

ed to the right and to the left. In one corner of the building is a geometrical stair-case. The whole edifice is of the Beroqueña stone, of the same kind of which the Escorial is built. The grand entrance is by an arched door, having two Ionic columns on each side. Under the frize is this inscription, in large capitals, Car. V. Ro. imp. his. rex. MDLI. Over each window is a large head carved in stone: they are all different. The chapel is of the Corinthian order, but almost ruined. The offices under-ground are very convenient; and the stables, which are likewise under-ground, are capable of containing five thousand horses. It was burnt in 1710, so that the roof and the galleries are destroyed, as likewise most of the rooms, of which only two or three are habitable, and in them the keeper and his family live. In one of these rooms is the most remarkable echo I ever heard, excepting that of the Simonetti palace near Milan: I amused myself two hours in this room with a musical instrument. Here was formerly a machine to supply this palace with water, but it has lain in ruins for this century past.

Against the walls of the Franciscan convent, called San Juan de los Reyes, are fastened a great number of large iron chains, with which the Moors chained their Christian slaves. The archbishop possesses a great number of houses in this city: they are distinguished by a tile placed over the door, on which is painted, "*Maria fue concebida sin pecado original;*" that is, "Mary was conceived without original sin:" a nice distinction truly!

The manufactory of sword-blades, which were formerly celebrated for the goodness of the steel, no longer exists; though another manufactory was lately erected for the king's account only, in which all the sword, hanger, and dagger blades for the Spanish army are made; but they are far from being so well tempered as those of former times; a true old Toledo sword-blade sells even in Spain for six or seven guineas, and can only be purchased by chance. I have seen daggers that were made here, which will strike through a crown-piece. All sword-blades made for the soldiers have the king's name engraven on one side, and some device on the other: I saw many of them with this; *No me saques sin razon, no me embaines sin honor*. Draw me not without reason, sheath me not without honour.

The small church of St. Mary the White, was formerly a synagogue; and just without one of the city gates, are the ruins of a Roman *Circus Maximus*. I only mention these to spare any other person the trouble of searching for them, as there is nothing worth notice about them.

In order to shew the more veneration for the relics and riches which are preserved in the cathedral, I shall follow the Spaniard's advice, which was before mentioned, and say nothing about them; neither about the Mozarabic rite, which is only a method of celebrating mass somewhat different from the common one, and both are equally absurd. I was informed that the next day there was to be a very grand procession of all the silver statues,

statues and monks in the city; but as these exhibitions were never my hobby-horse, so I left Toledo early in the morning, much to the regret of my caleffero, who thus missed, or escaped the archbishop's blessing: as to myself, I had already had that of the late pope, and after such a blessing I did not care to receive that of any inferior ecclesiastic.

We this day travelled seven leagues on a good level road, through corn-fields, and in the evening arrived at Aranjuez, dining on the side of the road, as there is no inn nor venta. In proportion as we approached this royal seat, the number of stags, wild-boars, and rabbits; partridges, hoopoes, starlings, and small birds increased:

Here merrily they fed,
As if their hearts were lighter than their wings.

GONDIB. p. 191.

The wild boars, with their fows and their litter, are so tame that they feed about the streets of the town: they are royal property, and are reserved for the king's table alone. We put up at a very good inn, kept by an Italian, but the most expensive one in Spain.

The town of Aranjuez is situated on the Tagus, and was chiefly built within these twelve years; whoever chuses to build houses here, may have a free-gift of the ground from the king, on condition of conforming to the general plan: the streets are broad and parallel,

and intersect each other at right angles: one of them is called Stuart's street. The houses are of two stories in height, and are all painted white, with green doors and shutters. There are at present about five thousand inhabitants, who live by letting their houses to persons who come with the court, and who reside here annually from the middle of April to the end of July, during which time the number of inhabitants is increased to fifteen thousand. The whole town has much the resemblance of Potsdam, near Berlin, and is well illuminated at night. The principal church, which has a convex colonnade; is built in the Great Square: Sabatini was the architect. This square is surrounded by porticos; four large arched gates form the entrance, and in the middle is a handsome fountain, which copiously supplies the town with water. There are two other churches in Aranjuez. Besides the wild-boars before mentioned, I saw several camels carrying wood about the streets: they belong to the king, and are twenty-one in number*. The king possesses also a great number of buffaloes, brought from Naples, which are used to draw carts, and are governed by iron rings thrust through their nostrils. These animals abound in Rome, Naples, and Loretto, and are there put to the same service. Here is a new amphitheatre for the bull-fights, like that of Madrid: it is built of brick, with wooden seats: the inner circle, or area, is one hundred and sixty-eight feet in diameter: there are two rows of boxes, one

* In a village near Pisa, in Tuscany, I saw, in 1769, sixty-four camels which were the property of the grand-duke.

above.

above the other, each row containing one hundred and two; under these are ten circular rows of benches, which are exposed to the air: the whole building is capable of containing six thousand spectators. All the amphitheatres in Spain are circular, and nearly of the same size and architecture. I know of only four, which are lasting edifices; those are at Madrid, Aranjuez, Granada, and Seville: at Cadiz and Port St. Mary, they are temporary wooden buildings, as is also that of Lisbon: and in the other Spanish towns the great square is the place of combat. The best places are about a crown each, and the lowest place six pence: the persons who sit in these, are perpetually exposed to the bull's leaping among them over the balustrades, which are but four feet high: the places which are on the shady-side are somewhat dearer than the others: it would be very necessary to have a canvas drawn over the top of the whole area, in the same manner as was practised by the ancient Romans.

Neither the king; nor any of the royal family, are ever present at the bull-fights.

The royal palace is a square, and has twenty-one windows in front, and a turret at each end; but there is nothing remarkable either in its exterior or interior parts, except that in the chapel is a picture representing the Annunciation, by Titian; and in one of the rooms six portraits by Mengs; being those of the grand duke and duchess of Tuscany, and their four children; and
the.

the king and queen of Naples, by one Bonito. In the church are six pictures by Tiepolo. Before the palace are three very large walks, each planted with four rows of tall elms: small canals run between each row, which keep the roots constantly supplied with water, and make the trees grow to a very great size: various other walks have been lately planted with young elms on the same plan. I walked round the gardens in an hour: they are quite flat; the Tagus runs through them. This river is not very broad here, so that there are eight or ten wooden bridges, and one of stone, built over it. In the work, entitled, *El Parnasso Español*, vol. iii. p. 246 to 268, are two very fine poetical descriptions of Aranjuez; the one by Don Gomez de Tarpia, and the other by Lupercio de Argensola. These gardens so much beautify the Tagus, that Don Gomez justly writes:

Desde allí a su fuente,

Ni hasta el océano Lusitano

No se halla en otra parte mas ufano*.

