

to represent to their admiring congregations, the great and intellectual of the land worshipping at the altars, and bowing to the Virgin and the Saints. We have seen no monuments to their brave soldiers, —to their Cid, to the Great Captain, or any of the heroes of the Moorish wars; none to the discoverers of the New World—Columbus, Cortes, or Pizarro; and, except to Florida Blanca, at Murcia, not one to their statesmen or poets, and other distinguished literary men; and strange, in this bigoted land, none even to their great cardinals and archbishops (who, however, generally took care to erect their own useful monuments in the shape of benevolent and permanent institutions). Humboldt, fifty years ago remarked, that, “we may traverse Spanish America from Buenos Ayres to Monterey, and in no quarter shall we meet with a national monument which the public gratitude has raised to Christopher Columbus, or Fernando Cortes.” The Inquisition and the priests, whose influence may be traced in almost everything in Spain, may have been reluctant, perhaps, to see marble statues of the great men who have ennobled the country, erected in the market-places, lest their flocks might admire them more than the painted saints in the churches, especially when they balanced their respective achievements.

We left Vitoria at five o'clock in the morning, by the courier. The hour for departure is generally three, and having risen an hour before, I was asleep

when we passed Guevara, one of the chief strongholds of the Carlists, who have still a numerous party in the district between Vitoria and Pamplona. The Black Prince advanced by this road in 1367. The small town of Salvatierra is picturesquely situated, and the walls and towers of stone and good masonry seem to indicate that the place was formerly of greater importance than it is now. The drive from there, until a short time before arriving at Pamplona, is very pleasant, through a rich and generally well-cultivated valley, with the Sierra of San Adrian on our left as far as the village of Lacunza, and then the Sierra Aralar, and on our right the Sierra of Andia, reaching nearly to Pamplona. These mountains were like two mighty walls on our right hand and our left, sometimes partly covered with trees, and the perpendicular summits rising above the foliage, and often broken into bold and picturesque forms.

We passed numerous villages, and saw others at the base of the sierras, which in the distance appeared pretty. The peasants are hardy and industrious, and the good crops are pleasant to look at after the thin ones in Castile. The labourers earn their tenpence a-day, but provisions are not very cheap, meat fourpence and fivepence a pound. The country becomes more dreary approaching Pamplona, the valley changes into a wilder district, bounded by hills but bleak in the extreme, scarcely a tree to be seen.

Pamplona, the capital of Navarre, seems a flourishing place, buildings are erecting which would do credit to much larger towns, especially the new hall. The streets are not picturesque, but the plaza is handsome and looks gay, every balcony covered with an awning. The Plaza de Abajo is more striking, with its handsome Ayuntamiento at the end. The market was full of cherries, and the groups of peasants were characteristic, but I saw no beauty amongst the women.

The cathedral is well worth visiting. The *façade* is Corinthian, and besides its being incongruous with a Gothic interior, it is utterly wanting in simplicity. The interior is, however, simple and elegant, but the effect is injured by the choir which, as usual, fills up the centre aisle. The ancient *trascoro* which, to judge from the fragments of marble preserved in one of the chapels, must have been very handsome, was destroyed in the Carlist war; and now there is a plain blank wall, which, perhaps, has the advantage of not being so high. They have, however, attempted to ornament this wall by inserting in it a tomb, from the Capuchin convent, of the Count de Ganges, which would have looked well and been interesting anywhere else, being ornamented with a very beautifully executed battle-scene. The Count on his charger, and some of the other figures are excellent. The choir is ornamented with good carvings, by Miguel Ancheta, of saints and evangelists, all are

different, many of them excellent, and the wood is said to be English oak.

