots and weeds, and carting off the stones, the latter forming an unexpected expense, there being many rocky spots.
There were employed on this work 1,526 boys, 200 mule carts, 72 oxen carts, and 934 cartloads of stone were removed under contract.

PLANTS AND PLANTING.

To obtain a sufficient number of choice strong plants of the true celebrated Pedro Xemenez kind was a difficulty which I foresaw, and which appeared an impossibility, thus causing me to send to the vineyards of the Moriles early in the autumn and secure all the plants that could be had.

These were carted off the ground to Cabra, where the rains and snow had carried away the bridges, so that the carts could proceed no farther; consequently the plants were intrenched in the ground for preservation, and afterwards transmitted over the mountains to Molino del Rey on mules taking three days' journey each way, the passes being dangerous. There were over 100,000 plants, from which were selected about 56,000 first-rate plants, 46,000 of which were planted perfectly, and the other 10,000 intrenched in the ground to form roots ready to be planted perfectly in the coming autumn.

To measuring and marking out in equal parts of two varas each way (about 5' 6" in English) the whole of the land prepared.

To sinking the pits after the measurers to the depth of 40 inches, and length 5 ft. 6 in.

There were made 18,183 of these pits: each pit receives two, and the end pits, in a triangle shape, three plants each.

Preparing the plants, placing them in the pits so that they form straight rows every way, and filling in the soil after planting.

To raising a wall for the vineyard as a fence against the
common road and railroad running from Granada to Loja, and planting the side with almond-trees.

To the purchase of six iron bars, water-buckets for carrying water on donkeys to the men. Gratification money to capatazes at Illora and Alomartes to collect the men and make them come early.

Gunpowder for blasting. Expenses of removing two capatazes to Montilla who were seriously ill, and sundry expenses to and fro to Granada.

To housekeeping expenses from September 20, 1864, to March 1865, for my agent Don Jurado and his staff.

Expenses to the vineyards of Moriles and Montilla—settling up all the accounts, and making choice of two able capatazes to work the training and take charge of the vineyard.

To two clerks’ expenses and salaries from September 1864 to March 1865.

**PERSONAL EXPENSES.**

1865—

Two journeys out and home, and horse expenses from October 5 to December 5, 1864; and from February 21 to March 25, 1865.

The two capatazes (overseers, or trainers) selected by Don Luis Jurado and myself were the very best men known in the districts of Moriles and Montilla. The chief, about sixty, and his second, about thirty-five years of age, demurring to go after having engaged themselves, because the Molino had no houses for them to live in (they must erect huts), and they were, therefore, unable to take their families, others were sought for; but this class of men is very scarce, consequently we could find none to our satisfaction, for all raised the same objections. We were in a sad strait what to do, for these men are in most cases their employers’ masters. We got over the difficulty at last by Don Luis Jurado’s making a present to the men’s wives from time
to time, and my promising them a donkey each to ride to the Molino, and to fetch water and provisions for them whilst there, and to keep the donkeys for their use.

To 2 donkeys, water kegs, and trappings, men's expenses on the journey, 1 axe to cut wood, 12 pruning knives, 6 pick-axes, 6 broad-bladed pick-axes.

To first labour of the vineyard under the chief trainers from March to October following, opening the ground round 46,000 plants to admit the rain, also to give the sun early power to the roots. Repairing faulty plants, &c.

There were employed in the above work 384 superior men, 1,557 ordinary men, and 109 lads.

To obtaining 50,000 stakes, which gave great difficulty in consequence of the scarcity of canes and woods: they had to be gathered for many miles round, employing 66 carts to bring them to the Molino.

To preparing the stakes for staking each plant 153 men were employed; and to replace faulty and useless canes more of them were procured twice during the season.

To placing the stakes to the plants and fastening same, turning back the earth round the plants, 3 bundles of Esparto, 508 superior men, 153 ordinary men, and 4 capatazes.

To opening the earth round the plants a second time, in order to prune off all the underground shoots and to admit the sun near the bottom roots; the continual pruning and retarding the growth of the plants; in addition, to the trainers, 4 superiors were kept to overlook the labourers, of which there were 384 from March to October.

To the purchase of 61 baskets for carrying stones and weeds, &c., out of the vineyards; 2 water-skins, string, repairing tools, &c.

Two capatazes' wages for six months due on October 1, part
paid to their wives in Montilla, and part drawn by themselves.

