

which is the corruption arising from the hasty colloquial abbreviation of the two words *Vuestra merced*, "your honour," more literally "your grace," shows this indiscriminate application of it to be decidedly incorrect. But the Spanish is essentially the language of courtesy and politeness, and it is perhaps unreasonable to object to anything which tends to smooth down the rugged diversities of social standing and asperities of fortune. Still more peculiar and strange to English ears, is the practice of addressing every person with whom you converse in the third person; but this is a necessary corollary of the phrase *Usted*, which, signifying "your grace," obviously requires that all the pronouns in the same sentence should be possessive, since "your grace" cannot put on "your hat," but "his hat;" just as "your majesty," cannot receive the prayer of "your subjects," but of "his" or "her" subjects. The Spaniards, in the lapse of time, have softened the hard features of their colloquial obsequiousness, and the *Usted* in its present form signifies no more than our "you;" while in writing, the formal representation of the *vuestra merced*, "vmd," has been dropped, and "vm" substituted, thus evincing a desire to simplify and modernize as much as possible.

There are six different modes of address in Spain. The highest, *Majestad*, belongs of course only to actual kings and queens. The next, *Alteza*, belongs to the heir apparent, or to the regent, as in the case of Espartero. The heir apparent alone is regarded in Spain as a prince of the blood royal, and the other children of the sovereign are called, according to their

sex, *Infantes* or *Infantas*. One cause of the jealousy of the Queen's uncle, Don Francisco de Paula, towards Espartero, was the fact, that the latter had the title of "highness," while to the former it was denied. How singularly constituted Spain is, how curious is the effect of both representative Chambers being elective, and how absorbing the vortex of revolution, may be seen from the fact of Don Francisco de Paula, the brother of a king, the uncle of the reigning sovereign, having proposed himself as a candidate for the representation of Madrid in the Chamber of Deputies. The Royal *Infantes* and *Infantas* are merely entitled to be addressed as "your excellency," which third title of honour, *Excelencia*, belongs also to the Grandes of Spain, the principal Ministers of State, the Grand Crosses of the various orders of knighthood, Ambassadors and Envoys, Captains-general, Lieutenants-general, Admirals, and Vice-admirals, with one or two other high functionaries. The privileges annexed to the title of Grande are still considerable, and at all great functions and ceremonies which take place at Court, or at which the sovereign assists, a deputation from the Grandeza of Spain attends.

The military orders only retain the title of "Excellency" for their Grand Crosses, though formerly every member received a stated annual pension, and the Commanderies of the several orders had attached to them some of the richest domains in Spain. These were confiscated by the Constitutionals, together with the property of the Church, and in the rage of confiscation they perhaps alienated rather too much;

for undoubtedly the blow which they struck at the order of nobility by the abolition of entails, was more favourable to demagogic than to well-understood democratic influences, and no sincere friend of Spain will rejoice to see its ancient noblesse so crippled and degraded.

It appears rather anomalous that the title of *Excelencia*, which answers strictly, although not literally, to our "lordship," should be withheld, by the foregoing arrangement, from many Marquises and Counts, who, not being Grandes of Spain, have only the simple title of *Usía*, the abridgment of "Vuestra Señoría." The same title is given to viscounts, barons, brigadier-generals, rear-admirals, municipal alcaldes, colonels in the army, and captains in the navy, whenever they are addressed officially, though, except with those who have actual titles of nobility, the plain *Usted* is most commonly used. Some Ayuntamientos, or municipalities, have the 'title of Excellency conceded to the body corporate, by virtue of historical renown or of some political service. Bishops have the title of *Ilustrísima* (*Señoría* understood), and so likewise have the Gefes Politicos. The Archbishop is "*Excelentísimo y Ilustrísimo Señor.*"

In Spain, all the Royal Infantes and Infantas, as well as persons of ducal rank, are Grandes. The other orders of the peerage, even Countdom, and Marquisate, do not necessarily confer Grandeza. This rank is conceded only by special favour of the Crown. It is the highest dignity in Spain; and it is a strong goad which impels the leading politician, when, if successful in grasping a ministerial portfolio,

he becomes an *Excelencia* like the best of them, and stands upon an equal footing with the "Grande de España." The democratic men of Spain rather scorn titles, and there are few, very few, instances in modern times, of parliamentary men merging their plain *roturier* appellations in the high-sounding, but unsubstantial, designations of nobility. Poverty is perhaps, much more than dignified pride, the bar to this promotion; for where much wealth is accumulated, a title for the most part follows; but this belongs to the fitness of things.