The royal tombs in the centre, with Carlos el Mayor and his Queen, Leonora of Castile, lying at full length, would be very imposing if they were not covered entirely with an iron railing, which destroys their effect. At the King's feet is a lion; and at the Queen's, two dogs, instead of, as usual, only one; I suppose emblematical of her being eminently faithful. The sculpture around the sarcophagus is much injured. The roofs of the choir and cimborio are excellent. The retablo of the grand altar is architecturally good, but the sculpture is indifferent. The canons leave at an early hour, and I could not see the sacristy or library. The cloisters are extremely light and elegant. There is nothing so charming as cloisters such as these, affording a delightful change from the cold and comparative gloom of a cathedral, and yet as works of art, there is always something to admire; all the capitals from which the beautiful arches spring are different, and are ornamented with flowers and figures, and Biblical representations, among others, the building of the Temple of Jerusalem, and Adam and Eve in Paradise. There is an iron palisade which came from the battle of Navas de Tolosa, but it is not otherwise remarkable; and also some tombs, but they are not particularly fine. The refectory is a handsome room with a good

roof, and curious figures, from which the arches spring.

We then visited, near the promenade, the chapel of Ignacio Loyola, which is churrigueresque, but curious as a memorial of his life. There is a painting representing him receiving a wound in defence of this citadel, in 1521; another represents him in his suit of armour, and one, as a penitent, making an offering of his sword; another, when on his way to Jerusalem, the Divinity arrests his steps, and tells him he has more useful work for him in Rome. The promenades are very delightful, and the fortifications apparently extremely strong, especially the pentagonal citadel; but there seemed to be few soldiers on guard, and the discipline very loose.

Pamplona is again the field of British triumph. Jourdan retreated here from Vitoria, and the Duke blockaded the place. Soult made great efforts to restore the fortunes of France, which at first promised to be successful; at Sebastian the Allies were repulsed; at Roncesvalles they abandoned the passes, and at Maya they were defeated.* The Duke's presence changed the aspect of affairs, and several battles were fought, especially at Sauroren, a short distance from here, and the French were obliged to abandon their position on the

* Napier, vol. vi, p. 124.

heights adjoining, and were soon driven across the the Pyrenees.

We left Pamplona at four o'clock in the morning, in the *coupé* of the diligence, and passing through a pretty country, abounding in corn and wine, came to the village of Bullatin, and soon afterwards, on our right, the village of Tetoli, very picturesquely situated, with a fine view beyond, of distant ranges of hills, well clothed with woods. The valley then becomes narrower, and we passed through a picturesque little forest of oaks, extending to the summit of the hills, and watered by a little trout-stream, following which we came to the village of Ulaquez, three and a half leagues from Pamplona, where the valley is again more cultivated and less woody. Occasionally the views were very extensive and beautiful, of rich plains and villages perched amongst the hills and mountains in the distance.

At the prettily situated but wretched Venta de Ruez, four and a half leagues from Pamplona, we changed horses, and ascended for half an hour a magnificent pass, mountains and rocks, covered with fine trees, villages in the rich valleys, and often fine distant ranges of mountains. We then descended into the celebrated valley of the Bastan. They say the view from the summit is very splendid, but to our great disappointment, a sudden mist came on, and we had but glimpses of the beauty around us. This valley is twelve leagues long, and

Olagüe

contains fourteen villages; the peasants have great abundance of cattle; wages are high (one shilling a-day), provisions cheap, and the soil excellent, if properly cultivated; but they have strong temptations to become contrabandists, and the peasantry on both sides the frontier carry on this illicit traffic to a great extent. Groceries, silks and other manufactures are brought over in large quantities, and many farms neglected for the more exciting and more lucrative trade of the smuggler. The road over this fine pass is magnificent, but for some part of it there is no barrier whatever from the precipice, though it is well protected by the *guardia civile*, not for fear of robbers, for there are none, but on account of the contrabandists.

