## [ $33^{8}$ ]

their orange grove to make room for z model of Monjuich. Not far from thence, ore of the faints, S. Bono, was reprefented as a foldier, with a company of horfe, climbing a freep afcent, and ready to tumble over a wall into a well, whilf San Francifco was attending to deliver him. After this miraculous efcape, the foldier became a faint, and embraced the order of his patron. The only miracles afcribed to him, whilft living, were his detecting a boy, who was ftealing artichokes from the garden of his convent, and a friar, who was tempted by fome fifh to incur the guilt of facrilege. But now, after the lapfe of two hundred and thirty years, he is become the patron of women in child-birth, and his relics are faid to cure all difeafes.

The ftreets in the vicinity of the convent, and nearly over one quarter of the city, were illuminated every night; the how. is were covered with white linen; and the balconies, adorned with looking-glafs, reflected light from innumerable tapers. The fhops, fitted up like facred grottos, had each its altar, and many elegant chapels were conftructed in the middle of the ftreets.

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All the narrow lanes, dreffed with green branches fo as to refemble groves, were huing with feftoons of flowers, intermixed with coloured lamps. Many of the principal inhabitants had mufic in their houfes; and every cvening, till near midnight, thoufands were crowding through the fereets to hear and fee the united efforts of all ranks to honour the memory of their countrymen, now received among the faints.

During my refidence at Barcelona, I had the happinefs of cultivating an acquaintance with two very ingenious phyficians, Don Francifo Sanponts, and Don Francifco Salva. I found them well acquainted with the writings of the beft nofologifts, and expert in the improvements of modern chemiftry. With one of their experiments, then new to me, I was peculiarly delighted. I had feen Dr. Prientey produce dephlogificated air from manganefe in great abundance, and more faringly from vegetables expofed to the meridian fun; but thefe gentlemen, by a fimilar procefs, obtained, in the fpace of a few hours, from a fmall portion of American aloe (agave Americana) half a pint of vital, or dephlogifficated air; and at the

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fame time affured me, that from no vegetable fubitance had they ever been able to procure an equal quantity in proportion to the furface expofed to the folar rays. Having extracted and transferred this to a phial, in it they immerged a twifted iron wire, with a finall portion of amadou at the end, which having kindied into flame they had previoully extinguifhed. Infantly this fmoaking tinder blazed, and the iron burned, like nitre, with a molt vivid flame, cafting off little ftars of light, and leaving at laft a number of fmall fhot, perfectly rotund, which were nothing but the fcoria of the iron. A fimilar portion of the leaf, when the day was cloudy, produced fixed air, which fpeedily extinguifhed flame; but the quantity obtained in the fpace of a few hours was not confiderable. For thefe beautiful experiments they are indebted to Dr. Ingen-Houfz.

Of threefcore phyficians fettled at Barcelona, thefe two are the moft diftinguiihed, and have the moft extenfive practice. One of them favoured me with a fight of his lift. He had vifited more than forty patients in the morning, and he was to fee

## $\left[\begin{array}{lll} & 341\end{array}\right]$

as many before he went to bed. Among thefe were many merchants, manufacturers, and officers; yet he did not expect to receive a hundred reals, that is twenty fhillings, for the whole practice of the day.

Although not rich, they had occafion, a few years fince, to fhew a high and independent fpirit, for which they deferve the higheft commendation. When General O'Neille was governor, (A. D. 1784,) the putrid fever, already mentioned more than once, raged in Catalonia, as in Arragon and other provinces of Spain. The phyficians, fummoned by the governor, like thofe of Carthagena, were required to engage, that from thenceforth they would prefcribe no medicine befide the famous opiate recommended by Dr. Mafdevall. Not fatisfied with this, the governor had prepared a certificate, fimilar to the one produced at Carthagena, for them to fign. The doctors Salva and Sanponts, in the name of all the reft, remonftrated; but could obtain no other anfwer, than that the king would have it $f$, and that the prifon doors ftood open to receive them. Our chieftains, however, not to be intimidated, continuing

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## [ 342 ]

firm to their refolution, and being well fupported by their corps, at laft came off triumphant, and were permitted to prefcribe whatever medicines they thought proper. The general, although as a foldier he had been accuftomed to obedience, yet being gentle and difcreet, he chofe rather to report the matter to the court, than at once to carry his threats into execution. Here the matter refted.

