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Besides these, an "allocation," as it is called, addressed to the inhabitants of Seville, was published by the Political Chief, in which he begun by saying, that although he had witnessed reiterated proofs of the constitutional spirit of the inhabitants of this province, nevertheless he issued to them fresh injunctions to receive the King, on his arrival, as a "constitutional sovereign," that they might do away those suspicions which the enemies of liberty entertained of their fidelity to the established system. He then went on to state, that the removal of the government had stricken terror into the hearts of the foreigners; and in a comparison which he drew between the state of France and Spain, he assured them that anarchy was reigning in the former country, which was on the eve of another revolution, in order to break her chains. "While the French," he continued, "are in hourly fear of an explosion, which may lead them back to the times of Robespierre or Bonaparte, Spain, always grand and generous, calmly observes the results of those causes, and supports and contemplates with pleasure the resolution of her Constitutional King to remove his government to a secure place, whence he can dictate the measures most expedient in our present political situation."—"Union and harmony, this is my only injunction; circumspection and reflection in the midst of the most amusing actions are necessary, that the scenes may not be changed; let there be nothing but rejoicings and gladness amongst all, but with *uniformity*, and without going beyond the limits which reason and policy require. *Viva la nacion! Viva la Constitucion! viva el Rey Constitucional! viva el Congreso sobrano!* These are the *vivas* which it becomes patriots to shout in the ears of his majesty on his arrival; any other shout, of whatever sort it may be, cannot fulfil the object of such demonstrations of joy, nor can they have any other effect than that of subverting the good order of things. I hope that the inhabitants

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of this capital and province will follow these principles, it being understood that if it should not so happen, with pain I say it, the weight of my authority shall fall on him who commits any infractions in this respect; but I hope that this case will not arise, and, above all, that nothing will remain to be desired by your fellow-citizen, and superior Political Chief, Sebastian Garchia de Ochoa."

A stranger, knowing no more of the inhabitants of Seville than he might infer from this allocution, would be apt to suspect that they were animated by sentiments in some respects differing from those of the Political Chief. It was the first proclamation I had seen ordering a people to be merry by rule and with *uniformity*, and not to say or shout either too much or too little, lest "the scenes should be changed." The vivas which they were to utter were already prepared for their lips. "*Dulce est desipere in loco*," says Horace. "No," says the superior Political Chief, "in the midst of your joy you must have *circumspection* and *reflection*, otherwise, it is with grief I say it, I must let all the weight of my authority fall upon you."

Sir William A'Court, who had left Madrid after the King, arrived in Seville a few days before him. His excellency's journey was a kind of triumph all the way. In several of the towns where he stopped for the night, the authorities presented themselves to pay their respects. In one place a large crowd assembled before the windows of the house where he was lodged, and sent in a deputation to present their respects, and request that he would show himself in the balcony. He complied with their desire, and they hailed him with repeated shouts of *Viva el Ministro Ingles! Viva la Constitucion!* In another place he was addressed by the title of "your Majesty!" and almost every where he stopped he was serenaded with music. He had an order for private lodgings at every stage of his route, and nothing could ex-

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April. ceed the attention with which the proprietors of the different houses designated for his residence received him and Lady A'Court. They brought with them their own provisions, and were anxious to give as little trouble as possible. But their hosts, generally persons of rank, were prodigal of their civilities, and expressed themselves particularly favoured by having the English minister under their roof. They were attended by an escort of Cuirassiers all the way, who conducted themselves with marked respect and attention. At one of the towns through which they passed, the Intendant said he had orders to escort the English minister to the borders of the province with the whole troop of local cavalry. This was unnecessary, and of course declined. But the Intendant said his orders were positive, that the cavalry were anxious to discharge the honourable service appointed for them, and if the attendance of the whole corps were not deemed necessary, he would take it as a particular favour if six were allowed to proceed with the minister to the precincts of the province. This compromise was accepted, for it was in vain to refuse such hospitable entreaties. In more than one of the houses where they rested, a splendid dinner was provided for the whole party; an extraordinary mark indeed of civility, for it is generally one of the last things they offer in Spain. But this was exceeded by another of Sir William's hosts, who offered him money to any amount which he might think fit to take. This was the most superfluous compliment of all to a minister of England, though probably the intention was sincere, as it was undoubtedly respectful.—The house in which Sir William A'Court resides in Seville belongs to the family of Saavedra, and was handsomely offered free of expense for his use. Of course this civility was not accepted.