When we had descended from the mountains, the mist was dispersed, or we had left it behind us, and we had a beautiful drive through a narrow and rich valley, the hills well clothed with foliage, and after passing Enirita, a flourishing village, the wooden balconies of the houses reminding me a little of Switzerland; in a quarter of an hour afterwards, we arrived at the large village of Elisondo, where we breakfasted deliciously on a fat green goose, and well-dressed plump chickens, a glorious treat after starving so long in the Castiles. I felt rather ashamed of my voracity, having consumed the whole of the goose myself, Mrs. H—— preferring a chicken; but my scruples were calmed when I

Imzifa

se comia en Elizondo bien y barato

found the price here of such a bird is only ninepence, and chickens fourpence and fivepence each. This is truly a happy valley, so much beauty, and all the necessaries of life good and cheap.

In three hours we crossed the frontier to the French side of the Bastan, and arrived at the custom-house of Anor, where our boxes were taken down, to entitle the porters to their fees, but were not examined. We had rather a pretty drive from there to Espelette, and reached Bayonne at four o'clock. The transition from a kingdom half a century behind all others, to the civilization of France, is very striking. The neatness of the admirable French fortifications compared to Pamplona, the discipline of the guard, the superiority of the uniform, the excellence of the hotels, and above all, the transition from the most diabolical cookery, redolent with strong oil, garlic and saffron, to the most *recherché cuisine* in the world, remind us our tour in Spain is ended. I could not, however, repress some regrets that I had not seen more of that interesting country. Very early in the spring, or very late in the autumn, are the most agreeable seasons for travelling there; but now July is approaching, and the heat is already great for a lady to bear.

Añoa

No one can visit Spain without feeling a strong attachment to that racy land, so unlike every other in Europe. It is a country that must

please all tastes. The wildness and grandeur of the bleak sierras, and the rich, picturesque vales, must haunt the memory of those who care only for scenery. The antiquarian and the architect will recollect the splendid ruins and temples which have excited his curiosity; the sculptor, the works of Montañes, Juni, Hernandez, &c.; the painter will think of Valencia, and its Joanes and Ribaltas; of Granada, and its Canos; of Seville and its Murillos and Zurbarans; of the Escorial, and its El Mudo; and of Madrid, and its Velasquez—artists which can never be fully appreciated elsewhere.

The politician will recall subjects without end for his speculations, the undeveloped resources of the country; plains longing for the plough, and thirsting for wells and sakeeas; the extraordinary mineral wealth of the kingdom; the defective communications; and, above all, the singular spectacle of a Cortes of three hundred and fifty gentlemen of property, almost all of them returned through the influence of the Premier. If there was a fair representation of the people without Government influence being exerted, I believe that such is the general appreciation of Narvaez' talents, and gratitude for the order and security that he has undoubtedly established throughout the realm, that a working majority would give him their support; but without this element of power, without the Government resting on the Cortes and the people,

and not as now, almost entirely on the Court, or rather the Camarilla, neither Narvaez, nor any other Premier, can dare to effect the reforms the country requires; cut down the myriads of *employés*, reduce the immense army, and redeem the national credit by bringing the finances into such a state that the nation could not only acknowledge their immense debt, but with ease pay the interest of it.

A Government with such a basis would create confidence in the future, and men would embark in commercial and agricultural speculations; and then, and not till then, there would be a prospect of brighter days for that unfortunate country.*

The cathedral of Bayonne has a very good Gothic interior without any choir to fill up the centre aisle, and destroy the effect. The journey from there to England may soon be accomplished. The diligences leave at seven o'clock in the evening, and arrive at Bordeaux at four o'clock the next morning. The *malle poste* leaves at midnight, and arrives the next day at two o'clock. The route is pleasant, through a cultivated country the first part of the way, and afterwards through forests and the *landes*, where figures, like giants, may sometimes be seen stalking along on their stilts.

Bordeaux is the finest provincial town in France;

* Since the above was written, Narvaez has been dismissed, and such must be the fate of every minister dependent upon the Camarilla; but it is very probable he will soon be Premier again.

the quay, the large open promenade, the fine theatre, streets, and squares ; the cathedral, with its handsome *façade* and two elegant spires, and broad interior, consisting of a single nave ; the old church of St. Croix, with its beautiful rich Romanesque architecture ; the church of St. Michael, with its fine Gothic interior and cave full of skeletons ; and above all, the admirable kitchen and good wine, particularly grateful after a tour in Spain, make it a desirable place to rest in.

