

five wives. The marble sepulchre with a statue of the king is superb; the *urna* is supported by lions. Among other tombs notice those of Alonso Peranzurez, and of Bernardo the first archbishop of Toledo after the reconquest. This monastery became the asylum to which many early kings of Spain retired like Charles V., and died monks; e. g. Bermudo I. in 791, Alphonso IV. in 931, Ramiro II. in 950, Sancho of Leon in 1067. The holiness and wealth was impaired in 1810, when it was plundered by the French. For its former silver, altars, treasures, relics, and library, consult Morales, '*Viaje*,' 34; for its history, that written by Joseph Perez, Madrid, 1782, and augmented by Romualdo Escalona, a learned Benedictine of the convent. What the invader begun Spanish sequestrators completed; the conventual portions are desolated, and only the façades, church, some statues, and heraldic decorations remain. At *Sahagun*, Dec. 21, 1808, Lord Paget, with the 15th Hussars, fell in with the French cavalry under Debelle, charged, broke, and put them to rout (Nap. iv. 4).

*Carrion*, unsavoury to English nostrils, recalls agreeable associations to the Spaniards. The town also called *de los Condes*, because it belonged to the Counts Diego and Fernan Gonzalez, so well known to ballad-readers as the sneaking husbands of Elvira and Sol, daughters of the Cid, "the honour of Spain." The Campeador appealed against their ill-usage to Alonso VI., and a trial of arms took place, when the counts and their uncle were beaten by the Cid's champions, Pedro Bermudez, Martin Antolinez, and Nuño Bustos. The city was then taken from the counts, who were disgraced and declared traitors. "Carrion of the Counts," gave, in 1366, the title of Count, to Hugo de Carloway, or Calverley, an English knight who was serving in the Spanish army until re-called by the Black Prince, whereupon Enrique III. deprived him of his rank after the murder of his brother Don Pedro. Here Inigo Lopez de Mendoza,

the first Mæcenas of Spanish literature, was born Aug. 19, 1398.

Time-honoured and corroded *Carrion* stands on the river of its name; has a good bridge: pop. 3000. It is a city of "the plains," or *Tierras de Campos*. Much and very fine corn is grown in these districts, which is preserved in *silos*, or underground *mazmorras*, granaries (see p. 315). The Benedictine convent in the suburb, San Zoil, was one of the finest things in Spain, until plundered by the French. The cloisters designed by *Miguel Espinosa*, remain in the richest plateresque Berruguete style, with an infinity of saints, medallions, arms, &c., worthy of Cellini. The under tier was begun in 1537 by Juan de Badajoz, who finished the E. side: completed by Juan de Celanova; the upper gallery was added in 1604 by Espinosa and Antonio Morante, by whom is the Christ over the entrance, and the Ecce Homo in the *Capilla de los Condes*. Near and on the city wall is the old church of Sa. Maria, del *Camino*, of the "road" to Compostella; it is also called *de la Victoria*, in commemoration of the victory, made by certain orthodox bulls on the unchaste infidel who came here to receive the 100 virgins, the annual tribute agreed to be paid them by Mauregato. An annual sermon is preached at Pentecost, called *El Sermon de Doncellas y Toros*; as the legend of this lady rent is altogether apocryphal, a Doric frieze, with the *Capita Bovis* in the façade, was probably the origin of this tauromachian nonsense (see Ponz, xi. 201). Notice, however, the carvings and bull tossings on the church portal.

About  $\frac{3}{4}$  L. from Carrion was the Augustin convent of *Benevivere*, "good-living," and no doubt the holy cenobites did their duty both in chapel and kitchen; it was founded in 1161 by Diego de Martinez, who, having served the kings Alonso VII., Sancho, and Alonso VIII., retired, like so many noble Spaniards, to end his days as a monk; he died era 1214 (A.D. 1176), and was buried in a remarkable sepul-

chre in the chapel San Miguel. Observe the singular portico and round arched niches. The church was built in 1382 by Diego Gomez Sarmiento, but all was demolished in 1843.

Near *Carrion*, in 1037, was decided the battle between Bermudo III. of Leon and Ferdinand I. of Castile, in which the former was killed; the two kingdoms were then united by the conqueror's marriage with Sancha the heiress.

In *Villalcazar de Sirga*, or *Villasirga*, about 4 m. on the Burgos road, the parish church, once belonging to the Templars, contains the remarkable tombs of the Infante Felipe, son of San Ferdinand (obt. 1274), and his wife's, Inez de Castro. The figures, larger than life, repose on enriched *urnas*; the sculpture, although coarse, is full of expression, and the costume very interesting. Crossing a ridge which separates the basins of the *Carrion* and the *Pisuerga*, below extend the wide plains, through which the *Canal de Castilla* was to unite *Reinosa* with *Segovia*, and thus serve both as a means of transit and irrigation. This admirable project, which would have infused life into these dead districts, begun in 1753, *está por acabar*; the work in those parts where it is complete is worthy in execution of the conception.

*Fromista*, pop. 1400, an ancient decayed town, stands close to the canal: a few miles S.E. is *Santoyo*, whose church contains a superb *retablo* wrought in 1570 by Juan de Juni for Sebastian de Navares, secretary to Philip II. Near *Itero de la Vega*, the *Pisuerga* is crossed, which forms the boundary between Leon and Old Castile; passing through fertile plains we approach nearer the hill of *Castrojeriz*, *Castrum Cæsaris*, pop. 2400. Some remains of Roman works exist in the castle. The town has a *colegiata* and a sort of palace, placed between the rivers *Odra* and *Garbanzuelo*. Hence to Burgos (see Rte. 115).