I do not know, however, how far the Spaniards would have been likely to pursue the same course of attention and

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hospitality to the minister of England, if they had known of Mr. Canning's declaration of neutrality with respect to the approaching contest between France and the Peninsula. Indeed, of all engagements in the cause of liberty, that of England in favour of Spain would be the most Quixotic. The Constitution, no matter what may be its excellence or imperfection, has certainly not succeeded in gathering around it the sentiments and good wishes of a majority of the people of that country. I have already given some idea of the state of public feeling in Seville. The same state of apathy, to use the mildest expression, prevailed in all the towns through which we passed after leaving Madrid. From my own observations, and those of others, I can safely state that the great majority of the people on the line of that route desired nothing so much as peace. They have been vexed and injured by repeated contributions and conscriptions, and latterly, by anticipations of the current year's taxes, their means of complying with them being extremely limited. The agitations prevailing the last two years in Spain have, in a great measure, suspended the usual internal trade of the provinces, and the people were called upon to make fresh sacrifices—one day to the factious, the next day to the Constitutionals, at a time when they were impoverished beyond all precedent. These are facts, and not speculations. However ardent may be an Englishman's wish that Spain may enjoy liberal institutions (and if he were without a wish of this nature he would be undeserving of his country); still, when he saw that the idea of civil liberty was carried in that nation to an extreme which promised no durability, and that this extreme, supported only by bayonets and by official *employes*, was the inviolable system which England was called upon to assist with her mighty arm, he cannot but rejoice that that assistance was refused, and that the strength of his country was reserved for more worthy purposes.

April. In saying thus much, however, I would not be understood as discouraging in any degree those exertions which Englishmen have made, or may hereafter make, as individuals, for assisting the Spaniards to sustain the independence of their country against the unprincipled aggression of France. God forbid that Englishmen should ever take any other part than that of countenancing the course of freedom, assisting it with their money, and cheering it through the desperate struggle! But the government, I trust, will stand aloof, and let the dictator and allies of Russia waste their strength on the air. England will continue to husband her resources, while the despots of the Continent are squandering theirs in contests, which will every day thicken upon them.

Public notice was given, that the King would arrive in Seville on the 10th. An announcement to this effect was posted in all the public places, and orders were issued to the inhabitants in the streets through which the royal cavalcade was to pass, to decorate the fronts of their houses. Illuminations were also enjoined for the three ensuing nights. Another edict was issued, rather of a peculiar nature, directing that all taverns should be shut after three o'clock on the day of his majesty's entry; the reason assigned for this measure being, that such disorders as had occurred on former occasions of public rejoicings were caused by the operation of a little too much wine. In the northern provinces I have had occasion to observe that the Spaniards drink little; but in Andalusia they are fond of wine, and not unfrequently commit excesses; nor is it much to be wondered at, considering that their climate is rather humid, and their wines most delicious. The red wine in common use in Seville is as fine as old Port, to the strength of which it adds the flavour of Burgundy.

10th. The morning of the 10th looked unfavourable for the display of any pageant, as a slight rain was falling, and the

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skies were charged with threatening clouds. At noon it continued to rain. Several of the balconies in the streets leading to the palace from the gate of Triana, through which the King was to enter, were hung with counterpanes, most of them of purple silk. The streets near the gate of Triana was lined on one side with soldiers. The Plaza, or square, of the Constitution, looked very handsome. The house of the Ayuntamiento was hung with purple tapestry, and the pillars of its large balcony were entwined with wreaths of artificial roses. The interior of the balcony, which, perhaps, ought rather to be called an open gallery, was decorated with eight or ten glass lustres; and in front of two of the pillars were placed the representations of a coat of mail and helmet, surmounted in the usual manner by the national ensigns. A considerable crowd of people was collected in the Plaza, and the balconies of the houses were all filled with spectators, chiefly females, well dressed, and their hair ornamented with natural flowers. As there are balconies to each of the stories, the lower ones were sheltered from the rain, which now began to fall heavily. A large body of troops was assembled in the Plaza, with a band.

