

BUT now, thank God, these sanguinary acts of faith seem to be growing out of vogue in SPAIN. There has not been, I am told, an *auto de fe* at MADRID for these twelve years; which was owing to this circumstance: A *Jew*, and his wife, and a daughter of about thirteen years of age, being condemned to be burnt; while the father and mother were burning, they set the child loose from its fetters, and the priests got round it, with a view of converting it by the united force of their rhetoric, and the terrors of immediately undergoing the same cruel death. The child, after seeming to listen a while to their oratory, gave a sudden spring, and vaulted into the midst of the fire; giving a shining example of the force of early piety, of an heroic fortitude equal to that of the most resolute Roman, or the most unshaken martyr.

THE power of this tribunal is now declining very visibly, and seems hastening to its fall; for the present King of SPAIN has taken a bolder step to humble the inquisition, than any of the PHILIPS or CHARLES's who went before him. The inquisitor-general having thought proper, last year, to prohibit a liturgy which the king had licensed, without consulting his majesty about it; the king, with a very proper spirit, put the inquisitor under an arrest, and immediately sent him, guarded with a file of grenadiers, into exile, in a convent, at a great distance from MADRID. So determined and resolute a measure as this, alarmed the whole body of the clergy; they moved heaven and earth to obtain the inquisitor's recal; but for some time their endeavours had no effect: The king was inflexible. The common people were taught by their priests to say, that his Catholic Majesty was no good catholic in his heart. At length, however, the king restored the inquisitor to his liberty: but in such a manner, as that prelate had no reason to triumph; for his majesty, at the time of releasing him, published at Madrid the following edict, which I shall here give in the original Spanish, and subjoin to it a translation.

*H*Aviendo considerado q<sup>e</sup>. no puede satisfacer mi religioso Celo los sinceros deseos q<sup>e</sup>. tengo de proteger en todas ocasiones las de-

*H*AVING considered that my religious zeal cannot satisfy the sincere desire I preserve for protecting on all occasions either

*terminaz<sup>a</sup> de la Santa Sede, ni las del Tribunal de la Inquisiz<sup>o</sup> de estos Reynos en los graves, é importantes assumptos, que estan encomendados a su cuidado, y que con tanto Celo procura desempeñar, si antes que todos mis vasallos no tengo previa notiz<sup>a</sup> de las mismas determinaz<sup>o</sup> y sino se establecen las mas seguras reglas para évitár antes de su promulgazion todos riesgos de émbarazo, é incomben<sup>te</sup> hé resuelto despues de una madura deliberazion, y consulta de mi Consejo, q<sup>e</sup> en adelante toda Bula, Breve, Rescripto, Exortation, o Carta Pontifizia sobre qualquiera assumpto que sea, que trate de establecer Ley, Regla, u observanzia gen<sup>l</sup> que venga dirigida, ya sea en particular, ó general a los Tribunales, Juntas, Arz<sup>obispos</sup>, Obispos, ó Prelados de estos Reynos, no se haya de publicar, y obedezér, sin que primero conste haverla Yo visto, y Examinado, y q<sup>e</sup> el Nuncio App<sup>o</sup> si viniere dirigida por su mano la haya pasada a las mias por la via reservada de Estado; que qualquier Bula, ó Breve de negocios entre partes, ó personas particular<sup>es</sup> ya fuere de gracia, ó justiz<sup>a</sup> se presente, y examine en el Consejo de Castilla, pueda verse, si de su éxecuz<sup>o</sup> puede resultar algun perjuicio al Concordato, a las Leyes, buenos usos, y costumbres, y quietud*

the determinations of the holy-see, or those of the inquisition of these kingdoms in the serious and important business committed to their care, and which is executed with so much zeal by that tribunal, unless I should be acquainted with those same determinations previous to any notice given of them to my vassals, and unless the most secure regulations should be established for avoiding before the publication thereof every danger of embarrassment or inconvenience; I have resolved after mature deliberation, and with advice of my council, that henceforwards neither pontifical bulls, briefs, rescripts, exhortations, nor letters upon any subject whatsoever, treating to establish a law, regulation, or general observance, whether directed in particular, or in general to the tribunals, juntas, magistracies, archbishops, bishops, or prelates of these kingdoms, shall be published, or obeyed, unless it appears to have been first seen, and examined by Me; and if ever they should be addressed to the apostolic nuncio, he must pass them to my hands by the secretary of state's office: And that all bulls or briefs for business between private persons or parties, whether they be of grace or justice, shall be

