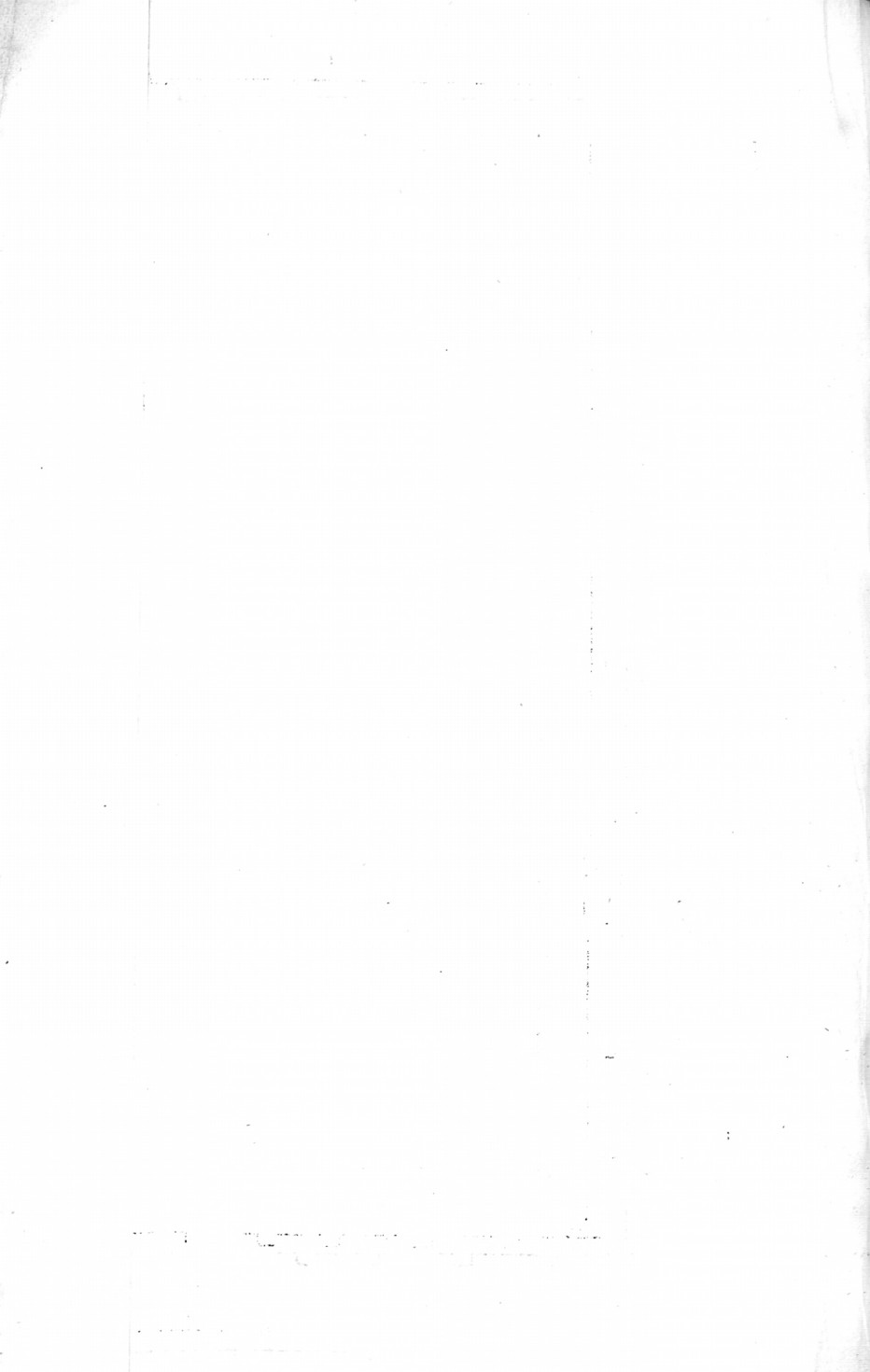


50 100 200 300 400 Castle Feet

*PLAN of the MOSQUE of CORDOVA in the Time of the ARABS.*



is carefully preserved ; the name and age of each is written over the place in which he stands, and, as the horses are very spirited, their hinder feet are fastened down to iron rings fixed to a staple in the ground ; but notwithstanding this confinement they shew all their vivacity. The mares are kept in the environs of Cordoua, and, in the proper season, the horses are taken to them ; the foal always receives the name of the dam. Among the Andalusian horses, those of the kingdom of Jaen, and especially the environs of Baeza are most esteemed. The horses of Andalusia are naturally chaste, and there is nothing to fear in putting them near mares ; but after they have once known them, they are very difficult to reduce to obedience.