## ROUTE 75.—LEON TO VALLADOLID.

Mansilla . . . . .	3	
Matallana . . . . .	3	.. 6
Mayorga . . . . .	3	.. 9
Ceinos . . . . .	3	.. 12
Berruecos . . . . .	1	.. 13
Medina de Rioseco . . . . .	3	.. 16
A la Mudarra . . . . .	3	.. 19
Villanubla . . . . .	2	.. 21
Valladolid . . . . .	2	.. 23

Crossing the *Esia* at *Mansilla*, a loose broken road, dusty in summer and muddy in winter, leads to *Mayorga*, pop. 2000, a mud-built village on the *Cea*, with a decent *posada*. Here Moore (Dec. 20, 1808) effected his junction with *Baird*, and here took place the first cavalry encounter, when Lord *Paget*, with 400 of the 15th, charged 600 splendid French dragoons, riding them down horse and man. In vain (as at *Fuentes de Oñoro*) was brandy served out to the enemy; the better man prevailed, as must be the case, if the foe can only be grappled with at close quarters, either with sword, bayonet, or with the *Nelsonic* touch "close action" and the boarding-pike. Then, in a bull-dog struggle for life or death, "beef," blood, bone, and bottom must tell, and a purely *physical* superiority generates, from consciousness of its power, a *moral* confidence. Gen. *Foy* accordingly attributes the *accidental* success of the English horsemen, first to their invariably *vast superiority of number*, and next the larder. "Le rhum vient à propos ranimer ses esprits dans le moment du danger" (i. 231). Again, "Nous avons vu plus d'une fois de faibles détachements charger nos bataillons à fond, mais en désordre. Le cavalier ivre de rhum lançait son cheval, et le cheval emportait le cavalier au delà du but" (i. 290). Be that as it may, such was the moral superiority felt by our mounted beef-eaters, that the Duke was obliged to issue a general order to prevent mere companies from charging whole French regiments. Such was, to use his words, "the *trick* our officers of cavalry have acquired of galloping at everything e.g. *Balaclava*."

On these very plains, ten short days afterwards, did Blake, with his whole army, run away, scared by one daring charge of Franceschi's dragoons, which two companies of British infantry would have riddled to shreds.

At mud-built *Ceinos* observe the brick and limestone tower of an ancient Templar church, now used as a *camposanto*, or burial-ground. A wearisome steppe leads to *Medina de Rio-seco*, with its old gates and damaged walls, "the city of the dry river," a thing and name of Spain, where beds of rivers often want water and bridges, and bridges want rivers. This place, the Roman Forum *Egurrorum*, pop. 4500, stands in a cereal plain (akin to the *Alcarria*, from which it is separated by the Guadarrama chain), this plain was once a vast lake, before the basin of fresh-water limestone was drained by the Duero and its tributaries. This mud-built capital of a clayey marly district was a noted emporium in the fourteenth century. The fairs of cloth and linen then ranked among the chief of the Castiles, but now life is extinct, and the carcass is returning to the earth of which it was made, dust to dust: the city will become a "heap"—*pulvis et umbra nihil*: a shadow of the former fairs is still held April 19 and Sept. 18.

Our readers are cautioned against the natives' exaggerations of their great former commercial prosperity. In fact, the world has too long taken Spaniards and their "things" at their own showing, and fine words no where cost less. Surely it is time that these unsubstantial valuations should be settled. The essence of the Gotho-Spaniard was a contempt for commerce; and, as among the Romans those who sprung from trade were disqualified for the senate, so such persons were despised among the Teutonic nations, the ancestors of the Goths, with whom war and the chase were considered the only occupation of the gentleman. In-door sedentary habits, and delicate manufactures, which require the finger rather than the arm, have in their nature a contrariety to military disposition; since

even Hercules, with the distaff of Omphale, *manufactured* fewer threads in a year than one little white slave of a Manchester cottonocrat turns out in a day. In the best period of Castilian power the mechanical arts were imperfectly practised, while the higher speculative and less operative branches of commerce were almost unknown. When the sciences of banking, exchange, and insurances crept slowly into Spain from Italy and the Low Countries, these exotics withered in an uncongenial soil; they were left in the hands of Jews, Genoese, Flemings, Alemanes, and other foreigners, capitalists, and benefactors, who have consequently borne the odium of extracting the *wealth* of Spain, and of entering, as Moncada says, "through the breach of national idleness made by the devil:" and to this *indolence* he might have added ignorance and insecurity. Accordingly, commerce has here always been passive, and at best is a mere exportation of *raw* materials, furnished by a kind soil and climate, to be received back again in a manufactured state from the scientific industrious foreigners; and even this was carried on for the consumption of the rich only, since the rude wants of the country at large were and are scantily supplied by a coarse home-made article, each family generally providing for itself, and procuring a few additional articles at periodical fairs; almost every luxury was imported by foreigners, and in foreign ships, and to this day the shops of the local interior cities demonstrate, as in the East, a most backward stagnant commerce.

The bragging of the past, like "the boasting of present strength," is pure *rodomontade*; a reference, however, to some bygone period of old and better times is the fond and allowable dream, of all who suffer under the evil of the day; and where are the positive proofs of past commercial prosperity? The grandee and the church have indeed left memorials of their indubitable power and magnificence, but where are the remains, or even records,

of roads, canals, docks, quays, warehouses, and other appliances? While everything that proves an anti-commercial spirit is evidenced in all Spanish feelings and institutions, in their exclusive nobility, their disqualifications, their marble-cold spirit of caste, and in a still existing contempt. The bulk of the nation despises trade, and, as the Moors think all Franks were merchants, so, adopting the sneer of Boney, that grandest of phrasemakers, it considers England to be a country of shopkeepers, who with their operatives would starve without the custom of rich and noble Spain.