The orders of nobility are the same as with us, ascending from baron to duke, there being no princes except the Principe Real, or heir apparent. Godoy broke through this aristocratic chevaux-de-frise, made himself "Prince of the Peace," and "Highness," and got more detested by this assumption than even by his official crimes. The Central Junta of 1808, in one of its proclamations, denounced "Don Manuel Godoy, the self-styled Prince of the Peace, who, during eighteen years of favour, appropriated to his own uses the domains of the Crown, and the treasures of private individuals, who arrogated to himself all honours and titles, even that of *Highness*, reserved exclusively to the royal family."

Knighthood, as a distinctive title, and baronetage, are unknown in Spain, as in all other continental countries. There are numerous orders of knighthood, for the most part military; but these do not give any prefix to the name, like "Sir," or "Lord." The "Don" belongs to all, from the duke to the dancing-master. There is no permanent and

constantly visible distinction attached to any name, until a place is obtained in the peerage. Between the Spanish peerage and ours, there are three striking distinctions. First, the titles are not all hereditary. Second, there is no hereditary right to a seat in the Legislature. Third, there is no entailed property. The first order of the peerage, that of baron, is for the most part conferred for life only, and in such cases is inferior to an English baronetcy. To a man of feeling there is something extremely disagreeable and embittered in the idea that his title is a purely selfish acquisition, and cannot be transmitted to his children. The Crown, by special favour, may make it hereditary. The titles above that of baron are, for the most part, made hereditary in the Carta of Concession. The absence of an hereditary right of legislation takes away the spur of ambition, and throws the young nobleman into the career of frivolous amusement, and vicious indulgence; while the abolition of entails has gone far to destroy the order of nobility in Spain, and left the representatives of noble families at the mercy of their younger brothers and sisters. These, however, for the most part, through a feeling of honour, decline to abridge the provision of the head of the house, and do not avail themselves of the legal privileges thrown in their way by the Progresistas within the last seven years, but prefer the status and *representacion* of the family.

The Grandes of Spain have seen all the highest offices of the kingdom slip through their fingers, and the best of them are now no more than hangers-on

on the Palace. It is an instructive lesson, that they have been pushed aside by lawyers in almost every instance. The means of resuscitating their order are thus clearly presented to them—the only means which, in an age like this, can be made available—education, and superior intelligence. The glories of history will not avail, except to make them more contemptible, if personally deficient. The days are gone when the Ricohombres, more anciently still, the Ricohomes, were immeasurably more powerful than the Sovereign. The Grandes were thus designated, until 1690, when Carlos II. substituted the term “nobles,” and the phrase into which the epithet may be resolved, “ricos hombres,” signifies noble and illustrious men, as well as rich men. The days are gone when the Order of Grandeza was addressed with the solemn *vos*, like the King and the Deity, when an Estremaduran Marquis had a million sheep in a flock; when a Chancellor of the Council of the Indies had an annual stipend of 100,000 ducats, when a Marquis of Caralvo derived 62,000 dollars of yearly income from a sinecure connected with the South American mines, and an Archbishop of Toledo, richer than the richest Popes, had a more than princely revenue of 200,000 ducats. The *prestige* of enormous wealth and exaggerated power is gone from the order for ever; there is but one *prestige* which it may yet retain, which depends entirely on itself to secure, which, in legitimate worth, transcends its bygone greatness, and which it is more than doubtful that it will ever command—the influence of intellect and virtue.