The diligence starts from Bordeaux every morning, two hours after the arrival of the Bayonne diligence, and arrives at Tours at twelve o'clock the following day. The courier takes only twenty-four hours. The route is pleasant, but not interesting, richly cultivated, and plenty of trees, but extremely flat. Angouleme, with a cathedral, the exterior of which is ornamented with Saxon arches, is a pretty little town, situated on a hill commanding an extensive view of the verdant country around—a kind of Richmond, but not so beautiful ; and the views are also extensive between Angouleme and Poitiers, which has its cathedral, and the site of the celebrated battle ; but arriving there at the dawn of day, we could only observe the old-fashioned appearance of some of the houses ; and the ornamental, rather than good cutlery, which they offer for sale at the hotel.

The railway is just opened from there to Paris, a

journey now of only ten hours, so that Spain by this route may be reached in four days, but there are many inducements to linger. Tours is a pretty town on the Loire, worth staying to see; and has its good Hôtel de l'Univers, on the fine promenade; an excellent street of shops; a pleasant hill on the opposite side of the river, where the English chiefly reside; and a cathedral, with a handsome Gothic *façade*, with two rather stumpy towers, and an excellent interior. The stained glass is rich, and there is a pretty little tomb of a prince and princess of France, the children of Charles VIII., and Anne de Bretagne. The ornaments are very elegant, and the boy and girl, decorated in their royal robes, are interesting. The view from the tower is fine.

We visited also the château of Blois, and ascending the beautiful stone staircase, saw the scene of one of the darkest passages in the history of France, the murder of the Guises—and then drove to the Château de Chambord, like Blois, a fine specimen of the time of Francis I.; the towers and staircases are handsome; and the domain extensive, though not picturesque. The building is in a sad state, and only a few workmen are employed in restoring it; but they may have ample time, perhaps, to finish the repairs before the Duke returns to France. The rich plains near there bristle with castles interesting for their architecture and historical associations; among others, Chenonceaux and

Amboise, where poor Abd-el-Kader is confined. Orleans, and its elegant cathedral and magnificent interior, picturesque Hôtel de Ville, and associations of Jeanne d'Arc, is interesting; but there is one place the traveller, in his hurry to get to Spain, or in his haste to return home, should not fail to see, and that is the colony of Mettray, about five miles from Tours, established by the Viscomte Bretagères de Courteilles, and the Conseiller Demetz. As the question of prison discipline is one of the most interesting of the present day, I will conclude my tour with an account of this excellent institution.

Mettray is situated in a rich and well-wooded country, and is a pleasant and cheerful-looking place, without the least appearance of a prison or penitentiary; no guards, soldiers, or policemen—no locks or bars, or even enclosures, to prevent escape. A pretty church is the most conspicuous building, as it ought to be; for without religion, prisons may be reformed, but not the prisoners. On each side of the little chapel, but separated from it, are two large buildings, containing the school-room, hospitals, residences of directors, kitchens, and other offices; opposite the church is a large quadrangular court, which is used for the play-ground. In the centre of it is a basin, and at each angle a well, where the boys wash themselves. On two of the sides of this court are rows of five detached plain but neat

houses, with projecting roofs. They are all of the same size and form, and are erected at an expense of about £300 each, many by private individuals, whose names are inscribed on the front of them, and others by different towns in the neighbourhood. Each house accommodates a family of forty-five lads, with a master and assistants, and consists of two large rooms, which are sometimes used during the day as workshops, often as play-rooms in wet weather, and there also the boys have their meals; after supper their hammocks are let down, and each lad sleeps in his own bed, their heads being alternately in a different direction, to prevent their talking at night. The master of the family and his assistant sleep in alcoves commanding a view of each room.