All who have written on Cordoua have called it the mother of men of genius. In the first ages after the foundation of this city, it possessed a university, in which all the sciences were cultivated ; Strabo says, the ancient books of the Turdetani, their poetry and their laws, written in verse, were here preserved.

Under the Romans this university was not less celebrated for philosophy, morality, and the art of oratory : it had also a Greek professorship. The elder Seneca, who wrote *the Art of Persuasion* ; Lucius Annæus Seneca, preceptor to Nero ; Gallo, a famous orator ; Acilius Lucanus, celebrated

for his eloquence, grandfather to the poet Lucan ; Portius Ladro, whose art of rhetoric rendered him as famous in Rome as in Cordoua, and of whose works there remains to us only one har-rangue ; Manelus, master of the elder Seneca ; Lucan, well known by his Pharsalia ; Seneca, surnamed the tragedian, to distinguish him from the philosopher ; and Seneca the historian, who wrote the abridgment of the Roman history, known by the name of the Epitome of Florus, all studied there. Cicero, in his oration for the poet Archia, mentions several famous poets of Cordoua who went to Rome, and among others Sextilius Henna, of whose writings there remains but one elegy, in which he laments the death of the Roman orator.

The Moors preserved to the university of Cordoua the reputation it had acquired ; Avempace and Algazel, philosophers, of whom Saint Thomas makes mention, professed morality there. Alialbohacen and Aliaben-Ragel, men of profound erudition among the Arabians, were brought up in it. Abenzual, surnamed the Wise, a great astrologer, philosopher and physician, took lessons there, and it was within the same walls that the thirty philosophers and physicians, who composed and put in order the works known under the name of Avicenna, were formed: this is confirmed by Garalai, by which

prince they were supposed to have been written, because they were dedicated to him. Amongst the learned Moors to whom Cordoua gave birth, were Albermarcar, Abramo and Mesalco, physicians, astrologers and philosophers: Rashez Almanzor, known by a number of curious medical works, and the history he wrote of the conquest of Spain; Averroes, called, by way of eminence, the Commentator; and Aben Regid, who wrote the work, intituled, *Of the Division and Conquest of Spain*.

## L A M A N C H A.

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THE first village in this country famous for the amours and adventures of Don Quixote, is El Vizo. The first woman I saw there appeared to me handsome and well made, and I observed that the dress and manners, which Cervantes has so well described in his inimitable work, are still to be found in that district. There is no labourer nor young female peasant who is not well acquainted with Don Quixote and Sancho; and in the *Venta* of *Quesada*, there is a well which still bears his name, that being the place where the valorous knight is supposed to have passed the whole night under arms. Such is the fate and reward of men of genius: their works acquire fame, and have their monuments even in the country of the authors.

El Vizo is a considerable village. The young women are employed in spinning the finest wool

of the country, and, after getting the yarn died of several colours, make it into garters extremely well wrought, and ornamented with witty devices. Val de Penas, four leagues from Viso, is another considerable village, famous for its red wine, which is the best and most wholesome in Spain: it is much esteemed in Madrid, and served at the king's table. The environs of this village are well cultivated, and the road is good and even to Manzanares, a little village, in which I remarked the liveliness for which La Mancha is so celebrated.

This is the most cheerful country in Spain; the inhabitants are affable, and great lovers of music and dancing: the women are tall, well made, and have handsome features. A player upon the guitar, and a singer of seguidillas, are persons in great request in this part of the country. The girls, young men, and married women, assemble at the first sound of the instrument; the concourse is generally at the *Posada*, as the most convenient and extensive place; the best voices sing seguidillas, and the blind accompany them upon their instruments. The stranger is astonished at seeing a labourer in the dress of Sancho, and wearing a broad leathern girdle, become an agreeable dancer, and perform all his steps with grace, precision, and measure. The women besides have a *Meneo*, as it is called, or a

certain rapid movement, a flexibility, a yielding attitude, such voluptuous postures, and steps so languishing, graceful, varied, and just, that while seeing a pretty woman dance, a philosopher would find his wisdom troublesome.

