

of the bulls, however, would not attack them, and one of the most furious that did, shewed more fear than in encountering his most sturdy antagonists: so great is their apprehension from an object that stands firm, and seems not to be dismayed at their approach. There is likewise another kind of a larger spear, which is held by a man obliquely, with the end in the ground, and the point towards the door, where the bull comes out, who never fails to run at it, with great danger to the man, as he is always thrown down; but greater to the bull, who commonly receives the point in his head or neck, and with such force, that we saw a spear broke short, that was much thicker than my arm. They also baited one bull with dogs, which shewed as much courage and obstinate perseverance as any of that breed in ENGLAND. As to the *laws* of this spectacle, and other circumstances relative to the *punctilios* of the bull-feast, I cannot pretend to explain them, and imagine others, who have attempted it, have been obliged to take it mostly upon trust, nor do I think it very material.

THIS spectacle is certainly one of the finest in the world, whether it is considered merely as a *coup d'œil*, or as an exertion of the bravery and infinite agility of the performers. The Spaniards are so devoted to it, that even the women would pawn their last rag to see it; and we were assured, that some of the balconies did not cost less than a hundred pistoles for that afternoon. Nothing can be imagined more crowded than the houses, even to the tops of their tiles; and dearly enough they paid for their pleasure, pent together in the hottest sun, and with the most suffocating heat that can be endured. Nor do I greatly wonder at them, when I consider how much my own country, that is certainly as humane as any nation, is bigotted to its customs of bull-baiting, cock-fighting, &c.—I do not deny, that this is a remnant of *Moorish*, or perhaps *Roman* barbarity; and that it will not bear the speculations of the closet, or the compassionate feelings of a tender heart. But, after all, we must not speculate too nicely, lest we should lose the hardness of manhood in the softer sentiments of philosophy. There is a certain degree of ferocity requisite in our natures; and which, as on the one hand it should be restrained within proper bounds, that it may not degenerate into

CRU-

cruelty; so, on the other, we must not refine too much upon it, for fear of sinking into effeminacy. This custom is far from having cruelty for its object; bravery and intrepidity, joined with ability and skill, are what obtain the loudest acclamations from the people: it has all the good effects of *chivalry*, in exciting the minds of the spectators to great actions, without the horror that prevailed in former times, of distinguishing bravery to the prejudice of our own species. It teaches to despise danger; and that the surest way to overcome it, is to look it calmly and stedfastly in the face; to afford a faithful and generous assistance to those engaged with us in enterprizes of difficulty: And in short, tho' it may not be strictly consonant to the laws of humanity and good nature, it may yet be productive of great and glorious effects; and is certainly the mark of qualities, that do honour to any nation.

THIS ceremony of the *bull-feast* in the *Plaza Mayor* is never exhibited, but upon the greatest occasions, such as the accession or marriage of their kings, and is attended with a very great expence both to the king, as well as the city. There is a theatre built just without the walls, on purpose, where there are *bull-feasts* every fortnight; and these to connoisseurs in the art are infinitely preferable to the others; the bulls being more furious, and the danger greater to the cavaliers. But that which I have described, would, I think, very sufficiently satisfy my curiosity.

I HAVE since seen a *bull-feast* in that amphitheatre, and found little material difference in the manner of fighting, except that the cavaliers, who rode better, and seemed more adroit, were not so closely attended by the men on foot: and that they sometimes used a long lance of strait, tough wood, with a short point, and a knob of twisted cord, which hinders it from entering deep into the wound. This they held tight to their side, passing under their arm-pit, and directed it with their hand. In this manner they wait the bull's approach, and generally have strength enough to keep him off from themselves and their horses, when he runs upon it: tho' it is dangerous, the bull sometimes bearing down both man and horse. This was one of the ordinary spectacles, and therefore attended with little of the pomp which I had seen in the
Plaza

Plaza Mayor. The building is erected on the ancient plan, round, with rows of seats raised above the area, for the common people; and two rows of boxes, or large balconies, above them. It is not only admirably contrived for the purpose which it is built for, but has a very striking appearance, from its size and regularity. One could not, however, help observing ladies of the first quality in the balconies, feasting, with these bloody scenes, those eyes, which were intended only to be exercised in softer cruelties. And among the common people we even saw numbers of women with children at their breasts.