To sundry expenses out of pocket by Don Luis Jurado for two journeys to Molino del Rey, accompanied by his nephew, Don Antonio Paula, the chief planter, his foreman and servant, 5 horses and 1 donkey; 5 days each journey. Don Antonio Paula and his men had their expenses only, their time being given free.

8 arrobas of wine and 2 of vinegar sent to the Molino house for the use of Jurado for housekeeping.

New chain and collar for Battalia, a dog given to me by Don Luis Jurado to guard the vineyard—a very fine and most useful animal.

Fee and expenses of man for bringing the above, 4 days.

Water tub, &c.

Man's labour and materials for building a hut.

182 loaves for dog.

Winter Pruning.

To cutting off the top growth of the plants to form heads, and completing all other work against winter.

7 experienced capatazes from Montilla for the express purpose (14 days), and expenses.

It will be seen by reference to page 35 that his Grace placed the Molino house at my services; but at this time his Grace called upon me in Pall Mall, and stated that his agent pressed very hard for the house, adding that he must have it for some particular use to see to the oil-machinery. His Grace therefore wished me to take a house at IJorra or elsewhere; but from the fact of this place being four miles from the works, I knew it would be very bad policy, as there were many hundreds of men constantly at work, and to have the labour done properly my personal superintendence was con-
stantly called for. Consequently, I asked his Grace for the guards' cottage on the hill, which, with tents, I would make do. His Grace at once wrote to his agent, stating that he had given me this cottage, and desired that it should be properly repaired and thoroughly cleansed; but nothing was done. The locks and fastenings were taken off the doors, and it was six inches deep in manure from horses and pigs; it had neither windows in, nor tiles to its floors; the roof let in the rain, in the mending of which several snakes were killed; consequently I had to go into tents, and fitted out accordingly.

2 round tents, valises, mats, and packings.
2 rip saws; 1 back saw; 1 dozen gimlets; 1 smoothing plane; 1 dozen files; 3 hammers; 1 rasp and file; 1 pair pincees; 1 pair pliers; 1 drawing knife; 1 spokeshake; 1 spike bit; 2 screw-drivers; 1 square; 1 oil stone; 1 joiner's basket; 1 bench vice; 4 felling axes; 2 broad axes; 2 cut saws; 4 bill hooks; 6 wedges; 1 chopper; 1 shingle hammer; 1 spring balance; 6 knives; 1 brace and 36 bits; 6 shovels; 6 pick-axes; 1 adze; 1 grindstone; 3 crow-bars; 1 woodcutter's saw; 1 level; cases, package, carting, &c.; 1 portable water-closet; 3 hand bowls; 1 weather vane; 1 funnel; 2 pots; 3 saucepans; 1 kettle; 1 strainer; 1 coffee pot; 1 tea pot; 5 moulds; 1 saucepan and steamer; 1 kitchen boiler; 1 milk saucepan; 1 stewpan; 1 oven; 1 D pan; 1 boiler; 1 pail; 1 sugar box; 2 water cans; 2 large water cans; 1 bedroom can; 2 warmers; 3 open pails; 1 muller; 1 roasting jack; 3 tin covers; 6 chamber services; 54 pieces; 1 small stone dinner service; packing cases, packing straw, cartage, and dock charges.

2 brass single beds with rings for mosquito nets; 2 hair mattresses; 2 wool mattresses; 2 bolsters; 2 pillows; 2 pairs blankets; 2 under blankets; 2 counterpanes; 2
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pieces mosquito netting; 2 iron brackets; 2 iron beds on brackets and furniture; packing cases, packing, cartage to the docks, dock charges, &c.; 3 bedroom glasses in double cases, 2 feet by 1 foot 4 inches; 3 bedroom glasses in double cases, 1 foot 6 inches by 1 foot 2 inches; packing cases, packing, cartage to the docks, dock charges, &c.

1 box preserved provision; 9 lbs. hung beef; 3 cheeses; tin boxes; case packing, cartage to the docks, dock charges.

15 bushels of tares for sowing; 15 acres of grass seeds and sacks; cartage to the docks, dock and shipping charges.

1 double plough; 1 pair of harrows; cartage and shipping charges.

To freight of 4 horses to Gibraltar (2 stallions and 2 mares), fodder, horse boxes, groom’s passage, clearing and shipping charges.