The gardens are ornamented with seven fountains, of all which there are very accurate views in the book called *Les Delices de l'Espagne et du Portugal*. That of the Tritons is decorated with several marble statues, which are thought to be the

* Neither from hence to its source, nor to the Lusitanic ocean, is it to be found more beautiful.

work of Alonso Berruguete. The fountain of Bacchus consists principally in a statue of that god bestriding a cask: both the god and the cask are of bronze; the first is represented extremely fat, and larger than the life. The largest fountain is that of Hercules: the statues that accompany it have no merit; but the fountain of Neptune, which has seven groups round it, in bronze, is the best here: the statues being all by Algardi, the Roman sculptor, in 1621: they are nearly as large as the life, and represent Jupiter and Juno launching thunder-bolts at the giants; Ceres, in a car drawn by lions; and Neptune, with his trident, in a shell drawn by Tritons. The other three fountains are those of the Harpies, of the Dolphins, and of Don John of Austria, but they are not any way remarkable. Here are also two statues in bronze, of Venus and Antinous, as large as the life, cast from the antique. These the gardener called Adam and Eve. Under the statue of Venus is this inscription:

A Pöbliciüs. d. l. Antioc. t. Barbius. q. p. l. Tiber.

There is a new theatre for the performance of operas and plays, during the residence of the court here: over the door is this inscription,

Ruris deliciis adjecta urbana voluptas.

I spent a day in making some excursions on horseback: I first rode through the Queen's Alley, which is a road of forty feet broad, and four miles long, quite strait, with a double row of tall elms on each side, at the end of which I entered into the forest,

forest, which abounds with deer and game. Three miles farther I saw a very pretty cascade, formed by the waters of the Tagus falling down a precipice of about fourteen feet high. I then returned to Aranjuez, and, riding two miles on another road, saw a small lake, in the midst of which is an island, with a summer-house built on it. In the afternoon I rode six miles on the road leading to Madrid, which city is seven leagues distant from Aranjuez, through very broad avenues, with a double row of elms on each side *, to see the stone-bridge of seventeen arches, which was finished in 1761, by Marcos de Vierna. At both ends are two lions of stone, each holding a shield, on which are engraven the names of the king and the architect, with the date. Near this bridge is a turnpike where I paid toll for my horse.

April 11. I set out this day for Valencia, which city is eight days journey from Aranjuez, sixty-two leagues, or about two hundred and eighty miles. I first arrived at the small ancient town of Ocaña, two leagues off, travelling on the royal road, which is very broad and strait, and in some parts planted with young trees on each side. The country is quite flat, and produces corn, wine, and oil. I remained here an hour to examine the celebrated fountain, which, at first view, appears to be a

* The grand Berceau walk in the gardens belonging to the earl of Breadalbane, at Taymouth, in the Highlands of Scotland, is as beautiful as these avenues, though not so long : it is planted in like manner with elms of an uncommon size.

work of the Romans, but a Spanish author rather suspects it to have been built by Philip II. about the year 1580, at the time he founded Aranjuez: the source of the fountain is discovered at the end of a long subterraneous passage, which admits a man standing upright: the water, which is very transparent, is conducted in two canals from thence to a large reservoir, which supplies the whole town. I then proceeded two leagues farther to the village of Villatobas; which, as the road is perfectly horizontal and strait, is seen at the end of it, immediately on leaving Ocaña. At every quarter of a league is a stone to mark the distance. This day being Easter-Sunday, I saw in several streets of the villages and towns I passed through, many artificial figures of men made of wood, straw, &c. and dressed in old cloaths, hanging by a rope fixed across the street from the opposite houses, in the same manner as the lamps are suspended in Paris: this is an universal custom throughout Spain and Portugal: the figures are intended to represent Judas: the boys amuse themselves with pelting them with stones, and burning them in the evening, which is similar to our rational custom of annually burning the figures of the devil and the pope. In the afternoon I proceeded three leagues to Coral, where I passed the night. The people were at that time at work in making the new road, which is perfectly strait, and as fine as any road in England. The quarter league stones were continued as far as the road was finished. The country is quite flat, and produces much corn, but no trees.

C c

April



April 12. After travelling three leagues, I stopped to dine at Quintanar, in the province of la Mancha, where Don Quixote is feigned to have been born. A league farther, near to the south-side of the road, is the village of El Toboso, which gave birth to his Dulcinea. I afterwards passed by fifteen windmills, which I mistook for those which had been attacked by the knight two centuries ago; but, on having recourse to his history, I learned that his antagonists were built in the plains of Montiel, which are ten or twelve leagues more to the south. I proceeded five leagues to Pedronosa, where I passed the night: the road is good and flat; some few vine-yards and olives on each side. The weather began to be hot and sultry, and, I was informed, that the night before three smart shocks of an earthquake had been felt in this village, and several leagues round it.

April 13. We dined at Provençor, and slept at Minaya. This day's journey was seven leagues, over a flat sandy road, and through a small wood of dwarf pines.

April 14. We travelled three leagues to la Roda, and afterwards three more to la Gineta, which is the first village we arrived at in the kingdom of Murcia: the road is in a strait line for two or three leagues; so that immediately on going out of one village, the church steeple of the next is seen at the end of it. In this whole day's journey there was not a tree nor a hedge to be seen, only continued corn-fields. The soil is sandy: and the heat became so great, as to prevent my walking even after sunset,

fet, as the ground burnt the soles of my feet ; so that the only agreeable time for that exercise was early in morning, when the earth had had a night to cool in.

April 15. Three leagues journey brought us to Albacete : this is a pretty large town, containing two churches, and five thousand inhabitants, who are chiefly maintained by the profits arising from the sale of clumsy knives and scissors, for the manufacturing of which there are eighteen shops. Two leagues farther we crossed over some hills, wooded with pines and green oaks, and abounding with juniper, rosemary, and thyme ; and passed the night in the small village of Villar, which contains only sixty inhabitants.