I SHALL now take the liberty, as many are divided in their opinions, whether the *Spanish bull-feast* be of *Roman* or *Moorish* origin, to give my sentiments upon that subject. I remember somewhere, that CICERO, when he was obliged for the sake of the argument, to declare whether he thought those bloody and savage exhibitions, so much coveted by his countrymen, were really *cruel and inhuman, or not*: in order to avoid fixing, by his opinion, any reproach upon them, dextrously eludes the question, and with the address of a casuist gives this remarkable answer, *Cru- dele gladiatorum spectaculum—haud scio, an ita sit.* A strange sentiment for a civilized writer! A diversion, at the expence of humanity, must be *cruel*; the practice was fit only for barbarians. But to the point: to say, that the *Spanish Fiesta de los Toros* is plainly an imitation of the *Romans*, because they exhibited wild beasts in their amphitheatres, is speaking very generally, and not with any precision: One might as well assert, that they copied it from the *Asiatics*, for St. PAUL says, ἑθνησιμαχίαισα ἐν Ἐφέσῳ. And perhaps the Spaniards might as well own, as he did, that *it profits them nothing.* But if I can find this very *Fiesta de los Toros*, the *Spanish bull-feast*, among the *Roman* customs, I suppose nobody will doubt from whence the Spaniards took it.

LIVY tells us, *per eos dies, quibus hæc ex Hispaniâ nunciata sunt, ludi TAURILIA per biduum facti, religionis causâ.*

FESTUS has very luckily preserved the first institution of this feast. The *Taurilia*, according to him, were instituted to the in-
 Q fer.

fernal gods, for this reason; in the reign of TARQUINIUS SUPERBUS, when a most violent plague had seized all the women big with child, they procured abortions by eating some bulls flesh, that was sold at the shambles: upon this account these *ludi* were instituted, and were called *taurilia*, and they are celebrated in the *Flaminian Circus*, that the infernal gods might not be called *within their walls*.

PURSUANT to their superstitious ritual, so savage an institution was rightly dedicated to the infernal gods: from this account of it, it is proper that the *Spanish* women should bring their children at the breast, and those in the womb, as we see they do, to this spectacle. But they commit a great impropriety in celebrating it in the *Plaza Mayor*. It should be without the walls. LIVY says, that the *ludi*, which FULVIUS gave just after, were much more splendid, that is, I suppose, much more bloody and barbarous, for he exhibited lions and panthers.

BUT the resemblance between the *Roman*, and the *Spanish Taurilia* appears still stronger from other circumstances now remaining; it is a custom for the *Spanish* nobility themselves to engage the bulls, and none are permitted to fight as cavaliers, unless they can prove their descent to be noble. The true *Spaniards* are all fond of the diversion; it is accounted honourable and heroic: it recommends them to the fair, to their prince, and to their country; and it is a standing theme of honour among the people.

IT was just the same at ROME; the nobility, the patricians, voluntarily undertook a part in these encounters:

*Lustravitque fugâ mediam gladiator arenam,
Et Capitolinis generosior & Marcellis—*

And even the ladies were ambitious of appearing in the same lists. MÆVIA was a lady of quality, and yet we find she could step out of her sex, and enter the *arena*.

Figat aprum, & nudâ teneat venabula mammâ. — *Tuscum*

I do not find, that the *Spanish* ladies had ever any of this martial, or rather masculine spirit. It is amazing how desirous the *Romans* were of being killed, even in jest; senators, patricians, and knights, were at last not ashamed to appear on these occasions.—I think I have done some honour to the *Spanish* nobility in thus placing them on a footing with *Roman* senators; but still be it remembered, that these were not senators of *ROME*, when *ROME* *survived*, as *CATO* calls it, but when she was enslaved, and dishonoured by the worst of emperors, I might indeed say, by the worst of men.

I AM surprized to find these *taurilia* omitted by Mr. KENNETT.

PUBLIC ENTRY

The funeral rites of the rich in Spain are splendid, as well as decent; they are gloriously performed with their best and finest clothes, with hats, cloaks, and swords.

What view our eyes receive, when we are present at these solemnities, is a sight which we shall never forget.

And I am fully persuaded, that the old English conduct and civilities of this kind, were entirely forgot, till we see their customs, regard upon their tombs, turned to stone, and at all points; till as if they had been hatched out for battle with their bears, cows, chickens, the turkey, geese, wood, ducks, and jack-boots. And this is the great property of that famous lake of old Seaton, where, when he was seeking an extreme and cruel punishment, they did take care to give him beer with for him going a very long journey.