12 japanned stable rings; 1 pair saddle bags; 1 pair pistol holders; horse clothes, body rollers, bridles, horse bags, horse brush, curry combs, water brush, knee caps, night halters, &c.

These horses were all landed safely at Gibraltar, but in consequence of the quarantine from the cause of cholera they could not pass into Spain, and were therefore kept in Gibraltar until the cholera ceased—from September 8 till November 30. One of these horses was sent to Don Luis Jurado as a present for his superintendence of the vineyard. It pleased him exceedingly: his stock is much valued in Andalusia.

To expenses of sending this horse to Montilla, 2 men and 2 mules, 8 days’ labour, wages, and expenses.

To expenses of sending the other 3 horses to Molino del Rey, 4 days’ journey, men, and sundry expenses. Groom’s wages and passage home.

To surveyor’s fees for measuring off 20 fanegas, and marking
out the same in length and breadth as last year (a continuation of same).

To trenching the above at an average depth of 40 inches, effectually getting out the roots of the oak-trees, ripping and blasting rocky spots, of which there were very many, as will be seen by the labour employed:—

17,644 workmen,
1,460 superiors,
792 vineyard capatazes,
2 head do.

1 piece of ground done under contract.

To the gathering, carting off, and loading of all the roots, weeds, stones, rocks, &c.: 120 men with donkeys, 1,417 boys, 274 carts.

2 donkeys purchased for carrying water; 4 water barrels and trappings; 12 jars; shoeing donkeys; sharpening pick-axes and crowbars; gunpowder, &c.

Gratifications given to the capatazes to stimulate the men to come early and work well.

To measuring and marking out, in equal parts of two varas each way, the whole of the land prepared.

To sinking the pits after measurers to the depth of 40 inches.

There were made 10,272 pits: each pit received two plants, the end pits three plants each.

Preparing the plants, placing them in the pits, so that they form straight rows every way, and filling in the soil after planting.

These were procured plants of the celebrated Pedro Xemenez kind, which were all we could obtain, consequently the whole of the land could not be planted.

Carriage of plants from Montilla and Moriles on the backs of mules the same as last year.
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All the reserved plants of last year were transplanted properly.
There were made 4,731 extra pits for these plants, leaving
the vineyard perfect without any faulty plants.

2 chief capatazes' wages from October 1, 1865, to April 1, 1866.
To sundry expenses, removing sick men to Montilla in exchange
for others.

The illness was caused by their living in damp huts.

Journeys to and fro to Granada, and expenses of the 7 capa-
tazes to Montilla after they had completed the planting.
To housekeeping expenses from August 31, 1865, to April
1866 for Don Luis Jurado, his servant and guard, also for
clerk, servant, and myself: in the Molino house from
August to October, in the tent from October to December,
and in the cottage of La Torre from December to April.

When the Molino house was vacated for the Duke's agent
I went into tents. But my agent, Don Luis Jurado, brought
me all the money he had for paying the men (over 700l.), and
refused to remain longer with us, as he considered money and
lives were both unsafe; he therefore returned to his home.

My own clerk, Paula, and my servant José at first deserted
me, but afterwards returned, and took it in turns to watch
over me day and night; and to give them rest that they
might work the following day, I did the watch from twelve at
night till four in the morning, and in this way the money was
guarded six weeks, until the danger and anxiety from being
in tents, as well as the rain and cold, was no longer to be
borne, when I returned to London, and the cottage became the
residence from that time, and remains so at present.

To clerks' expenses and salaries from August 31, 1865, to April 1,
1866.
To Don Luis Jurado's expenses and clerk's salary and expenses from September 20, 1865, till April 1, 1866.

Two journeys out and home, and expenses of horses; groom's wages and board; general servant's wages from August 1 to December 1, 1865, also from March 1 to July 5, 1866.

April 1866—

To first labour of the double vineyard under the two chief capatazes and two extra trainers, the same as last year, from March to October 31. Opening the ground round 88,000 plants to admit the rain and sun. Pruning off the underground side roots.

Five extra capatazes of practical knowledge from Montilla and Moriles to superintend the pruning and training, also checking the shoots from wasteful growth, and renewing unsuccessful plants.

To obtaining 88,000 stakes.

There was much difficulty in obtaining these stakes: they had to be gathered from the different villages round about, and carted to the Molino. Cartage, &c. seven to ten miles.

To preparing the stakes for the plants. Esparto, &c.

