

L E T T E R S
CONCERNING THE
S P A N I S H N A T I O N :

Written at M A D R I D during the Years 1760 and 1761.

By the Rev. EDWARD CLARKE, M. A.
Fellow of St. JOHN'S College, CAMBRIDGE, and Rector of
PEPPERHARROWE, in the County of SURRY.

Quantos payzes, tantas costumbres.



L O N D O N :
Printed for T. BECKET and P. A. DE HONDT, at Tully's Head
in the Strand. MDCCLXIII.

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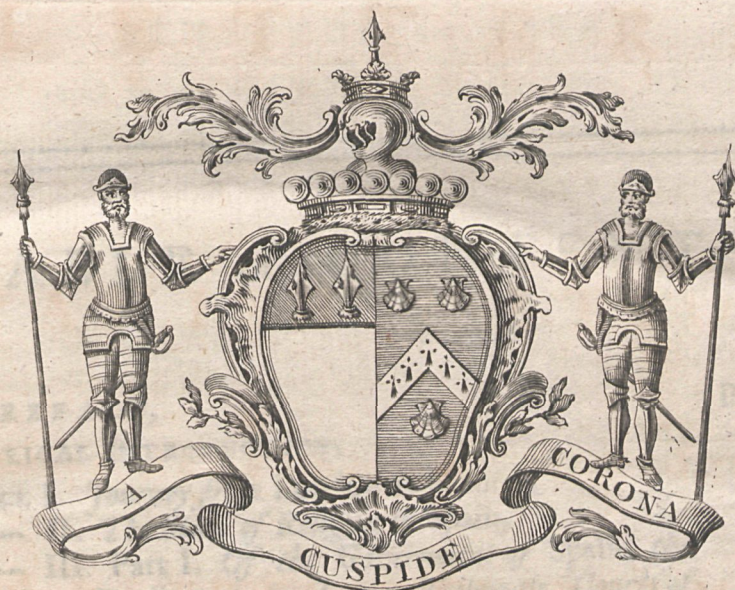
Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, and Rector of
PETTERHARROW, in the County of SURRY.

Printed by R. DODD, in Pall-mall.



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TO THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE
GEORGE BRODRICK,
LORD VISCOUNT MIDLETON,
OF THE
KINGDOM OF IRELAND;
THESE LETTERS CONCERNING
THE SPANISH NATION
ARE INSCRIBED,
WITH THE SINCEREST RESPECT
AND GRATITUDE,
BY HIS LORDSHIP'S
MOST OBLIGED,
AND OBEDIENT
HUMBLE SERVANT,
EDWARD CLARKE.



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P R E.

Historical Introduction.

(The remarks of the Marquis de MONDECAR upon the Spanish historians being judicious, new, and not commonly to be met with, I thought proper to give the reader the following extracts from his work.)

THE Roman empire in this country lasted something more than 400 years after the commencement of the Christian era: but the Spanish history is connected with the Roman for near 600, till that empire was utterly extinct. The GOTHs entered about the year 400. HIMERIC, with the SUEVI and ALANS, conquered GALLICIA, about the year 408. These SUEVI, who gave name to GALLICIA, subdued PORTUGAL about 464. REQUINA, the son of HIMERIC, conquered BISCAY, ANDALUSIA, and took SARAGOÇA and TARRAGONA in 488. RECAREDO was King of SPAIN in 587, and called a Cortes, at which prelates, as well as secular lords, assisted, and granted aids to the crown. After him came WITTERIC, to whom succeeded GUNDEMAR, in 610. In 631, SISENANDO was chose King, who called a Cortes at TOLEDO.

THE MOORS entered SPAIN about the year 680, consequently the Gothic government did not last 300 years. TARIF ABENZARCA came in 713.

THE three most principal northern nations which came here, were, the VANDALS, from whom the province of ANDALUSIA received its name; these went afterwards into AFRICA: The SUEVI, who remained long in GALLICIA; and the GOTHs, who conquered the whole country, and held it upwards of 200 years. The GOTHs possessed the whole continent of SPAIN, MAURITANIA, AFRICA, and GALLIA GOTHICA, or that part of FRANCE, which

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