La Mancha is the province of Spain in which the inhabitants sing and dance the most: their songs and seguidillas are peculiar to that part of the kingdom; and it is to be remarked, that to singing and dancing the *Manchegas* add the merit of poetry. The seguidillas composed in French are in much esteem throughout all Spain. Most of them are voluptuous, and turn on the subject of love or absence. Some are satirical. The sentiments of several which I have heard repeated were delicate and poetically expressed.

The cinnabar mine of Almaden, which, according to Mr. Bowles, is the richest of the kind yet found, the most curious for its properties, and one of the most ancient that has ever been worked, is in La Mancha. The church, and a great part of the village of Almaden, which contains upwards of three hundred houses, were built from the produce of the cinnabar, and all the inhabitants subsist by the mine. The exhalations of the mercury are not dangerous to men, animals, or plants; as has been supposed; the galley slaves sent to work the mine are robust and healthy, though several among them are wicked



enough to feign being ill of the palsy. Each of these costs the state twenty-pence a day, and there is not a labourer in Almaden who has not offered to do more work for half the price.

The direction of the mountain is from north-east to south-west. M. de Jussier has given a very good description of the furnaces used to extract the mercury; which is inserted in the Memoirs of the Academy of Sciences for the year 1719. The invention of these furnaces is due to a Spaniard, Don Juan Alfonso de Bustamante, and they are at present used in Hungary. Five or six thousand quintals of mercury are annually produced from the mine of Almaden, a part of which is used in extracting silver from the mines of Mexico. The Spaniards first discovered and employed this simple and ingenious means in 1566, in the districts where wood was scarce. It is true, that before that time the gold mines of Hungary were worked with amalgama. The Spaniards contrived to render a mineral stone, in which the metal was imperceptible, into impalpable powder, and to form from it masses of twenty-five quintals; afterwards to mix it with green copperas and lime, reduced also to very fine powder, a certain quantity of water, and thirty pounds of mercury, in distinct portions, and not all at once. The mass formed of these different substances is frequently stirred, and the fixed alkali of the lime

being dissolved by the motion, acts upon the acids of the salt and copperas. This action produces a fermentation and violent heat, which destroy the particles of iron or copper that may be in the mine, and the imperceptible particles of silver escape from the prison in which they are shut up, and unite with the mercury, which amalgamates with them. This mixture forms the paste which in Mexico is called *Pina*. By these means about two ounces of silver per quintal are extracted from the mine, which in the common method would not produce a sufficiency to pay for the working. The exact quantity of mercury lost in the operation is not ascertained; the most probable opinion is, that as many ounces of mercury are lost as there are ounces of silver extracted, and the pound of mercury delivered at Mexico costs nearly as much as an ounce of silver.

At a few leagues from Manzanares is the little village of Villa-Harta, where it has been pretended that the river Guadiana runs under ground for several miles, and that the road lies over it, which it is asserted gave occasion to a Spaniard, who was a slave in Africa, to say, that his king was one of the most powerful monarchs in the world, and that among other wonders to be found in his dominions, there was a bridge seven leagues long. But this bridge is a mere fable, according

to the best geographers, who assure us that the Guadiana does not really flow under ground, but only runs between the windings of some high mountains which conceal it from the sight for a considerable distance, after which it again appears at the lakes called *Los ojos de la Guadiana*.

At the distance of a league from Toledo there is a charming meadow on the banks of the Tagus, planted with several groups of trees; the meadow is called *La Huerta del Rey*, the king's garden. The Moorish kings, when they were in possession of Toledo, had a pleasure house there.

## T O L E D O.

The origin of Toledo is uncertain. According to Silva, in his enquiry concerning the manner in which Spain was peopled, some Jews established themselves in the place where Toledo now stands 540 years before Christ, and called the city they founded *Toledath*, which in their language signifies *mother of the people*. This origin is equally noble and doubtful.

We know that Toledo was a Roman colony, and made the depository of the treasures sent to Rome.

From the Romans it passed under the dominion of the Goths, Leovigild resided there, and embellished the city, which became more considerable under his successors.

