

women are beautiful as angels, tall, light, and merry ; their garb is neat and pastoral ; their hair falls in long plaits down their backs, and a veil or handkerchief, twisted round in a coquetish manner, serves them for a very becoming head-dress : on Sundays they generally wear white, tied with rose-coloured knots.

The first Biscayan inn we stopped at, is delightfully situated near the banks of the romantic Sahorra. We were very lavish of our praises upon the smart habili-ment of the landlord's daughters, his own civility, and the cleanliness of every thing in his house.

We came in the evening an easy journey to Victoria, through the finest plains perhaps in Europe. I cannot find words to express its wonderful fertility, the crowds of villages in sight on all the little eminences, the noble woods that stretch round the corn-lands, and the happy busy looks of the crowd which we met returning from market ; every cottage has its little garden, neat and flourishing.

Victoria is placed on a hill, and makes a figure from all the environs ; but the streets are narrow and gloomy, the houses being built of a very dark-coloured stone.

Having traversed the rich plains beyond the capital of Alava, we ascended the hills into the woods, which consist of oak, beech, and chestnut. They pursue here the same method as the inhabitants of the French side

of the Pyrenees, that of planting their timber-trees; wherever an old one is felled, they take care to replace it with a young set about four feet high.

Near Salinas, a village inhabited by the workmen of the iron forges, we entered the very heart of the mountains; which would be impassable from the steep ascents and rapid slopes, had they not lessened the difficulties by proper windings of the road, and by great attention to the keeping of it in perfect repair. The tops of all these mountains are crowned with forests, or covered with pastures; the acclivities cultivated as far as their nature will allow, and the deep vallies thronged with villages, hamlets, iron-works, orchards, and gardens. The timber of the mountains, and the iron smelted in the forges, employ a great number of hands, and give life and spirit to the whole province. The little towns are full of good houses, built by those whose industry and enterprizes have been rewarded with success. These manufactories and undertakings diffuse opulence among the middle class of men, and enable them to indulge the patriotic vanity of settling comfortably in their native hamlet.

Having winded along a charming valley for many hours, and repeatedly crossed a beautiful river, we passed over a high chain of mountains at the Puerto de Villareal. We there enjoyed fine but not extensive views.



views of a mountainous well-wooded country. We then descended into the charming valley of Tolosa, a large town, which like all those we passed through, swarms with inhabitants. The landscape on every side is divine, and approaches the nearest to those of La Cava in the kingdom of Naples, or those of Tivoli in the Roman state, of any I recollect having met with in the course of my travels.

Early on the eighteenth we gained the summit of a woody hill, from whence we overlooked the Bay of Biscay, Fontarabia, Andaye, the course of the Bidassoa, the province of Labour in France, and a prodigious range of the Pyrenees. A more delightful prospect never existed, even in the divine imagination of Claude Lorrain.

About eleven we arrived at the Bidassoa; a broad clear stream, that issues with great majesty out of a valley among the mountains, and flows through the marshes into the sea. The water was so low that the carriages passed through the river; but we took the ferry-boat, and landed in France.

T H E E N D.