From the Plaza to the gate of Triana, there is a long line of narrow streets. The balconies here were also crowded, and as soon as the first guns were fired, at five minutes before one, announcing that the royal cavalcade was within a quarter of a league of the capital, every balcony, without exception, was hung with counterpanes; some of very old patterns of flowered silk, some yellow chintz, some of damask, but the generality of purple silk. The soldiers were all at their posts. Some of the churches were fronted with old tapestry, and the monks belonging to the convents in the line of route, were all drawn out at the side of the street opposite to them.

A second royal salute of fifteen guns announced the entry

April. of the King within the gate of Triana, at a quarter past one. The royal carriages were preceded and followed by a strong escort of cavalry, and as soon as they entered the streets, a few of them began to shout *viva Riego*. This cry was not answered, and it was not repeated by the cavalry. An officer of infantry ran immediately before the King's carriage, crying out *Viva* as he passed. Even this was but faintly re-echoed from the balconies. I followed the royal cavalcade, in the midst of a heavy shower of rain, from the gate of Triana to the Plaza de la Constitucion; and until it arrived at the latter place, I never saw any thing more like a funeral procession. No waving of handkerchiefs from the fair sex, no vivas or shouts of any sort from the men, though the balconies were crowded.

When the cavalcade arrived in the Plaza de la Constitucion, there was something like a general shout of *vivas*, without any other addition, except from the soldiers collected in the square, a few of whom added *la Constitucion*, and some, *el Rey Constitucional*. The band played the hymn of Riego, but the shout was neither sustained nor enthusiastic; and certainly the people in the balconies took no conspicuous share in it. In fact, they did not seem to know that the king and queen were in the first carriage, and they were still looking on to the end of the cavalcade, where the more gaudy carriages of the officers of the household followed. I never witnessed in so large a concourse of people such complete apathy; they seemed to be present merely because there was something to see; but the spectacle appeared to have disappointed them, probably because the carriages, horses, and men, all dripping wet, presented no emblems of festive gaiety. The side windows of all the carriages were open. The King was dressed in blue uniform, with a star on his left breast, and sat forward in the carriage. He bowed slightly as he passed, and did not appear much fatigued

after his journey. The Queen sat back, and was scarcely visible. The Infantes, and their servants, were received without much notice.

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The cavalcade passed on through several other streets, and a third royal salute announced its arrival at the Palace, at a few minutes before two. The bells of all the steeples were rung during the procession; the twenty bells of the cathedral thundered forth all their deafening sounds. Doubtless, if the day had been fine, the entry of the King might have presented a much more festive spectacle. But what with the torrents of rain, the splashing of cavalry, the mud of the streets, the clouds of umbrellas, and the apathy of the people, I do not remember to have ever witnessed a public exhibition so uninteresting, and I may add, so melancholy.

At night there were illuminations, the signal for commencing which was given by the illumination of the spire of the cathedral tower. This assemblage of blazing torches in the sky had a very striking effect. The faces of the men employed in kindling the torches looked ghastly in their light. A vast number of birds, who had been disturbed from their airy nests, were hovering in alarm around the Giralda, and in the reflection of the torches they appeared all white.



CHAPTER XX.

JOURNEY TO CADIZ.—RETURN TO SEVILLE.