The principal church of Medina de Rioseco, the S<sup>a</sup>. Maria, is Gothic; the *retablo*, one of the finest in Spain, represents incidents in the life of the Saviour and Virgin: divided by fluted Corinthian pillars, with bases and pediments supported by naked children. Carved in 1590 by Esteban Jordan, and painted by Pedro de Oña, his son-in-law, reds and blues predominate. Observe in it the grand Ascension of the Virgin. The whole *retablo* recalls the noble work of Becerra at *Astorga* (p. 536). *La Capilla de los Benaventés* to the l., was once a gem of plateresque and sculpturesque art: now all is decay and neglect. The plateresque *reja* was made by Francisco Martínez, 1553: observe above an arch, the medallions of the founder's family and their arms. The *retablo* was carved by the bold and fiery Juan de Juni; observe the San Joaquin and Santa Ana, and above the *Buenaventuranza*, or the mystical beatitude of the Saviour in the Apocalypse, with a sea filled with the bodies of the dead rising up to judgment. The gilding is much perished by damp and neglect, which have also ruined the Creation of Adam and Eve, and the paintings of Juni on the semicircular arch. Notice over the door the portrait of the founder, Alvaro Benavente, æt. 50, and the three fine tombs, separated by caryatides. The paintings at the back of the niches have been ascribed to Juni. Observe the Santa Ana in bed, and two kneeling figures.

The stucco ceilings and ornaments were in the finest Berruguete taste. Cean Berm., *Arch.* ii. 69, 221, has printed the curious original contract and specification of these works by Juni.

There are four pictures in this church either by Murillo or Tovar, for it is not easy to decide, owing to their dirty condition and position; the subjects are a large oblong Nativity, a charming St. Catherine, a kneeling Magdalen, and full-length Madonna and Child, which is the finest.

The classical façade of *Santa Cruz* is heavy although much admired by the natives. The sculptured Sibyls, the finding the Cross, and the two tiers of Corinthian pilasters give a serious character. It was founded by the great Don Fadrique Enriquez, Admiral of Castile, of whose palace in the town a gate is all that has escaped ruin. The tombs and kneeling figures of himself and his wife, Ana de Cabrera, were in the convent of San Francisco, with some good *terra-cotta* statues of St. Jerome and St. Sebastian, much Berruguete work, and a very fine ivory crucifix. This convent itself was built with the materials of the old castle which withstood so many sieges in the time of Don Pedro and Charles V., etiam periere ruinae.

The last blow to decaying *Rioseco* was given July 14, 1808, after its battle, which placed Joseph on the throne of Madrid, a battle compared by Buonaparte, somewhat erroneously, to the crowning victory of *Villaviciosa*. Previously the incompetence of Savary had compromised the French position in the Castiles, for Filanghieri hovered on their flanks in Galicia, wisely abstaining from battle; suspected by the Juntas of treachery from this Fabian prudence, he was murdered and succeeded by blunderer Blake, who joined the incapable Cuesta. The junction of two such great masters of defeat rendered it certain; and in order to ensure the catastrophe these "children in the art of war" led 50,000 badly equipped men into the plains of

Monclin, near *Palacios*. Bessières had only 12,000 French, but, beholding the absurd arrangements of his enemy, which rendered even defence impossible, ordered La Salle to charge with some cavalry, whereupon the Spaniards took instantly to their heels. The French soldiers, thirsty in the pursuit and burning sun, finding the river dry, exclaimed, "Even Spanish water runs away." The Spaniards lost 6000 killed and wounded, the French under 500; not a word of all this in Madoz, xi. 336. Bessières, who was no general, did not even know how to follow up his victory, and he was afraid to advance into Galicia, alarmed at the mere report of some English having landed. He knew well, however, how to sack *Rioseco*, unarmed and unresisting. Santa Clara was made a brothel for his army, the nuns being selected as victims; neither age nor sex was spared, and yet the inhabitants had illuminated their houses in token of friendly feeling (Toreno, iv.) Schepeler (i. 434, 37) details the horrors of fire, lust, and rapine, accompanied with cold-blooded murder of prisoners. Bessières, who, like Suchet, began life a barber, was sent to his last account at Lutzen. This man, according to Buonaparte's bulletin, was "recommandable par ses qualités civiles," and, as he wrote to the widow, "a laissé une réputation sans tache." The widows and nuns of *Rioseco* never penned that epitaph.

*Rioseco* is a central point whence excursions may be made to several ancient cities.

#### ROUTE 76.—RIOSECO TO VALLADOLID.

Villafrechós . . . . .	2½	
Villalpando . . . . .	2½	5
San Esteban . . . . .	2	7
Benavente . . . . .	2	9
Zamora . . . . .	10	19
Fresno . . . . .	3	22
Toro . . . . .	2	24
Pedrosa del Rey . . . . .	3	27
Villalar . . . . .	2	29
Tordesillas . . . . .	1	30
Rueda . . . . .	2	32
Medina del Campo . . . . .	2	34

Valdeillas . . . . .	4	38
Puente Duero . . . . .	2	40
Simancas . . . . .	1½	41½
Valladolid . . . . .	2	43½

As far as villages and people are concerned, nothing can be more bald or wretched than this circuit, which, however, includes towns of former fame, and sites of important events. *Villalpando*, in its vast plain, once a city of 50,000 souls, fell into decay when *Rioseco* rose at its expense; now the population is under 3000. The original city being built of mud, has mostly disappeared, while the invaders gutted the more solidly constructed Franciscan and Dominican convents; the misery is now complete inside, and outside a monotonous tract of land rendered more hideous, as a *valdio* or "common" of the townfolk, is left almost uncultivated. *Benavente* and the route to *Zamora* have been described (see R. 69). Those who do not wish to go there, may cross the plains directly from *Rioseco* to *Zamora*, 13 L. through *Bustillo*, which is about half way: for *Zamora*, see p. 530.