April 16. We dined this day at Bonete, and lay at Almanfa, having travelled seven leagues. The road is hilly and sandy ; a few green oaks and shrubs are scattered here and there.

Almanfa contains one thousand six hundred inhabitants ; one church, of which the front is of stone, and of tolerable architecture, and eight convents.

About half a mile east of the town, in the midst of a plain, is a square obelisk of stone, thirty feet high : the pedestal is surrounded by three steps : on it are engraven inscriptions in Latin and Spanish, importing, that on that spot, on the 25th day of April, 1707, was gained the victory over the rebel Catalonians,

of whom the number killed and taken prisoners was sixteen thousand. The conquering army, which consisted of the troops of Philip V. aided by those of Lewis XIV. was commanded by James duke of Berwick. Philip caused fifty thousand masses to be said for the repose of the souls of the illustrious persons who were slain in this battle.

On the top of a steep rock, which is as much insulated as that on which the castle of Dunbarton, in Scotland, is built, are the ruins of a very large Moorish castle: the stair-case is yet entire, and of stone. A view of this castle is inserted in one of the plates in this work.

This day we met several four-wheeled carriages, some drawn by four, and some by six mules, with long traces of cords, going to Madrid. This method of travelling is near treble the expence of that which I pursued, and not so satisfactory; the only difference is, that the mules which draw the coaches always trot, so that they set out later from, and arrive sooner at the inns, but travel no more leagues a day than the chaises, by which means all the pleasure of walking is prevented, and the time is consumed in idleness in the ventas. These coaches have two men to attend them, one of whom sits on the box and drives, and the other runs by the side of the mules, whipping them; and this they do alternately. Women and children travel in this manner, which would likewise be the best way for a company of four or five persons having much baggage. A single traveller ought

ought to be very careful in chusing a proper caleffero : some of these people have spent the greatest part of their lives in traversing every part of Spain, and being known in all the inns and ventas, are the greatest protection a traveller can have against being murdered, for they would be immediately missed, and the most diligent search would be made after them, and the persons who had employed them; but if a young and obscure muleteer should be chosen, he, as well as his fare, might be assassinated with impunity*.

April 17. Proceeding two leagues we entered into the kingdom of Valencia, on a road cut through a mountain, which opens at once into one of the most fertile countries in Europe, the kingdom of Naples not excepted, abounding with olives, corn, figs, arbutus, and mulberry trees; and vines, which were already beginning to shoot, and the wheat to ear: this province also produces in palm or date trees, aloes, pomegranates, hemp, flax, rice, and the algarroba, garofero, carrobe, or locust tree: this last is an evergreen; the trunk is usually from one to two feet in diameter, the leaves are of a dark green, ten on a twig, five on each side; the fruit exactly resembles kidney-beans, and is an inch broad, and nine or ten inches long; they issue in clusters from the branches and body of the tree in a very singular man-

* The Portuguese caleffero who travelled with me, was named Gaetano de Coimbra; and the Spaniard, Antonio de Gandia: each of these men was upwards of three months in my service, during which time they were very careful and honest; so that they merit the mention that is now made of them.

ner; these pods are thick, mealy, and of a sweetish taste: when dry they are given to horses and cattle as provender. These trees are only found in this province, and those of Murcia, Granada, and Andalusia *. The following lines of Silius Italicus may with great propriety be applied to this country:

Nec Cereri terra indocilis, nec inhospite Baccho,
Nullaque Palladia sese magis arbore tollit.

We dined at the village of Moxent, which is five leagues from Almanfa: the roads are sandy, and over hills. In the evening we proceeded four leagues farther to Xativa, the ancient Sætabis †.

* In the second volume of Mr. James's History of Gibraltar, the author, describing the plains of Tetuan, says, "the next remarkable sort of wood is the alcarobe, a tree of great curiosity, and merits much notice: the alcarobe bears a pod in quantity and likeness much resembling the English bean; the inner substance thereof is sweet, and lodgeth hard small kernels. This fruit is eaten by the Moors of inferior condition, and by all at the feast Ashorah; but it is chiefly preserved for their horses, to whom it is both physic and repast; for the fruit of the alcarobe hath two excellent properties, to drench and make their horses fat.

"Some have called the fruit locusta, and supposed it was the Baptist's food in the wilderness, &c. &c. There is a great probability that the fruit of the alcarobe is the same with the Prodigal's *ceratia*, or husks, for it doth excellently accord with their description."

Mr. Armstrong, in his History of Minorca, p. 195, likewise mentions the opinion in regard to its having been the food of St. John, but he adds wild honey to it.

Miller calls it *ceratonia*, carouge, and St. John's bread.

Ceratonia Siliqua, Linn. Sp. pl. 1513.

† *Celfa mittebat Sætabis arce,*

Sætabis & telas Arabum sprevisse superba, &c.

SIL. ITAL. lib. iii. v. 373.

This

This town was razed by Philip V. in 1714, for having sustained an obstinate siege against him, but was rebuilt at the bottom of a hill, and by his order called San Phelipe. It has a ruined Moorish castle. The detested Borgia, who was afterwards pope Alexander VI. was born here. *

April 18. We travelled on a very good road, with small canals of running water on each side, like those in the plains of Lombardy, which render these plantations so uncommonly fertile. I saw here many rice-fields, which are always kept about three inches under water, above which the rice was just beginning to appear; and mulberry trees were planted checquer-wise in these fields. We crossed a branch of the river Xucar, on a narrow stone bridge of six arches. This delightful country is surrounded partly by high mountains (on the tops of which are many Moorish castles), and partly by the Mediterranean sea. We afterwards passed through the village of Alzira, and over another branch of the Xucar, on a stone bridge of two arches. The people were all employed in stripping the mulberry-trees of their leaves for food for the silk worms, which had been hatched a fortnight before.

