nent. The King at last shook off the domination both of Valenzuela and of his mother; the latter hid her discomfiture in a convent at Toledo, and the former was surprised in his sleep, put on board a transport, and condemned to perpetual exile in the Philippines. Under the ministry of Medina Celi, Charles was forced by Louis XIV. to cede his title to the dukedom of Burgundy, and to lower his flag to that of France whenever they met on the seas.

As Carlos II. approached the age of manhood, he manifested the utmost feebleness of intellect: the popular belief was that the disgraced Queen-mother and the expelled Camarilla had left a legacy of hate to the nation and its sovereign, by administering to him a potion for the purpose of weakening his understanding; and some historians allege that so distorted was his moral sense by this "leperous distilment," that he poisoned his virtuous minister and relation, Don Juan of Austria, for not being sufficiently subservient to his caprices.

Shortly afterwards he recalled his mother, who revenged herself upon all her foes by every species of direful persecution; and Spain, in this infamous reign, was reduced to the most abject distress—the King being even obliged, for want of money, to renounce his annual journey to Aranjuez, only seven leagues distant! His next Camarilla was composed of a set of cowardly courtiers, who, when the Duke of Ossuna advised him to take the field against Louis XIV., and animate his troops, like the French monarch, by his personal presence in the camp, concealed their own fears under an affected zeal for the King's

safety, and exclaimed—"Better lose Catalonia, better lose half Spain, than risk the life or the health of our beloved sovereign!"

A third Camarilla was formed during this miserable reign. Carlos' second Queen was Maria Anna, daughter of the Elector Palatine. Before she was long in Madrid, she organised a Camarilla, composed of the Countess de Berlifs, and the Counts Oropesa and Melgar, who imposed on all provisions entering the metropolis an oppressive *octroi*, which they shared amongst themselves. The people rose in insurrection, and marched straight to the palace. A courtier seeking to appease them, told them that the King was taking his repose. "He has been too long asleep," was the reply. "It is time that he should awake and relieve his people." Carlos appeared before them pale and trembling, and stammered forth the names of the Camarilla: the people rushed to the palaces of Counts Melgar and Oropesa, which they plundered as completely as if they were ravaged by fire.

The Counts escaped by a miracle from the popular fury, and expiated their crimes in exile. The King had meanwhile a monkish Camarilla of his own, which first frightened him by persuading him that he was possessed, and going through the ceremony of an exorcism; and next hastened his death still more by opening in his presence the coffins of his mother and his first wife, from the intercession of whose ghosts they assured him that he might obtain the postponement of his death! They likewise, being moved by much gold, told him to submit the question of his

successor to the divine voice of his holy father the Pope—the Pope decided in favour of Louis XIV., in preference to the less powerful Archduke of Austria. A will was signed by Carlos accordingly; and by all these combined influences of superstition and mortal terror, the House of Bourbon was planted on the throne of Spain.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### THE CAMARILLAS OF SPAIN
*(Concluded).*

In the reign of Philip V. there was an Austrian Camarilla at the Court of Madrid, of unexampled perfidy. The Count de Melgar, admiral of Castile, in his hatred of the minister, Cardinal Porto Carrero, attached himself to the interests of the House of Austria and to its views on the throne of Spain, as opposed to the rights of the first Bourbon. The King admitted him to his confidence, and loaded him with favours, but was made the dupe of Melgar, who kept up a secret correspondence with the Duke de Moles, Spanish ambassador at Vienna, kept the Emperor informed of the discontent of the Catalans, and urged him to make good by force of arms the pretensions of his family to the throne of Spain.

The better to carry out his perfidious designs, the Almirante accepted the post of ambassador to the Court of Versailles. He made all preparations for the journey to France, but they were the preparations of a traitor. Having previously gained over the Court of Portugal, he proceeded to Lisbon, instead of Paris, as his sovereign supposed, making the circuit of Madrid, until he took the opposite road, with a suite of 300 partisans and 150 baggage-mules and horses. The moment he reached Lisbon he threw off the

mask, declared that the will by which Carlos II. left the throne of Spain to the Bourbons was forged by Cardinal Porto Carrero, and took the oath of allegiance to the Archduke of Austria. Two others of the diplomatic corps of Spain imitated his example, the Marquis de Corzena, and the Duke de Moles, ambassador at the Court of Vienna.

