clined in favour, and even sunk into a kind of disgrace. After having travelled for some time he returned to Spain. His enemies had profited by his absence, and he soon saw that a philosophic retreat was best suited to his situation. He settled at some leagues distant from Madrid, on an estate where for several years he was engaged in agriculture, and in establishing useful manufactures. But new storms again troubled his tranquillity, and obliged him to repass the Pyrenees. At the end of 1804 he for a time settled at Toulouse.

The bank which he founded, has indeed experienced many vicissitudes. At first it was entirely independent of government; fifteen years afterwards it was wholly in its hands. The court has appointed a judge, and has the greatest influence in the nomination of its directors. This has not failed to affect its prosperity. During the war with France its shares were with difficulty negotiated at 1500 reals. Notwithstanding, with the exception of one of the last years, it has constantly paid a dividend of six, five and a half, or at least four and a half per cent.; which is hardly credible after the many diminutions it has experienced in its profits. It discounts few bills of exchange. The payments it makes for government abroad can be accounted for nothing. The provisioning the army and the navy has been entirely taken from it, and there remains nothing more, to make the profits any way considerable, than the extraction of the piastres.

This then is the bank of St. Charles, more famous than it deserved to be. It has justified neither the pompous promises of its founders, nor the sinister predictions of its enemies. But it must be owned, every thing considered, that it had more advantages than inconveniences. It has electrified many a head that seemed destined to remain paralysed. It has developed and put in action talents which were never expected. It has thrown into circulation many a hoarded and unemployed capital.

This leads us to say a few words of the specie and of the money of Spain.

It is not easy to know exactly the specie that circulates in Spain. She has under her dominion the mines of all the metals which she converts into money. This coined metal cannot leave America without paying a duty, which is repeated when imported into Spain, and again a third time when exported into foreign countries. It would appear from this combination of duties, that it was easy to give an exact statement of the existing specie in the kingdom. But of this money coined in America a great part goes from thence directly in contraband into other countries of Europe; another part goes fraudulently out of the country to pay for foreign merchandize, before it has reached Spain; and lastly, as very little melting is practised in Spain, we have not sufficient vouchers to determine the specie in circulation.

A little while before his death, Musquiz, who

had had the direction of finances, either as chief clerk or minister, during almost twenty years, was not even able to estimate it *any way near*. He confessed it one day in my presence before several Spaniards more informed than himself; and it was from this discussion that I learned that the specie circulating amounted to about EIGHTY MILLIONS OF HARD PIASTRES. Spain was at that time involved in an expensive war, but had not yet attempted the ruinous attack on Gibraltar. Since that time she has made, or at least prepared, some military operations, the consequence of which has been their entire annihilation, or the payment out of the country of capitals which have never returned. In the very short war with France she has suffered such losses as cannot be repaired for many years; and that which followed soon, in suspending all the means of prosperity, added to the embarrassments of the country. Yet as, since 1782, her commerce has been extended, and the produce of her mines has been more abundant, Spain might still have about the same quantity of specie as at that time. It may perhaps be difficult to conceive how Spain, in possession of almost all the silver and a great proportion of the gold mines, should be reduced to such a moderate quantity of specie, especially when it is recollected that under the reign of Charles V. she had almost all the gold and silver of Europe, and, what is

much more valuable, the production of her own territory and her own industry, so as to do without the assistance of any other nation.

How, in one century, could she fall from such a state of splendour? To what are we to attribute a revolution so rapid and so complete?

To a variety of causes, I answer: First, it was the abundance of these metals that caused the rise in the articles of consumption and of labour.

It is owing to the decay of their manufactures, which was the consequence of it; to her depopulation, caused at once by the numerous emigrations to America, to the expulsion of the Moors, and to that of the Jews.

But above all it is owing to the ruinous wars undertaken by Philip II. against the Netherlands, and which, from the year 1567 until the end of 1612, cost no less than two hundred millions of piastres.

But, if Spain preserve peace for several years, if her government second the tendency apparent in the modern Spaniards towards all useful enterprises, she will no longer see the greatest part of her money go to foreign countries to nourish the industry of strangers, and to receive new impressions.