There is a modern Spanish book in small quarto, with four copper-plates, describing the method of rearing mulberry-trees, and managing silk-worms, with the natural history of those insects :

*. Catullus mentions this town in his twenty-fifth epigram.

the book is extremely well written. There is one passage in it which I know not whether the author meant in jest or in earnest: he says, "many people wash the silk-worm's eggs in the water of a fountain near the hermitage of our Lady de la Fuente Santa: if this washing causes them to thrive better, it is certainly because that great queen attends to their supplications; but as she possibly may not attend to these supplications, the eggs may receive great hurt by these cold washings. I hold it to be better to wash them with white wine, or with the urine of a healthy boy."

The lower class of men here wear linen-trowsers, which reach to the knees, much like the Highland kiltbreeks, and sandals made of cord. The women have no caps, but plait their hair behind in a spiral figure, and fasten it with a large silver pin, in the same manner as those of Bologna and Naples. We dined at Algemesi, and proceeded five leagues to Valencia, where we arrived in the evening, having travelled nine leagues this day; and put up at the Golden Cross, which is a pretty good inn.

Valencia is one of the largest cities in Spain, and has an university: its form is circular, and it is situated half a league from the sea, $39^{\circ} 34'$ lat. and 22° long. from the isle of Ferro, on a river called El Rio Blanco, or Turia, which does not however run through the city, but by the side of it. There are five handsome stone bridges built over this river, three of which have each ten arches, another has nine, and the last has thirteen.

Without

without the gates are the college of pope Pius V. and the palace of the viceroy, though this title is now altered to that of captain-general. The *alameda*, or mall, resembles our St. James's Park, but is much more beautiful, by reason of the trees, which are palms, cypress', elms, and mulberry trees intermixed, of which there are four double rows, forming three walks or alleys. There are many agreeable walks along the river side, which are faced with stone, the better to resist the force of the water in winter. On one of the walls is a new stone statue of St. Pedro Pasqual, but I could not learn who this saint was. In this wall was lately fixed a stone, with part of a Roman sepulchral inscription, as follows :

SODALI CIV.
VERNARUM
COLENTE SIDIDE.

A plan of this city, in four sheets, was published in 1705.

The day after my arrival was the feast of St. Vincent Ferrer, the patron of this city, so that I saw all the friars, and other idle drones, who *fruges consumere nati*, pass in review, or procession :

“ Monks, side by side with monks, went two by two.”

As I sat in a bookfeller's shop here, I picked up a book in small quarto, being a description of the city. Half of it is a relation of the “ prodigious relics” contained in the “ holy cathedral:”

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they

they consist of some of the Virgin's hair ; a shirt which she made for her son, which is without seams ; two grains of the myrrh offered by the holy kings ; a bit of the skin of St. Bartholomew ; eight thorns from the crown of Christ, " partly whole and partly broken ;" three of St. George's fingers, with a piece of his banner ; these ought certainly to be preserved in England ; item, relics of the eleven thousand virgins ; some *lignum crucis*, &c. All which I neglected to see.*

The thorns are probably like some of those seen by Sir John Maundevile, in 1322, and of which he gives the following account :

" And o partie of the crowne of oure Lord, wherwith he was crowned, and many other relikes, ben in France in the kynges chapel, and the crowne lythe in a vesselle of cristalle richely dyghte. For a kynge of Fraunce boughte these relikes som tyme of the Jewes, to whom the emperour had leyde them to wedde, (*pledge*) for a gret summe of sylvre. And zif alle be it so that men seyn, that this crowne is of thornes, zee schulle undirstonde that it was of jonkes of the see, that is to sey, rushes of the see, that prykken as scharpely as thornes.

* Mr. Ap Rhys, p. 151, says, " There is also an eye-tooth of the giant St. Christopher : there is a fellow to it at a town called Coria, in Castile : and a German person of quality told Philip III. that he had seen part of the skull of the same saint that held three pecks. The authenticity of which precious relics being unquestionable, they will be so many standing evidences against cardinal Baronius, who was so rash as to assert that St. Christopher was no giant."

“ For I have feen and beholden many tymes that of Parys, and
 “ that of Constantynoble: for thei were bothe on made of
 “ ruffches of the fee. But men han departed hem in two par-
 “ ties: of the whiche o part is at Parys, and the other part is
 “ at Constantynoble; and I have on of tho precyouse thornes,
 “ that femeth licke a white thorn, and that was zoven to me
 “ for gret specyaltee. For there are many of hem broken and
 “ fallen into the vesselle that the crowne lythe in: for thei breken
 “ for dryeneffe, when men meven hem, to schewen hem to
 “ grete lordes that comen thidre.”

This extract may serve as a specimen of the style of this curious book, of which I have an edition in Italian, printed at Milan in 1480, in Gothic characters: this edition is not mentioned in the preface to the English one of 1725. It may not be amiss to observe in this place, though foreign to the subject, the great affinity which the English language of that age bears to the present Dutch language: many of the expressions used in this book are literally Dutch; for instance, “ waren sustren; “ hadden lever; schipmannes; wanhope; zee wyten wel,” &c. &c.

At the end of the above-mentioned Spanish book, printed in 1738, are chronological tables, of which the following are extracts.



Anno

1250. The image of the Holy Christ of Berito is found driving on the river against the stream.
1362. The great altar of St. John of the Market, burnt.
1372. The processions of the *Corpus* are reduced to a single one.
1384. Two holy wafers are found in the mouths of two fishes.
1410. There are such swarms of locusts that the city sends out squadrons to kill them.
1416. The image of our *Lady of the Abandoned* is made. In the same year, on the 18th of June, the judges wear blue robes with gold fringes.
1418. *Transit*, or translation, of St. Vincent Ferrer.
1455. Canonization of ditto Saint, the city celebrates solemn festivals, elects him for patron, and pope Urban VIII. approves of it.
1469. The great altar of the cathedral is burnt; sixteen thousand two hundred and sixteen ounces of melted plate are afterwards recovered.
1549. Don Lewis Castelvì invents the method of preserving snow, and cooling water.
1605. The city orders a silver vase to be made, to hold the relics of St. Vincent Ferrer.
1607. A boy sheds tears of blood at the foot of the gallows, because he had murdered his father.
1609. The expulsion of the Moors out of this city, to the number of one thousand five hundred.
1647. The body of St. Lewis Bertram is carried in procession to stop the progress of the plague.

1651.

Anno.

1651. The river overflows the city, and in the convent of the nuns of the most Holy Trinity, leaves a frog in a holy-water vase.

