

from their governments, and by the principal *Grandees*: These have courts, and *portes cochers*, though the others have not. The house which the late Sir BENJAMIN KEENE lived in, near the convent of the MARAVILLAS, was of this sort; large, magnificent, and expensive: It was built by one of the descendants of the famous CORTES; though it had been half burnt down, it would contain two or three hundred people with ease: The Earl of BRISTOL hired it on his predecessor's death; and it is since taken by the Prince CATHOLICO. The houses in general look more like prisons, than the habitations of people at their liberty; the windows, besides having a balcony, being *grated* with iron bars, particularly the lower range, and sometimes all the rest. A single family is not the sole tenant of an house, as is usually the case in ENGLAND; they are generally inhabited by many separate families, who notwithstanding are for the most part perfect strangers to each other. Those who can afford it, have a distinct apartment for summer and winter. Foreigners are very much distressed for lodgings in MADRID; there being only one tolerable *inn*, the FONTANA D'ORO; and the Spaniards are not fond of taking any strangers into their houses, especially if they are not *Catholics*. There is no such thing as a *tavern* or *coffee-house* in the town; they have only one *news paper*, which is the MADRID GAZETTE: Their places of diversion are the *amphitheatre*, built for the exhibition of the *Bull Feast*, and the two theatres of LA CRUZ, and DEL PRINCIPE. The noise made by the itinerant bodies of psalm-singers in the streets, or the ROSARIO's, as they call them, is very disagreeable in the evening; the frequent processions, particularly those of the HOST, troublesome; at Easter especially, when the sight of those bloody disciplinants, the *Flagellantes*, is extremely shocking.

NEXT to the King's palaces, one of the best buildings that I can recollect in MADRID, is the *Imperial College of Jesuits*, which is indeed a very noble structure. There is no passing the streets there commodiously without a vehicle; for as they practice the *Scotch*, or EDINBURGH *custom*, of manuring the streets by night, they would be too offensive to your feet, as well as your nose, without a chariot by day. Upon the site of the *old palace*, where

FRANCIS

FRANCIS I. was kept prisoner, built by CHARLES V. but destroyed, is now erected what they call the *New Palace*, on the south side of the town. The *Casa del Campo* was built I believe, by PHILIP III. as an asylum for his mistresses.—The *Buen Retiro* was built by the Conde Duke D'OLIVARES, in PHILIP IV's. time.—Some of the *Convents* are fine, particularly that of *Atoche*, or our *Lady of the Bush*: In the church belonging to it, they sing their *Te Deum* upon victories and other public occasions. The convent of the *Salesas* is likewise a new and noble structure. There is an order of *Canonesses* in MADRID, which they call *Ladies of St. James*. The *Monasteries* and *Nunneries* in all SPAIN, were computed by one of their writers in 1623, at 2,141, and the number of religious of either sex, shut up in them, at 44,915, which is doubtless a very moderate calculation.

A his Catholic Majesty did not think proper to give the
 full of British ships, in relation to the question put
 to him by the Court of Great Britain, who all held out
 their in readiness for an instant departure, and the necessary
 dipositions for an immediate return to England accordingly
 the requisite papers being obtained, the British Majesty did
 the British Majesty did not think proper to give the
 the 10th of December, on the route for PORTUGAL. We should
 have been obliged to return that way, because the way presented
 our going through France, and the road to CORUNA being
 not practicable for a coach, unless we had made a very wide de-
 tour, and taken the road to SAN JAGO DE COMPOSTELA. But
 his Britannic Majesty fixed that route, by ordering that a ship
 (the *Portland* Man of War, the worthy Captain RICHARD
 HURDIS Commanded) should sail directly for LISBON, and bring
 from the English Ambassador, and his relations. The Count
 having gone the day before, in order to prepare the way for the
 Y y 2 LET-
 notice of his coming: His Excellency set out on the 17th of
 December, without taking leave of the Court of Spain.

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L E T T E R XX.

JOURNEY from MADRID to LISBON,
December the 17th, 1762.

AS his Catholic Majesty did not think proper to give *the Earl of Bristol* any answer, in relation to the question put to him by the *Court of GREAT BRITAIN*, we, who all held ourselves in readiness for an abrupt departure, made the necessary dispositions for an immediate return to ENGLAND: accordingly the requisite *Passports* being obtained, STANIER PORTEN, Esq; *the English Consul-general at MADRID*, led the way, and set out, on the 16th of December, on his route for PORTUGAL. We should have been obliged to return that way, because the war prevented our going through FRANCE, and the road to CORUNNA being not practicable for a coach, unless we had made a very wide detour, and taken the road to SAN JAGO DE COMPOSTELLA.—But his Britannic Majesty fixed that route, by ordering that a ship (*the Portland Man of War*, the worthy Captain RICHARD HUGHES Commander) should sail directly for LISBON, and bring home the English Ambassador, and his retinue.—The *Consul* having gone the day before, in order to prepare the way for the *Ambassador*, procure him the best accommodations, and to give notice of his coming: His Excellency set out on the 17th of December, without taking leave of the Court of SPAIN.