CHAPTER IX.

THE UNIVERSITIES—LOS SALAMANQUINOS.

THE university system of Spain has in some respects been modernised ; and, amidst the prevalent anarchy and misgovernment, has inevitably become relaxed. In the Carlist war, fighting rather than philosophy, was the practical avocation of the student, and still more so in the Peninsular war ; when, amongst other *zagales* subsequently known to fame, Espartero rushed from the bosom of his university, doffed the collegiate gown, and put on the military garb, which was never subsequently laid aside till it was replaced by the regal mantle.

The same vicissitudes still prevail, and amongst the youthful Andalucian soldiers, I have frequently met well-instructed *élèves* of Granada, whom the chances of the *alistamiénto* had made familiar with the shako and the musket. The relaxation of the previously rigid university system became so extensive, that degrees were frequently conferred without the shadow of matriculation, and with scarcely the shadow of an examination, the signature of the collegiate rector, or secretary, being dispensed with, and the whole being too often the result of an arrangement with the *Catedraticos*, or professors, who, receiving most irregular payment of their small stipend from the Government, were too ready to

be swayed by a pecuniary consideration. The evil became so glaring, that in 1838 it was found requisite to overhaul the whole system, and at the same time liberalise the ancient university rule. The expenses of matriculation were dispensed with, in the case of the poorer students producing certificates of their inability to pay, and proving, by the ordeal of a special examination, their capacity and solid acquirements. In Spain, it will be observed, that to become a practitioner in law or medicine, an university course is an essential pre-requisite (unlike our English system), and various shifts were naturally resorted to for the purpose of evading this rigour. Hence matriculation and regular advancement were frequently parried, and a subscription to the professor's lectures, and incorporation with the two or three courses connected with the particular faculty aimed at, became a common practice, a handsome fee quieting the professor's scruples.

The reform of 1838, which struck a determined blow at these and other abuses, again became relaxed, and in 1843 the matriculation and successive examinations were still more strenuously enforced. Attested poverty was no longer allowed to dispense with matriculation, which was granted, however, upon sound answering, free of any expense. The change was very judicious. Matriculation and humanities were made equally indispensable, whether the aim of the student was the course of philosophy, or the higher faculties of medicine, law, or divinity. Alumni failing to inscribe themselves, through whatsoever motive, in the corresponding *matricula*, are

never acknowledged in any other character save that of Oyentes, or hearers of the lectures, and are excluded both from the examinations at the end of the course, and from the extraordinary examinations of October in each year, the matriculated alumni alone being awarded the right of proving, by a successful examination, that they have passed through their academical course, or, in other words, being alone entitled to graduate. The chiefs of the collegiate establishments were forbidden to yield under any pretence to solicitations (bribes), for permission to attend any particular course, without regular matriculation; and the rectors and directors of all public establishments were warned not to permit the Catedraticos to grant certificates of attendance, upon their courses respectively, to any class of students, no certificate being valid unless signed by the college secretary and attested by the rector, with the customary "V^o. B^o." (inspected and good).

The old and time-honoured system of a limited number of universities has, of late years, been abolished in Spain, and the chief town of each kingdom or province has now its Universidad Literaria, where degrees in Arts and Litteræ Humaniores are conferred. The only advantages possessed by Salamanca, Valladolid, and Granada, are the special faculties of canon and civil law, and the higher branches of divinity; and in the unsparing rage for change by which nothing is respected here, it is not impossible that these will, before long, participate the fate of medicine and surgery.