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THE communication between Seville and Cadiz has been lately very much facilitated by the establishment of a steam-boat on the Guadalquivir. It starts every second morning from Seville for Bonanza (a small port near that of San Lucar), where the passengers are landed, and from thence they make the best of their way overland to Port St. Mary's. From Port St. Mary's they cross the bay to Cadiz in a sailing-boat; or, if the weather be unfavourable, they go round the margin of the bay, which of course considerably increases the distance. It is understood that steam-boats are in a course of preparation which will make the whole way to Cadiz; an enterprise, however, which it is apprehended may meet with some difficulties in the mouth of the Guadalquivir. Should it be realized, it will be of great advantage to both those interesting cities, as the present mode of accomplishing part of the journey by water and part by land, is attended with inconvenience and unnecessary delay, though certainly much more expeditious than formerly. It is not more than a few months ago since travellers wishing to go from Seville to Cadiz, were obliged to trust to the chances of weather to waft them down the river to San Lucar in an open sailing-boat, which offered no sort of accommodation. Sometimes they were three and four days performing this voyage. At night they put into some village on the banks, where they slept. The steam-boat generally lands her passengers at Bonanza within ten hours; and with a better con-

structed vessel, and an engine of higher power, she might do it in six. April.

On paying the day before at the office two dollars and a half for my passage in the principal, or, as they call it, the poop, cabin, I received a card with a number upon it, and found upon entering the vessel that, as at the theatres, I was to occupy a seat corresponding with that number. There is so great a degree of convenience in such an arrangement, that it might be adopted in our steam-vessels and theatres with much advantage to the public. We started at four o'clock in the morning. It continued to rain and blow hard all the day, with so little intermission, that, however much I wished it, I had no opportunity of standing on deck for a few minutes to view the scenery on the banks of the Guadalquivir. There were not many passengers; and of these the Spanish portion, both male and female, spent the greater part of the day in sleeping. The gloomy and unpleasant character of the weather indeed invited to this mode of killing time; but I was rescued from it by the agreeable and interesting conversation of two English officers, who had come up a few days before from Gibraltar on leave of absence to see Seville, and were now returning.

We arrived at Bonanza shortly before three o'clock, and there, in conjunction with a French gentleman, I hired one of the numerous calesinas which were in waiting for Port St. Mary's. A calesina is a very old-fashioned vehicle, of which the modern cabriolet is an improvement. It is gaudily painted, and decorated with brass nails and plates, and drawn by one horse. The distance from Bonanza to Port St. Mary's is four leagues; the road so wretchedly bad, that it seemed a miracle we were not overturned a hundred times. One of the wheels sinks into a deep rut, while the other is elevated on a heap of dried mud; then comes a jolt, which would shake the stoutest frame, and break any vehicle built

April. on less firm principles than a calesina. Add to this the usual report, "the road is peopled with robbers," and the pleasure of our jaunt may be conceived. We all travelled in company for sake of security. We passed through San Lucar. The country between that port and St. Mary's is irregular and fertile, but not well cultivated. It is abundantly ornamented with wild flowers of every hue. We arrived at St. Mary's at half-past seven, and as the gates of Cadiz are shut at sunset, it was useless to think of crossing the bay that night. My companion conducted me to the "Three Moorish Kings," where we supped upon fish just taken out of the sea, and had excellent white wine. The beds were not altogether intolerable, at least after the fatigue of four hours and a half's incessant jolting.

12th. We rose the next morning at five, and found that in consequence of the state of the tide, no boat would start for Cadiz before eleven o'clock. There is a bar near St. Mary's, which is dreaded by all the mariners of the port; and unless they have an abundance of water, and weather quite favourable, they never think of passing it. Many vessels have been lost on this bar, which certainly at low water seems rather a formidable one. We therefore engaged a calesina, and proceeded round nearly by the edge of the bay, and over an admirable road through Puerta Real and the Isla de Leon, and along the causeway to Cadiz. The day was bright, warm, and cheering. In passing through Puerta Real, we observed in its little harbour the three Russian frigates which had been sold to Spain to convey her expedition to South America, and which were found so unseaworthy, that the troops refused to embark in them, and proceeded to proclaim the Constitution at Las Cabrezas in this neighbourhood. From Las Cabrezas Riego, by a timely movement, marched to the Isla de Leon, a town well fortified, but stronger from the impracticability of the marshes

in its vicinity than from the nature of its works. From the Isla the Constitution was propagated throughout Spain. April.