There are now five hundred and sixty boys in this establishment, who have entered at different ages from five to thirteen, very few however under seven, but about half the number from that age to twelve, and none are allowed to remain beyond twenty. They have all been before the tribunals, or, as the French say, acquitted "comme ayant agis sans discernement;" that is to say, with so much of guilt attaching to them as to authorise the magistrates detaining them, under the sixty-sixth article of the criminal code, whenever there was any prospect of their benefiting by such detention, or probability of a continuance of vicious habits if they

restored them to their companions, or homes and parents, when possessed of any.

One hundred and ten of these five hundred and sixty boys are wooden-shoemakers, joiners, farriers, locksmiths, ropemakers, leather-shoemakers, blacksmiths, tailors, masons, cartwrights, gardeners, and servants attached to the Sisters of Charity, who attend the hospitals, and preside in the kitchens; and others who, in their turns, week after week, are engaged in the services, the boys performing every kind of labour required. The remainder, about four hundred and fifty, are agriculturists, and work on fifty hectares, or one hundred and twenty-three acres of land, belonging to the establishment, and one hundred and fifty hectares more, which they farm. The land is fortunately good, and affords encouragement to the young workmen, who, instead of acquiring a fondness for labour, might become disgusted, if their toil was thrown away on an ungrateful soil.

They have also, detached farms, managed by families or colonies from the institution; and, as a reward, the best lads have this confidence reposed in them.

The boys are decently and simply clothed, not as criminals, but all in the same kind of blouse and costume, which would be easily recognized, if they endeavoured to escape. They are taught, however, to consider it a disgrace to make such an attempt,

when there are no guards or bolts to prevent them. Although most of the lads are taken from central prisons and houses of correction, where there is little discipline, and in many a vicious and corrupting but attractive liberty, it is only on their first entrance that any of them ask to be restored to their former prisons, where they had fewer punishments; and scarcely any have endeavoured to escape, and those only at the commencement of their residence here, when, of course, regular labour and strict discipline would be irksome to them.

A few days' confinement in the solitary cells subdues the obstinacy of the most vicious, and soon they take to their work, and become contented and happy. They are well fed—they have meat three times a-week, and on other days, soup; vegetables, and half a pound of good bread, three times a-day.

The directors, when they founded Mettray, selected twenty-three young men of respectable farmers' families in the neighbourhood, and educated them for the important task of masters. This school is still continued as part of the establishment, and out of the numerous scholars they select the best for their officers. They have thus a constant supply of well-trained, clever teachers, whose principles and character they are well acquainted with; and the connection with their neighbours has in many ways an advantageous effect.

Notwithstanding this expense, and the boys seldom staying beyond three or four years—leaving indeed when their labour is most profitable—the Government allowance of seven-pence a-day for each child is sufficient, with what they earn, to cover all the expenses of the establishment.

Each family elects, every month, two from their numbers, who are called *frères ainés*, to assist the masters; and so judiciously do they use this privilege, that it is very rarely that the directors exercise their power of revoking their election.

Everything is managed with military regularity. A trumpet rouses them in the morning; and after dressing, quickly arranging their hammocks, saying their morning prayers, and washing at the fountains, at the sound of the second trumpet they assemble for their work; quickly and silently they obey the call, as those who are not silent, and the one who arrives the last, are marked with a bad ticket. They march to and from their work with military precision, to the sound of the trumpet, which prevents their acquiring the sluggish and indolent gait too often a characteristic of country labourers.

At this season of the year, they work from half-past five to eight o'clock, when they have half an hour for breakfast and recreation, and then work again until one o'clock, when they have an hour for dinner and play; from two to four o'clock,

when in this climate every peasant reposes, they attend a class in the school-room, where they are taught, for ten hours in the week, reading, writing, and accounts; for two hours more, their religious duties, the same time is given to teaching them singing; and, as a reward for good conduct, the instruments of the brass band, which are not only a treat, but often an advantage to the boys in their future career, as soldiers, or enabling them to increase their weekly gains as labourers, by assisting in the music of the parish churches.

