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THE  
BALEARIC  
ISLANDS

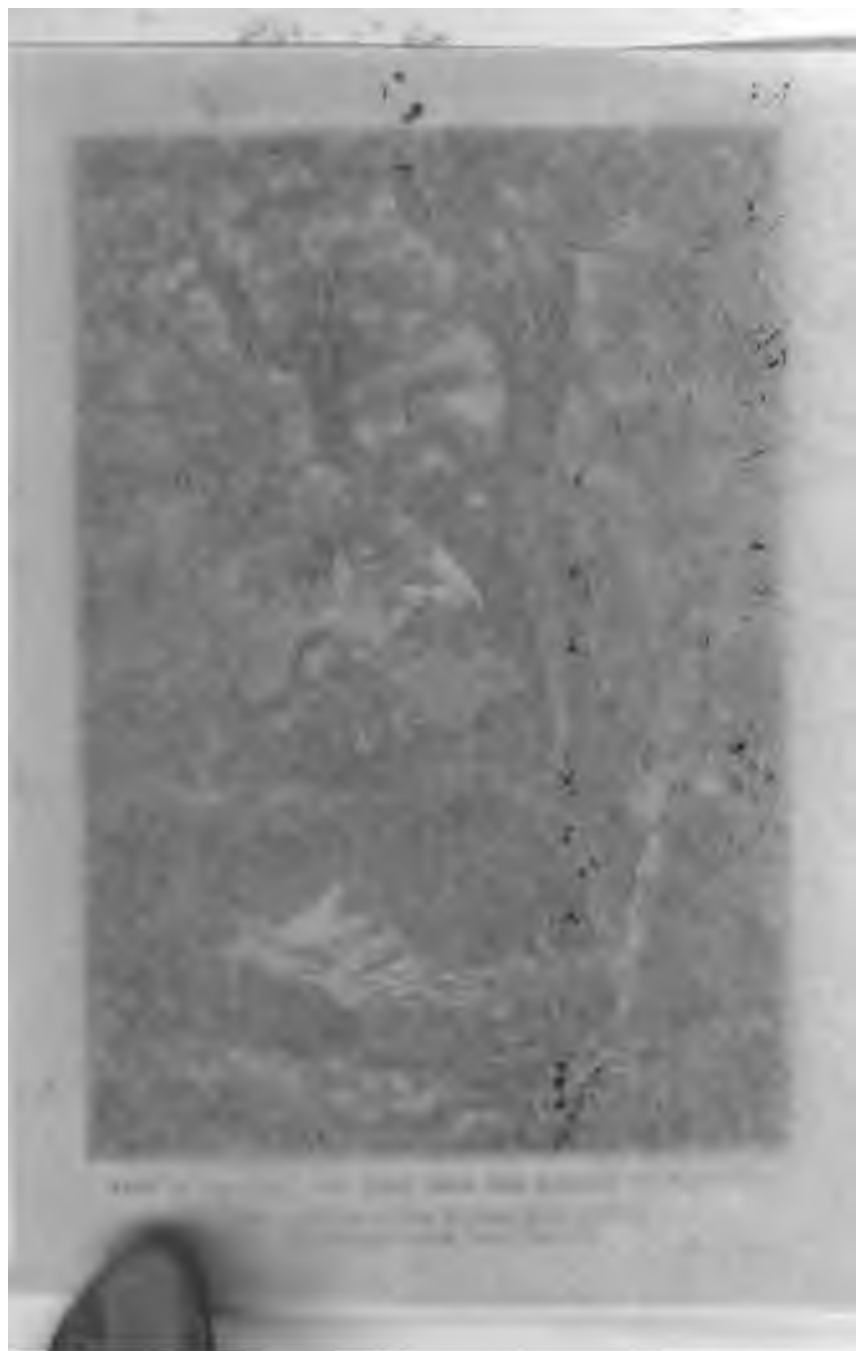








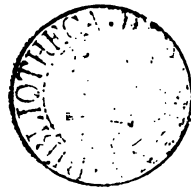




THE  
BALEARIC ISLANDS.

BY  
CHARLES TOLL BIDWELL, F.R.G.S.,  
HER MAJESTY'S CONSUL,  
AUTHOR OF 'THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA.'

WITH MAP AND ILLUSTRATIONS.



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in 1422, His Majesty speaks of this island as being "very notable, very highly favoured, and a rich and precious pearl amongst his dominions."<sup>1</sup>

We will endeavour, in these pages, to give a more modern account of this highly-favoured island and her sister Baleares from our own experience, which dates from the beginning of 1869, or just after the fall of Queen Isabella.

It will be hardly necessary, though perhaps not out of place, to remind the reader that the group of islands so pleasantly situated in the blue waters of the Mediterranean, midway between the Spanish coast and Algeria, and now commonly known under the one denomination of the Balearic Islands, comprise both the Gymnesiæ and Pithyusæ of the ancients: Majorca and Minorca having been called by the Phœnicians and Romans "Baleares," on account of the dexterity of their inhabitants in using the *honda* or sling which was introduced by the Phœnicians;<sup>2</sup> and by the Greeks they were named Gymnesia, on account of the aborigines going naked; while

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<sup>1</sup> 'Historia del Reino de Mallorca,' por Don Juan Dameto. Lib. i. tit. i. par. ii. pp. 17-20.

<sup>2</sup> This weapon may still be seen in use amongst the shepherds of the Peninsula. See Ford, H. B. vol. i. p. 267.

Iviza and Formentera formed the Pithyusæ or Pine Islands of the early ages. Thus then, besides the two islands best known to us, Majorca and Minorca, which derived their names from their respective sizes, Iviza and the islets of Cabrera, Formentera, Dragonera, Conejera,<sup>1</sup> &c., are all now commonly included in the Balearic group.

To the mind of many persons, the mention of the Balearic Islands suggests Port Mahon, and, naturally, more is known in England about the smaller than the larger island from our repeated possession of Minorca in the eighteenth century: we shall have, therefore, more to say about Majorca, which, to our minds, is by far the most interesting and pleasant island of the group, as its natural resources are considerably greater.

Little, we believe, has been published in England of modern date on the subject of these islands. The books of travel in which the most recent accounts of the Balearic group are given, are Spanish and French, the latest of which was written thirty-seven years ago.<sup>2</sup> It is, doubtless,

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<sup>1</sup> All named apparently from the animal world: thus *Cabrera* from a goat; *Formentera* from an ant; *Dragonera* from a dragon; and *Conejera* from a rabbit.

<sup>2</sup> 'Un Hiver à Majorque,' par George Sand (1838).



since that period that the greater resources of the islands have been developed.

Their total extent is about 1749 square miles, and their population, according to calculations and additions based on the census of 1860, is now somewhat under 290,000 souls.<sup>1</sup>

Majorca is rhomboidal in form and nearly square, being about 60 miles from east to west, and 50 miles from north to south; while its perimeter is about 137 miles, and its superficies 492,968 hectares.<sup>2</sup> The point nearest to the mainland, Soller, is distant 93 miles from the Spanish coast, but the distance from Palma to Barcelona by sea, as the steamers go, is near 125 miles.<sup>3</sup>

Minorca lies about  $20\frac{1}{2}$  miles to the east of the larger island. It is 21 miles in length, and about 6 miles wide in the broadest parts. Ivisa is the island lying nearest to the Peninsula, being only 60 miles distant therefrom. Its breadth and length are almost similar. It is about 4 miles long and nearly as wide.

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<sup>1</sup> For particulars of population, see Appendix.

<sup>2</sup> One hectare = 2.471143 statute acres.

<sup>3</sup> Notas por Moragues y Bover, 'Hist. Gen. de Mallorca,' vol. ii. p. 558.

The smaller islands or islets are, individually, alike insignificant, both as regards size and population; even Cabrera is yet as desolate as when it was made the prison and tomb of the French after the defeat of Bailen, "when these unhappy men were left to feed on each other like howling wild beasts, in spite of the indignant remonstrance of English officers."<sup>1</sup> The highest mountains of the islands are those of Majorca. The six principal ones are, *Puig de Massanella*, in the district of Selva, 1115·4 mètres above the level of the sea; *Puig Mayor*, at Escorca, 1463·9 mètres; *Puig de Lofre*, at Soller, 562·3 mètres; *El Teix*, at Valldemosa, 426·2 mètres; *Mola del Esclop*, at Calvia, 794·2 mètres; and *Puig de Galatzo*, at Puigpugnant, 989·3.<sup>2</sup>

These islands were possessed successively by the Phœnicians, Greeks, Carthaginians, and, for the greater part of the period of their early history, by the Moors, from whom they were conquered by Don Jaime I., king of Aragon and Montpellier, in December 1229. The conquest was completed in 1235; they constituted an inde-

<sup>1</sup> Ford, vol. i. p. 235.

<sup>2</sup> Notas por Moragues y Bover, 'Hist. Gen. de Mallorca,' vol. ii. p. 558.

pendent kingdom to the middle of the fourteenth century, when they were united by Don Pedro IV. to the crown of Aragon. They now form a province of the third class in the classification of the Spanish Government, under whose rule they are, being one of the forty-nine provinces into which Spain is now politically and geographically divided.<sup>1</sup> They send, or sent while the Cortes existed, seven deputies and four senators to Madrid. The province is under the local military rule of a captain-general, an officer usually holding the rank of a *mariscal de campo*, or major-general in the Spanish army, and it is governed in civil matters by a civil governor, who, like his military colleague, is nominated by the Supreme Government at Madrid. Both these functionaries are usually removed on each change of the Spanish ministry, and often they have even been so removed during the reign of one of the many governments which have ruled the country during our residence.

In addition to these authorities, there are in each of the towns and villages an *alcalde*, or mayor, and municipality, all supposed to be

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<sup>1</sup> The native dialect is very similar to that of the south-west of France, Catalonia, and Valencia.

elected by popular suffrage. We may safely say, however, that in our time the elections were most frequently, if not always, carried through government influence. Palma, the capital, a bishop's see, is also the seat of the Provincial Deputation over which the governor presides, the members of which are elected throughout the province for the management of local matters; and it is also the seat of the Audiencia, or Supreme Court of the province. This is the theory of government, as it is written in the Laws. It may easily be imagined, however, that a distant province governed by a captain-general, perhaps unwillingly brought from the political circles of the capital, and frequently removed, in conjunction with a civil governor, too often nominated to carry the elections, and recalled with each change of ministry, is hardly likely to derive much benefit or advancement from its system of government, and one must not look for great local advantages therefrom. Such a system would seem, indeed, to have been devised to throw cold water upon local energy, without providing really anything in the place of it. In fact it would be hard to name, during the period over which our experience extends, any

important local public measure initiated or carried out by government officials. Whatever progress or position these islands may have attained, or be in the way of attaining, must therefore, in fairness, be attributed to almost unaided local energy. It seems proper to set this out clearly at once, as, whatever may be the share of responsibility that belongs to the successive paternal governments that have left these rich and fertile islands apparently uncared for, except as a penal station for political offenders, for the young men they send to the army, or for the direct contributions that may be levied upon their husbandmen, such share of responsibility undoubtedly belongs to the Central Government of Spain.

But that these islanders themselves have not hitherto profited so fully as they might do by the great natural advantages they inherit with their favoured soil, is not less evident. This may be attributed to a variety of causes, not the least of which perhaps is, or rather was, the lack of enterprise, energy, and association in agricultural pursuits, industries, and commerce, and public works for the benefit of all. Each man had formerly lived very much for himself, apparently caring little for his neighbours' prosperity.

The great drawback to the advancement of the people of these islands has been attributed, even by modern writers on the subject, to the depressing influence of a bigoted clergy; while many go back to the monks of old, and to the long-abolished monasteries, to account for the ignorance, superstition, and want of energy imputed to these islanders. But more than this, more than can be attributed to the influence of a priesthood chiefly educated at home (and which, after all, it must be remembered, is recruited from all classes of society), and more than can be ascribed to government neglect, must, we think, be placed at the door of the boasted patriarchal system under which the youth of these islands are brought up, among both rich and poor. The eldest son, the heir to the nobleman's estate, like the first-born of the countryman, is but a child in his parent's house during his father's lifetime. A young gentleman takes his allowance of pocket money and eats at his father's table for years after he has come of age; and should he marry, matters are not greatly changed. He usually takes his wife home to his father's roof, and she is one child more in the paternal household. This is the position of the eldest son of the noble—the

heir to the family name and estates. That of the younger brothers is one degree more dependent still. Big grown-up boys, from twenty to any age, receive their moderate monthly stipend, and necessarily idle away their hours between the time for the meals or the sleep which they take at their father's house. There is no occupation or profession which the nobleman's son can follow but that of a soldier or a priest; and the prospect held out by these callings in Spain has long ceased to be encouraging.