When looking at those frigates, which carpenters were now breaking up, one could scarcely avoid observing what remote and unintentional causes sometimes lead to the most important and adverse results. The conduct of the Russian minister in selling to Spain three vessels which were scarcely fit to leave the harbour of St. Petersburg, was it not then the leading cause of the proclamation of the Spanish Constitution? Has that Constitution cost the Emperor Alexander any sleepless nights? Has it compelled him in any degree to increase his multitudinous army? Will the historian of 1900 have to relate, that with the progress of light the free spirit of the Spanish Constitution has overthrown the rule even of the Russian Autocracy, and has substituted for it a representative system? In the details of that event, can the transaction of the three frigates be forgotten?

From Port St. Mary's to the Isla the aspect of the country is varied, and not uninteresting. On the left-hand, that abrupt cluster of mountains, called the Sierra de Ronda, is seen. Agricultural cultivation has not been carried on in this country to any great extent. It is full of salt marshes, heathy and barren; and the chief occupation of the labouring peasantry is in the salt pans, which belong to wealthy proprietors. The process in these pans is very simple. The sea-water is conducted into a reservoir excavated in the soil, and is there permitted to remain until it is evaporated by sun. The residuum that is left is salt, which is collected and formed into a heap on the land, whence, after a due course of bleaching, it is removed for use.

From the Isla to Cadiz the road is raised on a causeway, the foot of which is washed by the waters of the bay on one side, and by the Atlantic on the other. At the termination of this causeway there is a considerable promontory, upon

April. which stands the beautiful city of Cadiz. We entered it at half-past ten in the morning. In *Puerta Real*, the *Isla*, and *Cádiz*, the houses, though most of them apparently of modern construction, are built after the ancient Moorish fashion; that is, with high parapets, which prevent any part of the roofs from being seen from the street, and frequently castellated, as if it were meant that each man's house should serve literally as his castle. In the late war, when the French troops marched down to form that ineffectual siege of Cadiz, they experienced the fiercest opposition in *Puerta Real*: the inhabitants fired out upon them in the streets from these household battlements, and every shot told. They in revenge blew down those houses from which they experienced the greatest annoyance, and the ruins still remain to attest the horrors of that sanguinary war.

The beauty of Cadiz consists in the regularity of its streets, the height, uniformity, and external whiteness of the houses, and, above all, in its situation, commanding, on every side but one, a boundless view of the Atlantic. The streets are narrow, a precaution against the heat of the climate; and therefore a necessary imperfection, to which its cause soon reconciles a stranger. The rows of balconies one over the other, and extending along the whole length of the street without interruption, are painted green, and in the season decorated with flowers. They add considerably to the lively appearance of this city.

Upwards of a century ago a temple was commenced in Cadiz, the funds for which were provided from a per centage upon all bullion and money imported from South America. It was designed upon a plan worthy of the best age of Grecian architecture. The roof, the walls, the columns, the altars, were all to consist of marble; and the interior was to be decorated with marble statues, and with paintings of the first order of workmanship. The work was executed to a certain

extent—the walls were raised, the vaulted roof completed; April. beneath the temple a subterraneous temple of the same extent was constructed *; and, in short, nothing remained to be done but the dome, the windows, the altars, the interior decorations, and the upper part of the tower. But at this point the work stopped about fifty years ago, in consequence of disputes which occurred between the commissioners who had the management of the funds, and it has never since been resumed. If it were completed according to the original plan, it would be considered as one of the most surprising works of art in Europe.

Besides this magnificent shell and the arsenal, there are no public buildings in Cadiz of any importance. The theatre is pretty, and well attended, especially by the ladies, who are in general women of the most voluptuous forms and lovely countenances. I had an opportunity of seeing the whole female population of the place on the Alameda of a Sunday evening, and except in Kensington Gardens, I never saw such a congregation of beauty. The influence of an ardent sun, without darkening their cheeks, sheds over them a transparent brown, which embellishes their fine features. Long black lashes defend from the glare of the light their hazel eyes, which are in themselves as dangerous as any other heavenly orbs, and almost as brilliant.

If the political feeling of Cadiz were to be judged of from external appearances, it must be considered as eminently Constitutional. Over the door of almost every house an article of the Constitution, such as the proprietor selects as appertaining to his trade or profession, or expressive of a favourite principle, is affixed, written in large letters of

* During the siege of Cadiz numbers of the inhabitants took shelter in this subterraneous temple from the bombs, at those hours of the day when the firing usually commenced.