Dr. Mafdevall, in his publication, claims the invention of this opiate, and reprefents it not merely as a fecific in putrid fevers, but as a panacea, infallible in all kinds of fever, and a fovereign remedy in every difeafe incident to the human frame. But as the phyficians of Barcelona were by no means fatisfied of this, they refffed his pretenfions; and as fome of them had noticed this famous opiate in the Fournal de Medicine, fo far back as A. D. I76g, they denied him the merit of invention. In reality, this formula was known and deferibed under the appellation of Boucher's opiate, and the nature of the decompofition taking place on the admixture of the

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ซarous articles was well deferibed in the Journal of 177 $^{8}$.

The mixture of tartar emetic with the Peruvian bark has been a favourite medicine in France. In the year 1779, the Royal Medical Society at Paris, in their Memoirs, p. 249, recommended highly a drachm of the former, with an ounce of the latter, to be ufed in putrid fevers; and at Barcelona they were already in the habit of combining tartar emetic, cremor tartari, and Peruvian bark, before ever they received the royal mandate.

In converfing with thefe phyficians, I was ftruck with the number of lunatics under confinement in the feveral provinces of Spain; and when I returned to England, I compared their account of Catalonia with the government returns. By thefe it appears, that in Arragon the number is two hundred and forty-four ; in Catalonia, one hundred and fourteen ; in Valencia, one hundred and twenty-one; in Andulufia, ninety-nine ; in Granada, forty-one ; in Toledo, forty-two; in the province of Leon, two; and in Avila, one. In the other interior provinces no mention is made of any.

Thus

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Thus ftands the fact; but as for the foundation of this difference between the maritime and the inland provinces in this refpect, neither they nor any one, with whom I have converfed on the fubject, could fuggeft any thing worthy of remark. I have, therefore, been contented fimply to ftate the fact, and leave it as I found it.

Before I quitted Catalonia, I wifhed to have vifited fome of the numerous mines among the mountains; but could never find a convenient opportunity. I was, however, favoured with a copy of the fchedule, containing a minute account of all the mines difcovered in the province, drawn up for the ufe of government by the fervants of the crown.

From this it appears, that although minerals have yielded hitherto little to the revenue, and nat much to individuals, they have numerous mines of antimony, iron, lead, copper, filver, with one of gold, and many of coal. Some of thefe are too remote from water carriage, others cannot be worked to profit for want of timber. But that which is mof remarkable is, that two private adventurers, Don Jofeph Solanell,

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of Ripoll, and one Canadell, a merchant of Berga, having obtained a grant from the crown, undertook to work fourteen coal mines in varicus and diftant parihes; when, to open any one effectually, would require not merely fkilful miners, but a weight of capital, fuch as few individuals in Spain can be fuppofed to command. Coals are chiefly found in the diftrict of Villa-franca; filver and copper abound in the valle de Aràn; but coal, filyer, and gold, have all been difcovered in the vicinity of Lerida.

It is certainly for the happinefs of this principality, that the mines are not made more productive. In mining countries, the gains are exceedingly uncertain; a gambling fpirit is encouraged; agriculture is neglected; and poverty prevails. If the mineral is raifed on the adventurers account; unlefs they difcover uncommon treafures, they will be inevitably ruined. If the working miners become fub-adventurers; they either gain too little, and are wretched; or they get too much, and foon contract ftrong habits of indolence, prodigality, and vice.

Of this truth we have a melancholy proof

## [ $34^{6}$ ]

proof at home. Let any one pafs through the county, which mof abounds with mines, and in the mining parifhes he will be ftruck, every moment, with the fight of poverty and wretchednefs. Seeing multitudes loft to the community, as to all ufeful purpofes, and abandoned to mifery, he will inquire, if no provifion has been made to relieve the diftrefles of the poor? The refult of his inquiries will be fimply this; that in circumftances fimilar to theirs, no laws, either human or divine, reftrain the uncultivated mind from vice; and that the moft liberal contributions of the rich only tend to increafe the wants and the diftreffes of the poor. He will hear, to his aftonifhment, that in fome places the whole landed property is abforbed and loft in the vain attempt of relieving poverty; and that they, among the poor, whofe gains have been the greateft, are univerfally the moft diftreffed. In the diftricts where mines have not been ever heard of, and where all are engaged in the cultivation of the foil, he will admire the prevalence of induftry, fobriety, and virtue; he will be charmed with fimplicity of manners; he will find fewe

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fewer objects of diftrefs; and, upon inquiry he will learn, that little is required from the hand of charity to relieve the poor.