They commonly put a great deal of lime into the grave, in order to hasten the corruption of the body; and I think I can tell you they put a great deal of lime into the grave, and I think I can tell you they put a great deal of lime into the grave.

Q 2 LETTER

CHARLES II. KING OF SPAIN, was the first who introduced the custom of the duck in England.

LETTER VII. PART II.

BURIAL—GRANDEES—KING'S PUBLIC ENTRY.

THE funeral rites of the rich in SPAIN are splendid, as well as decent; they are solemnly interred with their best suit of clothes, with hat, cloak, and sword.

*Nam vivis quis amor gladii, quæ cura togæve
Mansit, & hæc eadem remanet tellure repostis.*

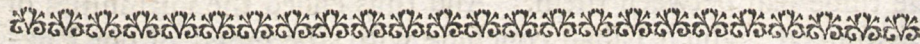
And I am firmly persuaded, that the old knights, condes, and grandees of this kingdom were antiently buried, just as we see their *sculptured figures* upon their tombs; armed *cap-à-pee*, and at all points; just as if they had been harnessed out for battle, with their beaver, coat, cuirass, the target, lance, sword, spurs, and jack-boots. And this shews the great propriety of that famous joke of old SCARRON, who, when he was receiving extreme unction, told the anointer, "Pray, sir, take care to grease my boots well, for I am going a very long journey."

THEY commonly put a great deal of lime into the grave, in order to hasten the corruption of the body; at NAPLES I am told they have a great hole, half filled with lime, into which they throw all their dead, naked.

THE late Queen of SPAIN, consort of the present King CHARLES III. died September 27th, 1760, aged 35, after she had

THE QUEEN'S DEATH, AND FUNERAL. 117

had reigned only one year and fourteen days. She was a daughter of the present King of POLAND, and had suffered greatly for the distresses of her father, who has been driven from his electorate by the King of PRUSSIA: She had lived twenty years with his present Majesty. She was in a bad state of health when he came first into SPAIN, caught the measles at SARAGOÇA, then a cold: and afterwards was taken ill with a fever and flux at St. ILDEFONSO, in September, and upon its increase returned to MADRID; when both those disorders still kept harrassing and weakening her, till they at last ended in a delirium and mortification. Every art of physic was used to save her, and every *Spanish* faint invoked, but all in vain. They brought the *image* of ST. ISIDRO to her, and some were fetched even from TOLEDO and ALCALA DE HENARES: But neither the interposition of saints or subjects could avail any thing; tho' all the churches of MADRID were crowded with people, offering up prayers for her recovery, fate was inexorable, and death relentless. The *nuncio* came and gave her the last papal benediction, and by that means conveyed to her the first notice of her approaching dissolution; she received the shock with some surprize, but with much piety, resignation, and resolution. Upon her observing to the *nuncio* the insignificance and emptiness of all human grandeur; and that it was now of no advantage to her, that she ever was a Queen—He replied, “Your Majesty has certainly had much greater opportunities of doing good, and which have not been neglected.” She lingered a day or two after this, till the delirium came on, attended with convulsions, and at length expired on the twenty-seventh of September, about three o'clock in the afternoon.



CEREMONIES of a ROYAL FUNERAL.

ON the twenty-eighth, she was laid in state in the *caisson*, or great-hall of the BUEN RETIRO; she lay upon a spond covered with gold tissue, under a canopy of state: She was dressed in a plain cap, tied with a broad white sattin ribband, and with a
finali