1731. This most illustrious city establishes a house for the fabric of tallow candles.

1734. A capacious tennis-court is built.

1737. A fabric for tiles and earthen-ware erected.

In this year, on Monday the 11th of November, the professed house of the company of Jesus, celebrates with festive demonstrations the canonization of St. Francis Regis, &c.

These memorable events may make a pretty addition to a little book of chronological tables lately published.

The city is walled, and has five gates. The peasants are dressed in white linen waistcoats and trowsers, with net hair-caps.

The houses are all numbered, and the names of the streets are painted on tiles on the corner houses. A great number of single-horse chaises ply in the streets: the horses have no bits in their mouths, but are governed by *caveçons*, or nose-bands, in the same manner as they are at Naples.

The royal road intended to be carried on quite to Madrid, which is three hundred and twenty-two miles, was lately begun, and about ten miles of it are already finished, very broad, level, and exactly in a straight line, so that it surpasses the celebrated road from

from Rivoli to Turin, which is nine miles in length. About a league from Valencia, the sea forms a lake of near three leagues long, and a league broad, called Albufera, inhabited by vast quantities of fish and water-fowl, among which are great numbers of flamingos.

Valencia is built on a spot of ground perfectly flat : the houses are very high, and the streets narrow and crooked : it contains fourteen parish churches, twenty-two convents of friars, and nineteen of nuns, with seven colleges. In the court of the Patriarchal college is a fountain, in the midst of which is a fine marble statue of a woman, the drapery especially is very beautiful. St. Mary de los Desamparados (of the Abandoned), is a new octangular chapel, with a cupola pretty well painted in fresco. The ceiling of the church of St. John del Mercao (of the Market) was painted in fresco by Palomino, in 1699. The church of Santa Caterina Nueva, is extremely elegant, the inside being entirely of the finest marble and gilt bronze. The church of St. Francis is equally beautiful and *riante*, being in the inside plain white stucco with gilt ornaments, in a very good taste, and not overdone. There is nothing remarkable in the cathedral : I ascended the steeple, and from thence had a fine prospect of the whole city, the adjacent country, and the sea.

The *dogana*, or custom-house, was built in 1760, and is a neat square, of seven windows on each side to every story. A temporary wooden edifice is erected for the bull-feasts.

The

The present silk-market was formerly a church. I made an excursion to el Grado, which is a small village on the sea-side: the shore is quite flat, and there is no harbour, so that only small fishing vessels can remain here in safety. I afterwards spent a day at Morviedro (Muriveteres), the ancient Saguntum, four leagues north from Valencia, which was situated on the top of a mountain, about a league from the sea, commanding an extensive prospect. Hannibal besieged it, and during nine months the inhabitants resisted all the forces of Carthage; and, at last, pressed by famine, preferred being buried in the ruins of their city to being taken by the besiegers: this happened in the year of Rome 535, one hundred and eighty-two years before the vulgar æra. The modern village is built at the foot of the mountain. The extensive walls of Saguntum, which are yet remaining, and are embattled, show that that city was very large: it is difficult to get over the heaps of ruins, and loose pieces of rock which are within these walls; and the difficulty is augmented by their being over-run with the Indian fig, or prickly pear, which forms impenetrable barriers:

“ ——— In shapeless ruin all;

And Indian figs o'er-top the mould'ring wall.”

After much clambering, my guide conducted me to the ruins of the amphitheatre, which is a semicircle of two hundred and sixty-six English feet in diameter: it is situated on the slope of the mountain, and enough of it remains to distinguish the plan: it is built with a kind of flint; each stone is about nine inches square;

square; the cement is of mortar. There are twenty-two rows of seats, and three rows of entrances (*vomitoria*), nine in the uppermost, eleven in the middlemost, and six in the undermost. Near this lies a stone eight feet long, and two feet thick, sculptured on both sides with stars of six points. Over a doorway, which yet remains, is a white marble statue, without a head, about two feet high, the drapery of which is very fine: underneath is an inscription on a stone which has been taken out of the wall, and replaced with the letters upside down: an iron ring is seen in the door-case, which formerly received the hinge. At some distance, in a niche of the wall, is another mutilated statue of white marble, of the same size as the other. Here are also two other inscriptions; and in the wall, near a gate of the modern town, are inserted eight stones with as many more*: a French hermit has resided on this mountain many years: he was at that time in his eightieth year, but was still able to descend every day into the town, to procure provisions: he went by the name of Don Claudio, and told me that he was present at the battle of Almanza, in 1707. After we had emptied a bottle of wine together, I returned to Valentia.

During my stay in this city, I had the honour of dining with the captain-general, or viceroy, count de Sayve. That nobleman is a Frenchman, and was then near ninety years of age.

* All these inscriptions have been communicated to the Society of Antiquaries in London.

In the Latin work, entitled, *Eman. Martini Epistolarum*, is a plan of this amphitheatre.

Sir

Sir William Duncan * and his lady, and Mr. Boswell (brother to the gentleman who has published an account of Corfica), who resides here engaged in commerce, were of the party: his excellency regaled us with English porter and ale. In the evening we adjourned to Sir William's house, where we were entertained with a concert and a ball.

Valencia formerly had the privilege of coining copper money: the last pieces are dated 1710. I procured one of three *dineros*, and one of six: on one side are the arms of Spain, and on the reverse the letter V under a royal crown.

There is a peculiar dialect used in this province, much resembling the *Patois Limosin*; I procured the only three pamphlets which have been printed in it: one of them contains ninety pages, and is intitled, "*Rondalla de Rondalles, a imitaciò del Cuento de Cuentos de Quevedo, y de la Historia de Historias de Don Diego de Torres, composta y trèta a llum per un-curios apassionat à la Lengua Llemosina*, 1769: that is, "Story of Stories, in Imitation of the Tale of Tales of Quevedo, and of the History of Histories of Torres, composed and brought to the light by a curious Lover of the Limosin language." I bought a book in Naples, written on the same plan, in the Neapolitan jargon, entitled, "*Lo Cunto de li Cunte*;" "Tale of Tales," by John Alexis Abattutis, 1728, five hundred and ten pages. The other

* This gentleman died at Naples in September 1774.

two Valencian books are a description of the festival of the *Corpus* in measured prose, of which these are specimens.