The family of the farmer is more or less governed by the same system. The sons are mostly dependent on their father during his lifetime, carrying their earnings to him if they do not work at home; and this class, too, are affected by the *empleo-mania*, or mania for place-hunting—that moral infirmity which has infected almost all classes of Spanish society. If a farmer does well, and is able to give his sons a better education than he had himself received, it is not to qualify them for a more intelligent cultivation of the land, but to enable them to hold some petty employment under government, which may be obtained after the elections. Thus to other drawbacks has been added a very unprofitable, but nevertheless

absorbing interest in politics, which thus even permeates the mind of the half-Arab Majorcan agriculturist.

Each successive change of ministry is for the most part viewed here, not in regard to the advantages or disadvantages that may be likely to accrue therefrom to the country at large, but in respect to the personal benefits that may be obtained from friends at court. Then there is a general feeling among the people, arising out of the system of government, that the government ought to afford more protection, initiate reforms, and incur the responsibility of new measures, rather than the individuals who would sooner or later be benefited by them.

The middle or commercial classes are certainly more free from these influences, more self-dependent, more energetic; but they are a small minority in the islands, and, generally speaking, there has not been sufficient scope for the display of greater intelligence or new ideas. Old notions and practices are fondly cherished, and when a young man, so called, becomes really the head of a family, with power to act, his ideas, like his hairs, are already grey.

Yet the place occupied by the Balearic Islands



would seem to be naturally a most advantageous and highly-favoured one. They would, indeed, appear to deserve Don Alonso's encomium, and to be really "precious pearls," in the Mediterranean, not less on account of the situation of Port Mahon as a military station than for their position in regard to commerce; while the larger island especially, on account of the shelter which it receives from the mountain-chain to the north, is certainly a "pleasant place," capable of furnishing to agriculture, as we shall presently show, a great variety of produce and fruits of very excellent quality.

Much, and justly too, may these islands be praised for their agreeable climate, where the extremes of heat and cold, rarely of long duration, may nearly always be avoided by a change of locality within easy distance; and these remarks may especially be applied to Majorca, which is sheltered from the north wind by its Cordillera, and refreshed in the warm season by the sea-breeze.

An equable temperature prevails in this island for a great part of the year, whilst the spring and autumn, if not long, are very enjoyable seasons. Fires are rarely required except in the coldest of

the, so called, winter months, when snow lies on the mountains, although they are comfortable of an evening in the more shaded streets of the city, where the height of the houses and narrowness of the streets make it utterly impossible for the sun to enter. The original architects, the Moors, built only to keep out the sun's rays in summer, and had, apparently, no thought for winter. The heat of the weather, even in midsummer, may however, as we have said, be avoided. It is seldom oppressive on the mountain-sides an hour or two distant from the capital. The thermometer in winter rarely falls below  $40^{\circ}$  Fahr., and in summer it seldom rises above  $90^{\circ}$  Fahr. When, however, the wind blows from the snow-capped mountain-chain, cold, as if in contrast to the ordinary temperate climate, is acutely felt, and the thermometer is sensibly and suddenly affected; but this change is usually of short duration only—and luckily so, for the Majorcan houses, being built for summer, are hard to warm. The most objectionable feature in the climate, to our mind, is the damp which prevails in both winter and summer, from the proximity of the sea.

The following is the average temperature at

the Balearic Islands, according to official observations :<sup>1</sup>—

PALMA.				
Year.	Winter.	Spring.	Summer.	Autumn.
Centigrade.	Cent.	Cent.	Cent.	Cent.
18°·0	11°·3	16°·2	25°·1	19°·6
(64°·4 F., about.)	(51°·8 F.)	(60°·8 F.)	(77° F.)	(66°·2 F.)
MAHON.				
18°·2	12°·4	16°·9	21°·1	18°·3
(64°·4 F., about.)	(53°·6 F.)	(60°·8 F.)	(69°·8 F.)	(64°·4 F.)
Average Rainfall in Palma, in millimètres.				
497°·2	133°·7	118°·1	54°·6	190°·8

For meteorological observations in detail, see Appendix.

But whether the climate, agreeable as it is generally, is a suitable one for invalids, is a question which we hardly feel qualified to answer. Few persons, to our knowledge, have tried it in this respect. The changes of temperature which take place in the winter months are very sudden, as, in a season which one is tempted to believe perpetual spring, a storm sets in, often accompanied by snow and hail, which lasts for a week or ten days, and sets the whole population cold-catching ;

<sup>1</sup> Observations taken by Don Francisco Barcelo y Combis, in charge of the Observatory of the " Instituto Balear "—(Geografía de Don Luis Pons, p. 281.)

and then many of the brightest days of winter and spring are those which make ladies go out with parasols and muffs at the same time. For these reasons, it is, we think, somewhat doubtful whether the climate would not be too variable for those who seek an eligible winter residence on grounds of health. Certainly, native consumptive patients go off very suddenly and quickly. Teeth are lost at a very early age, and it is seldom that the pretty, well-shaped mouths of the native women will bear looking into. It is a curious surgical fact, too, that while wounds in the head and face are easily cured, those on the feet and legs are difficult to heal. More enjoyable even than the climate, and a great attraction as compared with the Peninsula, where robbers have long been a bugbear, are the perfect tranquillity and freedom from revolution, political disturbances, and banditti, with which these islands are blessed, and to which they doubtless owe much of the prosperity that they enjoy. The plague of brigands, and the greater plague of fire and sword, ever devastating and eating up the Peninsula, come not here; and this, as things go in countries under Spanish rule, is much to be thankful for.

Within the last few years the inhabitants of

these islands would seem to have awakened from the somewhat long *siesta* in which they appear to have passed hitherto so much of their existence, and a new spirit of enterprise and commercial activity—in­augurated by the establishment of a local steam­packet company, gasworks, and a bank—is extending its beneficent influence slowly, but surely, over all classes of the people.

The capitalists of the Baleares, like their neighbours, had suffered considerably from the failure of the various speculations on the Peninsula, which had from time to time invited their investments on apparently tempting terms; and it is only recently that they may be said to have recovered from the effects of the pecuniary losses sustained thereby. The result of this seems to be that the people are beginning now to look at home for the means of profitably investing their capital; and hence, on the recovery from former losses, money has been forthcoming to inaugurate local speculative undertakings, which alike tend to develop the resources of the islands and are remunerative to the capitalist. Not the least important of such undertakings is the construction of the railway across the island of Ma-

gorca, from Palma to Alcudia, now finished as far as Inca, an enterprise for which the whole of the capital, without any government subsidy, has been raised at home.

A credit association, established to foment various public and private works in the province, such as those relating to ports, railways, agriculture, canals, factories, and mines, and a local maritime insurance company have also been lately formed with considerable success at Palma.

The lack of such associations as the first-mentioned of these had long been felt. Capital has always been wanting for the development of agricultural riches and rural properties, and as much as 6 per cent. and 7 per cent. has been paid on mortgage, and 8 per cent. and 10 per cent. on bills guaranteed by good signatures.<sup>1</sup> Naturally such rates of interest as these prohibited all but the most urgent outlays on property usually producing less than 3 per cent. per annum.

These speculative enterprises have all been

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<sup>1</sup> 'Enquête Agricole.' (Réponses au questionnaire du Gouvernement de France, par un agriculteur français à Majorque.) Consulat de France, Palma, 1868, p. 501.

carried out entirely by means of local capital, and within, as we have said, a quite recent period. They have all been fairly remunerative. The bank, however, established in 1864, which did excellently while it lasted, was only allowed ten years of life, having been compelled to close in conformity with the decree of the Spanish government creating branches of the National Bank in the provinces. The gas company pays 9 per cent. to its shareholders, and the Majorcan Steam-packet Company generally about 12 per cent., while the Balearic Credit Company and Majorcan Insurance Company are not less prosperous. It may therefore be fairly presumed that, if more of such enterprises are not set on foot, it is rather from a lack of capital than from unsatisfactory results attending those which have been carried out thus far; but the Majorcans seem chary of inviting foreigners to participate in their good things.

Of the population, as mentioned above, the great majority is distributed over the larger island; the inhabitants of Majorca being, in round numbers, 225,000, while those of Minorca may now be estimated at 40,000, and those of Iviza and the islets at 25,000.

It would appear, according to official statistics, that the population of these islands gives 56 inhabitants to the square kilomètre, while the average for all Spain is 32 per kilomètre; the provinces, amongst the thirty-nine, where the ratio of the population of the Baleares is exceeded being only six in number, namely, Madrid, Barcelona, Alicante, Corunna, Guipuzcoa, and Viscaya. The increase in the population of the island during the last ten years has been estimated at 19,407, or an average of about  $9\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. per annum.<sup>1</sup>

While the islands are thus fairly populated, they would doubtless have been much more so but for a series of epidemics which have prevailed since the Conquest, one in 1230, supposed to have arisen from the unburied dead after the war; another in 1348, from which 15,000 to 30,000 persons are estimated to have died in less than a month; and one in 1375, which carried off 35,000 persons; while in 1384 the mortality

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<sup>1</sup> The population of Majorca in 1860 was 203,841, and 210,000 in 1865, an increase sufficiently remarkable. It has been observed that the density of the population of this island, in regard to its superfiice, is similar to that of France, double that of Spain, and above that of Austria, Portugal, Denmark, Russia, Turkey, Greece, and Sweden and Norway.—'Enquête Agricole,' p. 501.



was so great that taxes were remitted in favour of foreigners who came to inhabit the islands.<sup>1</sup>

Other epidemics, more or less disastrous in their effects, have also prevailed from that time to this, amongst which were two in the fifteenth century, one in the sixteenth, and one in the seventeenth, which alone carried off 15,000 persons; and others in the nineteenth century, including the 'cholera morbus, which made 2821 victims in the city of Palma.

From these figures it may be judged that the population of the islands is far below what it might have been under more favourable circumstances.

The foreign resident element is exceedingly small; indeed, it would probably be difficult to name any place on the civilised portion of the globe, not to say uncivilised, where, among a people equal to that of the Balears, the numbers of resident foreigners are so small, those numbers being, according to recent reckoning, 39 British, 119 French, 43 Italians, 13 Americans, and 1 Swede.

Nor are the visitors many. Since the island

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<sup>1</sup> 'Noticias Historico-Topograficas de Mallorca,' por Don J. M. Bover, pp. 360-393.

of Minorca passed out of our possession for good at the beginning of the century, probably even very few Englishmen have visited the Balearic Islands, and outside a limited naval circle the islands might as well be in the Pacific as within a few hours' sail of the French and Spanish coast, for all they see of our countrymen nowadays ; and in places not visited by Englishmen it is, in our experience, vain to look for the travellers of any foreign nation.

Yet there are perhaps few places just on the borders of both Europe and Africa really so well deserving a visit, while they are so little visited, as these islands, and certainly it is not that they are difficult of access. Charmingly situated in the clear waters of the Mediterranean, this very interesting and pretty group may now be comfortably reached, by means of commodious, well-appointed steamers of British construction, in twelve or fourteen hours from Barcelona ; and it will be hardly necessary to remind the reader that Barcelona may be arrived at by railway through France, and by diligence and railway across the Pyrenees and along the coast of Spain ; or, should the unsettled state of the Peninsula render that route less desirable and

pleasant than it might otherwise be, the traveller will find frequent departures of steamers from Marseilles to the Spanish seaport. The steamers which make the trip to and from the islands sail from Barcelona twice a week, in the evening, arriving at Palma or Alcudia, the two chief ports of Majorca, at daylight on the following morning.

Majorca contains, including Palma, the capital of the province, a city of about 55,000 inhabitants, forty-eight towns and villages, two of which number each over 10,000 inhabitants. There are six of over 5000, eleven over 3000, eleven over 2000, and eighteen under 2000 each. Minorca, with Mahon for its capital, and the island of Iviza, are both divided into six principal towns. These figures will be sufficient to give a general idea of the distribution of the population.<sup>1</sup>

The people of these islands may be said to be divided socially into five distinct and clearly-defined classes. Although since the Spanish revolution of 1868 events occurred which tended to shake to their foundation the structure of nobility and aristocracy almost throughout the countries under Spanish rule, the troubled waters,

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<sup>1</sup> For details, see Appendix.

happily in many respects, only reached the Balearic Islands when the fury of the waves had been broken and spent on the headlands of the Peninsula. The Majorcan nobles, proud of their nobility and proud of their ancestry, with, it must be said, somewhat of an ultra-insular pride (hardly perhaps warranted by the antiquity of their lineage, but doubtless natural to secluded islanders), if united amongst themselves in few things else, have ever stood steadfastly together to resist all innovation from outer circles.