The first money coined in America, whether gold or silver, was uneven on the edge as well as in the impression, which was on one side a cross

and on the other the arms of Spain. Some of them are still in circulation.

The impression afterward varied until 1772, the epocha of a new coinage, which all bear, on one side, the head of the sovereign, and on the other the arms of Spain.

We shall now give an exact view of the different kinds of money, gold as well as silver, coined either in Europe or in America.

Ancient money that is no longer coined in the dominions of Spain, but which is still in existence.

GOLD COIN.

Names.	*Value.*	
The piece of four pistoles cut, *onza cortada*	321 reals	6 marav.
Half piece of four pistoles cut, *media onza cortada*	160	20
Pistole of gold cut	80	10
Half do. do.	40	5

This is the valuation of each of these pieces in general; but as from their form they are liable to be diminished without its being perceived, they are not taken without weighing, and whatever is deficient in weight is deducted from their value. You cannot, therefore, value them exactly by any other coin, nor fix their intrinsic contents in marks of gold.

There are still some pieces of each of the four described, which, although with an edge, are nevertheless weighed. They are distinguished by a cross instead of the head of the sovereign.

Gold coin edged, but which, since 1772, is no longer coined.

Names.	*Value.*		*Value in French money.*		
	reals.	marav.	liv.	s.	d.
A piece of four pistoles edged, anterior to the year 1772	321	6	80	5	$\frac{1}{17}$
Half of do.	160	20	40	2	$\frac{12}{17}$
Gold pistole do. . . .	80	10	20	1	$\frac{5}{17}$
Half do.	40	5	10	0	$6\frac{5}{17}$

Silver money no longer coined.

The old piastre cut, valued at	20 reals.	These four pieces are in the same predicament as the four pieces of gold cut.
Half do.	10	
The old pezetta cut . . .	5	
Half do.	2 17 m.	
The old piastre edged, but bearing 2 crowned globes, value like those cut, and that of the new coin . .	20 reals.	
The half of the above . .	10	

Money of the new coinage.

Names.	*Their value in reals de vellon and maravedis.*	*Their value in French money at par.*	*How much in the mark of this money.*

GOLD MONEY.

	reals.	mar.	liv.	s.	d.	
The quadruple, or ounce of gold called in Spanish *doblon de a ocho onza de oro,* or vulgarly *medalla* . .	320	. . .	80	. . .		8½
The half of the above, or *media onza*	160	. . .	40	. . .		17
El doblon de oro, or gold pistole	80	. . .	20	. . .		34
Half of do.	40	. . .	10	. . .		68
Small golden dollar, or *veinten,* vulgarly called *du ito*	21	. 8 .	5	5	.	129 at least.

SILVER MONEY.

The hard piastre, *peso duro* or *peso fuerte,* vulgarly called piastre gourde . .	20	. . .	5	. . .		8½
Half-piastre	10	. . .	2	10	.	17
Pezeta columnaria . . .	5	. . .	1	5	.	34
Media do.	2	17	0	12	6	68
Realito columnaria . . .	1	8½	0	6	3	136

N. B. These three last pieces are only coined in America. They are edged, and have on one side the arms of Spain, and on the other two globes surmounted with a crown placed between two columns.

	reals.	mar.	liv.	s.	d.
The common *pezeta* . .	4	. . .	1	. . .	41
The half of do. commonly called *real de plata* . .	2	. . .	0	10	82

	reals.	mar.	liv.	s.	d.	
The *realito* or *real de vellon*, which is pronounced *veillon*	1	. . .	0	5	.	164

COPPER MONEY.

The piece of two *quartos*	$8\frac{1}{2}$	0	2	6	$19\frac{1}{2}$
The *quarto*	$4\frac{1}{4}$	0	1	3	39
The *ochavo*	$2\frac{1}{8}$	0	0	$7\frac{1}{2}$	78
The *maravedi*	$1\frac{1}{17}$	0	0	$3\frac{3}{4}$	208 nearly.

The greatest part of the gold money is coined in America. Very little of it is exported from thence, and that serves to pay the balances due to Seville.

The silver moneys coined in America have for signs, on one side, the Spanish arms between two columns, and on the other, a wreath of laurel round the king's head, to indicate that the sovereigns of Spain are the conquerors of America.