April. gold on a wooden tablet. I observed, without meaning any disrespect to the Constitution, that the tailors and barbers particularly signalized their ardour for the system by large tablets and letters, and more than one article of the code.

Cadiz is surrounded by strong ramparts, which, together with its harbour, which is dangerous to large vessels, render it almost as impregnable by sea as it is by land. There were not many guns mounted; but I reckoned about a hundred pieces of cannon of all weights lying on the ground, which might be rendered available to the exigencies of defence. I observed also several guns which had been left behind by the French, the mouths of which were injured by being fired at. This was an effectual expedient which the French adopted in the latter part of the war, in order to prevent our artillery from turning against them their own batteries. It had been previously the custom to spike abandoned guns; but the British engineers bored out the spikes without injuring the touch-hole, and thus in many cases rendered the spiked guns useful.

Since the separation of the South American colonies from the mother country, the commerce of Cadiz has declined very materially; indeed, speaking in comparison with its former activity, may be said to have perished. I saw no more than fifty vessels in her bay, which in the days of her commercial greatness was seldom beheld without a thousand or fifteen hundred. The population is lessening every day; for as trade is almost extinct, families give up their establishments, and betake themselves to Port St. Mary's, Puerta Real, and other small towns on the coast, where they may live at a greatly reduced expense. In consequence of this emigration, Port St. Mary's and San Lucar are improving. Their trade, as well as that which remains to Cadiz, is chiefly in the exportation of sherry, which is grown at Xeres, a short distance in the interior from this coast. There is

also, I am informed, an extensive system of smuggling carried on at all these ports, from which the revenue officers derive their surest, if not their only income. April.

I staid at Cadiz only three days, and in returning crossed the bay in a sailing-boat to St. Mary's. Before we approached the bar a slight contribution was demanded from the passengers, which was to be appropriated to the celebration of masses for the repose of the souls of those who had perished here. A Pater and Ave were then said, and the sailors, thus fortified, prepared for passing this fatal spot. The boat had waited so long at the other side for passengers that the tide was going out rapidly, and there was scarcely a sufficiency of water to bear her over it. She was a-ground two or three times, but by removing the passengers towards the stern, her poop was kept afloat, and she got over with safety.

The following day the steam-boat started at noon from Bonanza quite full of passengers, most of whom were of a genteel order. At this place the Guadalquivir* is at least a mile wide. Few boats were to be seen upon it. It was of a thick yellowish colour from the late rains, and was rippled into small waves by the wind which was blowing against us. On each side the banks were wooded with pine trees, and here and there were to be seen heaps of salt. As we advanced, the flatness of the country on the right was broken by irregular and dispersed hills, some of which appeared picturesque. We had a distant view of the mountains of the Ronda sprinkled with snow. In a large island on the left we observed numbers of bullocks and horses, and in some of the lesser islands groups of wild bulls, which were destined for the amphitheatre of Seville. When we

* The Spaniards pronounce the word Guadalquivir with the accent on the last syllable.

April. were nearly half way, the wind blew with such force, and raised such high waves in the river, that some of the ladies were as much indisposed as if they were at sea.

As we approached Seville, the Guadalquivir gradually became narrow, and the scenery on its banks rich, varied, and handsome. It is animated with country seats and small villages; but it did not answer those expectations which one of my Spanish fellow travellers from Madrid to Seville had induced me to form. I was admiring a villa, which I thought charmingly situated in the mountains near Cordova, "Wait," said he, "until you go down the Guadalquivir: nothing that you see here, or have seen any where else, is to be compared with the scenery on the banks of that magnificent river. From Seville to San Lucar it is crowded with country seats, lawns, woods, vineyards, hills and vales, which present varied and enchanting prospects every step you advance." He was justified in applying the epithet "magnificent" to the Guadalquivir; but as to the "enchanting prospects" on its banks, they must have been endued with magic power indeed when they could have so far deluded his imagination. We arrived at Seville at ten o'clock at night.