Some individuals have gained wealth by mines, but not the community, becaufe the blanks are more in number than the prizes. However, therefore, the hope of gain may influence the individual to fuch bold and hazardous adventures; a prudent fovereign will rather encourage his fubjects to prefer the more flow and certain, the moderate, yet regular and healthful gains of agriculture. The fpirit of mining fhould be the laft to meet encouragement; yet in Spain it appears to be among the firft. If agriculture were carried to the utmoft poffible extent; if the lands now defolate and wafte were reduced to tillage; if all the vallies, fufceptible of that improvement, were fupplied with water; if the projected canals and the high roads were finihed; if neither agriculture, manufactures, nor commerce could find employment for their people and their capitals; it might then, and not till then, become a queftion, whether the furplus of their population hould find vent in emigrations, or whether

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ther they fhould look for antimony, cobalt, bifmuth, mercury, lead, copper, filver, and gold, at home.

Bcfore I quitted Barcelona I had a curious paper put into my hands, which made me wilh for the one correfponding to it. This was a fchedule, with inquiries directed, A. D. I575, to all the prelates and corregidors, by Philip II; but I could not learn what anfwers had been returned, or what fteps taken in confequence of thefe inquiries.

Among the fifty-feven heads, on which the corregidors were to make report, the major part related to geography, and the local fituation of each village; to natural and civil hiftory ; to remarkable characters, both ancient and modern; to heraldry; to the municipal government, and flate of defence; to agriculture, and the productions of each diftrict ; to mineralogy, with a fpecial reference to gold, filver, iron, copper, lead, mercury, or other metals, but without any mention of coal, of which they appear not to have had the leaft idea.

Of the remaining queries the fubfequent are the moft remarkable:

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Ift, What is the prefent number of houres and families? Were they formerly more numerous? If fo, To what caufe muft be attributed the fubfequent diminution ?

2d, Are all the inhabitants employed in ufeful labour ? How many are knights, and what immunities do thefe enjoy ?

3 d , What entailed eftates are there ?
4 th, Are the people profperous and flourifhing? What manufactures do they carry on ? In what do they excel ?
$5^{\text {th }}$, What wafte lands and commons have they? What is the value of thefe to the community? What do they collect for the paffage of goods and of cattle through their territories?

6 th, What privileges and immunities do they enjoy, and what fecial cuftoms do they plead ? For what reafons were thefe granted ?
$7^{\text {th }}$, Suppofing the town to be under the jurifdiction of a lord, what emoluments, privileges, or pre-eminence, does he, or any other perfon, derive from it ?

8th, What is the value of the tithes, and to whom do they belong?

## [ 350 ]

gth, In"cities and collegiate churches, what is the value of the various benefices?
roth, What is the value of the bifhopric, and of all the livings in the diocefe?

IIth, What convents for monks, for nuns, and for beatas, are in your diftrict? What are the numbers under vows? Who were the founders of thefe religious houfes? and, What is the value of their rents ?

12th, What hofpitals have you, and what is their revenue?

I3th, How many public houfes are in the diftrict? To whom do they belong, and what are they worth ?

14 th, What depopulated villages are in your diftrict, and what was the caufe of their decay?

15th, Does your town claim a vote in cortes? if not, How, and by what city, is it reprefented there ?
r6th, What feltivals are oblerved, befide thofe appointed by the church ?
r7th, What remarkable relics are in your churches, and what miracles have been performed by them?

It is evident from the general fcope of thefe

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thefe inquiries, that the defign of Philip II. was to gain a perfect knowledge of his kingdom, with a view to political economy; but in order to dazzle the eyes of his fubjects, he intermixed queries which had no reference to that fubject.

Were we now in poffeffion of the anfwers to thefe moft interefting queries, we thould be able to judge how far the country has been depopulated in two centuries, fince the change of government, and fince the difcovery of America; but for want of. thefe authentic documents, we can only know in general that the nation has fuffered much, without being able to fate precifly the lofs which has been fuftained by thefe unforkunate events.

Should either the prefent, or any fucceeding monarch, gradually extend the bounds of freedom, agreeable to the principles now prevalent in Europe; Thould he thake off the colonies, and contract the limits of his unwieldy empire; fhould he banim his inquifitors, and invite foreigners of all deferiptions to fettle in his country; and flould he bend his whole attention to cultivate the arts of peace; this moft fertile kingdom

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kingdom would fpeedily recover, without dangerous convulfions, from her wounds; would regain her former population, ftrength, and confequence in Europe; and, eftablifhing her public credit on a firm foundation, would furpafs, by a rapid progrefs, all her ancient fplendor.