To placing 88,000 stakes to the same number of plants, and fastening them; moving back the earth round the plants, weeding and gathering out all the stones, cleaning, &c.

To opening the earth a second time round 88,000 plants, in order to prune off all the underground side shoots.

Continually pruning, training, and retarding the growth of the 88,000 plants.

In addition to the two chiefs and their five assistants from Montilla, seven other intelligent men were constantly employed besides the labourers, working the vineyard from March to October.
To the purchase of six dozen baskets, six water kegs; repairing tools, &c.

To two capatazes' wages for seven months, due October 31, 1866; five assistants' do. do.

To sundry expenses out of pocket by Don Luis Jurado for two journeys to Molino del Rey, accompanied by his nephew Don Antonio Paula, the chief planter, and servants, 5 horses, and 2 mules, 4 days each journey.

To 10 arrobas of wine for house use.
3 " vinegar for use of house as before.
4 " vino ordinario.
4 " Valdepene as household wine.

Winter Pruning and Planting.

To cutting off the top growth of the plants to form heads, and completing all other work against winter.

Seven experienced capatazes from Montilla for the express purpose, eighteen days and expenses.

To trenching 6 fanegas of land, gathering out the roots and stones, and marking out a road through the vineyard and olive-grounds from the Bodega to the Molino house, which formed a receiving place at hand for the stones, instead of carting them to some temporary place, and in course of time having to cart them elsewhere.

To forming a second road through the vineyard from the Molino house to La Torre, and carting the stones to this road, and making drains on each side for the surface waters in heavy rains.

To obtaining 25,000 plants from Montilla, digging pits and planting them, thus filling the whole of the trenched land with plants—same as last year and year previous.

To wages of the two chief capatazes in charge from Nov. 1, 1866, to April 1, 1867.
Also their seven Montilla assistants from Nov. 1, 1866, to April 1, 1867.

To removing sundry sick men to Montilla in exchange for others and one cement-burner, who died through his approaching the blasting too soon. He was removed first to the hospital at Granada, where he was most kindly and carefully attended by the Granada medical officers, and afterwards to Montilla. Several donations to the widow and son at various times for some years after.

To housekeeping expenses from April 1, 1866, to April 1, 1867.

To personal expenses for two journeys to Don Luis Jurado to make the best arrangements possible, his health being in a very precarious state.

I wished him to recommend me the very best man he possibly could to take charge of the vineyards, olive-grounds, and wine-making; and in due course of time a Mr. Pedro Guzman was selected, a highly respectable citizen of Cabra, who with his sons did well, but were afterwards sent away by the Duke's agent during my temporary absence. Don Luis Jurado died in May, and I have not been successful in obtaining a satisfactory, competent man to fill his place.

To two clerks' expenses and salaries from April 1, 1866, to April 1, 1867.

To personal expenses out and home two journeys; expenses of horses, groom's wages and board; general servant's wages and board from April 1, 1866, to April 1, 1867.

Third Summer's Season of the Vineyard.

1867—

To first labour of the treble vineyard under the head capatazes and trainers, the same as last year, from March to Oct. 31.
Opening the ground round the plants to admit the rain and sun; pruning off the underground side roots; seven extra practical Montilla men superintending the pruning, training, and checking the shoots from wasteful growth and renewing unsuccessful plants.

To obtaining a sufficient supply of stakes, preparing the same, and carting, &c.

To staking the plants and fastening the same with esparto.

Turning back the earth round the plants, weeding, and gathering out all stones.

Cleaning, &c.

To opening the earth a second time round all the plants, in order to prune off all the underground side shoots.

Continually pruning and training, retarding and checking the shoots from wasteful growth, and renewing unsuccessful plants, and properly stirring the soil and working the vineyard from March to October 31.

To the purchase of baskets, water jars, repairing tools, &c.

To wages of the two chief capatazes and assistants from March to October 31, 1867.

To sundry expenses out of pocket by my agent, Don José Jurado, for two journeys from Montilla to Molino del Rey, accompanied by Don Antonio Paula, the chief wine-brokers and planters, and their assistants.

5 horses and 2 mules, 4 days each journey.

To 10 arrobas of wine, 3 arrobas vinegar, for use of house as before, 4 arrobas vino ordinario, 4 arrobas Valdepeña as household wine.

To clerks' expenses and salaries from April 1, 1867, to April 1, 1868.