<i>Parroquies, convènts, mercat,</i>	Parishes, convents, market,
<i>Alameda, ermita, riù,</i>	Elm-walk, hermitage, river,
<i>Lo palau, dit del Real,</i>	The palace, called Royal,
<i>Los cinch ponts, ab ses arcades,</i>	The five bridges, with their arches,
<i>Y altres prodigs semetjants,</i>	And other similar prodigies,
<i>Admirantse de tos ells,</i>	Are all to be admired,
<i>Puix Valencia es un encant.</i>	For Valencia is an enchantment.

i. e. appears as an enchanted place by reason of its beauty; and indeed the Spaniards always call it Valencia la Hermosa, the Beautiful.

<i>La verge quen en la burrèta</i>	The Virgin who on the ass
<i>Và, en lo bon Jèsus al braç</i>	Goes, with the good Jesus in her arms.
<i>Sabran la fuyta es de Egypte</i>	You must know, is the flight into Egypt,
<i>Que Maria y Josep cast</i>	That Mary and chaste Joseph
<i>Feren, guardant à son fill</i>	Made, guarding their son
<i>De Herodes que era indignat.</i>	From Herod who was angry.

The following words will be sufficient to show the affinity which this dialect bears to the French language.

Diu:

<i>Dèu</i>	God,	<i>passatemps</i>	pastimes,	<i>argent</i>	silver,
<i>el diable</i>	the devil,	<i>diversions</i>	diversions,	<i>autumne</i>	autumn,
<i>lhome</i>	the man,	<i>gent</i>	people,	<i>clau</i>	key,
<i>vida</i>	life,	<i>interès</i>	interest,	<i>coll</i>	neck,
<i>mort</i>	death,	<i>decentment</i>	decently,	<i>dent</i>	tooth,
<i>anim</i>	soul,	<i>cel</i>	heaven,	<i>fam</i>	hunger,
<i>lamor</i>	love,	<i>terra</i>	earth,	<i>fil</i>	thread,
<i>martyr</i>	martyr,	<i>lù</i>	he,	<i>fum</i>	smoke,
<i>confessor</i>	confessor,	<i>sol</i>	sun,	<i>joc</i>	joke,
<i>rector</i>	rector,	<i>lluna</i>	moon,	<i>llum</i>	light,
<i>loncle</i>	the uncle,	<i>ulls</i>	eyes,	<i>nom</i>	name,
<i>Judio</i>	Jew,	<i>genolls</i>	knees,	<i>pa</i>	bread,
<i>any</i>	year,	<i>peus</i>	feet,	<i>vi</i>	wine,
<i>el mon</i>	the world,	<i>mòli</i>	mill,	<i>porc</i>	hog,
<i>arbres</i>	trees,	<i>son pare</i>	his father,	<i>sablo</i>	sand,
<i>paper</i>	paper,	<i>sa mare</i>	his mother,	<i>torrent</i>	torrent,
<i>murmur</i>	murmur,	<i>son marit</i>	her husband,	<i>vernis</i>	varnish,
<i>paraules</i>	words,	<i>bon viatge</i>	good journey,	<i>vomit</i>	vomit,
<i>os</i>	bone,	<i>vullch dir</i>	I will say,		&c.

The other book is intitled, "Praises of the Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Castilian, and Valencian languages," in forty-four pages, written in 1574, and reprinted 1765. In this work the author *modestly* gives the preference to the Valencian dialect, quotes sixty of its words, which are pure Latin, and twice that number which vary but little from it. An oration of three

pages in length is also inserted, which is Spanish and Latin, almost literally at the same time.

Most of the Valencians, in speaking Spanish, pronounce the *ci* like our English *th*, thus, *la thiudad de Valenthia*, and have a kind of lisp, which is not disagreeable, especially when it proceeds from the mouth of a pretty woman.

I was in hopes of seeing a play in this city, but, as it had not rained for some months, a stop was put to all public diversions; so that it is natural to suppose, that the Spaniards believe that prohibiting plays is a sure method of obtaining rain; indeed it is infallible at the long run, for supposing diversions were to be suspended for a year, there would most probably fall some showers in that time, and they would immediately be attributed to the merits of their self-denial, in abstaining from vain entertainments.*.

On the 25th of April, I set out from Valencia early in the morning,

“while dewy drops hung trembling on the tree;”

* In the *Delices de l'Espagne*, vol. iv. I find that the church of St. Andrew's “principal ornament is the body of a faint of a fresh date, but very powerful in works and in miracles; his name was Francis Jerom Simon, and he died in 1612: it is said that during his life he concealed the precious talent he possessed of working miracles, but that he revealed it on his death-bed. Five years after his death, his altar was seen hung with as many shirts, and other presents, made by those whom he had cured, as any altar of the most ancient and famous faints in Spain.”

and after travelling five leagues, dined at Cullera, and then proceeded three long leagues to Gandia, on a heavy sandy heath, producing pine-trees and aloes: this town is about a mile from the sea, and from the shore the island of Yviça may be discerned in clear weather.

April 26. We were this day near seven hours in going three leagues, to a small village called la Puebla, on a very bad stony road. The chaise overfet, but we luckily escaped any mischief, and remained, as Mr. Pennant says, after travelling on a similar road,

——— a wond'rous token

Of Heav'n's kind care, with necks unbroken.

The beauty of the country compensated for the badness of the roads, which lie through forests of palm, mulberry, garofero, and olive trees; fields of wheat and barley, bordered by pomegranate hedges, of which the scarlet blossoms formed a pleasing contrast to the variegated greens among which they grew. On each side of the road are small canals, like those in the environs of Xativa. In the evening we travelled three leagues farther, to the village of Onteniente. The weather began to grow excessively hot, so that it was only possible to travel in the morning and evening, the rest of the day being spent within doors in eating, drinking, and sleeping. In these southern regions, at this season, the sun

Darts

Darts on the head direct his forceful ray,
And fiercely sheds intolerable day.