Those that are coined in Europe have only the escutcheon without the columns, and the head of the king without wreaths.

There are several mints at Peru. The most known is that of *Potosi*. There is one at *Santa Fe de Bogota*, one at *Santiago de Chili*, and one at *Mexico*. From this last the greatest quantity of piastres are exported to Europe.

Each of these mints has its particular distinction; Mexico has a capital M surmounted with a little *o*.

In Europe there are but three; that of Madrid, of Seville, and that at Segovia. The mark of the first is an M crowned; that of the second an S; and that of the third a little aqueduct of two stories; but for several years that at Segovia has coined nothing but copper.

Besides this there is in Spain ideal money, of which some are moneys of exchange. These are:

The *single pistole*, or *doblon*, value four single piastres, or about fifteen French livres when the exchange is at par. By this ideal money the exchange between France and Spain is settled.

The single piastre, or *peso*, which is called *peso sencillo*, to distinguish it from *peso fuerte*, is worth fifteen reals, or three livres ten sols.

The dollar of *veillon*, also an imaginary coin, by which sometimes the revenue of the crown is reckoned, is worth ten *reals de veillon*, or the half of a hard piastre.

The *ducat*, another ideal coin, serves to value the revenue of individuals and the salaries of those employed in the administration. It is worth eleven reals.

We shall not speak of some other imaginary coins which are only known in the provinces, such as the Catalonian livre, the livre of Valencia, &c.

Spain has constantly refused to alter the names of her coinage. She has conceived that the least variation, the least uncertainty in this respect,

would influence, in a dangerous manner, all the commercial transactions of the world, which receives from this state the greatest part of the metals that are used. However, in 1737, having observed that the hard piastre bore not a proportionate value to the difference that existed between the gold and the silver, she fixed its value at twenty reals. The equilibrium which she wanted to establish being again deranged, the gold did not keep its proportion to its abundance. There was too much advantage in exporting it in preference to silver. If Spain had not remedied this inconvenience, she would entirely have been deprived of her gold. She therefore raised the nominal value of all the gold coin a sixteenth, without changing either the weight or the name. By this means the quadruple, or *doblon de a ocho*, which had hitherto been valued at only fifteen hard piastres, was fixed at sixteen; and so in proportion with all the other gold coin. Nations who possess the metals give law to others, as to the name of their money: those who do not follow it become victims one time or other; and it was this that determined the French government to diminish somewhat the weight of their gold coin without changing the names.

There is a particular court that regulates and judges all business relative to money, under the name of the *real junta de commercio, moneda, minas*, &c. This *junta*, composed of several mem-

bers of the council of finances, of one of the council of Castille, and of two of that of the Indies, is arbitrary, and as independent as the other sovereign councils of the monarchy.

We refer to the seventh chapter the details of the produce of the American mines, in order to finish what we have to say concerning the administration of the metropolis.

CHAPTER IV.

Council of war and its dependencies. Military rank. The duke de Crillon. Infantry. The mode of recruiting. Quintas. *Militia. Cavalry. Scarceness of good horses. Artillery. Engineers. Military education. Count Oreilly. Military rewards.*

THE *council of war* is at the same time a tribunal and a permanent body of administrators. The king consults it commonly on the ordinances relative to his troops. Until the reign of Philip V. it nominated to superior ranks in the military hierarchy. But the present dynasty, disentangling itself from all restraint that fettered its power, has possessed itself of this prerogative of the council of war. The king nominates to all the employments in his army, on the presentation of the inspector of each division. The inspectors also sometimes pursue measures without consulting the council of war; but even then, for form's sake, it gives its sanction to those measures. It was thus that the French parliament formerly registered, almost always with docility, every thing that emanated from the monarch. Sometimes indeed it presented at least some shadow of op-

position to his will; but none of the Spanish sovereign councils have recourse to this feeble barrier against arbitrary power. Despotism is there never irritated or provoked to excess by any legal obstacle. There is no rallying point against it. If it knows how to be moderate, it may still, in spite of fate, last a long time.