While this Austrian Camarilla was at work for the subversion of the dynasty, the Queen, (Louisa, daughter of the Duke of Savoy) had likewise her Camarilla. The Princess of Ursins, a Frenchwoman of bold and masculine character, possessed an absolute ascendant over the mind of the Queen, and with Cardinal Porto Carrero, whose very dear friend she was, moulded every event through the Queen's influence over the King.

In vain Louis XIV. of France insisted on the Princess's banishment to Rome. The Queen fell sick at the idea of parting with her, and the idea was perforce abandoned. A Camarilla to a Spanish Queen is as indispensable as her fan. Intrigue is her oxygen. The Princess of Ursins, however, subsequently retired to Rome, and Porto Carrero became Grand Inquisitor. The Duke de Grammont, a polished Frenchman, replaced the Princess in the Queen's favour; the Duke of Berwick, one of our exiled James the Second's followers into France, having failed to please her, notwithstanding her high esteem for his character. "Why, then," said Marshal Tessé, "did you get him recalled?" "He was a great, dry devil of an Englishman," replied the Queen, "who always went straight before him!"

Such a man was indeed not fitted to shine in a Spanish Camarilla.

The Duke de Grammont soon lost his influence, and retired from Spain, the Princess of Ursins being recalled and restored as first favourite. Through the plots of the new Camarilla, the Marquis de Leganez, a man of the highest integrity, was banished and died in exile. Barcelona was taken from Spain by the allied troops, but the valour and generosity of a British general, the Earl of Peterborough, greatly altered the views of the Spanish people towards England; he stayed the plunder of the German invaders and of the Barcelonese themselves, and rescued from their hands a high court lady, the Duchess of Popoli, whom they were on the point of ravishing.

The troops of England and of Portugal occupied Madrid, and a third of them were lost by debauchery; but the military skill of the before discarded Duke of Berwick, an Englishman guiding the troops of France, restored the monarch to his capital. The Camarilla was no sooner re-installed, than it proceeded to "feed fat its ancient grudge." The Duke of Infantado, the Patriarch of the Indies, the Inquisitor General, and the Count de Lemos, were thrown into prison, and the palaces of the Duke de Najéta and the Counts Oropesa, Haro, and Galvez, were plundered of all their contents, and the property of their owners confiscated to the crown.

The next exploit of the Camarilla was to accuse the Prime Minister, the Duke of Medina Céli, of divulging secrets of state, and other trumpery charges, upon which he was thrown into prison, where he died

the following year, having been condemned to death upon Camarilla evidence, and not beheaded through the extraordinary clemency of Philip. In retribution for this act of Camarilla justice, Madrid was occupied a second time by the allied troops shortly after, but recovered by the gallantry of the Duke de Vendôme; and the peace of Utrecht, while it excluded the Spanish rule from the Low Countries, confirmed to it all its other dominions. But here took place an amusing instance of Camarilla insolence.

The Princess of Ursins' ambition, after playing so long with sovereigns like nine-pins, aspired for herself to sovereign rank, and she had the modesty to forward to the Congress assembled at Utrecht, through the King, over whom her influence was excessive, a modest proposition for creating a portion of the Low Countries into an independent State, of which she was to be the ruler—her title being the same as that of Sancho to the government of Barataria, a very strong ambition. The claim expired amidst the ridicule of the Hague, Vienna, and London, and the indignant murmurs of the Spanish people.

The Queen died, and the Princess of Ursins is said to have entirely consoled the King for her loss. This pushing Camarera Mayor was now animated by the hope of succeeding her royal mistress on the throne. She had the power, and more than the pride of a Queen; all that she wanted was the name. Though she had buried two husbands, she still had good looks, had talents of the highest order, and was backed by a powerful party. But her project was dashed by unexpected events.

An Italian priest, named Alberoni, the son of a poor labourer of Placencia, raised himself to the post of Envoy from the Duke of Parma to the Court of Madrid, wormed himself into the Princess's confidence, and persuaded her that the course of true policy was to persuade the King to marry the Duke of Parma's daughter, Isabella Farneza, whose character he represented as that of a weak and simple woman, over whom the Princess could easily dominate.