In these days of fallen monarchies and tottering republics, it is not without interest to see a sort of feudalism yet in a tolerably pure state. Certainly in few other places is to be found, as here, a vassalage almost as in the olden time—so clearly defined a line between the owner and the tiller of the soil, particularly in Majorca, the stronghold of the “nine noble houses,” who hold their patrimony and date their ancestry from the period of Don Jaime’s conquest of the island from the Moors—where the line between the señor and the occupier of the land is, in this nineteenth century, so hard and fast a one. The Spanish-Majorcan community—to compare small things with great—was formed, like the social body

of Rome, of the families of the conquerors, who have remained united amongst themselves by kindred religion, and, in most cases, by political ties. The descendants of these ancient families have always endeavoured to maintain strictly the barrier separating them from the rest of the people. Their tenant farmers, people for the most part rich, and who pay sometimes, a rent of 500*l.* a year and upwards, and are supposed to enjoy a certain social consideration, are commonly addressed, and treated generally, in a style differing little from that used towards the domestic servants, at whose table they feed when they come into the city to transact business with their landlords; and they stand bare-headed when the señor addresses them, until told to cover their heads. This sentiment of superiority prevails even with the distant offshoots of the aristocratic families. We remember being told of a will, of recent date, in which a sum of money, not very large, had been left that a boy might be "brought up as a gentleman," and wherein it was specially stipulated that he should be taught no "common occupation, such as that of a notary, a lawyer, or an architect."

The origin of the "nine noble houses" of

Majorca, of which one hears so much, is sufficiently curious. It is said that about the beginning of the last century, a sort of social league was formed amongst the heads of the principal families of the island, who were then nine in number, to retain in their own body the local nobility and social rank. Marriages thenceforth only took place within this limited circle, and thus the members of the league grew in time to be as one family, and as distinct from the rest of the community as are now the *Chuetas*, as the descendants of the island Jews are called. All the members of these nine houses are therefore more or less connected with each other by marriage, and one finds now the names of each family repeated in another, in the long list of surnames which the families of the *Noblesse* bear. One or two of the original "nine noble houses" have now ceased to exist, and the rule in regard to marriage has also ceased to be regarded strictly, but the sentiments by which the nine houses were formerly governed are far from having died out, and the remaining members and descendants of these families are those who occupy the front ranks in the aristocracy of the island.

First then stands, at the head of the five social

classes into which the people may be divided, the Majorcan nobility, comprising, as we have seen, the proud but not very wealthy descendants of the followers of the king of Aragon, Don Jaime I., called the Conqueror, who sailed over from the Peninsula with a fleet of a hundred and fifty galleys, conveying his army of eighteen hundred volunteers and soldiers. With this army the king succeeded in taking these islands, or Majorca first, from the Moors in 1229, the memorable period from which their Spanish history dates.

It is impossible to visit the islands and make the acquaintance of the people without being frequently reminded of Don Jaime's conquest. There are few of the ancient houses in the islands, and especially in Majorca, where you will not have proudly pointed out to you, as he hangs, probably unframed, on the whitewashed walls of the family mansion or country seat, the life-size portrait of one or more of these gallant warriors; while from the original division of the conquered lands, the old nobility, the descendants of these warriors, date the possession of their patrimony. One-half of the island corresponded to the king's share, and the other half to the chiefs who aided the king in the enterprise. The Majorcan his-

torians publish a list of the names of the persons who participated in these spoils, and amongst whom the lands were distributed.<sup>1</sup> It is easy to trace in this list the names of many of the principal families now existing in Majorca. The islands were populated by the natives of Aragon and Catalonia, who had accompanied the king of Aragon on his voyage of conquest, or by the inhabitants of those places who were invited to settle afterwards.

The conquest of Majorca from the Moors by the king of Aragon was a notable instance of the Spanish Crusades of the beginning of the thirteenth century, when religious fanaticism and love of bloodshed and loot were mingled together. Invoking at every step the names of our Saviour and of the Holy Virgin, the relentless Spanish warriors, admitting no terms of peace, led their hosts on from battle to battle, almost to the utter extermination of the Moors of Majorca. It would take up too much of the reader's time, and probably little interest him, to recount the barbarous details of the means made use of on both sides in this sanguinary warfare. At one

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<sup>1</sup> 'Hist. de Mallorca,' Notas por Don M. Moragues and Don J. M. Bover, pp. 785, 866.



moment the Christian king ordered the heads of four hundred and twelve of the defeated Moors to be thrown into the beleaguered city of Palma from the mouth of his battering engines.<sup>1</sup> At another, the Moorish king exposed to the fire of his enemy the defenceless and naked bodies of his Christian prisoners, tied to crosses of wood placed on the walls of the city.<sup>2</sup> The offer which the Moorish *Jeque* made, when hard pressed by the Christians, to pay the costs of the war and deliver up the city of Palma into the hands of the conquerors, if the Catholic king would allow him to take sufficient ships to flee with his people to the Barbary coasts, was indignantly rejected.

A few days before Christmas, the king and his followers took a solemn oath "to enter the city or to die"; and to the war-cry of "Santa Maria!" thirty times repeated, the king in person led his hosts on to the attack.<sup>3</sup>

The Majorcan historians gravely recount from the Spanish author Marsilio, and others of the time, how a gallant *caballero*, mounted on a white horse, and armed *cap-à-pie*, was seen at the head of the Christian squadron, and was the first to

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<sup>1</sup> Dameto, Lib. ii. Titulo Primero, par. ix. p. 286.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. par. x. p. 289.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. par. xii. pp. 303-307.

enter the conquered city. This caballero was believed to be Saint George, sent by the Virgin whose name had been invoked so often and with so much affection and devotion.<sup>1</sup>

The king entered Palma on the last day of December, 1229, when a hundred and fifty Christian captives, of those who had been made prisoners by the Barbary pirates and otherwise, were found alive. Eight days were given to Don Jaime's troops to sack the city of its treasures of gold and silver, precious stones, cloth of gold and silver-gilt, and innumerable other riches. The riches found in the mosques especially are reported to have been of great value.<sup>2</sup> Later on the distribution of the conquered lands took place.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Dameto, Lib. ii. Tit. i. par. xii. p. 309.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. p. 315.

<sup>3</sup> The early rule of the Spanish masters in Majorca would seem to have been far from indulgent. Under the heading of 'What happened to *me* at Majorca,' Don Alonzo de Guzman recounts how, having been sent by the king in 1522 to quell an insurrection in the island, he, "with many kind words," put one Crispin, the captain of the city of Palma, and his thirteen councillors in irons, after they had surrendered, and how "the viceroy then entered and cut into four quarters the said Captain Crispin, his thirteen councillors, and an Aguazil, and visited the rest with justice;" the number of persons who were hung and quartered on this occasion being four hundred and twenty.—See Mr. Clements Markham's admirable translation of 'The Life and Acts of Don Alonzo Enriquez de Guzman,' pp. 34, 35.

The fall of the Mussulman's rule in the Mediterranean may be said to have originated in the conquest of Majorca by the king of Aragon, and to have been completed by the taking of Algiers by the French. The pre-existing cause for this was doubtless not wanting, but, as has usually happened before in history, an occurrence comparatively insignificant brought on the important result.

The taking of some booty from the Catalans by the Moors ultimately excited the Aragonese monarch to arms, which led to the conquest of Majorca, and the subjection of the Mussulman.

But to return to our text. There are no less than thirty-four titles of Spanish nobility which take their origin in the Balearic Islands. The list comprises one dukedom, fifteen marquisates, nine countships, and fourteen baronies; a fair contribution even to the somewhat prolific peerage of Spain. It would not appear that these titles date from the period of Don Jaime's conquest. With a few exceptions they are only from the middle of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth centuries and later. As, however, many of the descendants of the older nobility still reside in the island, the elements of an

aristocratical and upper strata of society, attractive and amiable, are abundant, and this *patricii* are specially jealous of invasion of their ranks. These nobles are commonly distinguished amongst the people of the island by the name of *Butifarra*,<sup>1</sup> which is intended to give an idea of a somewhat overpuffed-out importance; but the name has been so long in use that it has ceased to be offensive, any more than "swell" is in England. Indeed this designation is accepted with much complaisance.

Next in order comes the commercial body, still a somewhat looked-down-upon community even in the commercial Spanish provinces. In the upper ranks of this division figure the professional men. It is undoubtedly this class which is becoming surely, if slowly, the "great power in the state." This is saying a great deal when speaking of so uncommercial a country as Spain, and particularly of so uncommercial a province as that of the Balearic Islands, where for a long series of years there was nothing between the aristocratic landlord and the humble tenant and humbler trader. It is fair to say, how-

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<sup>1</sup> In Majorcan idiom, a large sausage.

ever, that the professional and commercial classes in these islands contain within their body much intelligence, and a spirit of enterprise and progress that may perhaps be looked for in vain out of this circle.

The farmers and the people they employ are not very widely separated in point of education, intelligence, manners or customs, and may fairly be classed under one heading, subdivided into rich and poor, as "the agricultural class," in which the instances where superior talent, abilities, and attainments are to be found, are only the exception necessary to the rule. The Majorcan farmer retains much of the character of the Arab, whose dress he still adopts. His wife and daughters are, it is true, more aspiring, but their aspirations are for the most part gratified in the possession of fine linen and jewellery. This class is, however, by far the larger one, the great majority, probably three-fourths of the people, being engaged in agricultural pursuits.

The fourth class comprises the small shopkeepers and artisans, who also form a numerous body in the capital and large towns.

But if the boundaries separating the four classes we have referred to from each other are suffi-

ciently well drawn and defined, there is no one of them, not even that fencing off the *Butifarras* from the rest of the people, that is to be compared to the hard-and-fast line by which the fifth and last class of the inhabitants is excluded from the others. This class, too, like that of the nobility, is designated by a name so common in its application, and so expressive of the manners and customs of some of the persons to whom it is applied, that one can understand its being adopted.

Towards the end of the fourteenth century, when cruelty and fanaticism in the Peninsula were engaged in active persecution of the Jewish race, the unhappy Jews of Majorca came in for a full share of ill-treatment and suffering. To the cry of "Death to the Jews," they were assaulted by the populace in their quarter of the town of Palma; they were made to kiss a cross of wood, with which they were afterwards beaten, and the death of a boy, killed in the affray, was the pretext for a general sack of their houses and homes.<sup>1</sup> The Majorcan Jews were not, however, finally converted until the year 1435, when it was brought about in this wise. Don Vicente Mut

<sup>1</sup> 'Historia de Mallorca,' por Don Vicente Mut, Lib. vii. cap. iv. p. 319-321.

relates<sup>1</sup> that, during Passion Week, some of the Jews conceived the horrible and blasphemous idea of naming one of their slaves after our Lord, and making him suffer what our Saviour had suffered during the Holy Week. The wretched man did not die on the cross to which he was finally attached, but four of the principal Jews were condemned to be burned alive for their crime. The offer of being hanged instead was however made on the condition of their being converted and Christianised. These four criminals were ultimately declared to be converted, and their example was followed by the rest of the prisoners, and in two days more than two hundred were baptized. The result of this rapid conversion was, that the very people who had clamoured for the lives of the criminals now prayed for their pardon, which was finally granted, even to the four who had been condemned to be burned.

The descendants of these people, to whom the name of *Chueta*<sup>2</sup> is now applied, form the fifth class of the inhabitants of these islands. Although professing to be Christians—for there are

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<sup>1</sup> 'Historia de Mallorca,' por Don Vicente Mut, Lib. vii. cap. xv. p. 383-390.

<sup>2</sup> Chueta, from 'Chucho,' a long-eared owl.

no Jews now in the islands—they live as much apart from the people as if they still professed the religion of their forefathers; they occupy a separate quarter of the town of Palma, and they intermarry, with very rare exceptions, only amongst themselves. They are chiefly engaged as silversmiths, but in whatever trade they are occupied they are reputed to do well and make money.







## CHAPTER II.

### *ON TENURE OF LAND AND SYSTEM OF PARTNERSHIP IN MINORCA.*

**T**HE division of land in Majorca originated, as we have seen, with the conquest of Don Jaime, when the island was divided by the king amongst his soldiers and followers. The portions of land thus distributed were large, and remained in the hands of a few proprietors for a series of years afterwards; and large holdings still prevail in the islands, but within a recent period a considerable change in this respect has taken place. Land is now greatly divided, and large and small properties are dispersed throughout. It is the prevalent opinion of persons competent to form a judgment on the subject, that the division of land since the laws against mortmain, which came into force in 1833, has contributed very

much to a general increase of wealth and prosperity observable since that period. All the fine properties held by the monasteries and numerous religious associations were sold, mostly in small portions, and have become parcelled out amongst the more active, industrious, and energetic of the people; while also, in Majorca especially, many of the large private properties have recently been sold out in small portions by non-resident and other proprietors.

The small properties in the neighbourhood of the towns and villages are, generally, much more highly cultivated than the larger ones, and produce more in proportion. The smallest of these holdings, however, naturally could only exist, as such, in the vicinity of the villages, since in parts more distant their limited produce would not compensate the expenses of their cultivation.

A holding of 200 hectares is considered a large property in the island, but there are some exceeding 4000 hectares. From 200 hectares to 50 is reckoned a moderate-sized holding, and small properties are those under 50 hectares.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 'Enquête Agricole' (or replies to queries of the French Government, furnished by a French agriculturist through the Consulate of France at Palma, 1868), p. 502.