The principal functions of the council of war are the administration of justice to those of the military who have brought their causes before this tribunal. It is divided into two chambers or *salas*. The *sala de govierno* is especially occupied with the objects of administration. It has for members the inspectors, the oldest captain of the body-guards and the oldest of the two colonels of the guards.

The *sala de justicia* occupies itself with matters of contention. If dissatisfied with its decision, you may appeal to the chambers united.

According to treaties, all causes of foreigners tried in the first instance by the military judges, go by appeal to the council of war. This is a privilege which foreign nations rigidly insist upon, and particularly the French. The members of this tribunal, who are for the most part old military men, have the method familiar to their profession, and very desirable in commercial affairs, of deciding very expeditiously. Without being more than others accessible to solicitations of favour, or to temptations of corruption, they appear at least more so to the language of reason. In my fre-

quent intercourse with them, I have always found occasion to praise their wisdom and their equity; and for the interest of our commerce, I wish very much that our countrymen may continue them as supreme judges.

The highest military rank in Spain is that of *captain-general of the army*, and is equivalent to marshal of France, with which it was not incompatible, as they were united in the person of marshal Berwick. This rank has however for many years been little in use in Spain. In 1785 only two persons held it in the army, the count d'Aranda and the duke de Crillon. At the expiration of 1795 there were ten; of which three had been recently created, but they were soon after reduced to nine * by the death of the conqueror of Mahon.

Posterity has already begun to speak of him. What will it say? His family will always praise his heart.

* At the end of 1801 there were only seven, exclusive of the Prince of Peace, whom the favour of the king had placed above the captains general by creating for him the title of Generalissimo of the army. There are now five (end of 1804): i. e. count *de Colomera*, known by the name of general Alvarez at the siege of Gibraltar; count *del Campo de Alange*, who, after having been minister of war, successively occupied the embassies of Vienna and Lisbon; the prince *de Castelfranco*, a Neapolitan nobleman, who in the short war with France commanded a Spanish army in Biscay, and who is now ambassador at Vienna; the marquis *de Branciforte*, a Sicilian, brother-in-law to the Prince of Peace; and don *Ventura Caro*, a distinguished military officer, who also commanded an army against France in 1794 and 1795.

His friends will speak long of his amiable qualities, which made him so desirable in society, and secured a pardon for some foibles, the necessary consequences of a good temper and an easy character. And history will say, Crillon was true to the epithet which for several centuries has accompanied his name. He was brave, not on *a certain day*, but *every day* *. He had long experience, less perhaps of the military art than of the dangers of war. He was active, indefatigable. By his humanity, by his prepossessing manners, sometimes more than familiar, he knew how to conciliate the affection and confidence of his soldiers. His example taught them at once courage and gaiety. He had brilliant success in taking a fortress, which, even on the testimony of marshal Richelieu, passed for impregnable; and his miscarrying before another, where his greatest efforts proved unavailing, confirmed his character.

If he was the sport of the passions of others and perhaps of his own, he displayed at least an energetic constancy, and a perseverance which removed every obstacle, and often ended in triumph. He has left behind him some military memoirs, in which he depicts himself without knowing it. The precepts contained in them are examples. You find in them his frank good faith, his benevolence without affectation, and a certain disorder in his ideas which is even amiable.

* Non pas *un tel jour*, mais *toujours*.

After the captains-general* come the lieutenants general, the field-marshals, the brigadiers; three classes of general officers of which the last war with France furnished an opportunity of increasing the number. In 1788 Spain had 47 lieutenant-generals. In 1796 she counted 132. There are at present no more than 97. The number of field-marshals in 1788 was 67; in 1796 they amounted to 160, and at present are 143.

In 1788 the infantry was composed of 44 regiments, each of two battalions, without counting the Spanish and Walloon guards, each containing 4,200 men in six battalions. Of these 44 regiments 35 were national, two Italian, three Flemish, and four Swiss.

Of the two Italian regiments, one has been reduced; so that only of Naples remains.

The three Flemish regiments known by the name of the little Walloons (Flanders, Brussels, and Brabant,) have been incorporated with the national troops.

The Swiss regiments have been raised from four to six. These are, that of Schwaller (now Wimpfen) raised in 1734; those of Ruttiman, Reding, and Betschart, raised in 1742; that of Yann (now Traxler) in 1794, and that of Courten in 1796.