When the time arrived for my departure and return to England, I made an agreeable party with the conful of Barcelona, to take the rout of Switzerland, than which, for a naturalift, no country can be more interefing. In the way I paid particular attention to the ftrata, and to every appearance of extraneous foffils. Of this tour, fhould health permit, I may hereafter give a particular account, and endeavour to eftablinh facts, fuch as will convince the moft incredulous, that the Mofaic account of the univerfal deluge is ftrictly and literally true.

From Barcelona to Bellegarde we returned by the fame way which I have defrribed at my entrance into Spain. Arriving here at the fummit of the Pyrenees, I caft one longing lingering look behind, and quitted with regret a country, where, independent of multiplied civilities and perfonal

## [ 353 ]

attentions, for which I felt myfelf deeply indebted to my friends, I had been led fo often to admire the boundlefs generofity of the inhabitants. To exprefs all that I feel, on the recollection of their goodnefs, would appear like adulation ; but I may venture at leaft to fay, that fimplicity, fincerity, generofity, a high fenfe of dignity, and ftrong principles of honour, are the moft prominent and friking features of the Spanifh character. In a word, whatever in them I have been accuftomed to admire, I attribute to themfelves, and to their intrinfic excellence; whatever I have blamed, mult be afcribed to the accidental corruptions of their government.

Confidering the fimilarity of charactir between the two nations, the Spanifh and the Englifh, with the ftrong predilection of the former in favour of the latter, the peculiar wants of each, and their mutual ability to fupply thofe wants, I cannot but lament fincerely that a better underftanding fhould not fubfift between them, leading in the firf inftance, if not to a new family compact, at leaft to a family connection, and iffuing finally in a commercial
Vor. III.
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## [ 354 ]

intercourfe equally beneficial to both 12. tions.

Thefe are the earneft wifhes of the Spaniards, as appears by their well known adage :

Con todo el mundo guerra Y paz con Ynglaterra.
"Peace with England, and war with all the world." From one end of the kingdom to the other this fentiment prevails; and fuch a ftrong defire for the union of their moft amiable prince the infant don Antonio, with one of our princeffes, that their wifhes conftantly kindle into hope. During my abode in Spain, when at any time, as often happened, a rumour fpread that this event would fpeedily take place, being readily and univerfaliy believed, every eye was feen to fparkle with the joyful expectation.

In the prefent circumfances of the royal families, both in Spain and Portugal, fuch a connection would promife peculiar advantages to the princefs, who fhould vifit Spain, becaufe it is more than poffible fhe might give a fovereign to them both, under whofe

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Sceptre those kingdoms would for ever be united.

From fuck a connection no inconveniencies could arife to England, becaufe catholics are by law excluded from our throne, and the whole fyitem of their religion, with aftonifhing rapidity, is mouldering away. The papal authority is no longer to be feared. The French never owned allegiance to the fee of Rome, and at the prefent moment, fuperftition in that waft empire lies proftrate in the duff, without the molt diftant hope of riffing into power. Germany, under the dominion of Jofeph and of Leopold, is become in a manner proteftant, while catholics themfelves, protefting, have made a new religious mra in our inland.

Knowledge in the prefent day is not, as formerly, confined within the walls of Rome. Science univerfally prevails, and the fovereigns of Europe will never more confult the college of cardinals to fettle their difpures. The times are changed, and, without pretending to more than common fagacity, we may venture to affirm, that the papal authority has received its

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mortal

## [ $35^{6}$ ]

mortal wound, and to predict, that fuperftition will never more revive. In thefe circumftances, the national religion has little to fear by accepting the offers, fhould fuch be made by any catholic court, of intermarriage with our princeffes, whofe character, it may be faid without fufpicion of adulation, throughout Europe ftands fo high as to attract the attention of every crowned family, and whofe liberal education and habits muft make them eminently prove a bleffing to the country where they go, tending to promote univerfal peace and a free commercial intercourfe in Europe.
CAMUNAS

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## CASTILLIAN MONEY.



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| 6 ditto - ditto | - | $12 \frac{11}{32}$ |
| 7 ditto - ditto | - | $14^{\frac{47}{64}}$ |
| 8 ditto - ditto | - | 1 $7 \frac{1}{8}$ |
| 9 ditto - ditto | - | 19 2 ${ }^{\frac{3}{64}}$ |
| zo ditto, an Efcudo, | - | $111 \frac{58}{64}$ |
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## AP PE ND IX.

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40 make an Efcudo de Ono - $0711 \frac{5}{8}$
60 make a current Piftole - $0.1111 \frac{?}{18}$
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339
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Ecclefiaftical revenues being reckoned by $\mathcal{D u}$ cats, I have fubjoined the following table:



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