It was estimated in 1868 that the large properties were in the proportion of 60 per cent., the moderate-sized 18 per cent., and the small 22 per cent.<sup>1</sup>

The larger properties, as a rule, are let out to farmers, and the same system is followed in regard to the moderate-sized holdings; but a few more of these latter are farmed by the proprietors than the larger ones, while the small properties are almost exclusively cultivated by their owners. The writer of the able report from which we have quoted<sup>2</sup> remarks justly, that absenteeism is the exception in these islands. With rare exceptions the landowners are residents, and usually pass a few months of each year on their estates, even on those let out to the farmers; but, to our mind, the benefit derived therefrom is much less than it would be in a country where the spirit of enterprise was greater than it here is.

In Majorca, according to published statistics,<sup>3</sup> there are nearly thirty-three thousand persons who figure as proprietors, and some five thousand in

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<sup>1</sup> 'Enquête Agricole,' p. 502.

<sup>2</sup> 'L'agriculteur français,' 'Enquête Agricole,' p. 502.

<sup>3</sup> 'Noticias Histórico-Topográficas de Mallorca,' por J. M. Bover, p. 90.

Minorca. Small properties, indeed, so abound in that island, more especially in the neighbourhood of Port Mahon, that two thousand proprietors are so reckoned out of the fifteen thousand which constitute the population of Mahon.

Such small properties, like the larger ones, are in great demand, and are bought up immediately on being offered for sale, though not producing above 3 per cent. on the capital invested in them. Whilst, as a rule, each of the small properties we have spoken of are under one holding, there are some proprietors who are the owners of several of them, separately situated, which they cultivate themselves. To these small holdings in Minorca is doubtless owing, in a great measure, the noteworthy produce of that island, to which we shall have to advert in another chapter. Twelve or fifteen years ago a great portion of these small properties in Minorca were devoted to vineyards, which were afterwards destroyed by the grape disease, *oidium Tukeri*, which afflicted the islands in 1850. They were then converted into land for cereals and general cultivation. Within the last three or four years, however, the planting of vineyards has again taken place extensively in the smaller

island. While the number of small proprietors seems to be on the increase in Majorca, they are said to be decreasing in Minorca, as the more fortunate amongst them buy up their less useful neighbours.

It appears to be thought that the clearing of the forests in Majorca, consequent upon the division of property, has tended to cause infrequency of rainfall, upon which the higher cultivation in the island so much depends; but during our residence, at least, Majorca has enjoyed consecutive years of abundant rains; so perhaps it is hardly exact to set down to this cause the years of drought sometimes experienced from the natural geographical situation of the islands.

We have even heard the scarcity of rain seriously attributed, by the more ignorant and bigoted, to the machinations of the British heretics, who, while presuming to attempt to convert the Alcludia swamp into arable land, endeavoured at the same time to pervert the people from their ancient faith.

It would perhaps be more to the purpose to consider how little has been done throughout the islands in the important matter of irrigation.

From the time of the Moorish domination the people of these islands have depended only upon the waters of heaven and their limited number of *norias* and wells. No such work as a canal exists in either of the islands. In three years out of four the periodical rains are perhaps sufficient to provide for the actual, if not for the superfluous, requirements of agriculture, so, until the drought comes, people reflect little. But when there is a year of scarcity of rain and the crops perish, the misfortune is attributed to such causes as those which we have mentioned. Of late years, it is true, a considerable number of new *norias* have been made in various places, but they are yet far from sufficient to meet the requirements of a higher system of cultivation, while the present one of *á la gracia de Dios* is, like the Spanish lottery, extremely hazardous.

It is supposed that canals, as a speculation of private enterprise, would not pay, and as neither the central nor local government have had, or are likely to have for some time to come, money to spare for such purposes, many more years will probably elapse ere there be any material change in the system of irrigation.

The following is an estimated classification of

the occupation of land in 1868, which would probably not differ greatly from that of the present time :<sup>1</sup>—

IRRIGATED LAND.			
	Hectares.	Ares.	C.
Corn, vegetables, hemp, &c. . . . .	4,661	34	31
Oranges . . . . .	339	79	35
Apples and other fruit trees . . . . .	382	30	93
Mulberries. . . . .	89	23	79
Poplars . . . . .	68	46	66
Almonds . . . . .	643	54	24
Figs . . . . .	33	46	72
	<u>6,218</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>..</u>
NON-IRRIGATED LAND.			
Cereals (with trees) . . . . .	122,382	88	2
Fruit trees . . . . .	32	22	98
Almonds . . . . .	5,308	38	38
Figs . . . . .	12,801	49	72
Olives . . . . .	26,279	34	46
Carob beans . . . . .	7,617	77	..
Vineyards . . . . .	15,514	4	15
Barbary figs . . . . .	338	76	18
Oaks . . . . .	5,119	53	35
Pines . . . . .	10,280	99	65
Forest . . . . .	1,639	26	62
Waste lands . . . . .	45,985	49	34
Salt-pans . . . . .	55	40	42
Rocks, watercourses, and marshlands	23,993	29	36
Towns, villages, roads, and torrents .	10,233	20	85
Total . . . . .	<u>361,814</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>10</u>

<sup>1</sup> 'Enquête Agricole,' pp. 523-4.

The following is an average estimate of a property (let for 5300 francs per annum), which will serve to give an idea of the nature of the cultivation and produce. The situation is in the centre of the island, level, with fair arable soil :—

	Hectares.	Ares.	Centiares.
Arable land . . . . .	126	55	13
Vineyards . . . . .	18	93	87
Woodland . . . . .	22	61	53
Barbary figs ( <i>Cactus Opuntia</i> ) . . . . .	..	15	30
Fallow land . . . . .	..	84	..
Tenements . . . . .	..	13	7
Courtyard and garden . . . . .	1	15	20
Total . . . . .	<u>170</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>10</u>

The arable land produces beans, corn, barley, vegetables, such as lentils, peas, lettuce, &c. It is covered with fig-trees, a third in full bearing, the others young. The woodlands serve for the pasture of sheep and pigs, and furnish the necessary wood for farm purposes. The house contains a cellar with barrels, buckets, pumps, &c., and capable of containing 1000 litres of wine. The farmer pays no taxes or charges of any kind beyond his rent, all contributions being payable by the landlord.

As a maximum, one may reckon as rent per hectare of good cereal land, 50 francs; good



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vineyards 60 to 80 francs; good olive land 135 francs; and oranges 800 to 900 francs. Watered land for the cultivation of hemp is worth in rent from 400 to 500 francs per hectare; fig-trees, 30 to 40 francs, exclusive of the land; land for cereals, with good fig-trees and almond-trees, may exceed 100 francs.<sup>1</sup>

Fruit trees in this island increase greatly the value of the land on which they grow, on account of the valuable products they afford, in addition to the ground crops. Thus, while the fig-tree and almond-tree are spread over the plains, and permit of the cultivation of cereals under their shade, olive and carob-bean trees form almost the exclusive cultivation of the more mountainous parts of the island. As a rule, tree-culture produces far more than ground crops, and those trees which can be watered at least double the others.

In the sale of property it is usual to capitalise the rent on the basis of from 2 to 3 per cent., to form an estimate of its value; generally speaking, the house and tenements situated thereon count for nothing.

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<sup>1</sup> 'Enquête Agricole,' pp. 503-4.

Good cereal land has been sold for as much as 15,000 francs per hectare, but the average value may be estimated at from 5000 francs for the first class, to 500, as a minimum, for the lowest kind. Vineyards are worth from 7500 to 1000 francs, while land growing fine fig-trees is worth 5000 francs per hectare, and that where olives are grown from 7500 to 1000. In 1864, 90 hectares of orange grove, with fine trees and abundant water, were sold for 42,000 francs.

All this, of course, depends upon the situation, the quality of the land, the nature of the trees, the state of the market, and a number of circumstances which make it impossible to give exact data. But it may be said that, as compared with the revenue, land has an enormous value at Majorca. Properties are frequently sold and re-sold at exactly the same price.<sup>1</sup>

While the estates and farms held by great proprietors in the larger island are usually let to tenant farmers for terms commonly from six to nine years, and the same system is followed by such of the smaller proprietors as do not reside in the village adjacent to their property, a system

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<sup>1</sup> 'Enquête Agricole,' p. 504.

of partnership so generally prevails in Minorca that the island may be said to be entirely cultivated under that system, with the exception of the small holdings, owned by those who farm themselves, to which we have referred above.

This system of partnership has for its basis the equal division of the produce of a farm between the landlord and the farmer, who undertakes absolutely its farming and cultivation. This arrangement is usually governed by a private written contract, terminable at will on either side, the principal conditions of which are that the landlord should deliver to the farmer—1, the land, dwellings, mill, oven, &c., all in working order; 2, a specified number of agricultural implements and utensils under inventory; and 3, the cattle and horses necessary for working the farm, breeding, &c., under a declared value, for which the tenant is held responsible.

The farmer, on his part, undertakes—1, to farm the land and cultivate it according to the custom of the island, with due regard to the interests of the property; and 2, to provide all the seed and labour required.

The produce of the farm, as well of cattle

as of corn and vegetables, is then to be equally divided between the landlord and the farmer.

While this system is only adopted in the smaller island, it seems to be generally considered there as that most advantageous to the proprietors, for although some few landlords have undertaken the administration of their farms themselves, or by tenancy, we were informed that they had in all cases been obliged to return to the partnership system, it being found to give by far the best results. That it is more profitable, however, to the landlord than to the tenant, or rather farmer, would seem to be manifest, from the notorious fact that the farmers of Minorca, while securing a barren livelihood for themselves and their families, have been seldom known to become independent under this system, although they may have administered a good farm for many years; while in the larger island tenant-farming leaves the farmer rich. From this it would appear, that the half-share of profits does not represent to the farmer, at best, more than good and fair wages for himself and his family, who, like himself, are mostly employed on the farm. It is maintained in defence of this system, that as the farmer's income

depends and is at stake upon his good management and care of the farm, the proprietor inevitably benefits by his interested labours to a greater extent than he could hope to do, did he merely employ the farmer as a labourer, and that hired labour on a greatly-increased scale would be necessary to attain similar produce; thus letting a farm seems out of the question in Minorca. It is said to have been proved, however, that in order that a farm under the partnership system may give good results even to the landlord, it must be sufficiently large to enable the farmer and his family to *live* upon it with a certain degree of ease, while, on the other hand, if it be too large, the cultivation, from the want of means on the part of the farmer, is often neglected. It is evident, moreover, that without the good faith and honesty which are reported to exist, as a rule, on the part of the partnership farmer in Minorca, the whole system of partnership would be impossible, as the farmers naturally have it in their power, notwithstanding whatever checks the landlord may impose, to defraud him of his fair share of the produce of the holding should they be dishonestly disposed. It is difficult indeed to believe that this is not already done in some in-

stances to a greater extent than is admitted. The partnership farmer, while said to be honest, frugal, industrious, economical, and intelligent, is but an uneducated field labourer. When the relations are most friendly, the relative positions are always, more or less, those of master and servant. Notwithstanding that the cultivation of the farm is by a covenant, which does not suppose direct service on the part of the farmer towards the landlord, and which specifies to each compensating rights and duties, the position of the Minorcan farmer is always considered by his landlord to be simply that of a labourer and dependant.

Thus the principal farms and properties in Minorca are cultivated by its peasantry, who live upon them, pay the working expenses, and divide the profits with the landowner. It appeared to us, however, that this system, while it may perhaps stimulate the energy of the farmer, conduces very much to the more than apparent inactivity of the proprietors of the land, who, relieved of the natural cares of their estates, having no commercial or other pursuits, and being even sufficiently separated from active scenes in politics, seem almost to while away life in one prolonged *siesta*, leaving the country people, with whom

they share the profits of their property, the fatigue almost of *thought* as well as of labour.

There are in this island a few proprietors whose families for generations have lived on their property, farming it themselves, though these persons are very few in number. Such farms are generally more highly cultivated and give better results than any of those let out under partnership; but the "gentleman farmer," the cultivation of which species would probably do more than anything else to develop the resources and natural riches of the islands, is *rara avis in terris*.

In Majorca, where land is mostly let out for cultivation, we found farmers cultivating two or three or more farms at once (although this is not very often the case), many such properties being 2500 acres and upwards in extent, as large properties contain a quantity of woodlands and copses, a great part of which are unproductive. Sub-tenancies are rare in the islands. There is no law or custom whereunder a tenant, or a partnership farmer, is considered as having a right to dispose of his interest in a farm without the perfect consent of the landlord, nor to remain in possession of his holding, under any circum-

stances, against the will of the owner. The rent is regulated by mutual consent of the parties interested—never by custom or valuation—and all improvements are made by the landlord on his own account. They are inherent to the farm, and the tenant has no claim for any improvement he may make without the previous consent of the landlord; the farmer, however, may sometimes help by labour, and otherwise, in carrying out improvements from which he might derive immediate benefit. There would appear to be, moreover, no difficulty in finding good farmers on these conditions.

A system called *rotas*, somewhat approaching to the partnership system of Minorca, is adopted in Majorca, in the case of off-lands in large farms. The farmer, in these cases, gives out to his labourers and others small portions of the land too far removed to be kept under his own immediate care and cultivation. He receives, in lieu of rent, a percentage of the crops, varying from a fifth to a tenth. In a similar manner the gleaners divide with the farmer their gleanings after the harvest.