The snakes began now to be seen basking in the sun on the roads: we shot several of them. Lizards of different sizes, from two inches to eighteen, swarmed among the stones and walls: the smaller sort are harmless, the larger are very fierce and dangerous. I have seen several, which being pursued by a little dog I had with me, would turn about and stand at bay, hissing violently: their mouth opens wide enough to admit a hen's egg; and their bite is so tenacious, that I have lifted them from the ground by putting a stick in their mouths: the tail easily breaks off from the body, and continues for a long time alive. Dr. Goldsmith, in the seventh volume of his History of Animated Nature, says, "Salt seems to be much more efficacious in destroying these animals than the knife; for, upon being sprinkled with it, the whole body emits a viscous liquor, and the lizard dies in three minutes in great agonies." I was at that time ignorant of this particular, or I should have made the experiment, which I have tried on snails, and found it to have the same effect it is here said it will have on lizards, and which is not improbable. I shot many of them when they were running up the trunks of trees: they were very beautifully speckled with green, blue, and yellow, and were as cold as ice to the touch. The hot weather likewise hatched into life myriads of insects, of which the musquitos, or gnats, were the most troublesome.

—the

— the air

Was peopled with the insect tribe that float

Upon the noontide beam —

MASON.

The walls were covered with them in the mornings; to those walls they had fixed themselves, fatiated with our blood. An infinite variety of butterflies, formed the most pleasing and beautiful class of these new-born insects, which

Ope'd their gay downs, and spread their gold-dropp'd wings

Turn'd every beauty to the funny ray;

And winnow'd with soft wing their easy way.

HARTSON.

The steeples of the churches we saw this day, are of very handsome architecture, and bear some resemblance to that of the New-church in the Strand, in London.

April 27. This day, after a very high wind, some showers of rain fell, which were the first I had seen for upwards of two months. It is hardly possible to express how beautiful an appearance the country made afterwards; the trees were all revived, and the dust being washed off their leaves, gave them a verdure of an uncommon lustre. This province is termed the garden of Spain, and may very justly be termed that of Europe. We dined at a venta, in the hogsty, as the smoke in the parlour, which had no chimney, was insufferable. We passed the night in the village of Villena, having travelled six leagues over a flat

flat country, producing pines, olives, and barley; and environed with high mountains. No oats grow in Spain: horses and mules are fed with chopped straw and barley, because oats would be of too heating a nature in these climates. Abundance of *escorzonero* grows in these parts.

April 28. We this day passed by the town of Sax, which possesses a ruined Moorish castle (a view of which is inserted in one of the plates of this work), built on the summit of a very high and craggy rock, both together forming a very romantic and remarkable view, to which Mr. Mason's lines may be applied with propriety:

—— Time's gradual touch

Has moulder'd into beauty many a tow'r,
Which when it frown'd with all its battlements
Was only terrible.——

We dined at Monforte, and at night arrived at Alicante, having travelled near ten leagues: the road was tolerable, and partly over mountains covered with olive-trees. The distance from Valencia to Alicante is about one hundred and sixty-four miles. This city is celebrated for the goodness of its harbour, which is quite open, but with secure anchorage, and is usually full of ships loading wines, salt, and glass-wort. The city is built on the slope of a high mountain, on the top of which the castle is situated. It contains twenty thousand inhabitants, among whom are three or four English families; three parish churches, six
convents

convents of monks, and three of nuns : it has five gates ; fifty-eight cannon are planted on three bastions. The garrison consists of twelve hundred foldiers, and eight hundred militia-men. There is a small inconsiderable theatre here.

Robert Wilkie, Esq. his majesty's consul, was so obliging as to take me in his carriage to see *las huertas*, or the gardens, two leagues north from the town. I observed in the governor's garden, a silk-tree and some madder plants ; and in that of el Señor Barnabeu, a very large garofero, or carrobe tree ; it produces annually one hundred and thirty arrobes of fruit (each arrobe is twenty-six pounds), which are sold for seventy dollars, about eleven pound fourteen shillings*. Almonds, pomegranates, double-leaved imperial myrtle, oranges, and lemons, are extremely plentiful in these gardens.

On our return home we passed through several fields of barilla, which is used in making glass. In Miller's Gardener's Dictionary is an account of this plant, of which here follows an extract :

“ Salfola, Salicornia, Glass-wort, Soude.

“ It is an annual plant which rises about five or six inches high, sending out many side-branches from the bottom, which spread on every side: the seed ripens in autumn, soon after

* This tree may serve as companion to the great orange-tree near Oporto.

“ which the plant decays. The manner of making the fal alkali is as follows: having dug a trench, they lay laths across it, on which they place the herb in heaps, and having made a fire below, the liquor which runs out of the herb drops to the bottom, which at length thickening becomes fal alkali, which is partly of a black and partly of an ash colour, very sharp and corrosive, and of a saltish taste. This, when thoroughly hardened, becomes like a stone, and is called *soude*, or *barilla*; it is exported from Spain into other countries for making of glafs.”

The leaves of this plant are long, narrow, fleshy, and full of juice, like those of samphire. The stone likewise enters into the composition of soap: it is usually exported in masses of seven or eight hundred weight. The best is that which grows in the environs of Alicante.

The next day the consul's nephew was so kind as to accompany me on an excursion to a neighbouring isle: we set out early in the morning in a coach drawn by four mules, and after travelling four leagues arrived at the village of Santa Pola, near which I counted no less than fifty-three Dutch ships that were loading salt. We had brought provisions with us, and as there was no inn, we dined in the house of one of the inhabitants, with two very agreeable Spanish women. After dinner we embarked in a boat for the island of Nueva Tabarca, which is only a league off, and landed on it after an hour's sailing.

This

This island is about three miles in circumference, and is so barren, that there is not a tree to be found on it, nor a drop of water, except what is brought from the continent. It contains about four hundred inhabitants, who are all Spaniards, redeemed at the king's expence from the slavery in which they were in Barbary: there is a town built for them, and at that time the church was nearly finished: the streets are very regular, the houses small, and with flat roofs. These poor people live rent-free, and for the first year had each about nine pence a day allowed them by government: over the gate is an inscription in Latin and Spanish, importing, that the Count de Aranda caused this colony to be planted in the reign of Charles III. 1771. The inhabitants say that they are in a worse situation at present, than they were when under captivity: they are never suffered to land on the continent, and are often distressed for provisions and water, when tempestuous weather prevents the passage of boats to the island. They have contrived a manufactory of ropes, the profits of which barely keep them from starving. After a short stay here, we returned to our boat, landed in half an hour at Santa Pola, and then went back to Alicante.