Ascending the Duero from *Zamora*, is the ancient and decayed city of *Toro*, with its fine bridge and the pleasant walk on it, from which we behold those *Almenas de Toro* chanted by Lope de Vega. This city, like *Salamanca*, takes its bridge and a "canting" *Toro*, one of the Guisando breed, for its arms. This dull and backward town contains about 9000 souls, and lords over the plains, those *campos* which were the granary of the Goths. The iron *rejas* to the windows give it a prison-like look. Visit the ruined Alcazar of Garcia, in which the French kept a garrison. Gen. Duvernay, Jan. 6, 1809, captured the unprepared city with a handful of cavalry! for Moore had in vain urged the *junta* of *Toro* to fortify their town, which, like *Zamora*, might have formed an important place for him to fall back on, and, as the enemy at that time had no artillery for sieges, their progress must have been arrested, and the retreat on

*La Coruña* avoided, but nothing was done—*cosas de España!*

It was at *Toro* that the Conde Duque, the disgraced minister of Philip IV., died in 1643, haunted, as he imagined, by a spectre—the ghost of his country's departed greatness, which he had so mainly contributed to destroy. *Toro*, of course has a *Plaza de Toros*. The architect may also observe *La Torre del Reloj*, the house of *Los Fonseca*s and the *Casa del Ayuntamiento*, built by Ventura Rodriguez, and the granite *Colegiata*, with its solid buttresses, deep recessed entrance, and circular arched work. The style, in its simple front of wall with few windows, recalls the Norman works at *Zamora*; the unfinished tower over the transept is of later period, with rich pointed Gothic. *Toro* was a city of great former importance. Don Pedro entered it in 1356 by the gate *Santa Catalina*, and thus put down the rebels. Near it was fought in 1476 the battle between Alonso V. of Portugal and Ferdinand, a victory which gave the crown of Castile to Isabella, destroyed the faction of *La Beltraneja*, and avenged the defeat of *Aljubarota*. Here again was held in January, 1506, the celebrated Cortes by which, after the death of Isabella, Ferdinand's regal authority was recognised: consult '*Corografía de la Provincia del Toro*,' Antonio Gomez de la Torre, 4to. Mad. 1802.

Leaving *Toro*, and continuing on the r. bank of the Duero, near the river *Hormija* is or rather was the most ancient abbey *San Roman*, founded by the Gothic king *Recesvinto* for the burial-place of his wife: thence to *Villalar*, where (April 23, 1521) the Conde de Haro defeated the *Comuneros* led by Juan de Padilla, and crushed this popular insurrection; one raised in reality against *el Estrangero* and the foreign favourites of Charles V., not against the king of Spain himself. The country at large was otherwise apathetic, and when the mob was put down, many chief cities published works to prove their loyalty

during the struggle. Padilla was beheaded the next day at *Tordesillas*. Southey, when young, wrote verses on this martyr to mob patriotism. The conduct of the *junta* was precisely such as we have seen in our times: for they exhibited, says Robertson, "the strongest marks of irresolution, mutual distrust, and mediocrity of genius," incapable alike of carrying on war or of making peace. Padilla fell a victim to their combined baseness and ignorance: he was the husband of *Maria Pacheco*, of whom there is such a fine portrait by *El Mudo* at *Bowood*, and to whom before his execution he wrote that most touching and manly letter preserved by *Sandoval*, and translated by Robertson.

*Tordesillas* rises in its weary *Paramos de Leon*, those bald steppes, those seas of corn, which are bounded only by the horizon. The *Parador Val de Huertos, Vista alegre*, outside the town, on the road to *Benavente*, is clean. This town is an important strategic position, having an old Gothic arched bridge over the Duero. The view from it is striking. You have the old town hanging on a declivity, in the centre the church of *St. Antolin* with its belfries, the noble terraces of masonry, the towered *San Juan* on one side, with the massive chapel of *Sa. Clara* on the other. Visit the church *San Antolin*, as the *retablo* contains a fine Crucifixion, which is attributed to *Juan de Juni*. The superb marble sepulchre of the *Comendador, Pedro Gonzalez de Alderete*, was wrought in 1527 by *Gasper de Tordesillas*; equal to *Berruguete*, it is designed in the style of the royal tombs at *Granada*, with caryatides at angles, figures and cinquecento ornaments: the founder lies armed, with his helmet at his feet. The other tomb in a niche is inferior. The nunnery *Santa Clara*, crowned by a long latticed gallery, overlooks the Duero, the bridge, and plains; in the interior observe the gilt *artesonado* ceiling of the chancel, and the chapel of *Esteban Lopez de Saldaña*, completed in 1435;

his fine sepulchre was sadly mutilated by the invaders; the head escaped, and is full of character and repose. Observe the *retablo*, said by Ponz (xii. 143) to have belonged to Juan II., and the four sepulchres in niches, the two female figures, the armed male, and another with a sort of turban: the architect Guillem de Roam is buried near it, ob. Dec. 7, 1431.

This convent has received eminent personages; here *Juana la Loca*, "crazy Jane," the mother of Charles V., died, April 11, 1535, aged 76, having watched for 47 years, with jealous insanity, the coffin of her handsome but worthless husband. The morbid taint broke out again in her descendants; it induced her son Charles V. to die a monk at Yuste; it tinged the gloomy bigotry of Philip II.; and ended with the Austrian race in the confirmed imbecility of Charles II., a sovereign who kept pace with the decline of his kingdom and dynasty.

In a house attached to this convent Buonaparte was lodged, Dec. 25, 1808, and had leisure enough to *Handbook* thus in his bulletin: "Sa majesté avait son quartier général dans les batimens extérieurs du Couvent Royal de Sainte Claire—c'est dans ce bâtiment que s'était retirée, et qu'est morte, la mère de Charles V. Le couvent a été construit sur un ancien palais des Maures, dont il reste un bain et deux salles, d'une belle conservation; l'abbesse a été présentée à l'Empereur." At *Tordesillas* in 1439, the meeting of Juan II. and his factious nobles took place. The "good" Conde de Haro was mutual guarantee of fair play. His *Seguro*, published at Milan in 1611, and at Madrid in 1784, gives a curious record of mediæval mistrust.