* The navy has also captains-general, of whom we shal speak hereafter.

The national regiments have been increased with 14, two of which, the volunteers of Tarragon and of Girone, were raised in 1792, and the 12 others during and since the war with France *.

These 88 battalions in 1788, at 684 men to a battalion, should have made the Spanish infantry amount to 60,192 men. However, I often heard it repeated during my first residence, that Spain had hardly 30 thousand effective men. The last war showed that she was capable of much greater efforts.

A little before this war broke out, a new form had been given to the infantry. Each regiment was composed of three battalions, two of which were for the field, and one denominated the *garrison* battalion, intended as an *entrepôt* to the others, to form their recruits, and to send them reinforcements. The two first should have 5 companies, each of 77 men, one of them grenadiers, and one of chasseurs. Their complement was 700 men each in time of peace, and 800 in time of war. When I arrived in Spain in 1792, this regulation was just begun, and there were only three regiments who had three battalions. Most of these regiments, at the time when preparation for war was making, could hardly reckon in the whole from 1000 to 1100 men.

* At present (the end of 1804) there are no more than 38 national regiments, one Italian, and six Swiss. Total 45; of which the Swiss have only two battalions; all the rest have three, according to the new regulation in 1791.

In many, the first battalion could not muster 800 men without almost entirely breaking up the other two. The battalions sent successively to the frontiers were therefore composed of four companies of fusiliers, of 160 men each, and one of grenadiers of 120. Total 760.

Each company in the Spanish regiments had one captain, whose pay in peace was 700 reals per month; one first lieutenant at 400 reals; one second lieutenant at 320; and one sub-lieutenant at 250. In the foreign regiments there were two sub-lieutenants.

Each soldier received eleven quartos per day, (about 6 *sous* 10½*d.* French) of which two were stopped for their linen and shoes and stockings, seven for their maintenance, and two for other necessaries. They were newly clothed every thirty months, and furnished every fifteen months with a pair of shoes, two pair of stockings, and two shirts.

It may easily be conceived that these have been increased in time of war.

If the two first battalions of the 44 regiments had been complete, Spain would have had 70,000 men; but there wanted many of that number in the beginning of 1792. On the approach of war, and after it had begun, all endeavours were used to complete the regiments, and twelve more were raised. By adding then to the 70 thousand these 22,800 new-raised troops, the

30,000 of the provincial militia, and the 8,400 Spanish and Walloon guards, Spain would have had 132,000 men. But besides that most of the regiments could not be raised to the war establishment, there were many deductions to be made from this number, as well for garrisoning Madrid as the interior and the coasts. So that the greatest army Spain had in effective men the last war did not exceed eighty thousand infantry, without however reckoning twenty thousand peasants, who for the campaign of 1795 were armed and incorporated with the regular troops.

It is not long ago that a great part of the infantry was abroad. In 1782 thirty-six battalions were in America. But since that time permanent corps have been established in all the Spanish possessions, and at the end of 1792 there were hardly any battalions of Spanish troops out of Europe. I do not speak of the places which Spain possesses on the coast of Africa, *Ceuta*, *Melilla*, *el Peñon*, *Alhucemas**. These places, known by the name of *African presidencies*, are garrisoned by troops from Europe.

The means of recruiting this army are in general very slender. The Spanish nation, brave as it is, has for some years past shown much disgust to the foot service. Each regiment, to procure men, hoists its colours in those places where

* *Oran* belonged to Spain ever since the conquest of it by cardinal Ximenes, till 1792, when she chose to abandon it.

it expects to find most dupes and libertines, and the army, as formerly in France, is recruited from the refuse of society. Often, at least before the war of 1792, our soldiers, actuated by the inconstancy that still continues to characterize them, travelled through the passes of the Pyrenees to enlist with the Spanish recruiting parties. The foreign regiments were completed at the expense of ours; and as the Spaniards have little experience of that wandering inconstancy which leads their neighbours into all the armies of Europe; and as besides our army is much more numerous than that of Spain, the inconvenience from the proximity of the respective garrisons was all on our side. The court of Madrid has therefore been solicited in vain to conclude a cartel with France for the mutual return of deserters; the only thing concluded on was the restoration of arms, horses, and baggage.

