

## TRAVELS

THROUGH

# SPAIN,

IN THE YEARS 1775 AND 1776.

IN WHICH SEVERAL

MONUMENTS OF ROMAN AND MOORISH

ARCHITECTURE

ARE ILLUSTRATED BY

ACCURATE DRAWINGS TAKEN ON THE SPOT.

BY HENRY SWINBURNE, Esq;

RIEN N'EST BEAU QUE LE VRAI; LE VRAI SEUL EST AIMABLE.
BOILEAU.

LONDON:

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IN THE YEARS 1775

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MONUMENTS OF ROMAN AND MOORISH
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### PREFACE.

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tradden by travellers, that I might know how great

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MOST travellers that favour the world with L their observations on foreign countries, endeavour to foften the edge of criticism by declaring, that they had orginally no intentions of appearing in print, but were betrayed into the press by the importunities of their friends. This excuse seldom answers the end; for when any effential defect raises the indignation of the reader, as severe a sentence is passed upon the straggler decoyed into the literary walk, as upon the most avowed voluntary trespasser. I shall therefore be very ingenuous, and acknowledge, that when I set out upon my Spanish journey, I had thoughts of publishing my remarks on that country. I had an earnest defire of pursuing a track almost una 2 trodden

a degree of credit was due to the accounts already given. In my plan of enquiry, an exact investigation of the soil, cultivation, government, commerce, and manners of that kingdom, was to be the grand primary object; but what I was more consident of my strength in, and what I own I found more suitable to my inclinations, was the study of its antiquities, especially the Moorish: in that line, my own eye and labour were sufficient helps to enable me to collect interesting materials for a publication.

The travels through Spain that have appeared in print, are either old and obsolete, consequently in many respects unfit to convey a proper idea of its present state; or only relations of a passage through particular provinces, where the authors had neither time nor opportunity to procure much information.

Not being under any restraint in point of time; being furnished with letters, and every thing necessary for rendering the tour easy, and my stay in the towns agreeable and instructive, with a sufficient knowledge of the language, I had some reason to hope I might accomplish

accomplish my purpose, with satisfaction to myself, and utility to the public. How far I have succeeded, is fubmitted to the judgment of the candid reader; at least some little indulgence is due to me for having contributed my mite, however infignificant, to the common stock of topographical knowledge; which of late years has been fo prodigiously increased by accumulated imports from all parts of the globe. There is but one merit I insist upon, that of a steady adherence to Veracity, as far as I was able to difcern Truth from Falsehood. I may be detected in many mistakes; because a foreigner must often be exposed to receive partial accounts of things from the natives, who have an interest in hiding the nakedness of their country, and in exaggerating its advantages; but I shall never be detected in a wilful perversion of the truth, being as free from prejudices of all kinds as most men.

Many things in my private letters, of which the following sheets are almost exact copies, were not deemed proper for the public inspection; as there are many trisling occurrences that fill up a letter very agreeably,

agreeably, but when printed become ridiculous. The additions made to the correspondence consist chiefly of the historical, commercial, and literary parts; which I drew from the most esteemed Spanish authors, from some manuscripts, and from books in the public libraries. In these researches I was much assisted by the Reverend Mr. R. Waddilove, chaplain to the British embassy; who, I hope, will excuse my making him this slight acknowledgment.

I have been very particular in whatever regards the history and architecture of the Moors, as those are subjects not yet worn thread-bare: with the help of the prints, I hope to give the curious a satisfactory idea of their manner of building, distributing and adorning public edifices. The Alhambra of Granada is an unique, and its excellent preservation affords an opportunity of studying all the detail of their designs and ornaments.

I can answer for the exactness of the drawings; as I never took the liberty of adding or retrenching a single object, for the sake of improving the beauty or harmony of the landscape. Not to multiply notes and references in the body of the work, I thought proper to give at the beginning, a Chronological Table of the Kings of Spain; Tables of weights, coins, and measures; and an Itinerary of our route, with the number of hours it requires to perform each stage. Not a multiply notes and references in the body of the worls. I thought proper to give at the beginning, a Chronodogical Table of the Klore of Spain in a disks of wrights, come, and income, and income, and in proper to proper to the fourth the number of hours it requires to perform to the figure.



TARRY of the Kines of SPAIN continued.

### A

## CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE of the KINGS of SPAIN.

Invaded by the Carthaginians		239 before Christ.
Conquered by the Romans	er 1/4	206 before Christ.
Conquered by the Goths	- Lo	409 after Christ.
Invaded by the Saracens		712 after Christ.

#### KINGS OF

Committee with the second of	Aragon.	Navarre.	Portugal.	6 6 6 6
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