Much red wine, strong and heady as port, is grown in these districts. 2 L. to the r. at *La Nava del Rey*, the Corinthian *retablo* in the *parroquia*, is a noble architectural and sculptural monument by the great Gregorio Hernandez: observe particularly the two St. Johns. *Rueda*, pop. 2500, with a

fine parish church, thrives from the good wine grown here. The vineyards lie on a stony broken soil: the produce, kept in deep cellars, is considered to be a specific *against* the gout, and is much bought by the *Maragatos* and merchants of the north, who bring iron and colonial produce in exchange.

At *Rueda* the prestige of the Duke's name alone saved his army in the retreat from Burgos. Here Caffarelli, Oct. 21, 1812, with 40,000 splendid French infantry and 5000 cavalry, came up with "not 20,000 British and Portuguese:" and yet declined giving battle. Thus protected by the halo of his glory, Wellington passed on unmolested; and this is his record:—"I was shocked when I saw how the Spaniards fought; and when I saw the whole of the enemy's army, it was *very clear to me* that they ought to eat me up. I have got clear off in a handsome manner out of the worst scrape I ever was in" (Disp. Oct. 31, 1812). A scrape occasioned by the scandalous disobedience of orders by Ballesteros in Spain, a "getting off" the reward of superior tactics, by which the enemy were cowed, outgeneraled, and baffled. Calm in the greatest dangers, he was sustained by a confidence in himself equal to every emergency. "Conservant," as Marchant says of Turenne, "dans ses revers comme dans les succès, ce calme stoïque, ce sang-froid imperturbable, qui sert si bien à réparer les uns et à compléter les autres, il ressemble plus qu'aucun de nos grands hommes aux héros de l'antiquité, marchant toujours à son but, du même pas, ne s'emportant jamais, et repoussant par son calme et sa froide raison les sottises prétensions et mêmes les injures!"

2 L. from *Rueda* is *Medina del Campo*, the city of the plain (Methimna Campestris), another important strategic point, equidistant from Zamora, Salamanca, Palencia, Avila, and Segovia, being about 14 L. from each. Inn, *Parador de Pepe*, or *de la Petra*, on the plaza. The town is placed on the swampy Zapardiel, whose

overflowing waters breed fever and ague. The Moors had corrected this by a canal, which also served for irrigation; some remains only of their work may be traced at *La Cava*.

*Medina*, is the capital of the level district, one of the finest wheat countries in the world: but, from want of roads and means of transport about 18s. must be added to the price per quarter before the wheat is shipped on board at Santander, from whence to England a freight of 6s. must be calculated on. The population of this once a royal court and much-frequented emporium, said to have been 50,000, has now dwindled down to 2500. Possibly the past may have been exaggerated, for the city was thus described by the Bishop of Mondoñedo, even in 1532: "This towne, to my judgement, hath neither ground nor heaven; for the heavens are always covered with cloudes, and the ground with dyrte, in such wise that if the neighbourhood call it Medina of the field, wee courtiers doe terme it Medina of the dyrte. It hath a river that is so deepe and dangerous, that geese in summer go over it dry-footed."—*'Guevara's Letters,'* p. 101, translated by Fellowes, London, 1584.

The city pined after the plundering in Aug. 1520 by the *Comuneros*, when Antonio de Fonseca and his patriots burnt 900 houses, and during the recent war was further impoverished by frequent pillage and exaction of the invaders. The Gothic church San Antolin in the plaza, was founded in 750, and made collegiate in 1480, of which date are the tower and the figures that strike the hour. The grand cinquecento *retablo* consists of five tiers, enriched with the life of our Saviour and Berruguete ornaments. The crucifix in one of the chapels is attributed to Gaspar Becerra; the Doric *silleria del coro* came from Guadalupe. The unfinished hospital, with vast front and grand quadrangle, was built by Juan de Tolosa, in 1591, for Simon Ruiz Embito. The *retablo* in the chapel is adorned with a miracle of the charity-

dispensing San Diego. Observe the iron *reja*, the tomb of the founder kneeling with his two wives, and his portrait painted by Pantoja de la Cruz. Part is now used as a cavalry barrack. The city shambles, *las Carnicerías*, are much admired, and the *patio*, with granite pillars, was built in 1562 by Gaspar de Vega. Look at the plateresque *Casa de las Dueñas*, and walk in the Chiopal.

Visit the *Castillo de la Mota*, erected in 1440 by Fernando de Carreño, for Juan II., on the site of the Roman Methimna, and increased by Isabella in 1479. This well moated castle, the only mound in these plains, crowns the hillock, with a slim *Torre del Homenaje*, and the bartizan turrets at the angles, which are so common in these districts. Visit the interior. Here the notorious Caesar Borgia was confined for two years, until he escaped by the aid of the Conde de Benavente. And here, a little before noon on Wednesday, Nov. 26, 1504, died Isabella, in the 54th year of her age and 30th of her reign. Peter Martyr, writing the same day from the spot to the Conde de Tendilla, and to Talavera, the good Archbishop of Granada, thus sums up the just eulogium of his mistress, a pattern of her sex, and one of the purest sovereigns by whom female sceptre was ever wielded: "Cedit mihi præ dolore dextra; orbata est terræ facies mirabili ornamento, inaudito hactenus: in sexu namque femineo et potenti licenciâ nullam memini me legisse, quam huic natura Deusque formaverit, comparari dignam" (Epis. 279). Her body was moved to Granada in December, after a journey replete with horrors, over roadless tracks, amid storms and torrents, of which Peter Martyr, who accompanied his mistress to her last home, has given a faithful picture.

From hence to *Valladolid* is 8 L., either returning to *Tordesillas*, or taking the direct road to *Puente del Duero*, and thence diverging to *Simancas*, where the archives of Spain, an imperfectly explored mine of historical information, are interred. The town,



with its church, tower, and castle, rise boldly on the opposite side of the Pisuerga, here crossed by a stone bridge of 17 arches, which the French injured Sept. 8, 1812, when they retreated before the Duke. The river is deep and rapid; and the proverbs say, "*El Duero lleva la fama, y Pisuerga lleva el agua;*" "*Duero y Duraton, Arlanza y Arlanzon, en el puente de Simancas juntos son.*" Like the Guadiana and Guadalquivir, the stream is turbid and discoloured by the clayey soils through which it eats its way. Some geographers make this river the boundary between Leon and Old Castile. There is a poor posada at the end of the bridge, *Fonda del Puente*.