*del Reyno, ó perjuicio de terzero, exceptuando unicam<sup>e</sup> de esta presentaz<sup>n</sup> las dispensas, y Breves, que se expiden por la sacra Penitenciaría para el fuero interno de la conzienz<sup>a</sup> que el Yng<sup>or</sup> general no publique edicto alguno dimanado de Bulla, ó Breve Pontifizio, sin que se le pase de mi orden a este fin, supuesto que todos los ha de entregar el nuncio à mi persona ó a mi primer secretario del despacho de estado y que si perteneciese à prohibizion de libros, observe la forma prevenido en el Auto àcordado 14. titulo 7<sup>o</sup>. lib. 1<sup>o</sup>. haziendolos examinar de nuevo, y prohibiendolos si lo merecieren por propia potestad, y sin insertar el Breve: Que tampoco publique el Yng<sup>or</sup> general edicto alguno, ó expurgatorio en la corte ni fuera de ella sin darme parte por el secretario del despacho de grazia y justiz<sup>a</sup> ò en su falta cerca de mi persona por el de estado, y que se le haya respondido que lo consiento, y finalm<sup>te</sup> que antes de condenar el Yng<sup>or</sup> general y el tribunal de la Yng<sup>or</sup> qualq<sup>o</sup> libro, ó papel, oiga las defensas, que quisieren hazer los interesados citandolos para ello conforme à las reglas prescriptas a la Ynquisiz<sup>n</sup> de Roma por el Papa Benedicto XIV. en la Constituzion App<sup>ca</sup> que empieza, solicita ac provida. En Buen Retiro à 27 de Nov. de 1761.*

be presented to, and examined by the council of Castile, in order to discover, if any prejudice can result from its observance, either to the concordatum or to the laws, good customs and practices, or to the tranquillity of the kingdom, or to the prejudice of any third person, excepting solely from this presentation, the dispensations and briefs dispatched by the holy penitentiary for the internal forum of consciences: And that the inquisitor-general shall not publish any edict, proceeding from any pontifical bull, or brief, unless it be transmitted to him by my order; for they must all be delivered by the nuncio to my person, or to my first secretary of state; and that if they belong to the prohibition of any books, the formality must be observed, as expressed in the 14th Auto, tit. 7. book I. causing the books to be examined again, and then, if they should deserve it, prohibiting them by his own authority, and without inserting the brief: And likewise that the inquisitor-general shall not publish in the court, or out of it, any edict, or expurgatory, without first giving notice thereof to me, by the secretary of dispatch, of grace, and justice, or in his absence, from my person, by the secretary of state;

state; nor without obtaining in answer my consent: And finally, that before any book or paper be condemned by the inquisitor-general, or by the tribunal of the inquisition, they shall hear the defence that the concerned may desire to make, citing them for that purpose, according to the regulations prescribed to the inquisition of Rome by Pope Benedict XIV. in the Apostolic Constitution, which begins, *Sollicita ac provida*, &c. Buen Retiro, the 27th November 1761.

*X. The Royal Council of the Indies.*

The Duke of ALVA is chancellor of it. This is juridical only.

LETTER

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## LETTER III. PART II.

### COUNCILS, HALLS, and TRIBUNALS.

#### XI. *Royal Council of the Orders of Knighthood.*

Instituted for the regulation and government, and to preserve the privileges of those orders, by FERDINAND the Catholic, in 1489. As these Spanish orders seem not to be very well known in England, I will now give some account of them. They are,

1. The Order of the GOLDEN FLEECE.
2. Of ST. JAMES, or SAN JAGO.
3. Of ALCANTARA.
4. Of CALATRAVA.
5. Of MONTESA.
6. Of THE HABIT OF CHRIST.

I. *The Order of the Golden Fleece* came originally from the house of BURGUNDY. PHILIP the Good, Duke of BURGUNDY, instituted it in 1429. The collar of this order has a lamb hanging to it, with this motto, *Pretium non vile laborum*. The present members of this order are as follow :

LIST of the KNIGHTS of the GOLDEN FLEECE;  
*as it stood in the Year 1760.*

The KING, *Chief, and Sovereign of the Order.*

The MARQUEZ DE GRIMALDO, *Chancellor.*

CONDE DE CANILLAS, *Register.*

D. MANUEL MUNOZ Y' HESTARTE, *King at Arms.*

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KNIGHTS.