Until quite recently the large properties in the islands have been left to one heir, usually the



eldest son—the younger brothers receiving the small legal inheritance in money. Thus the estates remained, for the most part, in one holding, when retained in the original family; so the division of land, where it has taken place, occurred rather through speculation, when large properties were bought and reparcelled out, than from inheritance.

The law regulating the descent and division of landed property on the death of the owner is the Roman law—Novela cxviii. of Justinian. The ordinary transfer of property is effected by means of a document executed before a notary on a deed which must have been previously registered. On the sale of property a state duty is levied, averaging 3 per cent. When the transfer is by inheritance, and not in direct lineal descent, the dues vary from 1 to 10 per cent., according to the degree of relationship that may exist between the persons leaving the property and the legatee, such duty increasing in proportion to the distance of the relationship. Inheritance in direct lineal descent paid no state duty before 1874, when it was charged for war purposes. A curious old law still exists, under which, when properties are sold, the purchaser is liable to pay an allodial

duty of 2 per cent. But so old is the custom establishing such a duty that persons having a right to receive it cannot be found sometimes. In Majorca, where properties are frequently heavily mortgaged, the rate of interest is commonly 6 per cent.; but in Minorca it is usually 1 to 2 per cent. lower on mortgages.

The wages of the farm labourer in Majorca are from 10*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.* per day when he maintains himself, and 5*d.* when maintained by his employer.<sup>1</sup> Those of women, who do not usually live on the farms, but are much employed on farm work in Majorca, are from half to two-thirds of those paid to men. In Minorca the rate is 1*s.* when the labourer boards himself, and about three-fifths of this sum when he is maintained. In harvest time, however, the wages are increased to from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 10*d.*, and sometimes more, the labourer being at this time invariably maintained by his employer. This increase is in consequence of the harder labour necessary at this season, and the scarcity of the number of hands available.

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<sup>1</sup> These rates have been somewhat increased of late, owing to the scarcity of labour produced by frequently repeated calls for military service.

We have entered thus fully into particulars for the information of any one who might have a thought to a settlement in these islands as an agriculturist. Nevertheless, if our advice were asked, it would not be very encouraging. Up to the present time there have been, however, no foreign settlers who have devoted themselves to agricultural pursuits; so one has no guide from experience as to what success might attend such an enterprise. A foreigner, moreover, is instinctively viewed with suspicion, and, if he calculated upon working with native labour, he must remember that the peasant of these islands, besides being suspicious, is at best a very blunt tool to work with, to which it would probably be difficult to give an edge either by tact or force. One gigantic enterprise, which has unfortunately swallowed up, unremunerative thus far, an immense amount of British capital in land-draining, near Alcudia, is pointed at by the natives as a proof that they have nothing to learn from the introduction of foreign skill or knowledge.

Emigration had hitherto been rare in the larger island, and thus there had been, until quite lately, no positive scarcity of agricultural labourers in Majorca; but in Minorca, on the contrary, a

considerable emigration has taken place during the last twenty-five or thirty years. The chief cause of such emigration as had taken place in Minorca had been rather the unconquerable aversion of these islanders to military service, than any difficulty of finding employment or procuring a living at home. The proximity of Algeria—where the early emigrants, after the French conquest, found readily a means of living, perhaps better than in Minorca, a climate very similar to that of their native country—and a great facility of the means of transport thither, of communication with their friends, and of return home, doubtless contributed to increase the emigration to an extent which it might not otherwise have had, notwithstanding the detested *quintas*,<sup>1</sup> considering the favourable circumstances of the island, its tranquillity, cheapness, and healthiness. But in 1873 and 1874, when it was found that the abolishment of the *quintas* afforded no security against military service, and that the requirement of the republican governments for soldiers were greater by far, owing to the Carlist insurrection, than those of monarchy had ever been, emigra-

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<sup>1</sup> Conscription.

tion then assumed much more considerable proportions, and many of the best of the youth of Majorca imitated those of the sister isle, and fled, not to the neighbouring coasts of Algeria, but to far-off regions in South America. The hundred pounds required by the government to redeem a young soldier would, it was found, pay his passage out to the New World, and start him in life when he got there. The labour market has already felt the effect of this. Indeed, we were lately told that only old men and women were now to be had for field labour; for while there had been no scarcity of labour, there had never been any superabundance. This circumstance would probably stand in the way of the carrying out any great works in the islands.

While there are no large fortunes or large capitalists, it may be safely said that there is no actual want. It would, we think, be difficult to find in a population of a similar size an equal number of persons whose necessaries of life, such as they are, are so generally provided for. All over the islands one finds cottages dotted about, many of them built by the handiwork of the occupant, in which the family of the labourer make their home, and live on from generation to

generation. These cottages have all a bit of ground attached to them sufficient for the growth of the necessary vegetables; and whilst the father works at the neighbouring farm, the sons work at their trade of shoemaking; the daughters are engaged in domestic service or at the factories. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to collect labour from such sources for any work of magnitude removed from the home of the labourer, especially as there is no scarcity of local employment for him or his family. The people of these islands have, for the most part, fallen into a groove for their lifetime, out of which they have little temptation and less inclination to move, as it would appear, at present.





### CHAPTER III.

*AGRICULTURE AND MODE OF CULTIVATION, AND  
NOTICE OF THE PRODUCTS.*

**T**N the Balearic Islands, where such mineral resources as exist may be said to be as yet undiscovered and undeveloped, and where commercial pursuits are in their infancy, or but little followed, the principal occupation of the inhabitants is naturally agriculture; and while it is agriculture that affords the chief employment of the people, so it is also the one great source of their wealth and prosperity. This being so, it is a somewhat remarkable circumstance to note at the starting-point, that no less than a third of the territory, or 197,897 hectares of land in the islands, according to recent calculation, still await cultivation.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Del Olivo, por Don José Monlau, 'Revista Balear,' 1874.

It would be a long list that should enumerate all the various kinds of the fruits of the earth that the highly-favoured soil of these islands is capable of producing. A more difficult task than the formation of such a list would be, however, to mention the vegetables and fruits that might not be brought forth in perfection, with care and cultivation, in so genial a climate and so excellent a soil. Olives and almonds and their oils, and wheat and barley of the finest quality, and grapes, figs, oranges, beans, and hemp form the principal products; but a great variety of fruit and vegetables besides are grown for local consumption, while as many others, that might be produced with ease and advantage, are neglected. Thus, to give an idea of greater things from small, it may be mentioned that in a soil producing, beside the fruits we have named, cherries, plums, peaches, apricots, apples and pears, walnuts and nuts, mulberries, plantains, medlars, and vegetables of many kinds, from potatoes and cabbages to tomatoes and pepper-pods, asparagus and strawberries, which grow wild in profusion, and, as we have ourselves proved, may be easily raised to perfection, are not cultivated at all. The asparagus offered, and readily bought in the market, is as thin as a straw;



while strawberries, hardly bigger than currants, and quickly sold for about tence a pint, are all one sees of this fruit. But beetroot, artichokes, turnips, seakale, cucumbers, and several other useful vegetables known in England, and many fruits, such as currants, gooseberries, raspberries, &c., are literally unknown in the market; not because they could not be readily grown to great perfection, but because it is simply out of the groove as yet to cultivate them. So green peas are not gathered or brought to market until they rattle about on one's plate like marbles; and while many fruits are gathered before ripe, nuts or walnuts are not sold until they are dried up in their shells.<sup>1</sup>

As the principal source of the wealth of these islands is derived from agriculture, it would be very interesting to know, with something like certainty, the value of the agricultural products as well as of what they consist. A variety of causes, however, step in to make every calculation

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<sup>1</sup> L'agriculteur français ('Enquête Agricole,' p. 514) mentions the following plants as unknown in Majorca:—*La betterave* (beetroot); *le colza*, *le boublon* (hop); *la garance* (madder); *la navette* (rape); *Paillet* (eyelet); *la cameline*, and others. Linseed and saffron are cultivated in small quantities, but tobacco, which would grow well, is forbidden by law, on account of tobacco being a state monopoly.

on this subject only approximate. Taking, however, the government returns, which are necessarily imperfect, as the best data one can obtain, it would appear that the total annual value of agricultural products of all kinds is estimated at 105,443,600 reals vellon,<sup>1</sup> giving an average of 21,380 reals to each square kilomètre; while the taxable or net agricultural produce is estimated at 46,625,460 reals. But it would not be very easy to say how far these figures may be within the mark. Strong motives exist for underrating the produce of a farm or an estate, when it is known that the contributions depend upon the estimated value of them; whilst tenants, whose rent is based upon the acknowledged profit of a farm, are naturally tempted to undervalue the product of their holdings, lest their rent should be increased.

The above sum, however, amounts to 1·55 per cent. of the value of the total agricultural produce of Spain, although the extent of the islands is 0·95 per cent. of the total extent of the Peninsula; from which it would seem that the soil of these islands, even in what we think the present

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<sup>1</sup> Ninety-six reals vellon = 1*l.* sterling.

backward state of their cultivation, produces not less than 63 per cent. above the average of the provinces of the Continent.<sup>1</sup> But these comparisons, in our opinion, must be taken rather as illustrating the backward state of agriculture on the Peninsula generally than as showing anything approaching a high state of cultivation in the islands. It is everywhere sufficiently manifest that the soil of the islands, and especially of Majorca, is a most productive one naturally; but we think it is equally evident that very far from the most is made of great natural advantages.

While it is thus difficult to procure more than an approximate estimate of the actual value of the agricultural riches and products of the islands, it must be borne in mind that nearly 290,000 people are in the main fed from local produce; and then we find that olive oil to the value of 260,000 dollars,<sup>2</sup> almonds and almond oil to 100,000 dollars, wine to 460,000 dollars, spirits and liquors to 170,000 dollars; and fruits and vegetable products to the value of 150,000 dollars

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<sup>1</sup> Estada, 'Estudios sobre la posibilidad económica del camino de hierro.' Palma, 1871.

<sup>2</sup> One dollar = 4s. 2d.

are annually exported to Spanish America and foreign countries,<sup>1</sup> in addition to the produce carried over to the Peninsula, of which no record is to be found. The shipment of fat pigs would probably alone be of not less value than 50,000 dollars; while in former years 200,000 dollars worth of oranges were shipped annually from Soller to Marseilles. No kinds of machinery have until quite lately been used in these islands. The soil is still turned but a few inches deep by the old-fashioned Roman plough, drawn by mules or oxen, when it is afterwards broken by a simple hand-hoe, these being almost the only agricultural implements hitherto employed in aid of manual labour. With rare exception, indeed, that which nature affords, almost unaided, in this bountiful land is accepted as sufficient, and honestly believed to be all that could be obtained. It is objected, for instance, that a modern plough would destroy the roots of the olive and almond trees, which grow in such profusion over the island; but such implements are not used where trees do not grow. Two or three years ago there was not a threshing-machine of

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<sup>1</sup> Customs Returns.

any kind in use in the islands; and although within that period a certain number of simple ones had been employed, the first worked by steam was introduced in 1872, one of Messrs. Ransome and Sims's, which met with a more favourable reception from the farmers than was to be anticipated, and in the following years several others were imported; but it is still common to see half-a-dozen blindfolded mules in a circus treading out the corn as they trot around.

It is probable that if modern agricultural implements were more generally introduced, and their use practically explained to the farmers, a considerable revolution in the mode of cultivation and working the farms might be the result; but if the initiative be left to the native agriculturists it will probably be many years before the present system is materially changed. The local publications have, however, of late taken up the subject; and statistics from England are sometimes quoted to prove the advantages to agriculture, as well as to other industries, of the employment of proper machinery. Improvements in the system of agriculture, however, advance slowly in most countries, and, as we have said, they have been thus far almost stationary in the Balearic Islands.

It is, as a rule, exceedingly difficult to get either the landed proprietor or the farmer to adopt any new system whatever; but it is not easy to believe that the soil of these islands in the hands of a more enterprising and energetic people would not give vastly greater products than it does at present, while even now these products, as a whole, compare so favourably with those of the Peninsula. The net product of land in Spain is calculated at 37·17 reals vellon per fanega; whilst in the Balearic Islands it reaches the sum of 59·53 reals vellon, giving 22·36 reals in favour of the islands. But this must, doubtless, be taken, as we have said, quite as much as indicating the backward state in which Spain stands in regard to agriculture as pointing to any great advancement or progress in the Balears.