*Simancas*, town and castle, originally belonged to the Henriquez, the grand Admirals of Castile, until taken from them by Ferdinand and Isabella, and destined, at the suggestion of Cardinal Ximenez, for the national archives. They are open from 8 A.M. to 1; Don *Manuel Garcia*, the most obliging *Archiviero Mayor*, is no regard of hours or fees, and speaks French. The moated and castellated edifice, rises on the N.W. angle of the town. On the battlements in 1522 the famous Alcalde *Ronquillo* hung up *Antonio de Acuña*, bishop of Zamora, a prelate militant, who had joined the *Comuneros*. This strong castle was indeed a safe and well-selected site for the national archives when the court resided so near, but now its distance from Madrid is very inconvenient, and the Escorial would do better, but funds are wanting. In 1563 Philip II., a great writer and red-tapist, who boasted that he ruled the world with a bit of paper, conceived the idea of a record-office; he employed Geronimo Zurita to classify these archives, and directed Herrera and Berruguete to alter and adapt the edifice (see *Cean Ber. 'Arch.'*, ii. 325). The papers were very complete from 1475. Most of the earlier were destroyed by the patriot *Comuneros* in 1520, while those relating to South America were sent to Seville in 1783.

Buonaparte, who had plundered Vienna and the Vatican to make Paris the receiving-house of title-deeds of conquered and invaded countries, ordered Kellermann, in Aug. 1810, to eviscerate Simancas; sixty cases were sent away in November. A Monsieur Quiter, dispatched from Paris to assist the unlettered soldiers in selection, set aside an additional mass, which filled 1600 cases. When he arrived, March, 1811, twenty-nine rooms were full of papers, of which he reported that about one-quarter were "desirable;" but soon the untoward event of Massena's defeat at Torres Vedras interfered with these "colossal ideas." Monsieur Quiter quitted and fled, having first packed up and sent to Paris 112 cases more; the whole number of packets or bundles thus "removed" amounted to 7861. When the allies entered Paris in 1814 a general reclamation of stolen goods took place, and by the efforts of Labrador, the Spanish ambassador, 146 cases were with difficulty rescued; they had not, however, by March, 1815, got farther on their way back to Simancas than Bordeaux, when, on the landing of Buonaparte from Elba, their further progress was arrested, as robbery again became the order of the day. After his final fall, some of the papers at last were restored to the rightful owners.

A portion of those relating to French diplomacy, of *Legajos de Estado*, and the correspondence of the Castilian court with their ambassadors at Paris, Aragon, and Venice, were kept back, and have in vain been applied for by Spain, since the Bourbons have never chosen to return to their cousins, the spoils of Buonaparte's legions. There are still wanting papers concerning the wars of the League; letters from Paris to Philip II.; all documents bearing on the succession; all relating to the campaigns of Charles V. at Pavia. The French inadvertently left the catalogue of these behind at Simancas, and the missing originals were actually seen lately at Paris. It is to these purloined papers that Mes-

seurs Michelet, Mignet, and Capefigue, are so much indebted. A worse fate remained for many documents which had no French interest: Kellerman used them as waste paper, for his troops to light their fires. In vain did Joseph remonstrate to Buonaparte; the precious documents were destroyed by waggon-loads, as the keeper saw done, and related to us on the spot, adding that these incendiaries put him in mind of Don Quixote, ii. 70, where the devils burn books in fiendish sport. Moreover, on evacuating the castle, these Omars set it on fire, when the N. wing was burnt down. This portion has since been rebuilt. The brands rescued from these burnings, pickings, and stealings, were entirely re-arranged by Don Tomas Gonzalez, canon of Plasencia, who classified the most curious papers, and placed them in the *Patronato viejo*, and in *el cubo*. Many of the archives will be found in his printed *Coleccion*, and others in the publications of M. Gachard.

Formerly the greatest jealousy existed in regard to these archives. Robertson was refused permission to examine them, which was also denied to native authors, and even to royal historiographers. Recently more liberality has been shown; but still, by order of Peña Florida, April 20, 1844, many vexatious provisos are enjoined to those who wish to read and copy closely; and a permission is necessary to see papers later than A.D. 1700.

Mere visitors, however, enter easily. First observe the old chapel of the *Henriquez* family, with a blue and gold roof, and a saloon richly decorated by Berruguete. Each traveller will of course inquire for the class of papers which most interest himself. Among those of general curiosity, observe *el Becerro* of Alonso XI., a sort of Doomsday Book, containing an account of all the rents paid to the crown. Look at the original deed of capitulation at the taking of Granada, signed both by the king and queen; at the convention signed by Boabdil, in Arabic

characters, by which he agreed to quit Spain and live in Barbary; at the title-deeds of the *Soto de Roma*, now the Duke of Wellington's domain; at the *Cuentas del Gran Capitan*, and at many of his original dispatches, written in a loose large handwriting; ask for the *Recamara*, or inventories of Isabella's jewels, her library, and treasures at Segovia, and the swords: among them are noted *la Tisona del Cid*, *La Joya del bien cortar* of Roldan, and the one with which he divided the Pyrenees; notice particularly Isabella's last will, signed by her, Oct. 12, 1504, Medina del Campo; also the will and codicil of Charles V., made at Yuste, Nov. 4, 1558, written in a trembling hand, enjoining the extirpation of heretics. There are many letters of Charles V., Philip II., and his fit wife, our bloody Mary; many also and most curious papers regarding the "*Invincible Armada*," the outfit and expenses. The documents relating to our Elizabeth, from 1558 to 1576, have been made the groundwork of Gonzalez's admirable paper (*Mems. Acad. Hist.*, vol. vii. 249): he also prepared from the original documents *La Retirada*, or retreat of Charles V. at Yuste, now in the archives of foreign affairs at Paris, see p. 498. The original drafts of Philip II.'s dispatches to his ministers and ambassadors are most numerous: they are corrected and interlined with his own royal loose and straggling handwriting.