The rage of *pronunciamientos* and the plague of

politics have unhappily penetrated into the Spanish Universities, with a pernicious tendency to divert the stream of science, and choke the too scanty seeds of knowledge. Yet it is impossible to see how it could well be otherwise, for the growing minds of Spain are great and generous, and could not fail to sympathise and vibrate with the events and emotions passing around them. Last autumn, in Salamanca, there was a mutiny, because of the threatened removal of the school of medicine from that university, and curtailment of the *ninth* year in the course of jurisprudence, under the new government plan of reform. Had not the project been immediately withdrawn, the students would have drawn their swords, and proclaimed the Junta Central. Lopez and Narvaez prudently succumbed; and the agitation gave way to rejoicing, the ferment to public festivities, in which all the inhabitants of the town participated. The Andalusian youth have acted a still more decisive part, the University of Granada having, through the medium of some of its *alumni*, shared in the *pronunciamientos*, first against Espartero, and next in favour of the Central Junta, of which the former was successful, and the latter, by brute force, extinguished.

The noble Salamantines felt deeply the indignity offered to their ancient university; if their halls were dusty they were likewise venerable, and they relished not to see them visited by an unceremonious besom of reform. The proud *Estudiantes* could but ill digest this tampering with their professional chairs, or brook the wholesale expulsion of their revered *Catedráticos*. The schools of medicine, said the

slippery lawyer, Lopez, and the insolent drummer, Narvaez, must be entirely suppressed at Salamanca, and the course of jurisprudence lopped of its fair proportions. Sooner would they lop off Lopez's head, and bury Narvaez in his biggest drum! Loud was the *alboroto* that grew up in an hour within those ancient walls, and bold conspirators ranged through the college *huertas*. Muskets and sword-canes were in speedy requisition; bludgeons were lustily grasped and wielded; pistols loaded and their priming looked to. "*Vivan los Catedraticos!*" was the cry, "*Abajo el Gobierno!*" and a compact body of the students marched towards the Plaza de la Constitucion. A buzz of approbation rose from the townspeople, and black-eyed girls smiled approbation upon chosen gallants in the academic throng, their glances raining dangerous influence. The authorities took the alarm, the somaten or muster-bell was sounded, and the Nationals speedily made their appearance by twos and threes in the square, until they formed a serried column. The Gefe demanded a parley, and the students replied, with even growing energy, "*Los Catedraticos!*"

The Ayuntamiento assembled in its council-hall, the Gefe grew irresolute, the Nationals evidently, so far from being hostile to the students, were prepared to fraternise with them upon the slightest plausible ground. Composed entirely of the townspeople, the Nationals for the most part lived by the university, and were well acquainted with the youngsters who had conditionally taken up arms against the government. The Gefe saw by the frequent nods and

winks interchanged between them that the milicianos would not act against the alumni—that a *transaccion*, in fact, was the only safe issue out of the perplexities of the case; and full of this notable thought, he proceeded to enforce it upon the Ayuntamiento. The moment the Gefe absented himself, all began to smile,—the very children knew how it was (for in Spain they become politicians the moment they are weaned); the proud Estudiantes had gained the day, and the Salamantine Nacionales would scorn to molest them. Nearer and nearer to each other did the opposite groups extend themselves, until there was nothing but the Stone of the Constitution between them in the centre of the square—an excellent ground to shake hands on! The Gefe returned with the leading members of the university, and undertook to forward, by special courier, to the Government a statement of the wishes of the students as the irresistible will of the entire population; and thus the alboroto ended.

Independently of this inroad upon their long-established medical schools, the Salamanquinos had already to complain of the break-up of their renowned university in other particulars. The new-fangled scheme (of rather doubtful success) for establishing “Literary Universities,” with a power of conferring degrees equal to that of the old universities, in the metropolis and in every provincial capital, struck down at once much more than half the number of the Salamantine alumni: the *prestige* of the old institution was in a great measure lost, and the means of subsistence of the townspeople most materially impaired.

With some of these modern reforms it is, however, impossible to quarrel. Madrid, as the centre of letters and civilisation, was not to be left without an educational and literary institution upon the most extensive scale; it is there alone that lectures, in many interesting departments, could be made largely available to the intellectual public; and as an instance, I may specify the valuable lectures of the newly appointed Professor of Arabic, Pasqual de Gayangos.