The Moors took Toledo in 714, and reigned there until the year 1085, when it was taken from them by Alphonso VI. who styled himself em-

peror of Toledo, whence it took, and has preserved the title of royal and imperial

The town house, called *del Ayuntamiento*, is near the palace of the archbishop; its elegant architecture, said to be by Dominico Greco, is not in any respect inferior to that of the finest edifices in Toledo. The columns are Doric and Ionic, and the towers and other ornaments by which they are accompanied, are worthy the examination of connoisseurs. The following verses are inscribed on the wall of the stair-case :

*Nobles discretos varones*  
*Que gobernais a Toledo,*  
*En aquestos escalones*  
*Desechad las aficiones,*  
*Codicias, amor, y miedo;*  
*Por los comunes provechos*  
*Dexad los particulares :*  
*Pues vos fixo dios pilares*  
*De tan altissimos techos,*  
*Estad firmes y derechots.\**

\* Noble and judicious men who govern Toledo, leave your passions on this stair-case; leave there love, fear, and the desire of gain. For the public benefit forget every private interest, and serve God: he has made you the pillars of this august palace, be ever firm and upright,

Toledo, as is well known, was formerly famous for the exquisite temper of the sword blades made there; and the genuine ones that still remain are sold at an exorbitant price. It is said that the secret of hardening them has been again recovered, and experiments have been made with blades lately fabricated there, which seem to justify this assertion. When one of these has undergone the operation of tempering, if it is in the least notched by striking with it several violent blows on an iron head-piece, it is rejected. Almost all that are made here, it is said, will stand this proof.

Two centuries ago Toledo contained more than two hundred thousand inhabitants, but at present it scarcely has thirty thousand. When a house falls to decay it is never rebuilt; and in twenty years more this city will be little else than a heap of ruins.

Toledo is built upon rocks, and commanded by eminences, which seem to present the image of sterility; yet, in the midst of these precipices, the traveller finds, to his surprise, several fertile and charming situations, murmuring streams, and verdant retreats, impenetrable to the burning rays of the sun. These places are called *Cigarrales*; the road to them is rough and fatiguing, but when we have surmounted the difficulties

of arriving at them, we are not easily induced to quit them.

From Toledo it is a day's journey to Madrid. The road lies through several large towns, of which Getafa is the last and the most considerable.

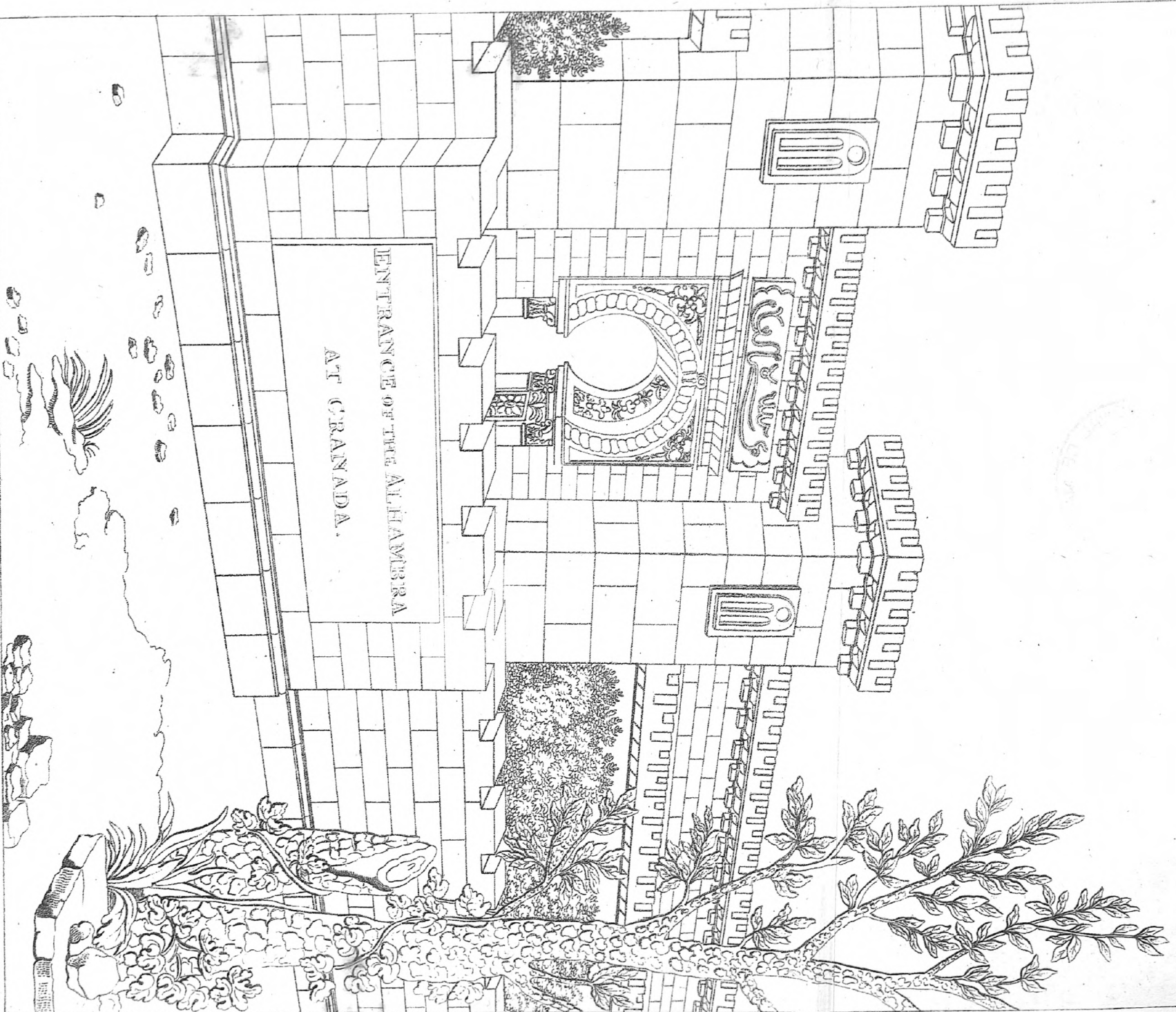
## M A D R I D.