In the plain below the castle, July 19, 934 (some say 939), king Ramiro defeated the Moors, killing 30,000, 60,000, or as others say, 80,000; and no wonder, for, according to Mariana (viii. 5), two angels on white horses fought on the side of the Spaniards; they have always liked any ally from heaven or earth that does the work, leaving it for them to describe the deed in their bulletins, and claim the glory for *nosotros*. *Simancas* defended Enrique IV. against the league in 1465. The rebels, headed by Archbishop Carillo, had taken *Peñafior*, whereat the people of *Simancas* likened him to the primate

Oppas, who betrayed Don Roderick, and hung him in effigy, singing—

“*Esta es Simancas  
Don Oppas traidor  
Y no Peñaflor!*”

The notorious Irish rebel, Hugh Roe O'Donnell, died at *Simancas*, Sept. 10, 1602: he had fled after the defeat of Kinsale, with many of his adherents, to Philip III., as to the most decided enemy of England. He had pined for some time at La Coruña, sickening under the hope deferred of broken promises, and, coming to urge the king, died here, cursing Punic Spain, and remembering the emerald isle his sweet Argos. From this date commenced the influx of Irish priests, outlaws, and Pat-riotics, who settled in Spain, and from whom were descended the Blakes, O'Donojus, &c., the bitterest opponents of their great fellow-countryman the Duke, in his efforts to deliver their newly-adopted *patria*.

Soon we enter Valladolid by its noble *Campo Grande*. The best inn is *El Parador de las Diligencias*, Plaza de Santa Ana; or the other coach *Parador*, calle de Boaraza; or the Inn kept by *La Bilbaina*.

VALLADOLID, the Roman Pincia, was called by the Moors *Belad-Walid*, the city or “Land of Walid” (*El Weleed I.*), under whose kalifate Spain was conquered. Some Spaniards, who dislike Moorish recollections, derive the name from *Valle de lid*, the scene of a conflict; others from *Vallis Oliveti*, there being few olives in this cold elevated district. *Belad-Walid* was recovered in 930 by Ordoño II., who raised a sculptured lion, a memorial of his victory, on the site of *El Leon de la Catedral*. The domain was granted by Alonso VI. to his son-in-law, the great Count Rodrigo Gonzalez Giron, who gave the city his coat of arms, “gules, three banners or.” Some heralds, however, hold these canting “*girones*” to be “flames of fire;” others “waves of the river;” others say “strips of ribbon,” as the founder of the Girones saved Alonso VI. in

battle, giving him his horse, and binding his wounds with three *red* strips from his *yellow* mantle; an orle of eight castles was afterwards added. When the male race of this Giron failed, the domain was regranted in 1090 to the Conde Pedro Ansurez, the real founder of modern Valladolid: by him were rebuilt the bridge, the *San Nicolas*, *La Antigua*, and the Hospital of the *Esgueva*. He died leaving only a daughter, and the grant again soon relapsed to the crown. The city in the beginning of the 15th century became the birth-place and residence of kings under Juan II. According to the proverb it was then without its equal in Castile: “*Villa por villa, Valladolid en Castilla.*” Under Charles V. it was adorned with splendid edifices, and his son Philip II., born here, favoured his native town; he gave it the title of city in 1596, having induced Clement VIII. to elevate it to a bishopric the year before. Madrid rose on the decay of Valladolid, as, when the court removed, the sources of its prosperity were cut off. Philip III., feeling how much better the situation of the ancient capital was, than that of the upstart new one, determined to re-establish it, and quitted Madrid in 1601; but the translation was found to be impossible. Thus a position on a fine river, in a rich fertile country abounding in fuel and corn, and under a better climate, was abandoned for a mangy desert, exposed to the death-pregnant blast of the Guadarrama. Navagiero (35) details what Valladolid then was in all its glory, containing more than 50,000 inhabitants, now it scarcely numbers 20,000.

Valladolid pined away, keeping pace with the decay of Spain, until the invasion of the French, when ruin came on with frightful celerity: Buonaparte gave the signal himself; here he lodged and loitered from Jan. 6th to 17th, 1809, defeating Moore in his bulletins. Here he wrote paragraphs in praise of the Benedictines, to be read in Paris, while he directed executions of monks to be seen in terrorised Valladolid. Here

at his presence Hope withering fled, and Mercy sighed farewell; his first feu-de-joie, the third night after his arrival, was marked by the burning the *Trinitarios Descalzos*, which was utterly destroyed, with the glorious *retablo* by Berruguete. Next he dismantled the Dominican college, the grandest building in the city; then his imitators proceeded to gut the *Carmen Calzados*, where they tore down the *retablo* of Hernandez, broke his finest works, violated his grave, and turned the chapel into an hospital. They then pillaged the *San Juan de Letran*, and stole the Rincon paintings. They subsequently entirely ruined *San Pablo*, and desecrated *Santiago*, destroying the masterpieces of Juni and Tordesillas.

The city had been previously sacked, Dec. 26, 1808, the day on which the invaders first entered; afterwards it became the head-quarters of Kellermann, who, fit successor to Bessières, spared neither church nor cottage, age nor sex, man nor beast. Read the Duc de Broglies' bloody papers, Quarterly Review, cxxix. 42. Civil wars and sequestrations have carried out what the foreign foe commenced; and there are few cities in Spain where the lover of antiquarian and religious pursuits will be more pained than in Valladolid. Nowhere has recent destruction been more busy; witness San Benito, San Diego, San Francisco, San Gabriel, &c., almost swept away, their precious altars broken, their splendid sepulchres dashed to pieces; hence the sad void created in the treasures of art and religion which are recorded by previous travellers, while now-a-days the native in this mania of modernising is fast destroying those venerable vestiges of Charles V. and Philip II. which escaped the Gaul.