There are some curious features connected with the Spanish universities. Thus amongst the degrees which they confer are those of Doctor and Licentiate in Philosophy. The distinction between Licentiate and Doctor in all the faculties is still rigidly preserved. The number of Doctors of Divinity has very much decreased of late, and the study of the higher theology is not much prosecuted. Controversy, in its modern acceptation, is wholly unknown. A taste is at last springing up for archæological studies, and a royal order was published in March last, for the appointment of a Professor of Arabic. Shortly afterwards came the disturbances which eventuated in Espartero's exclusion from the kingdom. The rage of *pronunciamientos* of course repressed the nobler rage of knowledge, and it was not until the 5th of October, seven months after, that this royal decree was carried into effect.

The complete legal course, requiring a nine-years' residence in the university, is too onerous and tedious for the bulk of aspirants, and hence, in many instances, the legal practitioner now contents himself with the degree of bachelor in jurisprudence.

which may be obtained after four years' residence. The baccalaureate may be conferred either simply or *in claustro pleno*—a full assembly of the dignitaries of the university. The latter is usually preferred, as involving more *éclat*. This degree must be qualified for by strict examinations throughout the *carrera*. In the recent reform of the Spanish universities, the delusive and jejune subtleties of the scholastic system have been for the most part exploded, and replaced by more useful learning and sounder principles of human knowledge. It is only in the ecclesiastical seminaries that the profitless distinctions of entities and quiddities still find a tottering home, and even here a partial sweeping-brush has been applied, and the cobwebs have been sprinkled with the modern philosophy.

The distinction between *Estudios menores* and *Estudios mayores* is still kept up in the universities. The former comprises grammar, rhetoric, and the *litteræ humaniores*; the latter, philosophy, theology, and the severe sciences. The undergraduates, who are occupied with the first-mentioned, are superciliously regarded, as elsewhere, by the big-wigs occupied with higher things. The former are known as the *estudiantillos* or petty students, the latter as the *estudiantons* or huge book-devouring slovens.

CHAPTER X.

THE MEDICAL AND SURGICAL PROFESSIONS. QUACKS.

IN Spain, the eminent members of the medical and surgical professions almost invariably belong to both faculties, and for the most part practise in both. Their universities, unlike ours, which scrupulously conserve many ancient prejudices and blunders, place surgery now in the same rank with medicine; nearly the same preliminary education is requisite to qualify for both, and in each faculty the same degrees are taken. There are still pure physicians and pure surgeons, but in most cases they are united. The old gradations are rigidly adhered to, and there is a regular series of bachelors, licentiates, and doctors, in medicine and surgery, as well as in divinity, law, and philosophy. There is scarcely a practitioner of note who is not a doctor in surgery, as well as in medicine.

A certain amount of university education, or of general education in colleges qualified to confer degrees, is a requisite preliminary to graduation in either faculty; they are not content, as at home, with the shambling examinations in classics or science which are suffered to pass muster at our colleges of physicians and surgeons, and which permit grossly ignorant men to qualify, if they have a sprinkling of professional knowledge. The squabbles lately

witnessed in England, are not visible here, the faculties being on a precisely equal footing; and the highest interests of both professions are superintended by the Academy of Medicine and Surgery of New Castile, which has a limited number of members, and where none can become candidates unless highly qualified.

A comparison of standing between the highest practitioner at home and abroad may be interesting; and to assist it I will give the list of offices and titles of two eminent Spaniards, in the highest ranks of the profession. One is a doctor of medicine and surgery, and professor of surgery, physician-surgeon to the royal family, and fellow of the Academy of Medicine and Surgery of New Castile by *conkursus*, fellow of various scientific bodies, professor *emeritus* of mathematics pure and mixed, editor of scientific journals, official opposer of candidates for professorial chairs, and proposed as one of three aspirants for the post of Catedratico, in the suppressed college of San Carlos.