small black egret over her forehead : On each side the spond were six large *girandoles*, of Mexican silver, about four feet high, with large tapers burning, and round the room were several altars with gold and silver candlesticks. On the right hand side of the spond, at the feet, knelt the dutchess of MEDINA SIDONIA, behind her another lady of distinction, and then an exempt, and on each side stood two *purfuivants* bearing the crown and sceptre. The ladies were relieved every hour by others, such as the dutchess of BURNOMBILE, the dutchess of ARCOS, &c. but the *purfuivants* were obliged to remain the whole twenty-four hours—Thus lay the Queen all that day and night ; on the twenty-ninth, she was carried to the ESCURIAL in this manner: About seven o'clock in the evening the procession began from the gate of the BUEN RETIRO in this order: First came forty *Carmelite*-monks on horse-back, each with a torch in one hand, and the bridle in the other ; then as many *Cordeliers*, and last of all the *Dominicans*, all with torches in their hands: Then a body of the guards on horseback, without tapers, headed by the duke of VERAGUEZ, or duke of BERWICK. These were followed by the sacrist in his cope, bearing a gold crucifix, at the head of the curates. Then the state-coach with the Queen's body, followed by two *carosses de respect* ; then the duke of ALVA ; behind him the inquisitor-general, with some other people of distinction, such as the duke of ARCOS, &c. then followed another body of the guards, and last of all a suite of coaches. These were obliged to travel in this manner all the night, with their torches burning, which must be a vast expence ; it being eight leagues to the ESCURIAL, and they proposed burying her Majesty about eight o'clock the next morning. The monks are paid for this journey, and they commonly share the tissue pall between them. And thus ended the solemnities of this funeral, which I shall conclude with the moral of our English Poet :

A heap of dust alone remains of Thee ;
 'Tis all thou art, and all the Great shall be.

LIST OF THE SPANISH GRANDEES

G R A N D E E S.

IT is very difficult to make out a clear and exact list of the grandees of SPAIN, the Spaniards themselves have published no good one: and there are very few, who can give you any just information. In the first place, there is no superiority and gradation of title here, as there is in ENGLAND. A duke is no more than a marquis, a marquis no greater than an earl; in short, all titles are equal. And you will often see the father an earl, and the son a duke; just the reverse as with us. The great distinction anciently consisted in being grandee of the first, second, or third order: but these distinctions are now dropped; the king making them all grandees of the first class. These three classes were, 1. Those who came into his majesty's presence with their heads covered before they spoke to the king: 2. Those who did not cover till they had spoke to his majesty, and the king had answered them: 3. Those who did not cover, or put on the hat, till after they had withdrawn to their place. If the king bids them be covered, without any addition to the word *cubridos*, they are only grandees for life; if his majesty adds the title of any of their lands, the honour is hereditary. Indeed, with us in ENGLAND, it used formerly to be a custom for the peers to sit covered when the king went to the house of lords, till that polite parliament at queen ANNE'S accession dropped it, out of compliment to her majesty, because they thought it ungentle to sit covered before a queen. All the titles in SPAIN are feudal to this day. The crown gives them in the first instance free for the life of that person, or, as they call it, *Libres des Lances*; but ever after, as feofs of the crown, they pay a yearly sum of money in lieu of their knights, or feudal service. Besides these grandees, there are a great number of good, ancient families in this country, who from their antiquity have an undoubted right to rank as grandees; but as the crown has not thought proper to cover them, as such, they have no rank: These are called *Casas agravadas*, or *injured houses*. The mark of distinction,

inction, which these grandees constantly keep up, and give to each other with the greatest exactness, is the always addressing one another with the *TU*: whereas, when they speak to any other of inferior rank, they use the *Ecellencia*, *Vuestra Merced*, the *Vofia*, *Vofenoria*, &c.

THE following is the most correct list of the Spanish grandees, which I could meet with.



LIST of the SPANISH GRANDEES, alphabetically, by their Titles, with their Family-Names, &c. &c.

A.

ABRANTES	Duke	Don M. Carvajal.
AGUILAR	Earl	Vic. Offorio Moscofo y Gufman.
ALTAMIRA	Earl	Ben. Moscofo.
ALVA	Duke	Fern. Sylva y Toledo (his eldest fon is Duke of HUESCAR.)
ALCANIZAS	Marquis	Manuel Oforio.
ALBUQUERQUE	Duke	Pedro de la Cueba (eldest fon LEDESMA.)
AMARANTE	Earl	Fr. Gayofio.
ARCO	Duke	Alp. Zayas.
ARGETE	Duke	L. Lafo de la Vega.
ARION	Duke	Ign. Pimentel.
ARISSA	Marquis	Joackim de Palafox.
ARCOS	Duke	Ponce de Leon.
ARANDA	Earl	Po. Abarca.
ASTORGA	Marquis	Infantado.
ATARES	Earl	St. Jago Funes
B.		
BANOS	Duke	Don A. Ponce de Leon.
BANOS	Earl	J. d e Muscofo.