VALLADOLID lies on the l. bank of the Pisuerga, which is here joined by the Esgueva; which dividing the town acts as a sewer. These rivers sometimes overflow, and occasion infinite damage in the town and environs. The *Alamedas* on the river-banks are pleasant; to the N.E. is *el Prado de*

*la Magdalena*, laid out on the Esgueva, which is crossed by the central bridge *de las Chirimias*: many others have been removed, but this and that of *Magaña* remain; this "Fleet ditch" has since been covered over. On the Pisuerga are *el Espolon nuevo* and *el Plantio de Moreras*, pleasant and shady walks which lead up to the fine bridge, or rather bridges; for, the ancient one being narrow, another was built alongside of it by the Conde de Ansurez. The grand suburban Alameda is on the *Campo Grande*.

Valladolid is placed in a concave valley; the sloping hills on the r. bank of the Pisuerga look barren and clayey, with reddish streaks or strata. The *Canal de Castilla*, which begins at Alar del Rey, terminates at Valladolid, and, if ever completed, will do much to restore a portion of former prosperity; there is a regular boat communication with Palencia by it. Valladolid is the capital of its province, the residence of the captain-general of Old Castile; the see is suffragan to Toledo. It has 16 parishes, an academy of fine arts, a university, a liceo, theatre, museo, *Casino*, *Circulo*, *Plaza de Toros*, public library, hospitals, *Casa de Espositos*, and usual public establishments, and a high court of Chancery. The town has few social attractions: the climate is damp in winter, and cold from its elevation, while the summer suns scorch fiercely; it is not, however, unhealthy; recently some new foundries, mills, and manufactories have been set up. The inhabitants are genuine old Castilians, grave, formal, honourable, and bores of the *first class*.

Here Columbus died, May 20, 1506; here Philip II. was born, May 21, 1527, and was shown at his birth to the people from the balcony of the house of Alvas, recently bought by Señor Reynoso for a trifle. For local histories, consult '*Las Excelencias de Valladolid*,' Antonio Daça, duo., Valladolid, 1627, and especially for the hagiography of its tutelar saint, Pedro Regalado; or that by *Manuel de Mon-*

*zavel*, 4to. Vall. 1684: '*Viaje Artístico*,' 8vo., Isidoro Bosarte, Madrid, 1804, p. 99; Ponz, '*Viaje*;' '*Historia de Valladolid*;' Matias Sangrador y Vitores, begun in 1848. The '*Compendio Historico Descriptivo*,' published by Julian Pastor in 1843, gives a catalogue of the contents of the new Museo. There is a map of the city by Diego Perez Martinez.

We will commence our sight-seeing above the bridge *de las Chirimias*, keeping on the r. bank: in the first street is the site of the Inquisition, the *Chancilleria*, or Court of Chancery, and naturally enough the *Prison* is quite handy. The great Chancery, or court of appeal for the N. of Spain, fixed here by Juan II., in 1442, was moved to the present building by Ferdinand and Isabella, who appropriated to its use the mansion of the ill-fated Alonso Perez de Vivero. The inscribed motto, "Jura fidem ac pœnam reddit sua munera cunctis" seems rather strong to all who know what Spanish *Justicia* is, let alone chancery in general. This Chancery was in the N. what that of Granada was to the S.; a monopoly. So, as the distances from the other provinces were inconvenient, it was divided in 1835, and an Audiencia established at Burgos, in order to render the court of appeal nearer to suitors from Arragon and Catalonia. Previously, however the site might ruin suitors, Valladolid was benefited, as the presence of the Court of Chancery encouraged the residence of lawyers, and occasioned an influx of clients, witnesses, and students: hence jurisprudence has always been, and still is, one of the chief studies of this city's university. Enough of this; few travellers in or out of Spain care much to get into Chancery.

Passing next, into the *Plaza de San Benito el viejo*, and then into the larger one, *del Palacio*, is the royal palace, built by the Cardinal Lerma, and purchased by Philip III. Although the exterior is commonplace, it has a noble Berruguete staircase and two *patios*: the smaller is called *el Zagan*; the

larger has a fine gallery, *la Saboya*, which was restored by Pedro Gonzalez for Ferdinand VII.: observe also the busts of Spanish monarchs. The diadem has now-a-days dwindled into the beaver, for the palace became the residence of *Huell*, the son of a hatter of the Havannah, who married one of the daughters of the Infante Francisco, brother of Ferd. VII.; this misalliance may be seen and *felt* in the miserable discomfort inside and outside the building. Here, too, Buonaparte was lodged, and, looking out of his window every morning on two of the noblest specimens of religious Gothic art in the world, destined both to desecration and ruin. His first victim was the Dominican convent, *San Pablo*, which was rebuilt in 1463 by Cardinal Juan Torquemada, originally a monk of the old convent, and afterwards the ferocious inquisidor of Seville. The rich façade, attributed to Juan and Simon de Colonia, consists of two divisions: observe the beautiful portal, and elaborate oval, with niche-work and figures; the upper portion is crowned with the arms of the Cardinal Duke of Lerma, its subsequent patron, who was buried here; his splendid tomb is now removed to the Museo. The church is lofty and noble, but disfigured by a paltry modern high altar, which has been erected in place of the former magnificent one which the French broke to pieces. The picture of St. Paul struck blind is by Bartolomé Cardenas: observe the beautiful portals at each side of the altar, and the roof, which, being out of the reach, has escaped defilement; the *patio* or cloister was exquisite until recently taken down to build a prison with the materials! The celebrated statues by Hernandez, a glorious sepulchre, the pictures, plate, library, &c., were all swept away by one sentence of Buonaparte: "Sa majesté," says he himself, "a ordonné la suppression du Couvent des Dominicains, dans lequel un Français a été tué:" but even this pretext was untrue, for an eye-witness on the spot assured us that