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MADRID was long only an obscure town, appertaining to the archbishops of Toledo ; but while so many flourishing and illustrious cities, enjoying every advantage of situation, have sunk into deserted villages, this town, built in a sterile and ungrateful soil, has become one of the finest cities in Europe.

On approaching Madrid, nothing announces to the traveller that he is near the capital of the Spanish monarchy. The inns within two leagues of that city are equally dirty and destitute of all conveniences with those in every other part of the kingdom. The soil appears barren, and without either trees or verdure. But on arriving at the banks of the Manzanares, a superb and extremely necessary bridge, though it has been ridiculed by the question, "where is the river?" notifies the vicinity of the royal residence. This



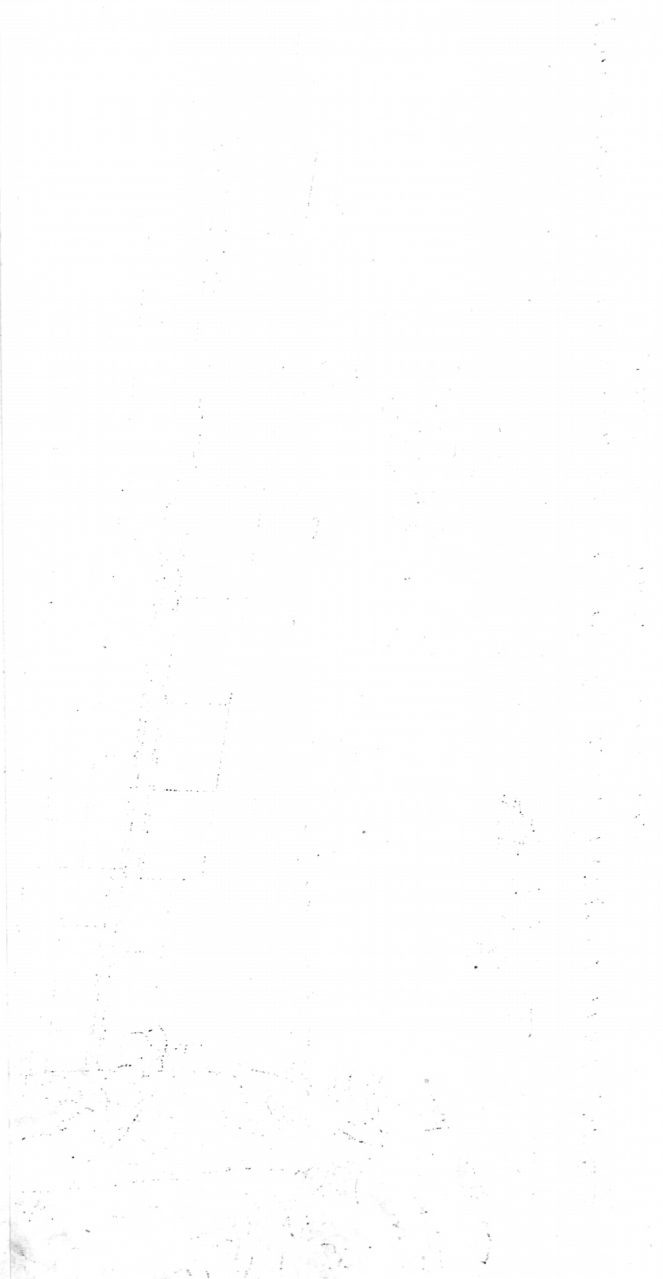


ENTRANCE OF THE ALHAMBRA  
AT GRANADA.

FRONTISPIECE TO THE COLLECTION OF ARABIAN ANTIQUITIES IN SPAIN.

Published by the Court of Madrid in 1780.

Published 35/5p.2508 by Lovell's Press Ltd.



bridge is about a thousand paces in length,\* and, at the beginning, about twenty-two in breadth, though it narrows towards the center, where it is not more than twelve. It is built of cut stones, and has a parapet breast high. The gate of the city which leads to it is called the gate of Segovia, from which the bridge has taken its name. It was built under Philip II, after the designs of the famous John de Herrera. The bridge of Toledo, which is much more modern, cannot compare with it for beauty, as it is ornamented in an extravagant taste with arches, as are the greater part of the bridges of Spain.

Almost all the streets of Madrid are straight, wide, clean, and well paved. The largest and most frequented are the street of Alcala, that of Atocha, that of Toledo, and the *Calle grande*, or great street. Madrid has also several squares, which, in general, are not very regular. The principal are those of San Joachim, Sol, Lasgaitas, San Domingo, La Cevada, and the Plaza Mayor. The latter especially deserves notice for its spaciousness and regularity, and the elegant and lofty houses it contains. It is fifteen hun-

\* *Mille pas*; Mr. Twiss says, it is six hundred and ninety-five feet long, and thirty-two broad: it has nine arches. The bridge of Toledo, which, according to the same traveller, is *the finest*, has also nine arches, and is three hundred and eighty feet long, and thirty-six broad.

dred and thirty-six feet in circuit. The houses, of which there are a hundred and thirty-six, are of five stories, ornamented with balconies, the first of which, supported by pillars, form a piazza round the square, where the inhabitants may walk under cover. In the middle of the square a market is kept.

The streets and squares of Madrid, except the Plaza Mayor, which I have just described, are ornamented with fountains in a very ill taste. Those most to be distinguished in this particular, are the fountain of the small irregular square called Plaza di Antonio Martin, and that of the square named Puerta del Sol. The others are not more magnificent, though less ridiculous. The water of all these fountains is excellent; and the air of Madrid, though the weather be variable and uncertain, extremely pure. It was this purity of the air and excellent quality of the water which induced Philip II. and his successors to fix their residence in this city.

The houses are, in general, built of brick; there are several which are large and handsome; but I found few that are to be compared to the elegant edifices of the rue Grenelle, or the faux-bourg St. Honoré, at Paris.