The other is likewise a doctor of medicine and surgery, titular and corresponding fellow of various learned bodies of the kingdom, and of foreign countries, author and translator of various works on medicine, surgery, and the physical and natural sciences, rewarded with a premium by *conkursus*, proposed for the academy of medicine and surgery of New Castile, as one of the most distinguished professors, by the title of honorary academician of the Royal Academy of Belgium, first officer of the ministry of the government of the Peninsula, commissioner of public in-

struction in relation to medicine, surgery, pharmacy, and veterinary surgery, and ex-deputy to the Córtes. This gentleman with the swelling list of titles, is Don Pedro Mata; the other is Don Gabriel Usera—neither of them known, to any extent, beyond the precincts of their native country.

The Provisional Government gave great offence, last autumn, by abolishing the school of medicine and surgery at Cadiz—apparently in revenge for the well-known Esparterist feeling of a large party in that town. The medical college of Cadiz was a very ancient institution; and shared with those of Madrid and Barcelona the medical and surgical faculties of the kingdom, there being likewise chairs of medicine in the three Universities. With a blind rage for inconsiderate reforms, Señor Caballero abolished the schools of Cadiz and the Universities, limited the concession of faculties to Madrid and Barcelona, and distributed the preliminary education through five colleges for the various provinces, in the cities of Seville, Valencia, Saragossa, Valladolid, and Santiago. The Andalucians, who could heretofore perfect their professional education at Cadiz, must now repair to Barcelona or the capital; and Cadiz, it may well be conceived, was justly indignant. Upon her strong remonstrance the decree was ultimately revoked.

The secret of all these huxtering and peddling reforms, is the endeavour to extricate the medical and surgical professions from the inadequate consideration in which they are unfortunately held in Spain; the true cause of which is, that the fees are so

wretchedly low as to present neither a prize nor an encouragement. Hence, most inevitably, an inferior order of practitioners. How could it be otherwise when you are attended at a shilling or two the visit?

Injudicious interferences with the course of professional studies in medicine and surgery, have been a prevailing vice with the Spanish government for some years past. A few winters back, a ministerial decree was published, prohibiting all physicians from practising, who were not furnished with certificates from the Fisico-mayor. This led to the most curious, and unhappily, vexatious consequences in some remote towns. The business of physicking and healing, in a regular way, was entirely suspended, the strong-minded were cured by their lucky exemption from the visitations of recognised practice, and the weak and hypochondriacal were thrown into the hands of quacks. In one instance, the only physician resident in the locality was called in. His answer to the staring patient was, that it was impossible for him to cure him! The horrible word "*incurable*" gurgled in the patient's throat. "By no means," said the suspended physician, "but if I dared to prescribe for you, it would be as much as my neck is worth." The patient inquired of his relations, who surrounded the bed, whether he was not in a state of high delirium; they declared that no symptoms of such a state were observable. The patient tried again, and imagined that his medico must have taken a bath in Lethe, and forgotten all his professional studies, or else that one of the two must be staring mad. At length, he implored him for the love of God and of the

Virgin, to come and see him daily. The physician came as desired, shook his head each day, and said that the patient's state was indeed serious, but that he would not write a recipe for one hundred dollars, seeing that his carta or diploma had been invalidated by a late ministerial order. "*Ay Dios!*" exclaimed the patient, "and must I die without advice, by virtue of a late ministerial order?" The doctor again shook his head, and chewed the head of his cane—a common resource when doctors are posed. It was evident that medicine was banished from the Andalucian territory, as it formerly was from Rome. A beneficent government withheld the permission to kill or cure; and if physic was sent to the dogs, the patient might go there too. He certainly had one consolation left,—he might wait till the medical alumni, in the various universities of Spain, had finished their course, and graduated regularly; and if he survived so long—perhaps some three or four years—might then have the benefit of duly authorised advice. Or he might make the journey to Madrid for the purpose of consulting the Fisicomayor—a distance of some 230 miles—and die on the road. Or again, he might have recourse to some Herbolario, or empirical Curandero, who would shorten his term of suffering by the most approved quackery. He wisely had recourse to none of these alternatives; and, relying on Dame Nature, a practitioner who needs no diploma, he was miraculously well in a very few days, and, from the bottom of his renovated heart, thanked his paternal government.