Finding Castilian prejudices unalterably opposed to herself mounting the throne, the Princess took the bait, obtained the King's consent to the marriage, and persuaded herself that she was about to reign in the name of another. Alberoni was despatched to solicit the hand of his mistress, and no sooner had he left Madrid, than the Princess of Ursins learned how grossly she had been deceived, and that her future Queen was a proud and enterprising woman, endowed with superior genius. She sought to break off the negotiations, but the marriage was already concluded by proxy.

The Princess ended her days an exile from the country which she had governed fourteen years with almost absolute authority. Alberoni received the title of Count and the post of Prime Minister, to which he added that of director of the new Queen's Camarilla. The Pope shortly afterwards made him a cardinal. His bold policy, and ill-regulated schemes of grand ambition, raised all the potentates of Europe in arms against Spain, from whose soil he was, ere long, expelled in disgrace, his carriage being attacked on the road by brigands set on by his

enemies; one of his domestics killed, and himself forced to continue his journey in disguise, and on foot. Philip lapsed into gloomy bigotry, and, shut up in San Ildefonso, prayed and fasted with equal fervour.

His confessor, Father D'Aubenton, kept his conscience on the rack, and Jews and so-called heretics at the stake; the Camarilla was now strictly monkish, and its intrigues terminated in *auto-da-fés*. This Jesuit happily died, and Philip, persuaded that it was for the salvation of his soul, abdicated in favour of his eldest son, caricaturing the retirement of Charles V. to the monastery of St. Just; but taking care to solace his retirement with a pension of a million of crowns, in addition to the immense sums which he had caused to be transported to his retreat.

Louis the First, surnamed the "Well-beloved," was the mildest and most benevolent of kings, and illustrated his ascent to the throne by an *auto-da-fé* of peculiar brilliancy, in which five wretches perished at the stake in the presence of the monarch and his court. The character of his queen was of peculiar lightness and gaiety, and her Camarilla was composed of a number of demireps, whose manners were formed in the profligate court of the Regent Duke of Orleans. The queen was ordered to keep within bounds, her French dames were sent out of the country, and her Camarera Mayor and chief of Camarilla was now the Countess Altamira. This lady had only time to embroil the courts of France and Spain, for the young king died of small-pox in the first year of his reign, and the nineteenth of his age.

Philip re-ascended the throne, not, however, till his monkish Camarilla refused him the communion, unless he took the step which would re-establish their influence. He immediately chose a new foreign favourite, a Dutchman, named Ripperda, who had no salient quality but ambition; yet Philip made him a duke and a grandee of Spain, which he ruled with absolute power and incapacity. The moment he arrived in Spain he renounced Protestantism, which was his great recommendation to the superstitious sovereign; but his administration was so ignorant and so utterly detestable, that it would not do even for Philip, who at last ordered him to be arrested. Ripperda took refuge in the hotel of the British Ambassador, from whence he was torn by the people, and immured in the tower of Segovia. He escaped from an impending impeachment to the coast of Africa, where he again changed his religion —say rather his profession of faith—and was taken into the service of the Sultan of Morocco. He left Holland a Protestant envoy, left Spain a Catholic and a grandee, and died in Africa a Mohammedan and a pasha. In the latter period of this troubled and inglorious reign, Isabella of Parma governed in the name of her consort; and while she and her Camarilla regulated affairs of state, the King regulated the fasts and religious processions.

Ferdinand VI. had for his consort a princess of Portugal, whose chief of Camarilla was the celebrated Italian singer, Farinelli, while the King's wretched asceticism threw him so completely into the hands of his confessor, that he was induced to send away his

Queen, and was on the point of retiring into a cloister, when Farinelli's voice lured him back to the world. Enjoying the Queen's favour in the highest degree, this artist, by dint of his exquisite trills, and substantial payments of British gold, persuaded the Queen to persuade the easy Ferdinand to observe a policy of strict neutrality in the terrible European contests which preceded the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, though the interests of Spain were directly involved. This prince was likewise induced by the monks and inquisitors who formed his Camarilla, to expel the Moors by frequent proscriptions, the effect of which policy was the depopulation of large tracts in the southern part of the kingdom, and the result, famine. Of a gloomy disposition like his father, the loss of his Queen reduced him to such melancholy, that he shut himself up in a room at Villa-Viciosa, and starved himself to death.