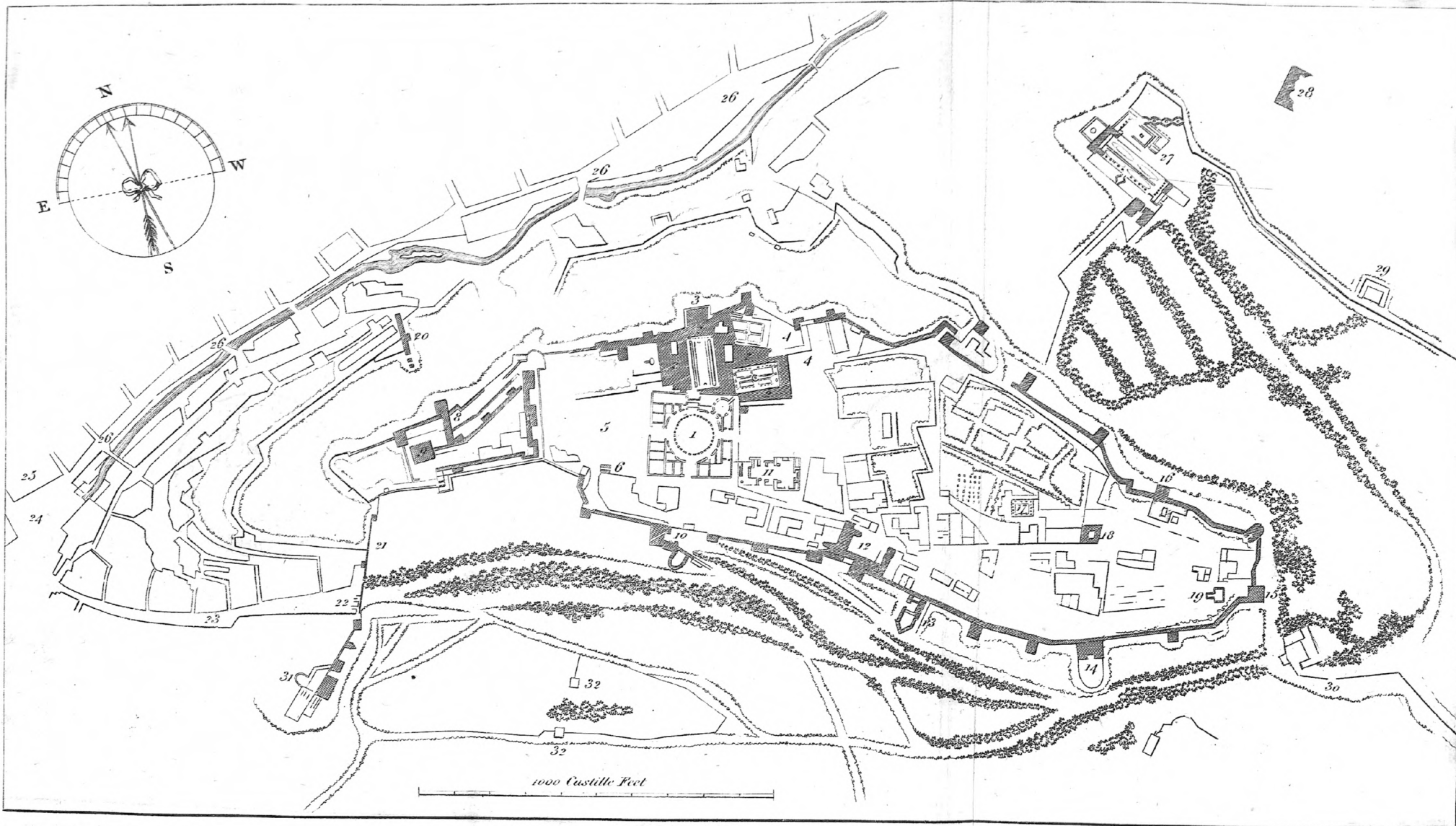
The city of Madrid contains fifteen gates, eighteen parishes, thirty-five convents of monks, and thirty-one of nuns; thirty-nine colleges, hos-



## ACADEMIES.

THERE are four academies in Madrid. The first is the Spanish academy founded in 1714, in imitation of the French academy, and consisting of twenty-four members, including the president. Its device is a crucible on burning coals, with the motto, *limpia, fixa, y da esplendor*; it purifies, fixes, and gives lustre. Its first object was the compilation of a dictionary of the Spanish language, which was published in six volumes folio, and of which a new edition is now preparing. The letters A and B have already appeared, and contain four thousand more words than in the former edition; and the letter C will receive still greater additions. The same academy is also employed on a superb edition of Don Quixote, adorned with elegant engravings, and collated with all the former editions.

The second is the academy of History, which owes its origin to a society of individuals, the object of whose meetings was to preserve and illustrate the historical monuments of the kingdom of Spain. Their labours met the approba-



- 1 Palace of Charles V.
- 2 Royal Palace of the Arabs
- 3 Tower of Comares
- 4 Mint added by Charles V.
- 5 Great Square called de los Aljibes
- 6 Arab Gate
- 7 Alcaraba & Tower of Homage
- 8 Arsenal

- 9 Watch Tower
- 10 Principal Entrance of the Fortrefs
- 11 Parish Church commonly called The Alhambra
- 12 Ancient Palace of the Majli
- 13 Tower of the Prisons
- 14 Tower of the 7 Story's the ancient principal entrance of the Fortrefs
- 15 Water Tower & Aqueduct to the Fortrefs
- 16 Childrens Tower