To personal expenses out and home (two journeys); expenses of horses; groom's wages and board, general servant's wages and board, from April 1, 1867, to April 1, 1868.
1868—

All the dry lands of Spain, particularly Andalusia, have suffered very seriously from drought, to a greater extent, it is said, than has occurred since 1825. So bad indeed was it that, with the exception of irrigated lands, all crops have been a total failure. This threw the poor out of work; and to save them from starvation orders were issued from time to time by the alcaldes to the effect that each taxpayer should employ a certain number of men (which number was fixed according to the rate of the tax) and pay them four reals a day, or two reals a day without employ.

Early in September last the alcaldes of all the villages round about the Duke’s estate waited upon me, in their private, as also in their public, capacity, and, representing the truly distressing state of the poor, begged me to intercede with the Duke to give employment to as many as possible. They were very apprehensive that there would be bread riots and a great deal of plunder throughout the winter.

I consented, therefore, to keep 150 employed if they would take their names to be answerable for their good conduct, which they agreed to do.

But, in spite of orders, upwards of a thousand thrust themselves in the trenches with the others the day after, and nothing short of a regiment could have driven them from the work: so the alcaldes, with my consent, issued orders to those men who were really known to be in distress to set to work, and in this way a very large piece of land adjoining the vineyard has been trenched, the stones blasted and removed to form macadamised roads, &c.

It could not be planted because of the drought, but to prevent the loss of a year's growth about 30,000 plants were planted about six inches apart, where the water may be turned off and on as required, and will be ready for transplanting next winter.
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1864—

BODEGA.

The Duke's instructions were to keep separate from the other parts of the Molino estate the waste lands and the vineyards which formed part of the waste lands.

In due course of time a cellar would become an absolute necessity; and, besides the cellarage, a place would be required for pressing the grapes, fermenting the musto, as well as afterwards for the separation of wine into classes of first, second, and third qualities; also a place for vinegar; and also, in time, a place for the distilling of the refuse into brandy.

I therefore drew the lines of a building for this purpose, with proper measurements for the length and width and height, for store casks, and tram or gangways for rolling casks in and out, and considered all the points that would be required in the course of time as the vineyard became extended; and the Duke approved of the plan I drew out. In the course of time the building will be found to be absolutely necessary.

In addition to the above, a store will be required as a cooperage for stowing, repairing, and cleansing casks.

Dwellings for the capatazes and workmen-in-chief are also required. The first consideration is water; the next is that young wines, to mature rapidly, require a high, dry, and airy situation, with very thick walls to keep out the heat in summer and the cold in winter.

Overlooking the vineyard stands a high mound, where, in ancient times, there has evidently been a Moorish encampment, but it has been lately used as a place for winnowing corn, and has the advantage of being near the railway, and overlooking the vineyards and olive-grounds and the Molino house.

It is about 300 feet square, and when the vineyard is completed up to it the prospect will be a beautiful one, with Granada and Sierra Nevada in the distance.
Here, then, I have laid the foundations of the cellars, which will form a square, with a large well in the centre and orange-trees at the corners, with three entrance gates, the walls to be raised one story high only, or about 20 feet. One half of this building is 9 feet high from the foundation, the three gateways included.

The plinth stones are all worked and laid and the brickwork going on, brick being used on each side of the wall, and the interior filled up with stones from the vineyards. The well is sunk to a depth of 120 feet, and water is found, but not yet enough, and the work is progressing daily.

This is a work that should go on, as it will be wanted long before it is possible in such a country to get it completed.

1866—

To getting out the foundations of the Bodega, 9 feet deep, over 1,000 feet in length, including three gateways and two corner cellars and three water-closets; laying whole with concrete and large stones from the vineyard.

Temporary dwellings for the workmen were absolutely necessary, and have been erected, with a carpenter's shop at one end and limestone shed on the other, thus forming the one half of the square first to be raised. For want of bricks, stones, lime, sand, &c., the above work has been suspended; but, being now prepared, it is progressing. The undermentioned goods were sent out from England:—

2 pairs of horse-mule carts, intended for general use as well as for the vineyard.
3 wheelbarrows and 12 sets of ironwork to make wheelbarrows.
3 dozen shovels; 3 dozen spades; 3 dozen pickaxes; 3 iron crowbars; 1 lifting jack equal to four tons; 1 pair of two and three iron-sheaved blocks; 1 snatch lock; 1 jib wheel; 1 strong carpenter's cramp with lengthening pin;