As the whole nation were averſe to a war with ENGLAND, the Spaniards beheld the AMBASSADOR'S departure with the utmoſt regret; it being their opinion, as well as the conſtant maxim of PATINHO, *Con todo el mundo guerra, y paz con Ynglaterra, War with all the world, but peace with England.* Some ſaid, *Es por nueſtros peccaos*; and others, *Es uno golpe politico*; that is, *It is for our ſins*; and, *It is a political ſtroke*; that is to ſay, the court's doing, not a national war.

THOUGH the Ambaſſador returned, without having taken leave of the Court, yet he received, on his departure, all the honours and civilities which were due to his rank and character. General WALL ſent orders to all the Governors, and Commandants of every city or town the Ambaſſador was to paſs through, that they ſhould ſhew him all the accuſtomed honours and reſpects due to the Ambaſſador of GREAT BRITAIN.—Accordingly, at every place, the Governor waited on his Excellency, at his arrival, with a polite Spaniſh compliment; the ſoldiers were drawn up under arms, the drums beating, colours flying, and the canon on the ramparts fired at his departure.

We were to travel *ſixty-three* leagues before we could get out of SPAIN, and paſs the GUADIANA at BADAJOS, which is the laſt frontier city towards PORTUGAL; and then we had *twenty-nine* leagues remaining to ALDEA GALLEGA, a little village on the ſouth ſide of the TAGUS, where we were to paſs that river to come at LISBON. This will appear much clearer from the following route.

ROUTE from MADRID to LISBON.

		Leagues.
First Day,	NABAL CARNERO,	5
Second Day,	CASA RUBIOS,	2
	NOBES,	4
Third Day,	STA. OLAYA,	2
	TALAVERA DE LA REYNA,	7
	Carried over,	20
		Brought

JOURNEY TO LISBON.

		Leagues.
	Brought over,	20
Fourth Day,	LA CALZADA,	6
Fifth Day,	NABAL MORAL,	4
—————	ALMARAS,	3
Sixth Day,	JARAYSEJO,	4
—————	TRUXILLO,	4
Seventh Day,	LA CRUZ DEL PUERTO,	3
—————	MIAJADAS,	3
Eighth Day,	SAN PEDRO,	5
—————	MERIDA,	2
Ninth Day,	LOBON,	4
—————	TALAVERUELA,	3
—————	BADAJOS,	2
	So far in SPAIN.	63
Tenth Day,	ELVAS,	3
Eleventh Day,	ESTREMOS,	6
Twelfth Day,	VENTA DEL DUQUE,	3
—————	ARROYOLOS,	3
Thirteenth Day,	MOSTREMOS,	3
—————	VENTAS NUEVAS,	4
Fourteenth Day,	ALDEA GALLEGA,	7
	These last in PORTUGAL,	29
	Total,	92

WE were to pass two thirds of this way in an enemy's country, and the remainder in a dreary, barren, rocky soil, somewhat, indeed, more fertile than SPAIN, but very little better in its accommodations. Besides this, the season of the year, which is ever unfavourable to travellers, was most particularly so to us at this juncture, as it rained almost that whole fortnight without intermission; infomuch, that some of the rivers were so increased,

as to prevent a passage; which happened to those who conducted the baggage-waggons, which were retarded some days by the floods.—Add to this, the rigour of the season, and the cold, the stormy winds to be naturally expected in that part of the year; and, at those seasons, the restless tossing of the Bay of BISCAY. All which circumstances frequently put me in mind of those remarkable words of Scripture, *And pray that your flight be not in the winter.*

THE first place worth your notice in this route, is the town of TALAVERA DE LA REYNA, in the kingdom of NEW CASTILE, on the banks of the TAGUS. It is the greatest manufacture of silver and gold silks, perhaps in the whole country. The late King FERDINAND protected and encouraged it much; but it is now sinking, as most of the rest of their manufactures are, under the uncommercial aspect of the minister SQUILACCI.—There is likewise a curious manufacture of earthen ware. Its ancient name was TALABRIGA. It was called DE LA REYNA, because it belonged to Queen MARY, wife of ALONZO XII.