It has been before remarked that these islands are farmed by a class of men who, with rare exceptions, are little removed by education or scientific attainments from their day-labourers. Their practical knowledge is merely handed down from father to son. Then there is the lack of what we have called "gentlemen farmers," men of scientific education, who live on their property and farm it themselves. There can be

no doubt, however, if the owners were to reside on their estates, as their ancestors did, and give their own attention to the cultivation of them, the results would be in every respect better and greater. In all directions there appears to be work for the hands of intelligent men to do. The mountain-springs, instead of being conducted to a channel that would allow of their being profited by in all seasons, are lost in the torrents of the winter months ; while during a dry summer season there are few parts of the island that do not suffer more or less from drought ; and artesian wells are almost unknown, though water is believed to exist in many places, probably at an insignificant distance from the surface. There are no rivers and no canals. The only appliance for drawing water for irrigation is the *noria* of the Moors, and this kind of well does not exist in anything like the numbers required to meet the wants of cultivation ; while the city of Palma is still supplied with water from the original springs and aqueducts constructed by the Moors before the Conquest. The limited number of cattle, including horses, mules, pigs, and sheep, for the most part rove about on the mountainside, where they may gather pasture, but where the manure is lost,

although manure is everywhere scarce. When it is added that olive oil, one great source of the wealth of these people, is prepared so carelessly that much is lost in the drawing, while its quality and market value are deteriorated in the process, and that even the wine, which is rich and strong, and for the most part pure, finds no favour in the European market, and is chiefly disposed of at a low price in the Spanish colonies, enough will have been mentioned to give the reader an idea of the field there is yet for improvement, advancement, and progress generally in the agricultural system of these people, who are too prone to believe that there is no system on earth superior to that adopted by their great-great-grandfathers, and followed for the most part by the present generation.

Amongst other things that struck us was the Vandalic sacrifice of forest trees before they had attained half the size nature intended them to grow—pines and beautiful oaks wantonly felled, to meet the demands of the charcoal-burner, while timber for all purposes had to be imported from Norway and Sweden. The antiquated and expensive system of cooking by charcoal still prevails, with few exceptions, throughout the



length and breadth of the islands, and of course the demand for this costly, unwholesome fuel is great ; though possibly, when all the fine trees of the islands are burned up, as they must be some day, a substitute may be found for it everywhere, as it has in a few instances been provided in the capital, by the substitution of coke for charcoal. The box-trees, for which these islands were once celebrated, have already been burned up.

And not less barbarous is the system, almost invariably followed, of yoking mules together in farm-work by means of a heavy bar of wood, sufficiently burdensome in itself to carry, without the weighty, springless cart which the poor animals are made to draw up and down hill, without ease or brake. Thus one frequently sees a handsome pair of mules ruined by the awkward, straggling gait they have acquired in this work in such harness.

After such adverse comments, it is pleasant to turn to praiseworthy objects. Amidst so much that appears to us antiquated and non-progressive, there is one noteworthy feature connected with the cultivation of these islands which cannot fail to attract the attention of the most casual observer. This feature is the immense labour,

skill, and patience that have been employed, and are still displayed, in the construction in the mountainous and uneven parts of the land of terraces, for the purpose of agriculture, supported by stone walls. It would appear, indeed, in many instances which meet the eye, that the cost of these laborious constructions could hardly be compensated by the few yards of land susceptible of cultivation on the mountainside. Great niceness and tact are shown in fitting in the rough stones in the building of these walls, which are for the most part made without any cement. The mountains in the neighbourhood of Soller and Valldemosa, in Majorca, are gradually getting covered by these terraces, especially where the land has fallen into the hands of small proprietors.

In Minorca, too, the labour, care, and attention bestowed by the small farmers on the cultivation of its more rocky soil are quite praiseworthy. Almost every yard of the smaller island is in its way made the most of. It is a matter of surprise, indeed, that so much can be produced as is there raised on land, which in many parts appears nothing more than rock, hardly covered by an inch of vegetable earth ; and yet it is at Minorca where the best cereals and finest fruits of the islands are

produced, although, of course, in very limited quantities compared with those of the larger island. The strong and frequent gales which sweep over Minorca, the scarcity of water and the little depth and inequality of the soil might be pleaded as excuses there for the absence of a more extensive cultivation ; but in the beautiful and fertile island of Majorca there certainly is no room for such pleadings. It may not be out of place here to mention that within the last twelve or fourteen years the *moniato* plant (*Convolvulus batatas*) has been introduced in these islands, with most satisfactory results in fresh and watered lands, its stalks affording an excellent forage for cattle, while the root produces a considerable quantity of a species of sweet potato, which now forms one of the chief articles of food of the family of the agricultural labourer. In well-irrigated lands there have been instances of a single plant yielding 20 to 25 pounds of the vegetable, and even, on extraordinary occasions, upwards of 40 pounds. The "zulla" ("sainfoin d'Espagne," *Hedysarum coronarium*) has also, after many researches, been found well suited for all land of an inferior quality, while it resists very well the wind and dry season, permitting the

formation of artificial pasture lands, so much wanted in Minorca.

The system of cultivation followed in these islands varies more or less according to the nature of the holding. In the larger farms in Majorca the land is usually parcelled out into four portions, and sown under what is called the *barbecho*, or reposing system, as follows:—

	Portion 1.	Portion 2.	Portion 3.	Portion 4.
1st year	Wheat	Barley	Part beans	Pasture, left for
2nd year	Barley	Pasture, left for	Wheat	Part beans
3rd year	Pasture, left for	Part beans	Barley	Wheat
4th year	Part beans	Wheat	Pasture, left for	

This arrangement is, however, modified in the smaller holdings, cereals being sown in some cases every alternate year, according to the degree to which the land is worked and manured.

The crop of corn is gathered first, in June; and from August to December, the crops of almonds, grapes, carob beans, and olives. Oranges ripen from January to May; and vegetables are cultivated, in greater or less degree, almost

throughout the year in land susceptible of irrigation. For the cultivation of vegetables the soil is prepared to admit of watering between two furrows, it having been ploughed and dressed twice or thrice.

Grass and pasture lands are scarce in the islands, the soil being generally too dry, while that susceptible of irrigation is reserved for other cultivation, such as fruit and vegetables. Grass lands, however, prevail in a greater proportion in Minorca than Majorca. For the reasons above given, stock is only raised on farms of great extent. In the smaller ones, the pastures, after corn crops, are usually let or sold as grazing ground.

The land under cultivation in Minorca is almost invariably divided into *three* distinct parts, one being sown, one prepared for sowing on the following year, and the one last planted being left in the stubble for pasture. From this it will appear that in that island the soil is sown with wheat every three years; that is to say that there is, as a rule, always a third of the cultivated portion of the island sown with wheat. Barley is planted in smaller quantities in proportion to wheat, and in

inferior land; but sometimes, after wheat crops, in better land. Vegetables are commonly cultivated on the land under preparation for the next wheat crop, manure being then more freely used than usual. This practice, it is said, has been found to improve the soil for wheat.

A curious system has been developed at Minorca for manuring, which gives good results to the proprietor or farmer, while it is at the same time beneficial to the poorer labourer. When the farmer has chosen sufficient of the land under preparation for the wheat crops for planting the vegetables he may require, or for which he has manure, he allots to his poorer neighbours, free of rent, such small portions of it as they may be able to plant with vegetables, imposing upon them only the condition of their using a stipulated quantity of manure, which is very dear and scarce in Minorca. The labourer becomes thus for a season a small farmer on his own account, his family collecting the manure on the high-roads, and taking care of the crops, while he himself is employed at other work; and thus the potato, which is really the bread of the poorer classes in this island, becomes within their reach to an extent that it would not otherwise do;

whilst the farmer, in return, gets his land worked and dressed by this means better than he would be able to do on his own account.

The land for this purpose is much solicited by the poor, and a notable improvement has been found in the quality of that so given out for cultivation.

The breeding of cattle in these islands, with the exception of pigs, is not an object of great care and attention ; and in this branch of agriculture, as in the others, there is little advancement, although it forms a product of considerable importance.

A few years ago, however, the "zulla," to which we referred above, was introduced with good result in Minorca, with the object of providing pasture for cattle which had hitherto no other food than the herbs, in small quantities, that form the natural produce of the grazing lands, the picking of the forests, and straw ; hence in years of drought they were often left to perish of hunger. Notwithstanding all this, the race of oxen in Minorca is fair, and milch cows form a considerable produce of the farms on the northern part of that island. In Majorca milch cows are not bred, and those which are kept, in a very limited number, for supplying the

city—in addition to goats—with milk, are procured from Switzerland. The breed of mules is excellent, and this is the animal most used for all purposes, whether for drawing the coach of the señora in the city, or for ploughing the land. The breed of horses is insignificant, and they are of a coarse, bad race. Pigs are very largely bred in both islands, and form a great source of the wealth of Majorca, being sold, when fatted, in the winter months, for as much as 8*l.*, and upwards, each, while large numbers of Majorcan hogs are, we have seen, annually shipped to the Peninsula. Every family in the island, even the poorest, kill at least one for home use at Christmas time. But if they get their pig, the majority at least get no beef. It would be difficult to believe—did not one see the frequent arrivals of cattle from Algeria and the Spanish coast, and even from Minorca—that in a fertile island like Majorca the breeding of cattle for food should be so much neglected, that the people are mostly dependent on the lean, sea-sick cows from Algiers for their daily supply of beef, and that the whole energies of the Majorcan farmer in this respect should be exhausted apparently in the fattening of hogs for export and home use, and



in rearing sheep and goats for home consumption. Yet so it is; hence beef is only a city luxury, which cannot be obtained at any of the interior towns, for there the notions of butcher's meat do not extend beyond salt pork and mutton. Even bacon is unknown, and hams are merely "salt pig," for they are simply salted, and mostly eaten raw. There is nothing in which the Majorcan farmer would appear to be more behind-hand than in the neglect of cattle-breeding, to which we have adverted. Cows' milk and butter are luxuries in Majorca, obtainable only by much favour and many *pesetas*; for some half-dozen Swiss cows are all that are kept to supply the requirements of the inhabitants in this respect; while, as we have seen, in the smaller island, which suffers more from drought, and is more unsheltered than Majorca, artificial pastures are raised, and the keeping of cows has proved to be one of the principal sources of wealth of the people, being profitable in itself, and contributing much to agriculture by providing manure for the land.

The last official census we have seen (1865) gives the following returns of the cattle, &c., in the islands.

Horses, 3552; mules, 13,384; donkeys, 22,679.

Cattle, 19,947; sheep, 125,251; goats, 20,222.

Pigs, 89,180.

This return gives only one head of cattle per 6 hectares of the total land of the islands, or excluding the forest and uncultivated lands, one head per  $3\frac{14}{100}$  hectares.<sup>1</sup>

The two principal sources of wealth in the islands are olives and almonds. The *olea* tree upon which the olive is grown originally grows wild as a shrub on the mountain land in these islands, producing a fruit which bears no oil. When brought under cultivation grafting is practised.

The ancient historians of Majorca recount that in olden times the olive was unknown in the islands, and that the art of grafting was taught to the islanders by the Carthaginians. By the appearance, however, of some of the enormous and ancient-looking olive-trees one sees now in Majorca, one would be tempted to believe that their existence dates as far back as the period to which the historian refers. We

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<sup>1</sup> 'Enquête Agricole,' p. 507.

once ourselves asked an intelligent Majorcan farmer how old he thought some of these trees were ; his answer was, "I believe, they may well date from the time of the Deluge." It is a remarkable feature in the growth of these magnificent trees that one never sees two exactly alike. Almost all in the course of their growth assume most grotesque forms, and upon old trees, whose trunks are rent open and torn into half-a-dozen shreds, one often sees the finest crop of fruit, while in Majorca they have in some places attained proportions which remind one of the forest trees of the tropics. We have more than once walked round such trees, the rent trunks of which now require the outstretched arms of half-a-dozen men to encircle them, and one doubts, from the wild growth of their trunks, whether the branches proceed from one tree or from two or three congregated.

According to official statistics published by the author of a work on olive cultivation in Spain,<sup>1</sup> it would appear that somewhat more than 26,838 hectares of land in these islands are occupied in

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<sup>1</sup> 'Del Olivo,' por Don José Monlau.

the growth of olives. The total for the whole of the islands gives 1 hectare of olives in every 21 hectares of land under cultivation. But this calculation would include only the islands of Majorca and Iviza, as in Minorca the cultivation of olives is insignificant, and in the calculation of cultivated land are included no less than 92,190 hectares of brushwood.

From these figures it appears that the average oil produce may be estimated at 3,152,493 litres per annum, of the gross value of 11,830,666 reals (or 123,444*l.*), which would give, as the average gross produce per hectare, 11,750 litres, of the value of 441 reals (4*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*). Deducting from this gross value of the oil, viz., 11,830,666 reals, the expenses of cultivation, calculated at 62 per cent., or 7,345,916 reals, there remains as the net produce, subject to contribution, 4,484,750 reals, which would, as net, produce per hectare 167 reals (1*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*).<sup>1</sup>

In countries where more care is exercised in the preparation of olive oil than is displayed in these islands, the virgin oil obtained from the fruit when first pressed is carefully separated, as being

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<sup>1</sup> See Table in Appendix.

of a better quality than that which is procured by the application of hot water to the bruised fruit, and by the appliance of greater pressure. But the quantity of virgin oil produced here is quite insignificant, and, although of an excellent quality, it is little appreciated at home. Samples of it that had been clarified gained prizes at the International Exhibition at Vienna, but the care required to produce such oil is not often exercised. All the oil that can be squeezed out of the olives by means of the antiquated machinery still in use, is generally poured into one common tank and left to clarify as best it may. The fruit, whether ripe or overripe, half green or wholly rotten, or whether it may have been knocked down by the beater's cane, or beaten down by wind or rain in stormy weather and trodden under foot, is commonly all picked up from the ground about one time by the women and children who are employed in the gathering season, and accumulated in heaps, where decay goes on. It is then, after being sorted or not, as the case may be, crushed under the millstone, with the application of boiling water. To the little care used in drawing the oil, we take it, is owing the acrid taste of the Majorcan oil,

compared with that of other countries. The refuse of the olives, after the last crushing, which we believe is far from getting out all the oil contained in the pulpy mass held in the round matting bags, is used to feed the fires required to boil the water. Probably nowhere may be seen more magnificent olive-trees than are grown at the Balearic Islands, while the oil, from not being properly prepared, is often inferior to that of other places. But if you remark this to a Majorcan farmer, he will tell you that clarified oil *no tiene gusto*, has no flavour—as the inhabitants of these islands will tell you that cultivated asparagus and strawberries are flavourless.