In other cases, where the agency of irregular prac-

tioners was in defiance of the law resorted to, the prescriptions were sent to the village apothecary; but the botica was found shut up, the licences of the boticarios under the new regulations, with the approved metropolitan medicines, not having yet arrived; and when they did come, which was after the lapse of several weeks, they lay for some days at the Ayuntamiento, awaiting the inspection of the newly-appointed Council of Health, who, of course, could n't *funcionar* till their appointments came in due form; and no one dared remove them to the boticario's, till they paid the *esportula* of the Fisicatura-mayor. The villagers had full time to imbue themselves, by dint of slow reflection, with a full sense of the benevolent intentions of the government in establishing this state of close medical siege. When their wives had completed their periods of parturition respectively, and the Partera was sent for, there being no departure here from the venerable system of female midwifery, the lady sent for answer that she no longer practised in her peculiar profession, being prohibited by the government order, until she was furnished with a fresh carta of licence. It was thus wisely forbidden to augment the population, save by virtue of a ministerial order; which, considering the prevailing distress, spoke largely for the progress of the government in the science of utilitarian economy. Hundreds of young Spaniards came into the world Heaven knows how! most probably head-foremost; but it has not been ascertained that the Government restrictions proved anything of a serious preventive check, any more than the speculations of Parson

Malthus. It is certain that a score of children died, but I never heard that bread was cheaper or more plentiful. Yet even in death itself the masterly policy of the Government made itself felt. A friend of mine, who lost a fine boy, because his wife could have no *sage-femme* of experience, informed the Parroco of his desire to have the infant buried; but the priest acquainted him in return of the necessity to provide him with a medical certificate, and an order for the Regidor, in accordance with the new and stringent regulations. "*Santo Dios!*" exclaimed my friend, "they will not have men either live or die, be cured or be buried. What is it they want? They banish medicine from the province, and then they require a medical certificate. We can neither live in security, nor die in peace, *por vida de sanos*—a beneficent Government!" From all which it may plainly be seen that centralised administration, and the application of standards of advanced civilisation, to a country like Spain, so pre-eminently "slow" and immovable, is a delightful illustration of the chopping of blocks with razors; and that after the temporary inconvenience of new systems has blown over and merged into the accustomed desuetude, which laughs at legislation as love laughs at locksmiths, men are born to live and die here pretty much like their forefathers, and snap their fingers at the *Fisicatura-mayor*.

There are two descriptions of medical attendants in Spain, as in other countries—the ordinary or family physician, and the physician called in to hold a consultation in cases of emergency. The former is styled the *medico de cabecera*, or "bolster physician,"

the latter the *medico de apelacion*, or "doctor of appeal."

The phrase for taking out one's doctor's degree is a little curious. It is this—"Such a one has doctored himself." Heaven forbid that this should be done literally in the English sense, for there is no limit to the youth of graduates. It is only the other day that a *mancebo* came to settle here in Seville from Salamanca. He was a doctor of medicine and surgery, and his age was under twenty! The puffing system extends over the whole world, where there are types and presses. Accordingly these young practitioners are usually ushered into notice by the puff preliminary in the papers. Sometimes these paragraphs are malicious. Thus—"El Doctor Luiz Maria, who is married to a daughter of his uncle, el Medico Silva, while he was a first-year's-student, displayed no very praiseworthy conduct; but afterwards his conduct was more regular. He is a *mozo* of good memory, and if he can be brought to apply himself seriously to the study of medicine, and leave off gambling, he may make a good practitioner." This barbed arrow came from Salamanca, as the date of the anonymous epistle testified, and was probably dictated by jealousy on the part of some other aspirant too dull to "doctor himself." Lampooning and sarcasm are perhaps more prevalent in Spain than in any other European country, and the healing profession comes in for its full share. The most ordinary term of ridicule is *medico de media tigura*, or "doctor of half a tonsure," a reproach in which the briefless barrister likewise shares, and which answers to the French "*avocat à*