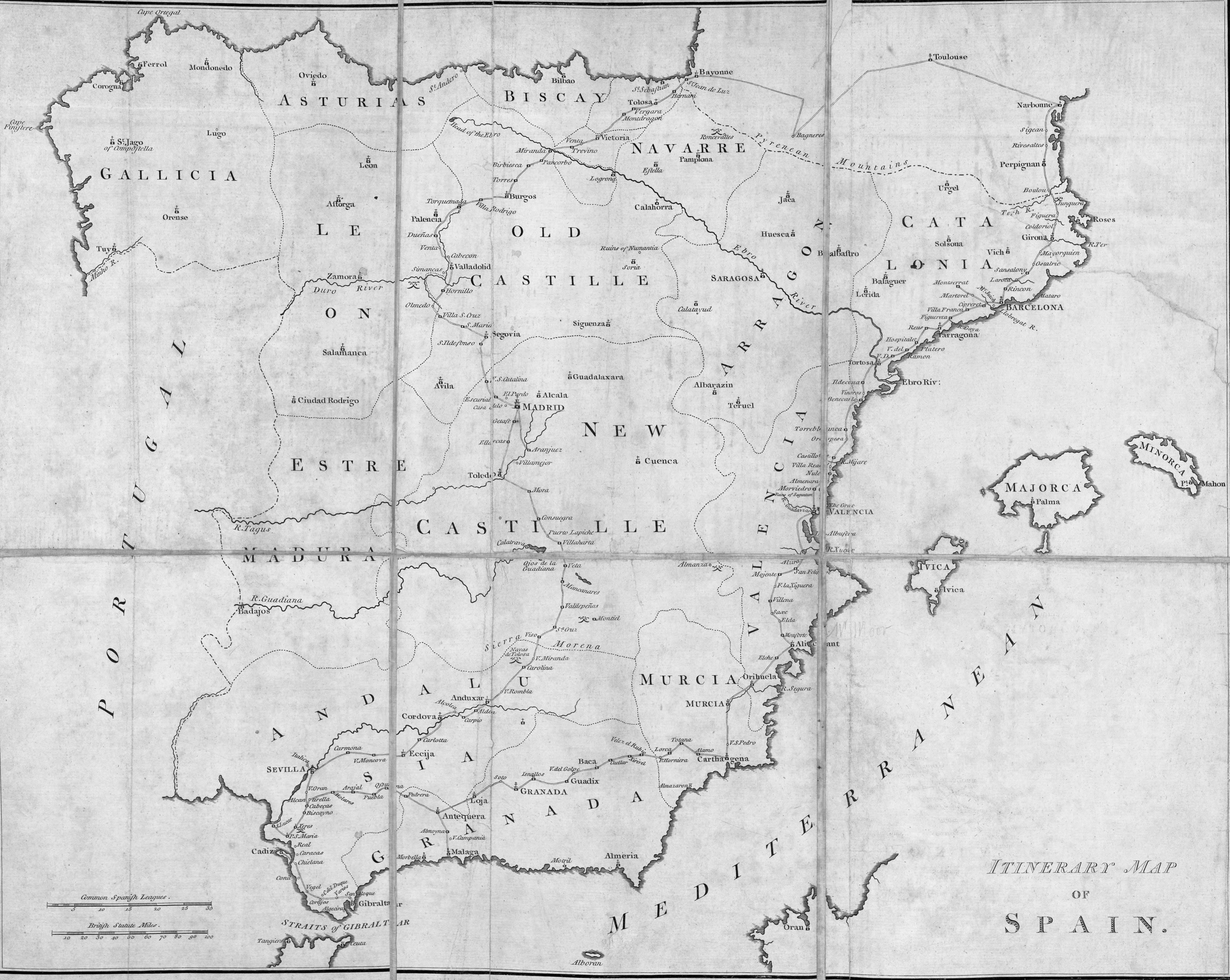
view of a mountain with wooded summit. We  
then descended into the extensive valley of the  
river, which flows from the north to the south  
of the range, and approaches the mouth of the  
Gaya in the kingdom of Naples, or that of the  
the Roman law, of any I recollect having met with in  
the course of my travels.

Early on the eighteenth we gained the summit of a  
woody hill, from whence we overlooked the part  
black, mountainous, Arago, the route of the Pyrenees,  
the province of Languedoc in France, and a picturesque  
range of the Pyrenees. A more delightful prospect was  
yet offered, even in the divine imagination of Ovid.



about eleven we arrived at the Pyrenees  
clear stream, that flows with great rapidity  
valley among the mountains and flows  
marshes into the sea. The water was low, and the  
carriage passed through the river; but we took the  
high-road, and landed in France.





ITINERARY MAP  
OF  
SPAIN.

Common Spanish Leagues.  
0 5 10 15 20 25 30  
British Statute Miles.  
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100