Carlos III. was less under the influence of Camarillas than any of his immediate predecessors; but he had the inconvenient mania of never withdrawing his confidence from a minister once appointed, no matter how gross his incapacity or how repeated his failures. Notwithstanding his relentless extermination of the Jesuits, which appears to have been almost entirely a money transaction, Carlos was so influenced by superstitious scruples, and in such entire subjection to the monkish Camarilla, of which his confessor was at the head, that it was with the utmost difficulty his minister Grimaldi could persuade him to apply a portion of the revenues arising from the temporarily vacant episcopal sees to the patriotic and admirable

work of encouraging the societies established under the name of "Amigos del Pais," for the maintenance of the arts, agriculture, and industry. His clerical Camarilla likewise involved him in the disgrace of first fanfaronnading in the *Gazette* how all Christendom should see his mode of dealing with the Algerine infidels, and subsequently failing in two expeditions undertaken against that regency, and purchasing an inglorious peace for fourteen millions of reals.

In the reign of Carlos IV., the Camarilla was especially infamous, and presided over by Godoy, Prince of Peace, who sacrificed the interests of his country to those of the successive governments which rose in revolutionary France, and particularly to Napoleon, both before and after the establishment of the Empire. Godoy's intrigues caused the Prince of the Asturias, the future Ferdinand VII., to be removed in disgrace from the court, and he was as much hated by the people as the Infanta then was loved. He took the title of "Highness," and was said to have aspired to the throne. He permitted Junot uninterruptedly to traverse the kingdom, and take possession of Portugal without striking a blow.

The consequences of this base policy was of course the conquest of Spain. The indignant Madrileños invested the palace of Aranjuez, and called for the traitor Godoy, who, with all his other malversations, was believed to have even defiled his Sovereign's bed. Godoy was found concealed in a garret, the people beat him almost to death, but his life was spared; and he retired into France with the royal family, to re-appear in Spain to-day after an absence of nearly

half a century. During eighteen years that Godoy was chief of Camarilla, he appropriated to his own use the domains of the Crown, and the treasures of private individuals, and alienated for ever to France the islands of Trinidad and St. Domingo.

All living Europe is aware of the enormities of the Camarilla of Ferdinand VII., with the restored Inquisition and Calomarde's police at its bidding, and martyred Liberals in hundreds hanged or loaded with irons, with scarcely the form of a trial, and without even the form of evidence—a reign illustrated by the dropping asunder of the mightiest of colonial empires, while the Sovereign was embroidering petticoats for the Virgin; and in which men were proscribed for their love of constitutional liberty, who had been the loudest to cry during the War of Independence—"*Vencer o morir por la patria y por Fernando Septimo!*"

## CHAPTER XVII.

### THE ACTUAL CAMARILLA.

The Madrid Camarilla is at present composed of six individuals—Narvaez, the Marquesas de Santa Cruz and de Valverde, the Duke de Ossuna, Juan Donoso Cortès, and a bustling member of the Senate, named Calvet. The leading spirits are the military Dictator of Spain, and the not less daring Marquesa de Santa Cruz; all are faithful adherents of Cristina, extreme Moderados in their politics, and strongly tinged with Absolutism, though most hostile to the dynastic claims of Don Carlos. They are perhaps not unfavourably disposed towards the union of Queen Isabel with the son of that fugitive prince, which would reconcile their professed Moderado principles with their covert leaning towards despotism; but in every thing relating to the marriage question they take their cue from the Tuileries.

The two Marquesas are endued with a spirit of intrigue worthy of their male associates; and the lengths to which they will proceed in the furtherance of their designs are apparent from what they have lately done. While Olózaga was preceptor, and Arguelles previously was guardian to the Queen, these women with difficulty muffled their vexation at the faint and divided influence which they were able to exercise over the Royal girl; but the moment her

majority was declared, their feelings overflowed, their selfish zeal ran riot, and they at once asserted their pretension to an undisputed control over the future destinies of Spain. Lopez, unwilling to be their puppet, was their first victim. Olózaga, determined to abridge their power, and, if needful, expel them from the palace, was their next. He was distinctly sounded more than once, but found inflexible in his resolve to govern through the Progresistas. He was sounded again; again found unalterable, and his ruin was then determined.