There is indeed another method of recruiting the Spanish army, that of the *quintas*, a kind of drawing resembling that of militia; but this distinction is to be observed in Spain, where they are both in use, that one is for recruiting the regulars, and the other the provincial regiments. The ordonnance of 1705 states, that for the first object lots should be drawn in each district to choose one out of *five*, but that at the same time the drawing for the militia should be suspended: this is the etymology of the word *quintas*. As it always happens, the thing is changed, but the name

remains. The *quintas*, now, do not demand such a heavy contribution from the people; and as they have several times manifested how odious it was to them, government has not recourse to this expedient but on the most urgent occasions. It was dispensed with during the American war, and was only twice resorted to in that with France.

Besides these regiments of infantry of the line, Spain has also twelve battalions of light infantry, of which the oldest was raised in 1762, and the two latest in 1802.

But we must not omit, as an essential part of the land forces, the 42 regiments of militia enrolled solely in the provinces of the crown of Castille. They are embodied only one month in the year in the principal place of which they bear the name, and then the officers and men are paid. This is also the case in time of war, when they are employed to replace the regular troops in garrisons, or to be embodied with the army, of which they certainly are not the least valuable portion. This was perceived in the last war, at the commencement of which 84 companies of grenadiers and chasseurs of these provincial regiments, to the number of 6300 men, were sent to the frontiers. During peace, except the month when they are embodied, they remain in their villages and follow their occupations. These regiments, all composed of a single battalion of 720 men (except that of Majorca, which has two), must

always be complete. As soon as a militia man dies, deserts, or is dismissed, he is replaced by lot drawn in the district to which he belonged.

These militia regiments have a particular inspector; their colonels are taken from the principal inhabitants of the canton. Their authority over the men is very great. They may inflict corporal punishments, and there is no appeal from their sentence but to the king by means of the council of war. There are few countries in Europe that have a better militia, and that better keep up the military reputation of the nation.

It is agreed on all hands that the Spanish soldier distinguishes himself by his cool courage, his steadiness, and by his endurance of labour, fatigue, and hunger. Our countrymen who served with them at Minorca and Gibraltar do them this justice most completely; and even those who in the last war retaliated in such a shining and steady manner on the Spanish army, the temporary success it had otained in Roussillon and on the banks of the Bidassoa, understand their own glory too well not to allow that they almost always found in the Spanish soldier an enemy worthy of themselves.

Even the officers on whom, before I came to Spain, I had heard the most severe observations made, have constantly displayed in this war courage and often talents. We must confess, that if the Spanish troops have degenerated a little, it is to be attributed to circumstances entirely foreign to them-

selves. Courage and military talents require constant exercise. A long peace may change the martial spirit of the most courageous nation. For although Spain has taken part in almost every war this century, yet it may with truth be said, that since the peace of 1748 her troops have not made any real campaigns. The Spaniards themselves dare not give that name to that of Portugal, so short, and so barren of obstacles and dangers. The expeditions to Algiers in 1774, and to Buenos Ayres in 1776, were nothing but partial and fleeting operations, which furnished few occasions for courage, and little food for experience.

Let us add, as an apology for the Spanish officers, that the life they lead is such as to benumb all their faculties. Most of their garrison towns are lonely places, without resources either in respect to instruction or genteel amusements. Deprived entirely of furloughs, they seldom obtain leave to attend to their affairs. This undoubtedly is a way to make excellent soldiers of those who are forced to that profession, without views of distinction. But every where a stimulus is necessary to excite to exertion; and with the most part of the Spanish officers, the obscure and monotonous life they lead, without any manœuvres on a great scale, and without any reviews, at length deadens all activity, or leads to unworthy objects. It has moreover the inconvenience of making the service little attractive, and keeping from it those to

whom a small fortune and a good education present other resources. The Spanish army, however, has in this respect for some years experienced an advantageous alteration. The military schools of Santa Maria, for the infantry, directed by general Oreilly; that of Ocaña, for the cavalry, by general Ricardos; and that at Segovia, for the artillery, have furnished the army with distinguished officers. The martial spirit begins to revive in the nobility, and many of its first members have renounced the pleasures of the capital, and gave, during the last war, an example of discipline and courage.