THERE is one hill, of a long, winding, and difficult ascent, before you come to JARAYSEJO; it is dangerous in some parts; it employed us almost a whole morning to surmount it; and one baggage-waggon fell down some part of the precipice, but was got up again entire. There is likewise a very dangerous pass of a mountain, about two leagues before you come to TRUXILLO: Your coach must here be drawn up by oxen, and supported by men, otherwise it is impossible to get it over the mountain.—TRUXILLO is a city in the province of ESTREMADURA, standing on a hill, on the top whereof is a *castle*, the country about it fruitful.—It was founded by JULIUS CÆSAR, and after him called TURRIS JULIA, hence corruptly TRUXILLO.

THE next place of note is MERIDA, the capital city of the province of ESTREMADURA, built on the banks of the GUADIANA, over which there is a most noble bridge, the work of that great Emperor, as well as Builder, TRAJAN. There are here still to be seen many fine remains of *Roman antiquity*: In the market-

market-place is a large column, built entirely of *inscription* and *sepulchral* stones, crowned on the top with an antique statue; the *Walls* for the most part *Roman*; there are some remains of an *Amphitheatre*, *Aqueduct*, *Circus*, &c. all *Roman*. It was built by *AUGUSTUS*, given by him to veteran troops, and called *EMERITA AUGUSTA*, whence corruptly *MERIDA*.

Four leagues farther, on the banks of the same river, stands *LOBON*, where there is a *Castle*. It was antiently called *Lychon*, in Greek, signifying a wolf, which its present Spanish name does likewise.

The last city in *ESTREMADURA*, on the frontiers of *PORTUGAL*, is *BADAJOS*, well fortified, has a fine bridge, a castle, and was antiently called *PAX AUGUSTA*; whence its present name.—Here we took our last *adieu* of *SPAIN*; and were not a little pleased to find ourselves on *Portuguese* ground the next morning, at *ELVAS*; where the *Ambassador* stayed all day, though it was only *three* leagues to it, in order to forward a messenger to *ENGLAND*, and send his dispatches to the Honourable *Mr. HAY*, his *Britannic Majesty's* Minister Plenipotentiary at the court of *LISBON*.—*ELVAS* is a city in the province of *ALENTEJO* in *PORTUGAL*. Being the frontier to *SPAIN*, it is the best fortified place the *Portuguese* have: It is also a *Bishopric*. There is a good *cathedral*, with a most elegant chapter-room. The *Dean*, who was a very polite ecclesiastic, was so obliging as to shew it us himself.

Six leagues farther, you come to *ESTREMOS*, another fortified place, about two leagues from *VILLA-VIZOSA*; there is a castle on the hill.—The situation is beautiful, and the town has a clean, neat, pleasing appearance; it is remarkable for a fine manufactory of *earthen ware*.—It is most memorable for a victory obtained by the *Portuguese*, under the command of *Count SCHOMBERG*, in 1663, over the *Castilians*, whose general was *Don JOHN* of *AUSTRIA*, in their last invasion of that kingdom.—They found in that Prince's casket, after the battle, very complete lists of the Spanish army, artillery, and offensive munitions

of

of war.—The court of LISBON, diverted at this incident, had their Secretary of State write at the bottom of one of these lists, *We certify, that the above list is very exact, having found it after the defeat of Don JOHN of AUSTRIA, near Estremos, 8th June 1663.*—The distance of time between their last and the present invasion being only one year short of a century.

THE next place of note is ARROYOLOS, standing on an eminence, with a good *fort* to it; it gives the title of Earl to the family of CASTRO.

THE 31st of December we arrived at ALDEA GALLEGA. Here our dispersed parties united again with the greatest joy, having the beautiful prospect of that fine river the TAGUS before us, which is no less than twelve miles broad at that place, and which we were to pass at six o'clock the next morning, because of the tide. And here we were glad to rest from all our fatigues; some of us having suffered very much from the length and labour of the journey.

WE arrived at LISBON about eight o'clock the next morning; where the Honourable Mr. HAY received the Ambassador, and his retinue, and conducted them to his own house.

THE city of LISBON, built, like old ROME, on several little hills, is one of the finest views from the water, that can possibly be imagined; as you approach nearer to it, the tragical effects, the havock of that dreadful earthquake, cannot but touch every beholder with sentiments of pain. After landing, we passed through some streets, near a mile in length, where the houses were all fallen on each side, and lay in that undistinguished heap of ruin, into which they sunk at the first convulsive shocks. Not that the reader is to imagine, that the greatest part of that fine city fell on that fatal morning; so far from it, that I believe not above *one fourth part* of it was destroyed: for it prevailed more in one particular quarter, than the rest; and there the desolation was almost universal, scarce an house or building that was not thrown down. In the other parts of the city, some single ill-