The white wheat grown in the islands is of a very superior kind, nor does it seem to lose its good qualities in other soils. A sample which was sent, during our residence at Mahon, to the United States gave so satisfactory a result, that an order was received by the United States consul at Minorca, in return, to send 1000 bushels as seed to the States; and accounts from Onda, which were published in the Spanish newspapers in 1872, stated that within two years experiments had been made in that district with the seed-wheat of Majorca, which had given results

quite remarkable, particularly in non-irrigated land, and where the shade of the trees usually prevented vegetation. It would appear that crops from Majorcan seed were raised with little water, and in the shade, better than others under more favourable circumstances, while these crops were early as well as fine.

Thus it often happens that the cereals of the islands are exported, and corn of a lower value imported in their place; but, for all this, we believe the return of the wheat crops is much below what it should be. We have seen it lately quoted, indeed, as being in the proportion of only six for one on the average.

Grape cultivation forms one of the most profitable branches of the agriculture of the islands; and although it is carried on on a comparatively small scale only in Minorca, and still less so in Iviza, in Majorca it occupies a considerable extent of the unirrigated land. The vine grows in these islands with a luxuriant growth, and its products compare favourably, as regards profit to the cultivator, with those of cereals and vegetables. Since the year 1862 grape cultivation has increased in Majorca about 20 per cent. In 1863, according to calculations then made, 21,882 *cuarteradas* of

land were occupied in this branch of agriculture, while in 1875 the cultivation had extended to 18,437 hectolitres, equivalent to 25,950 *cuarteradas* of the Majorcan land-measure, thus distributed:—

	Hectares.	Ares.	Cuarteradas.
District of Palma . .	3,681	27 =	5,176
„ of Inca . .	5,568	56 =	7,834
„ of Manacor . .	9,188	2 =	12,930
	<u>18,437</u>	<u>85 =</u>	<u>25,940</u>

The municipal district which shows the largest extent of vine cultivation is that of Felanitx; then follow in their respective order Porreras, Binisalem, Manacor, Sansellas, Lluchmayor Campos, Inca, and Santa Maria, whilst all exceed 700 hectares, or 1000 *cuarteradas*.

The districts which have the largest extent of land occupied in vine cultivation, in proportion to their extent of territory, are—

1. Binisalem . . . .	0·47	5. Poneras . . . .	0·16
2. Santa Eugenia . . .	0·28	6. Sansellas . . . .	0·16
3. Felanitx . . . .	0·21	7. Inca . . . .	0·15
4. Santa Maria . . . .	0·20	8. San Juan . . . .	0·10

These data will be sufficient to show the present



extent and progress of vine cultivation in Majorca.<sup>1</sup>

Intimately connected with this branch of agriculture is the manufacture of spirits, which is in Majorca very considerable. Large quantities of the spirits of this island are exported to the Spanish West Indies, besides what is consumed at home. Nearly all the wine made in the district of Manacor is converted into *aguardiente*.

The following is an estimate of the average cost of cultivation of vineyards in Majorca, per hectare :—

	Francs.
Three labourages at 10f. each . . . . .	30
Pruning, &c. . . . .	8
Hoeing round the vines twice (2 days) . . . . .	12
Tying the branches . . . . .	3
Gathering, carriage, and making. . . . .	11
Renewing vines, &c. . . . .	5
	<hr/>
	69
	<hr/>

Thirty-seven hectolitres of wine is considered to be a fair average product.<sup>2</sup>

The best wines of Majorca are made in the centre of the island, in the district of Bini-

<sup>1</sup> 'Extension del cultivo de la Vid en las Baleares,' por Don Pedro Estelrich. 'Museo Balear,' No. 5, p. 144.

<sup>2</sup> 'Enquête Agricole.'

salem. Since the disease made its appearance amongst the vines in 1857, the vintage has been far less abundant than it was in former years. Indeed it is only quite lately, as we have seen above, that a notable improvement has taken place in this important branch of the agriculture of the islands.

The grape-gathering, which takes place in September, is an event of considerable importance in the islands.

At the time of the vintage groups of men and women are formed for the work. The women are employed in gathering the grapes, and the men in carting them into the town, and treading out the juice with their feet. The former part of the operation is much more pleasant to look at than the latter. No ceremony of preparatory washing is indulged in. The grapes are placed in perforated stone tanks, when a couple of men, barefooted, step from the roadside and tread upon them until the stalks only remain, when a new load is shot into the tanks, to receive similar treatment.

The best white wine of the islands is that made from the grapes grown on the estate called Bañalbufar, the property of General Cotoner, Marquis de la Cenia. This is a pale, dry wine, named

*albaflor*, made from the Malvasia grape, and said to be perfectly pure. It is agreeable to the taste, and no other of the island wine is to be compared with it ; but the quantity made is comparatively small. It is reported that the wine from this district was appreciated, and even exported, at the period of the Roman Empire, and also that the kings of Aragon, Don Pedro I. and Don Pedro IV., preferred it to all others. It is said to have been favourably known in England at the time of the British possession of Minorca during the last century, when the name of *Albaflor* was given to it ; but, like the other wines of the island, it became deteriorated, in consequence of the disease known as the *oidium Tukeri*. General Cotoner, who takes great pride in the cultivation of his vineyard, was obliged to root out all the old vines, and plant the vineyards anew.

The red wine of Minorca is not an article of export, but it is a pure, wholesome wine, at about the price and quality of the French table-wine, to which it bears a considerable resemblance. To our taste, this wine is in every respect preferable to the red wines of the larger island. It contains far less spirit, but sufficient to keep it.

In the recent Exhibition at Vienna no less than

twenty different kinds of wine were exhibited from these islands, under the names of *Tinto*, *Albafior Molla*, *Giro*, *Pampal rodat*, *Manuel*, *Cereza*, *Viajero*, and *Gorgollasa*. But we must confess that our personal experience would not allow us to speak as to the qualities of more than two or three of them. The *Albafior*, however, gained a first prize.

While many of the fruits which these islands produce in such abundance are inferior in quality to those which one finds in other countries, and evidently lack a higher system of cultivation, the natural rich flavour and prolific crops of almost all show what might be obtained were more skill and a higher system of cultivation employed. But we must not close this chapter without adding our testimony to the excellence of the island almonds. Those grown at Iviza in particular are of several kinds, and are superior even to those of Majorca, especially some of a soft shell. We confess, however, to a weakness for almonds—not roasted, as the natives eat them, but when gathered fresh from the tree in July and August, before the green outer shell has burst. To our taste, there are no filberts to compare with almonds at this stage. It is the custom to knock them off the trees with sticks as soon as the

green shell opens, which is at once removed, and to let them thoroughly dry in the inner hard shell until the autumn, when they are taken out of their shells and packed in tins or jars for exportation and for home use. The great demand for almonds comes at Christmas time, when large quantities are consumed in making the famous *turron*, of which there are many descriptions, between hard and soft. Much less would an English family think of passing a Christmas without plum-pudding and mince-pies than a Majorcan one without *turron*. Every child makes himself more or less ill once a year with this most indigestible compound, and every servant in one's household inherits an inalienable right to at least a pound of it for his or her special jollification. The almonds are also largely used in making *orchata*, a refreshing beverage much employed in summer.

For many years the famous oranges grown at Soller formed an important item in the agricultural wealth of Majorca. Soller had, indeed, been considered as one of the Spanish ports from which the largest quantity of this fruit was exported. According to official accounts, it would seem that not less than a fourth of all the oranges exported from Spain were once grown in this

island. The crop has, however, of late declined to less than a quarter of what it used to be, owing to the prevalence of a disease which has destroyed many of the orange-trees, especially in the neighbourhood of Soller. It would seem as if this profitable branch of agriculture had now been transplanted to the province of Valencia; and of late we have seen cartloads of young orange-trees from Soller shipped off to that port.

We could not, in conclusion, give in a few lines a better general idea of the nature of the products of these islands than by referring to the articles which were exhibited at Vienna in 1873. The Vienna Exhibition attracted the attention of the Balearic agriculturists and others to an extent that no previous exhibition had done at the islands, and considerable exertions were made by local committees and persons interested to collect specimens and samples of the most noteworthy of the island products. It may not, therefore, be uninteresting to enumerate some of the articles that were exhibited, as helping to show the nature of what are considered to be the best products in a way that might not otherwise be apparent; for it is worthy of remark that many of the inhabitants possess but limited knowledge of the pro-

ducts and actual resources of the islands. It has been confessed, indeed, by old residents that they have seen articles for the first time when collected for exhibitions, the very existence of which in their native country they were previously ignorant of. Some idea may be formed from this of the difficulty in the way of a foreigner collecting trustworthy information on this interesting subject.

The exhibitors of the islands at Vienna numbers 76, and the articles exhibited were no less than 212 in number, comprising chiefly agricultural products. Thus, besides the samples of wine we have referred to above, there were 5 samples of spirits, 14 of olive and 2 of almond oil, 3 of honey, 18 of wheat, 47 of peas and beans; also samples of flour, millet, saffron, maize, barley, oats, hemp cotton, almonds (14), carob beans, capers, Esparto grass; 36 of Majorcan marble; starch, vegetable hair, wool, silk, olives, palm-work, turrón, jelly, preserved milk, milk preserved with coffee, soap, cheese, salt, and several specimens of manufactured goods.

Forty-nine prizes and diplomas of merit were granted for the above—viz., for cereals, carob beans, vegetables, preserves, silk, honey, soap, wine, oil, soup paste, dried figs, capers, preserved

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milk with coffee, chocolate, olives, hemp, boots and shoes, ship-models, shell-work, and painting.

The preparation of figs for exportation is a new trade which has grown up of late in the district of Soller, chiefly since the decline of the orange crops. The figs of Majorca, when carefully preserved, are of excellent quality, and large quantities of them are now carried over to France by the small vessels that used to load with oranges. In former years delicious figs were largely used for no better purpose than fattening pigs. "And why do you give figs to pigs?" we once asked of an intelligent farmer. "*Hay tantos,*"<sup>1</sup> was his reply, and there was no disputing that fact. But notwithstanding his logic, an export trade in figs has within the last year or two grown up at Soller, which is likely ere very long to deprive the petted pig of his delicate feast. The French consul at Soller informed us that figs had been dried, and packed, and exported from that port, during 1873, to the value of a million of francs; and this, as we have said, is quite a new trade.

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<sup>1</sup> There are so many of them.





## CHAPTER IV.

### *TRADE AND COMMERCE, AND BRITISH INTERESTS IN THE ISLANDS.*

**W**HILE the trade of the islands holds a rank quite secondary to that of agriculture, it is not so insignificant as one would be led to suppose from the little movement one sees in the towns and ports.

From statistics which were collected in 1871 by a Majorcan engineer, Señor Estada, with reference to the advisableness of laying the railway from Palma to Inca, it appears that the Balearic Islands occupy a position of the thirteenth order among the forty-nine provinces into which Spain is divided as regards customs revenue. The receipts for customs, port charges, &c., amount during the year for which the calculation was made to 212,150 dollars (about 42,430*l.*), being 1·81 per cent. of the customs revenue of all Spain, while the territorial extent is under 1 per cent. This,

as this author remarks, is considerable, when it is taken into account that the goods entered in this province are to great extent for consumption therein, whilst those entering the province of the Peninsula are more or less distributed throughout the country.<sup>1</sup>

The value of the foreign import trade, amounting to 1,056,588 dollars (about 211,317*l.*), placed the islands in the fourteenth degree; and the exports to foreign countries, amounting to 1,485,980 dollars (297,196*l.*), placed them in this respect in the thirteenth order.