Every devilish and waspish means of making his access to the palace uncomfortable was resorted to. He never had an audience of the Queen that the Marquesas of the Camarilla, one as Camarera Mayor, the other as Superintendent of Azafatas, or tire-women, were not hovering close and around him, listening upon occasion, overhearing all the conversation, ready to report it to Calvet and Narvaez, and to poison the young Queen's mind with their own dishonest comments the moment her Prime Minister withdrew. When Olózaga at last began to take vigorous measures to counteract them they fell into the *rôle* of eavesdroppers, and the Minister heard the rustle of their satins, and saw their prying heads through the chinks of the ill-shut door. Then it was that he afforded some shadow of pretext (a faint shadow, undoubtedly) for the charge which was subsequently made, by rising deliberately and closing the door. He never bolted it, never seized the Queen by the wrist, nor offered violence, nor was wanting in loyal duty. But he mortally wounded this brace of

hidalgas and grandees of the kingdom by detecting them in their chambermaid meanness; and if the rage of one "*fœmina furens*" is so terrible, what may be the vengeance of two combined?

The change which followed—base and infamous as it was—was no unnatural consequence within the precincts of a Spanish Court. The Queen was far from being innocent in giving credence to that charge, and supporting it by her solemn attestation; but her childish capacity, distorted by whispering intriguers, was imposed on, perhaps, by the exaggerated importance which the two Marquesas attached to the fact of Olózaga's rising to shut the door, and she was easily persuaded that he had insolently bolted it as well. Believing thus much, she readily became indignant, under-estimated the importance of a *highly-coloured* statement, and hesitated at no consequences. She was coaxed into a charge of *lesa magestad*, and the minister's head might have rolled upon the scaffold.

Such was the befitting climax of a series of persecutions unparalleled in the history of European courts. The very day after Olózaga's nomination as Prime Minister, the Queen, crammed with her constitutional lesson by the Marquesa de Santa Cruz, who was primed before by Narvaez, told the Premier drily, that if he did not form his cabinet at once, another was ready to do so in his place! Olózaga knew that the Camarilla, not his Sovereign, was speaking, and he did not yet retire.

Two days afterwards he repaired to the palace with his colleagues, *by invitation*, to dine with her Majesty,

and was told that no dinner was prepared! He knew that the Camarilla, not his Sovereign, was speaking, and he did not yet retire. In very shame they were forced to give him dinner. But with such a man, who would understand no rebuff, and take no refusal, extreme measures alone could be successful; and then, on his preparing to dissolve the Chambers, was concocted the black conspiracy. The Queen smiled on him, and gave him sweetmeats for his daughter, at parting; and next day she swore—yes, it was substantially an oath—that he had pulled her about like a drab, bolted all the doors, squeezed her wrist, and constrained her by force to sign the document! She was silent that evening and night, silent next morning and day, until the afternoon, when Narvaez heard it by the merest accident, at his accustomed hour of waiting on her Majesty, to receive from her lips the Santo del Dia, or watchword of the day.

The captain-general was dumb-founded, horror-struck, taken by indubitable surprise; and Calvet, too, who was likewise there by accident, could not master his agitated feelings—the shock came on him so unprepared! The one ran off to acquaint the military chiefs of his party, the other to summon the President Pidal and the Vice-Presidents of both Chambers—and now the ball was opened. So glory be given to the Camarilla and to the indisputable superiority of the "Bedchamber Women" of Spain over those of stupid England.

The formation of Camarillas is a mystery, as their deeds are deeds of darkness. An impenetrable cloud is over their origin, and all their after movements are

occult. Their intercourse with the Crown is illicit, their action on the nation's destinies is a crime; they are compelled to work in secret by the force of an involuntary shame. Creeping, grovelling, and insidious, inured to baseness, and accomplished only in the arts of cunning, the Camarilla burrows into the palace like a rat, to emerge a thundering charger. It does not enter boldly by the door, but wriggles through the narrowest hole it can find. It crawls in upon all-fours like a dwarf, and comes forth an armed giant.

Queen Isabel's Camarilla was brought to Madrid by an amnesty, and its generous nature immediately proceeded to undermine the party by which the boon was accorded. The miserable affair of the dinner to which Olózaga's ministry were invited, and found the doors of the palace shut in their faces, was a strikingly characteristic incident. The Queen asks her Ministers to dine, but the Camarilla does not choose that they shall dine. The rascally servants do not obey their mistress, or if they do obey her, and a dinner is prepared, they insult her invited guests by telling them that there is no dinner. They meddle with affairs which do not concern them; they are insolent, faithless, tricky, and dishonest, and deserve to be turned into the street.