What we have said concerning the infantry is applicable to all the other corps of the Spanish army. After many variations, the following is the actual state of her cavalry. She has twelve regiments of horse of five squadrons each; six regiments of chasseurs, and six of hussars, each of five squadrons, without counting one brigade of royal carabiniers, which makes a part of the royal military household, and has a particular organization.

Each squadron of these regiments consists of a hundred horse in time of peace, and a hundred and eighty in time of war. Twenty or thirty years ago, if all the heavy and light cavalry of Spain had been complete, she would have had an army of about 11,500 horse.

Since that time, and particularly since the peace of Bâle, Spain appears to have been seriously oc-

cupied in improving her cavalry; and the new regulations she has made are a proof of it. Until within a few years the Spanish regiments of this part of the army were far from being complete even in men; and even of the number they had, eighty were without horses. From this resulted an inconvenience which could not be remedied but by time. The service of the cavalry lost much of the attraction which it ought to have had with the Spaniards, because the new-raised men remained on foot during three or four years, till their turn came to have the horses which their comrades had left without riders.

How are we to account for this scarcity of horses in a country which, so late as the reign of Philip IV, could furnish eighty thousand for military service, to which almost all the provinces contributed! for Andalusia was not the only one renowned for the beauty of its horses. Pliny praises those of Galicia and of the Asturias; Martial those of Arragon, his country, &c. But the multiplication of mules has almost annihilated the race of good horses in the two Castilles, the Asturias, and Galicia. In order to procure a considerable number of these useful animals, which make up for their ignoble appearance by their utility and the length of their service, they have sacrificed exclusively their handsomest mares to the breed of mules, which are established every where. Even

this breed has not been sufficient for the demand, which augments every day ; and Arragon, Navarre and Catalonia have finished by drawing from France the greater part of the mules they use ; and it is not exaggerating to say that more than twenty thousand go from France to Spain every year.

So true is it that the extravagant increase of mules is the cause of the degeneracy of horses in most of the provinces of Spain, that Andalusia, where the laws prohibit the covering of mares by asses, is the only province where the beauty of horses has been preserved *. We should, however, be tempted to believe that even there, if they have not lost any thing of their spirit, of their make and docility, they have at least lost a great deal of their strength. From the testimony of some of our best officers of cavalry I can affirm, that nothing is more striking than the first and second charge of the Spanish horse, but at the third the horses are exhausted.

It appears, therefore, to be granted by all impartial Spaniards and judges, that the best race

* Horses really beautiful are even there excessively rare. A Dane who should be a judge, and who is so, having traversed all Spain, about three or four years ago, to buy a certain number of horses to enrich the studs of the king of Denmark, assured me that, of four thousand which he had seen, he could find no more than twenty that were worth the trouble of exporting.

of horses has degenerated with respect to strength They have now no other expedient left to restore them to their former excellence, but to cross the breed *.

Meanwhile, until that regeneration shall be complete, several noblemen on their estates, and the king at Cordova and at Aranjuez, are occupied with success in preserving the few good breeds that still remain. Several sets of horses have appeared at Madrid and at the royal residences; and if this taste became general, the studs of mules would soon lose their vogue, and many persons would be interested in increasing and improving the breed of horses.

The Prince of Peace, who appears seriously to concern himself in all that can contribute to the prosperity of his country, has made an essay, from which perhaps the recovery of the beauty of Spanish horses may be dated. He ordered to be bought from the studs of Normandy one hundred handsome mares for the studs of Aranjuez and Cordova. Naturalists say that in crossing Norman mares with Spanish stallions the breed will unite the shape and strength of the Norman mares, and the speed and spirit of the Spanish horses. Analogies drawn from other species of animals seem to support this theory. Experience will soon prove the fact. Without being very ex-

* There appeared in 1796 a work of a very intelligent Spaniard (M. Pomar) on this subject.

pensive, this experience may become very useful, and indemnify Spain in some sort for the conquest we have just made by the crossing of our sheep with theirs. It is thus indeed that great nations, rivals without jealousy, and renouncing exclusive possession, may, in increasing their advantages, revenge themselves with dignity.