The lads are taught sitting, so that their bodies repose while their minds are occupied; and thus refreshed, they are enabled to return with vigour to their work at four, and continue until eight o'clock, when they go to supper; and, after their prayers and evening hymn, they have a few minutes' recreation, while their hammocks are preparing for bedtime, nine o'clock.

In the winter, they work from two to about six, in the fields, and have two hours' class in the evening; and when the weather is bad, they break stones under the awnings between the houses.

During the time allowed for play, they talk and do as they like; but their masters and *frères aînés* take care that they do not make use of gross language, swear, quarrel or fight. I can testify that there is no restraint; for I saw them during the time of recreation, and I never heard more

heartly peals of laughter on any playground. There was mirth, innocence and happiness in the sound; and it prepossessed me more in favour of the institution than anything the intelligent master who went round with me said. Their hours of amusement are, however, turned to account; gymnastics strengthen their bodies: they are also taught to work water-engines, and frequently they have rendered great services in extinguishing fires in their neighbourhood.

Religious instruction is carefully given them every Sunday morning, after mass, by their chaplain, and in the afternoon by one of their directors; as it is only by such instruction that they can be sensible of the errors of their previous ways. After religion, emulation is the great principle by which reform is effected. Taking places is practised in the school. Their work is often given to them by the piece, and those who have behaved well are allowed to go to the detached colonies, or are employed in the gardens, or such services of the establishment which are liked best by the boys. Occasionally they have examinations of the different workshops, and small pecuniary rewards given, which are kept for those who attain them until they leave the establishment. Emulation between families is also encouraged, rewarding those who have had no punishments during the week; and so useful is this *esprit de famille*, that some have been known to oblige their mem-

bers to restore books which they had received for their good conduct when no longer deserving of them, and other families have required the expulsion of incorrigible boys, who disgraced them by their bad conduct. The greatest incitement to good behaviour is, however, the inscription on the tablet of honour. Three months' good conduct, without bad tickets, entitle them to this privilege. Very many have been inscribed on it four or five times, some more frequently, and others during the whole time of their detention. Those who behave themselves well for two years receive a ring of merit, and their names are written on tablets.

There are slight punishments for trivial offences; such as not allowing the offenders to join their companions during play hours, detaining them solitarily in the parlour to afford them the opportunity of reflecting on their conduct, and giving them at their meals nothing but dry black bread and water. The severe punishments are degradation if a *frère aîné*, or erasure for those whose names are inscribed on the table of honour, and solitary confinement in lighted or dark cells. In the former they are employed in making the heads of nails; and during the time they are allowed to leave their cells every day, they have to break stones.

The solitary cells are ingeniously arranged behind the chief altar of the chapel, so that when the curtain is drawn, and the doors opened, they can

hear and join the service, and lessons are in that manner read to all of them at the same time. They say that the solitary confinement is much dreaded by the boys, but there was not a single cell occupied when I was there. The severest punishment, but which has only been enforced two or three times, is expulsion from the establishment, sending back them to the central prisons and houses of correction from whence they came.

What then is the result of this institution? The influence of religious exercises and instruction, and the example of reformed and older boys; the regular habits, enforced by strict discipline; the sight, perhaps, of rich crops and green fields, the work of their own hands; the love of labour thus judiciously instilled into their minds; the cultivation of honourable principles by a prudent emulation; enrolment and erasure from the tables of honour and good conduct; and more especially the division of the establishment into small families, when the masters become, as it were, fathers of the families, and naturally take more interest in the boys, and understand their characters better, than if they all lived together in one room; have had an effect exceeding the most sanguine expectations. That success has been acknowledged by the Government, and similar institutions are now formed and forming in various districts in France.

The establishment of Mettray has only been