- 17 Convent of Franciscans
- 18 Widows House of the Arabs
- 19 Hermitage
- 20 Ruins of the Ancient Wall near the Gate of Cadiz
- 21 Other Ruins of the same
- 22 Principal Gate
- 23 Rue de Gomez
- 24 New Place

- 25 Chancery
- 26 Cours de Darra
- 27 Le generalis or House & Garden of Pleasure
- 28 Part of the Arabian Fort la Sella du Moure
- 29 Arabian Poud or Ladies Bath
- 30 Entrance of the Castle of Pleasure
- 31 Caglle of Torres Bermejas
- 32 Ruins of the Arabian Fortrefs





tion of Philip V. who, in 1738, confirmed their statutes by a royal cedula. This academy consists of twenty-four members, including the president, secretary, and censor. Its device is a river at its source; and the motto, *in patriam populumque fluit.*

The other two academies are the academy of the Fine Arts, Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture; and the academy of Medicine. The latter is held in no great esteem.

The English reader may not, perhaps, be displeased with a relation of what passed in the academy of history at Madrid, on the subject of Dr. Robertson's History of America. This work was received in the manner it deserved, and great praises were bestowed on the author for having spoken with more moderation than others of the cruelties exercised by the first Spaniards in the New World. A translator was chosen from among the members of the academy, that the history of Dr. Robertson might be known throughout the whole kingdom of Spain, and become, if I may so speak, a national book. M. Campomanes was desired to write to this respectable historian in the name of the academy, and to inform him that he was admitted a member, as a proof of their acknowledgment, and of the esteem they had for his work. M. Campomanes, accordingly wrote to Dr. Robertson the following letter.

“ MUY SEÑOR mio, sería *inutil* estender me en  
“ *manifestar* a V. S. *quanta estimacion* hacen los  
“ *Espanoles* literatos de sus *obras*, y los motivos  
“ que *me obligan* a escribir esta *carta*. Despues  
“ de haver *escrito* a V. S. la *historia de su patria*  
“ con tanta *concision* y acierto, emprendrò la de  
“ *Carlos V.* en la mas *delicada* crisis de Europa ;  
“ *desempeno* la V. S. con *admiracion* comun,  
“ penetrando las mayores arcanos de la consti-  
“ tucion de nuestra Monarchia Espagnola. Però  
“ que mucho a vista de su excelente discurso  
“ sobre el gobierno feudal desde la *décadencia*  
“ del imperio Occidental hasta el tiempo del  
“ mismo Carlos? En el se ven desembeltas por  
“ otro aspecto aquellas particulares costumbres  
“ que mesclaron la Barbarie Tartara con un des-  
“ precio alto de los vencindos ; y un descuido de  
“ todas las clases de los pueblos, a excepcion de  
“ pocas privilegiadas. Ningun verdadero amor  
“ a las artes, y un general abandono de las in-  
“ vestigaciones utiles, substituyendo en su lugar  
“ las sutilezas escolasticas, dictadas en las celdas  
“ de los solitarios o cenovitas, y trasladadas des-  
“ pues a las Universidades literarias. Es cierto  
“ que los nuevos descubrimientos del Oriente, y  
“ del Occidente, fueron parte para sacar la Eu-  
“ ropa del espíritu feudal. V. S. da a estos des-

SIR,

It appears to me unnecessary to inform you  
 of the solid and merited esteem which every well  
 informed Spaniard has for your works, or of the  
 motives by which I am induced to write to you.  
 After having written with precision, truth, and  
 an accuracy equally admirable and worthy of  
 you, the history of your own country, you un-  
 dertook, in that of Charles V. to describe the  
 most delicate crisis in which Europe ever was  
 situated. In this work you acquitted yourself  
 in such a manner as to gain general admiration;  
 you penetrated the most profound secrets of  
 our monarchy. But what shall I say of your  
 excellent discourse on the feudal government,  
 from the decline of the empire of the West to  
 the age of Charles V? In this we see new light  
 thrown upon those peculiar manners which  
 the Barbarians in their proud contempt for the  
 vanquished introduced into Europe, and their  
 extreme indifference relative to every city ex-  
 cept the small number of those which were  
 privileged. At that time there was no real  
 love of the arts; the most useful discoveries in  
 the sciences were abandoned, and their place  
 supplied by the subtilities of the schools, first  
 confined to the obscure and solitary recesses of