## KNIGHTS.

1. DUC DE NOAILLES, March 7, 1702.
2. CONDE DEL MONTIJO, December 9, 1713.
3. DUC DE SULLY, December 31, 1714.
4. MARQUEZ DE ARIENZO, March 16, 1719.
5. The Serene DUKE OF PARMA, May 27, 1723.
6. COMTE DE COIGNI, July 22, 1734.
7. The Serene Infant DON LUIS, October 24, 1735.
8. DUQUE DE SORA, October 21, 1736.
9. DON MIGUEL REGGIO, December 18, 1737.
10. MARQUEZ DE LAS MINAS, January 23, 1738.
11. DUC DE PENTHIEVRE, April 27, 1738.
12. PRINCE ALBERT OF POLAND, November 28, 1738.
13. The KING OF FRANCE, March 13, 1739.
14. The Most Serene DAUPHIN, March 13, 1739.
15. CONDE DE JABLONIEWSKI, January 20, 1740.
16. ELECTOR OF BAVARIA, January 20, 1742.
17. DUC DE BELLEISLE, April 5, 1742.
18. DUC DE LAURAGUAI, June 10, 1745.
19. DUQUE DE ALVA, May 26, 1746.
20. COMTE DE NOAILLES, May 27, 1746.
21. DUQUE DE MEDINA COELI, April 9, 1748.
22. Serene PRINCE OF ASTURIAS, January 3, 1749.
23. DUKE CLEMENT OF BAVARIA, June 11, 1749.
24. MARQUEZ DE LA ENSENADA, April 12, 1750.
25. DUQUE DE BEJAR, April 12, 1750.
26. PRINCE OF PARMA, February 2, 1751.
27. KING OF NAPLES, February 2, 1751.
28. Serene Infant DON GABRIEL, June 9, 1752.
29. Serene DUKE OF ORLEANS, June 9, 1752.
30. PRINCE MASSERAN, September 22, 1752.
31. PRINCIPE DE SAN NICANDRO, September 22, 1752.
32. DUQUE DE BOURNOMBILE, December 18, 1753.
33. MARQUEZ DE VILLA FRANCA, December 18, 1753.
34. DUQUE DE MEDINA-SIDONIA, December 18, 1753.
35. Serene DUKE OF BURGUNDY, March 27, 1754.
36. CONSTABLE COLONNA, December 16, 1755.

37. Serene Infant DON ANTONIO, January 16, 1756.  
 38. CONDE DE ARANDA, April 13, 1756.  
 39. Serene Infant DON FRANCISCO, March 11, 1757.  
 40. MARQUEZ DE MONTE ALEGRE, September 5, 1758.

*Created since, on the Rupture between England and Spain.*

DUC DE CHOISEUL.

CONDE DE FUENTES, &c.

THE grand mastership of this order was made hereditary in the Kings of Spain, of the house of Austria: consequently the present King of Spain has no right to it.—The rest were instituted to encourage a spirit of cruzading.

II. *The Order of San Jago, or St. James*, is divided into twelve governments. It was instituted in the twelfth century, and confirmed by Pope ALEXANDER III. in the year 1175. Its revenues, arising from 87 commanderies, are computed at 230,000 ducats, (28,750 pounds.) Each knight is obliged, by his feudal tenure, to furnish the King yearly with 368 lances, to make war against the infidels. They compound for this with the King, and pay a certain yearly sum.

III. *The Order of Alcantara* was called *the noble*; because, to be a knight, you must prove your nobility for four generations past; whereas the other orders required only a proof through two descents. The knights of *Alcantara* have 38 commanderies, worth 200,000 ducats, (25,000 pounds.) These furnish only 138 lances to the King.

IV. *The Order of Calatrava*, instituted in the twelfth century, for the defence of that city against the Moors in 1158, and Pope ALEXANDER III. confirmed it. They have 54 commanderies, worth 110,000 ducats revenue, (13,750 pounds.) They furnish 300 lances to the King.

V. *The Order of Montesa* is only worn in VALENTIA, and was established in 1317. It has 9 commanderies.

THE King of SPAIN is grand master of these orders.

BESIDES these the present King of SPAIN has now introduced the Neapolitan order of St. JANUARIUS: And has ordered that to be worn in his court above the French order of the *St. Esprit*, or that of the *Golden Fleece*.

### XII. *Royal Council of the Hazienda, or Treasury.*

This is not properly the treasury, but rather a court of exchequer: All the King's revenues are received by an annual treasurer, who is generally a member of this body. This council was instituted by PHILIP III.

### XIII. *The Hall of the Millones.*

Here are paid in the imposts called *Alcavalas* and *Millones*, the first of which are the most ancient revenues of the crown of SPAIN, established originally by the Moors. They were at first a fifth, afterwards a tenth part of the value on goods bought or sold. They are now about 14 *per cent.* and are exacted also on private consumption, as if you kill your own meat, &c. you pay the *Alcavala*. The *Millones* are a sort of general excise given by the *Cortes* to PHILIP IV. in 1647, are the heaviest tax in all SPAIN, and renewed every six years.

### XIV. *The Hall of Justice and Grace.*

This is an office, through which all commissions and grants of the crown pass.

### XV. *Tribunal of the Greater Chamber of Accompts.*

This is a check upon the King's treasurers; for the gentlemen of this office audit all their accounts, and can reject any part of them. It was established in 1574, by PHILIP II.

### XVI. *General Commission of Crusade.*

When CHARLES V. grew tired of asking money of his *Cortes*, and was willing to free himself from their controul; in order to become absolute, he had recourse to other expedients of getting money, and set himself at work to find other sources, for his