Nature, which has treated Spain so generously with all the necessaries and luxuries of life, which refuses her hardly any of the enjoyments of peace, has also not left her without the materials of which war composes its means of destruction. She has abundance of iron, copper, lead, and saltpetre; and her artillery may dispense with drawing them from other sources.

The artillery continued to be on the same footing from 1710 till 1803, when the Prince of Peace entirely changed its organization.

Until that time it was composed of one regiment of five battalions, which some little time ago were increased to six, without counting the company of cadets at Segovia. This regiment had 304 officers, and for its colonel the commandant-general of the artillery, who at the same time officiated as inspector of the corps.

At present the whole Spanish artillery is distributed into sixteen departments, six of which have their chief places of rendezvous in Europe, (Barcelona, Carthagena, Seville, Corogna, and the Canary islands,) the other ten are in America.

It is under the supreme direction of a *junta*, presided over by a staff. It consists of five regiments of twelve companies each, two of which are cavalry; and is commanded by seven hundred officers.

Hopes are formed that, under this new regulation, it will make rapid progress towards an amelioration of which it has a long time stood in need.

The artillery, as well as several other branches of administration, had been neglected by Ferdinand VI. Charles III, coming from Naples to Madrid, sent for an Italian, count Gazola, who employed himself in regenerating it. For this purpose it was necessary to reform the old proceedings in the arsenals. The king requested a founder from the court of France. She sent him Maritz, who made great alterations in the Spanish founderies. He introduced the method of casting cannon entire, and boring them afterwards. Envy caused him many impediments: and he himself justified the malevolence with which he was treated, by his bad success in casting some cannon which proved defective. He was particularly inexcusable in having a great quantity of guns cast of brass from Mexico, before he was convinced it had the requisite hardness. Almost all his cannon burst in proving, and the cry of indignation became general. His spirit and the protection of the monarch supported him against these storms. He continued to serve Spain as much as lay in his power, even when he had lost

the hopes of being useful. He quitted it at last, leaving as a legacy his method, his principles, and the lessons he owed to experience. Even his enemies now admit that he did essential service to the Spanish artillery. The manner in which it was served in the war against England, particularly at the siege of Mahon, and even in that which terminated with the peace of Bâle, has proved that at least this part of the military art is not behind hand in Spain.

The Italian count Gazola was at his death replaced by count Lacy, an Irishman by extraction, who having succeeded in several political missions to the North, was, to the surprise of every one, rewarded by being placed at the head of the artillery. At his death, in 1792, the command of this corps was given to count Colomera, formerly don Martin Alvarez, who for a time commanded at the siege of Gibraltar. On his retiring, he was replaced by don Joseph de Urrutia, who commanded the Spanish army when the peace of Bâle was signed, and who has since been made captain-general. His military talents have obtained the approbation of every one, even of the enemies to whom he was opposed *.

The Spanish artillery has besides many ingenious officers to boast of. General Tortosa, who commanded at the siege of Mahon, has received

* He died in 1804.

just praise from foreigners as well as Spaniards; he died very lately.

Besides the heavy artillery, Spain has for some years also had a corps of light artillery. The first trial of it was made in the last war with France; and from its beginning it owes its rapid progress to the intelligent general Pardo, who commanded towards the frontiers of Portugal in the absence of the commander in chief Urrutia. It has been since brought to still greater perfection, and is modelled, in a great measure, on that of France. The artillerymen who serve it are on horseback; much inconvenience having been felt from placing them, as in Austria, on a kind of carriage called *wurst*.

Both kinds of artillery find in the country, and even in the colonies, every article of ammunition.

Spain has more lead than is wanted for its arsenals. The principal mine of it, that of Linarez in the kingdom of Jaen, produces much more than is wanted for account of the king; and although the other mines, the working of which is as yet imperfect, yield only eight thousand quintals, yet Spain can export more than twenty thousand a year.

She has several mines of copper. That of *Rio tinto* is the most abundant, and furnishes part of the cannon of the artillery. But they are made likewise of the copper from Spanish America.