But the Palace Junta strikes unseen, and its wounds are irreparable. No constitutional defences are proof against its blows. Its seignorial powers are of life and death; wherever its vengeance falls, it slays. The thunder-bolt is preceded by the lightning-flash, but there is nothing to herald the coming of

the Camarilla's wrath. It is a reproduction of the spirit and forms of the Holy Office, and works in subterraneous silence; its fires, like the hidden volcano, are matured in sightless caverns, and explode in instantaneous destruction. Like the trunk of the elephant, it picks up the merest trifle as nimbly as larger objects; and is punctiliously ceremonial as well as super-scrupulously religious; for

"En España no hay ladron
Que no tenga su devocion :"

"In Spain there is not a rogue who has not his special devotion!" A great alarm was created amongst them by Olózaga's audacity in giving the Queen his arm at a diplomatic dinner. The polite and considerate offence was pronounced *lèse-majesté*; and shortly after was revived the old court fashion of dukes, duchesses, marquises, and their dames, waiting *bonâ fide* at table, and dirtily drabbing in the bedchamber of a damsel of thirteen—a rapid progress backwards toward the days of the Philips. "Duchess, hand me a fresh chemise."—"Marchioness, a clean towel."—"Baroness, the bidet."—"Countess, find my nail-brush!"

The nucleus of the Camarilla was formed immediately after the fall of Espartero. When the Provisional Government laid hold of the reins of power, Arguelles irrevocably resigned his post of guardian to the royal orphans, and the Duke de Baylen was appointed in his stead. From the Duke, on his nomination, it was exacted as a condition, that no appointment should be made in the palace, of at all

an important character, without the consent and approval of the Government.

There was a third party, however, of no inconsiderable weight, who laughed at the pompous conditions of Lopez and Caballero, and this was the conquering Narvaez, who resolved to be exclusive stage director, and managed matters so well with the Duke de Baylen, that within a few days Lopez was astounded to see numerous appointments made without consulting him in a single instance—appointments all of an important description, and one of a lady of the most ultra-Moderado principles, whose post required her continual presence by the Queen's side.

Lopez did not feel himself strong enough to remonstrate, and the measure which he took was merely palliative—being the appointment of Olózaga to the post of preceptor to the Queen and Infanta, with a view to his neutralizing the effect of the previous nominations, and preventing, if possible—but in vain—the formation of a complete Camarilla.

So odious is this name to Spanish ears, that no one dares pronounce it openly in any public assembly. The existence of the hated thing is adverted to merely by indirect allusion; and even Olózaga, when, smarting under the infliction of its recent malice, he made his explanatory speech in the Córtes—did not call it by its name, but spoke of "unconstitutional private relations, and secret influences existing in *a certain circle, which has its proper name in Castilian.*"—"It was proposed to me that I should arrange matters with a certain person, *who was not to form*

*part of the ministry*," &c. Were the existence of this detested conclave publicly recognised, perhaps the Madrileños would tear some three or four persons to pieces, as they talked last summer of tearing the Canon Ceparo in Seville. The meaning of the word *Camarilla* is, "closet," or, "little chamber," answering precisely to the German "Kämmerlein," allegorically applied by Körner to the scabbard of his sword.

"Bleib' still im Kämmerlein !
Bald, bald hol' ich dich ein.—Hurrah !"

The name "Camarilla" points indirectly to the Camarera Mayor, or principal lady of the palace, whose power is always paramount under a female sovereign; it happily, therefore, designates the present court clique. It is likewise the name which schoolmasters give to the place where they correct their pupils !

Camarillas are the chronic disease and cancer of Peninsular governments. Their existence in constitutional dynasties is less daringly and ostentatiously proclaimed; but it is only the more corrupt and treacherous, the more odious, base, and profligate. This canonizing of a cheat and enthroning of a lie, this placing of the burning coals of falsehood upon the lips of a Royal girl, and exalting of the polluted thing to the crest of a circling diadem, was but a gust blown into the outer world from the tainted atmosphere of Peninsular courts—a sample of their nature ! Absolutism had its disadvantages—the caprices of an idiot might enchain a nation's will—the violence of a madman might urge it on to ruin. *El*