On the third of May I set out for Murcia, and having gone four leagues, arrived at the large town of Elche, which is very agreeably situated in the midst of a forest of palm trees. The chief church, which was built in 1682, is of white stone, with an elegant cupola: the front is very handsomely carved: on



each side of the principal entrance are three columns, one of which is plain, the next fluted, and the third twisted spirally: over these is represented the Assumption of the Virgin, environed by angels; and on the great altar is a tabernacle ornamented with eight neat marble columns.

I intended to have paid a visit here to the celebrated Don Jorge Juan, who, jointly with Don Antonio de Ullòà, published an account of America (in four volumes in small folio); which is translated into English; but being informed that he was confined to his bed through sickness, I did not chuse to trouble him. He died a few weeks after. In the afternoon we passed through the town of Albaterra, where there is a very neat church, with a cupola and two turrets; and then travelling between mountains on a good road, passed the night at Orihuela, which is a small town, situated on the river Segura, containing seven or eight churches. This day's journey was nine long leagues.

May 4. We this morning travelled four leagues, on a plain of wheat fields and mulberry trees; the road was very good, and arriving at the city of Murcia, we put up at an inn kept by gypsies: the first floor, which I occupied, was little better than a hog-sty; I agreed with a French *traiteur* that he should furnish me with provisions ready dressed, as our landlord and landlady could not supply us with any thing.

The

The horse which I had bought at Madrid being quite worn out with fatigue, grew so lame, that finding him utterly incapable of any future service, I made a present of him to a peasant before we arrived at Orihuela; who, in return, lent my servant an ass to convey him to Murcia, himself accompanying us on foot, to bring his ass back. The horse, which was literally a *Rocinante*, had cost me but five pounds, and had travelled near seven hundred miles with me. The name *Rocinante* is composed of two words, *rocin* an ordinary horse, and *ante* before.

The marquis de Clermont was arrived here with his lady: they were on their way to Lisbon: his excellency was appointed ambassador from the court of France to that of Portugal, and had taken the opportunity of travelling through Spain. I did myself the honour of waiting on them, and had the pleasure of conversing with the beautiful marchioness. They set out the next day for Madrid.

The first object of my attention in Murcia, after having delivered my letters of introduction, was the cathedral: it is built of white stone, and ornamented with much carving on the outside, executed in 1521; part of which represents large chains extremely well cut: they were then building a handsome square stone tower to this church. The city contains twenty thousand inhabitants: the streets are very narrow; but before the archbishop's palace is an ample piazza extending to the river Segura, which divides the city into two pretty equal parts, communicating

municating with each other by a very neat stone bridge of two arches. There is an agreeable walk along the river side, beginning from the large convent of St. Francis, and continued about a mile. The bull-feasts are kept in the great square, temporary seats being on those occasions erected for the spectators, some of whom hire places in the houses which environ those seats.

The *alameda*, or public walk, is planted with four rows of elms: at one end is a stone statue of the Virgin Mary, and at the other end those of the late king and queen of Spain, each statue is placed on the top of a high stone column. I do not recollect to have seen in any other place such bad statues as these are, in so conspicuous a situation. The public granary is a very large brick building. All the principal cities in Spain have a like edifice; when corn is plentiful and cheap, the granaries are filled at the expence of government, and if there should afterwards be a dearth, that corn is sold to the poor at an under price.

In every chief city in Spain is also a foundling hospital, into which all children whatever are admitted: there is a small wicket in the wall, near which is a bell; a child may be brought here at any time of the day or night, the bell is pulled, the wicket opens, and a person receives the infant, enquiring if it has been baptized. If the parents chuse afterwards to claim the child, they may have it again on describing it: not only natural children

children are thus maintained, but many of the lower class of tradesmen who have larger families than they can bring up, place their new-born infants in these hospitals for a few years; thus, from the convenience of these excellent institutions, there can possibly be no temptation for a tender mother to destroy her offspring; an unnatural crime that is too frequently committed in countries which arrogate the claim of being more civilized. Italy also contains many of the like hospitals.

I saw the small theatre, which was at that time daily occupied by a troop of rope-dancers and tumblers, but they were soon to resign the stage to a company of itinerant Italian singers, who were just arrived from Barcelona, and intended to perform a few operas here. During my short stay in Murcia, I spent every evening at the house of Doña Teresa Piña y Ruiz; that lady and her daughter were so obliging as to assemble all their musical acquaintance, themselves singing tonadillas and seguidillas in a far superior manner than I had ever heard them sing before; the young lady had made a great progress in the study of music, and accompanied herself with the harpsichord and guitar, as perfectly as a professed mistress of the science, so that it was with the greatest regret that I parted from that amiable family, which I did on the 8th of May, and after travelling nine leagues, I arrived on the same day at Carthagená. The first league was among mulberry trees, and then passing over a ridge of rocks, the remainder of the road is on a heath, with a few barley

fields.

fields on each side. We dined at a venta, and in Cartagena put up at a French inn, the sign of the Golden Eagle.

The next day, Sunday, 9th of May, I waited on Daniel Bomeester, esq. his majesty's consul here: he accompanied me to the governor's, general Don Carlos Reggio: his excellency is a Sicilian, and a grand-cross knight of the order of Charles III. In the evening I assisted at a concert in the house of Don Juan Manuel de Cargigal, who is colonel of the regiment del Principe, quartered here: at this entertainment were present a great number of ladies, and near a hundred and thirty officers.

Cartagena is one of the finest ports in the Mediterranean, and one of the three royal marine departments; the other two are Cadiz and Ferrol. The town much resembles Plymouth: there are two dry-docks, which were constructed by the late Don Jorge Juan. The arsenal is walled round: several ships were at that time on the stocks, and two thousand slaves, being Moorish prisoners and criminals, were employed in the lowest offices: I saw many of these wretches pumping water out of the docks quite naked, except a cloth wrapped round their waists. In the harbour were three small galleys and four xebecs, which are a larger kind of galleys, and are used in cruizes made against the Moors. The land at the entrance of the port is mountainous, and at that time a castle was building on a hill to command the arsenal. There are two public walks;

that