Within the same period the coasting trade reached the sum of 4,750,000 dollars (950,000*l.*) inwards, and 3,750,000 dollars (750,000*l.*) outwards, which give to the islands in regard thereto a place in the seventh order among the maritime provinces of the Peninsula.<sup>1</sup>

The greater portion of this trade is carried on at Palma, and, taking an average year, we find the imports there to consist of cattle from Algeria, to the value of 37,875 dollars; coals from England and France, 75,509 dollars; cocoa and coffee

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<sup>1</sup> Estada, 'Estudio sobre la posibilidad económica del Camino de Hierro,' Palma, 1871.

from the West Indies, 46,871 dollars ; cotton, &c. from America, 6600 dollars ; iron, hardware, and glass from England, France, and Germany, 17,587 dollars ; leather from the West Indies and South America, 251,890 dollars ; petroleum from the United States, 114,055 dollars ; sugar from the West Indies, 201,073 dollars ; timber from Sweden and Norway, 308,889 dollars ; dried vegetables, cereals, &c., from France, 331,523 dollars ; and cotton and woollen goods, and sundries not included in the above, 23,096 dollars,<sup>1</sup> which would give a total somewhat in excess of the figures we have quoted above, but sufficiently exact to give a general idea of the nature of the direct import trade.

The direct exports for the same period comprise the undermentioned articles, which are exported to America (by which is meant chiefly the Spanish West Indies) and to foreign countries in the following proportions :—Olive oil to America, 248,304 dollars ; to foreign countries, 10,020 dollars. Almond oil to America, 10,393 dollars ; almonds to America, 37,777 dollars ; to foreign countries, 2400 dollars. Soap to America, 235,914

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<sup>1</sup> *CUSTOMS RETURNS, abstract of for one year.*

dollars ; to foreign countries, 3145 dollars. Carob beans to foreign countries, 13,803 dollars. Wine to America, 450,110 dollars. Spirits to America 166,348 dollars ; to foreign countries, 2424 dollars. Liquors to America, 10,125 dollars. Cheese to America, 8328 dollars. Rice to America, 236,718 dollars. Fruits, preserves, and vegetables to America, 150,000 dollars ; to foreign countries, 10,000 dollars. Shirts to America, 7552 dollars. Boots and shoes to America, 80,000 dollars. Grain to foreign countries, 8607 dollars. Pine bark to foreign countries, 5776 dollars. Hogs to foreign countries, 2752 dollars. Mules to foreign countries, 10,050 dollars. Donkeys to foreign countries, 2105 dollars ; and sundries to America, 50,000 dollars.<sup>1</sup>

From Port Mahon, also, are exported annually wheat to the value of 4770 dollars ; cattle, 9475 dollars ; cotton stuff, 77,255 dollars ; and boots and shoes, 461,030 dollars.

The commerce of these islands is carried on in a way, we think, now almost peculiar to this country. The merchant usually combines very much in his own hands all the various branches

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<sup>1</sup> Customs Returns, abstract of, for one year.

of the trade. Having built the ship that is to carry abroad his cargo of merchandise, he himself buys up, little by little, from the farmer or manufacturer the produce and articles for which he thinks he may find a profitable market—the captain, who is in his confidence, acting as broker, and receiving and examining the produce and goods as they come in from the country. He (the captain) has sometimes, too, a share both in the vessel and cargo, but more often in the cargo only. On his arrival out at Cuba or Porto Rico, with which islands the Majorcan vessels usually trade, the captain sells his cargo as best he may, and then acts very much upon his own judgment as to how he shall invest the proceeds for the return voyage. These vessels generally take out a mixed cargo, composed of a little of everything the islands produce, from oil, wine, and almonds to ready-made shirts and boots and shoes; and the homeward cargo consists mostly of coffee or sugar, or both, and hides. It is quite unusual for a merchant to receive cargo on freight, or for a shipowner to charter his vessel for a given voyage. The captain, however, is allowed to carry in the cabin space such articles as he may think proper to trade in for his own account.

The merchant frequently divides his risk by taking shares in the cargo of other vessels, and admitting them in his own; but this is a transaction that ends with the voyage. The vessels thus employed are for the most part constructed and entirely fitted out at home, and very good vessels they are as a rule; though the construction of large vessels is of course limited. Within a recent period of eight years, for example, 155 vessels were constructed at Palma, of which 14 were from 80 to 500 tons, 24 from 7 to 80 tons, and 117 of smaller sizes.

The number of vessels registered in the ports of Majorca comprises 688 under 200 tons, of the aggregate tonnage of 25,085 tons, and 31 above 200 tons, of the aggregate tonnage of 9194 tons, in addition to 8 steamers of 2679 tons and 1028 horse power. The steamers, excepting one, are of British construction, though manned, with the exception of one or two Scotch engineers, by native crews. They are employed in the mail service between the islands and Barcelona and València. The larger sailing-ships, as we have seen, are engaged in the trade between Palma and Cuba and Porto Rico, and the smaller vessels in the coasting trade, and traffic with Algeria.

The average number of vessels for five years, 1869–73, engaged in foreign trade, that entered the port of Palma was 285 a year, of 29,576 aggregate tonnage; and in the coasting trade, 1127 vessels, of 100,426 tons.

The averages for the export trade were as follows:—

To foreign countries	169 vessels of 10,212 tons aggregate. <sup>1</sup>
To America . . . . .	85 „ 17,745 tons.
Coasting trade . . . . .	834 „ 95,574 „

These figures, which we have endeavoured to curtail as much as possible, will be sufficient to give a very fair idea of the present trade without going into minor details.

We spoke in a previous chapter of a spirit of enterprise which had been awakened in these islands in recent years, as compared with what had been manifest in former times. There would perhaps appear to be now less lack of desire to undertake speculative operations, and the necessary intelligence to carry them out, than of the required funds. There are, as we have seen, no large capitalists on the islands, and the available

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<sup>1</sup> MS. Report of Don Emelio Pou, Engineer-in-chief of the Province, furnished to the Author in 1874.

capital would seem to have been now pretty fully occupied. Credit ought, therefore, justly to be given for what has been done already; and it is satisfactory to notice that the undertakings thus far carried out have been remunerative.

Of the last of these enterprises, the railway from Palma to the centre of the island, also a local undertaking, a notice may be of interest.

The first railway in the island of Majorca was opened on the 24th of February, 1875. The line at present runs a distance of 29 kilomètres (a little over 18 miles) from Palma to Inca, the commercial centre of Majorca, a town of about 6000 inhabitants. The construction of a new railway 18 miles long in these days would not in itself appear to be a very remarkable undertaking; but in the Balearic Islands, cut off as they have long been from the outer bustling, busy world, such an event is a social revolution. Generations of people in these islands had grown up in the belief that a railway was a thing of another hemisphere, and that the travelling and carrying wants of even Majorca—an island of about 225,000 people—were amply provided for by the old-fashioned, rattling, springless diligences of the ancient French type still in use,



and by mule carts. A day to come and a day to go to and from the adjacent towns and villages was accepted as an irremediable condition connected with the pursuit of business or pleasure away from one's home. The railway which was thought to be the dream of Utopians has, however, been at last opened, and it will assuredly tend greatly to develop the half-hidden resources of this fertile and beautiful island. The district embraced by this railway is one of the richest and most populous of the island. The superficial extent served by the line is stated to comprise 134,088 hectares, with a population of 116,355, being 86 inhabitants to the square kilomètre. The total value of the agricultural produce of this district is estimated at 38-100ths of that of the whole province, and the average value per kilomètre is 139-100ths as compared with the value of the province. The coal lignite mines now being explored are at a short distance from the line of railway, and the best wines of Majorca are made at Binisalem, one of the towns on the line.

The construction of this railway, as we have said, has been purely a local undertaking; the whole of the capital stock, 8,500,000 reals, about

88,000*l.*, having been subscribed by the natives of the island, in shares of 2000 reals each, when the company was formed in May 1872. It has thus far been completed within the preliminary estimates, and without the issue of obligations or bonds, a remarkable feature in Spanish railways, while it is probably the only railway in a Spanish province that has been constructed without the aid of foreign capital. The line is built on the narrow-gauge system, the rails being 36 inches apart. The materials and rolling stock, manufactured by Nasmyth, Wilson, and Co., of Manchester, and Brown, Marshalls, and Co., of Birmingham, were imported direct from England during the year 1874 in seven British vessels and one Spanish steamer.

The ceremony of inauguration, which was an interesting and peculiar one, was performed on the 24th of February. The event was the occasion of a general holiday in the capital and in the towns and villages along the line of railway. The station of Palma is situated at the *Puerta Pintada*, just outside the grand old city walls, which were partly pulled down when the Republican party first came into power. Here two very pretty triumphal arches were raised. One

on the inner side of the wall, under the direction of the Provincial Deputation ; and the other outside, by the *Ayuntamiento* of Palma. At the station, which was gaily decorated inside and out with banners, myrtle, and flowers, and the arms of each town on the line, another arch was built. Outside the station, on the passenger platform, was erected a temporary altar, where the preliminary religious ceremony of blessing the engines and carriages before starting took place. Invitations had been issued for 9 A.M. At that hour, in the presence of the Captain-General of the Province, the Civil Governor, the Consular Corps, the Provincial Deputation, the *Ayuntamiento* of Palma, the railway directors and authorities, and a number of other distinguished persons, and half the ladies of the city, the religious ceremony was performed. The chief vicar (in charge of the diocese vacant by the death of the late bishop), assisted by from thirty to forty priests in their vestments, and preceded by a large golden cross, arrived before the altar chanting the prayers used on the occasion, and when those prayers were over the chief priest walked along the line to each carriage and sprinkled it with holy water.

The religious ceremony over, the priests and gentlemen took their seats, many of them for the first time in a railway carriage. "But why are all these priests going?" innocently asked one of the bystanders who had not been invited.

"They are going to give absolution to the killed and wounded," replied his neighbour.

"And the doctors, too; why are they going?"

"Ah! they go to cure the maimed," was the reply.

"I don't believe it will go without mules," exclaimed a countryman in jacket and blue calico Moorish drawers, with a twinkle in his eye.

"How should it?" said his companion, a handsome, dark-eyed girl, probably his daughter. "Don't we put fire on our hearth during all the winter nights, and did any of us see the kitchen start off? I don't believe in it a bit."

"They won't take me in with their smoke," said another grave countryman. "We have none of us been allowed to go near the train. What will you bet that the mules are not concealed between the wheels?"

Amid these commentaries, made partly in jest and partly in earnest, the last shriek of the engine mingled with the strains from the band

of music stationed on the platform, and the train started. Nothing could be more agreeable than the trip across the pleasant country. The morning, although the weather had been cold and rainy for the previous days, was bright and sunny. The fields were covered with the vegetation of early spring, and the verdure of the ground crops formed a delicious carpet to the thousands of almond-trees now in full blossom, just before their budding leaf appears, while the reflection of the sun on the mountains, capped with the unmelted snow which had fallen during the late storm, formed a charming background to the landscape. All along the line the villagers stood in crowds to see what a real railway train in actual motion was like, for up to February 1875 they had not a notion. More than one yoke of mules which their too curious drivers had brought up in close proximity to the line of railway, started off at full gallop when they had had their peep at the unknown monster now first appearing among them.

The train proceeded direct to Inca without stopping, and arrived there in 64 minutes. At Inca it was received by two local bands of music. All the streets were decorated by means

of cords of myrtle suspended from myrtle-covered posts, in the use of which the Majorcans display natural skill and taste on all their festivals and holidays. Here, too, were half-a-dozen more triumphal arches, primitive in their construction, but significant of their purpose. Thus, one dedicated to "Industry, Agriculture, and Commerce" was adorned by actual implements and tools familiar to the eye of the country people. Wine-casks, ploughs, baskets, brooms, hammers, and such like were arranged amid the myrtle leaves, flowers, emblems, and banners. Amid the crowded streets, hung with flags as they had probably never been before, and accompanied by the local musicians, the public functionaries and gentlemen walked to the parish church, receiving meanwhile the smiles and welcome of the fair inhabitants from their draped balconies. At church a *Te Deum* was sung in the presence of a congregation full to cramming. On return to the station a capital lunch was offered by the railway authorities, and after a number of speeches of more local than general interest, the party returned to Palma, calling on their way at the six intermediate stations. In the afternoon a second special train conveyed the

shareholders who could not be accommodated in the morning train. Although the nature of the land upon which the railway has been constructed has not given rise to engineering operations of great importance or of a difficult character, the line being carried for the most part over a comparatively level country, with insignificant watercourses, the necessary works have been carried out in a creditable manner. Neat, substantial stone bridges have been built over the bed of the torrent at Pont d'Inca, Lloseta, and Alaró, where the stream, though often dry in summer, frequently becomes in the rainy season of great volume and strength. Station-houses and buildings of stone and good masonry have also been constructed at Palma, Pont d'Inca, Marratxi, Santa Maria, Alaró, Bini-salem, Lloseta, and Inca, the eight stations of the line.

The works connected with this railway have chiefly been given out in small contracts to local artisans and workmen, a system that has been found to answer very well; and the whole of the construction has been carried on from first to last by native engineers and architects, as the necessary funds have been entirely raised among

the inhabitants of the island. The total cost has been about 15,000 dollars (something over 3,000*l.*) per kilomètre, on the 29 kilomètres now finished. It is contemplated to extend the line, if successful, to the port of Alcudia and to Manacor, the second town of the island, situated towards the eastern coast. Whether it is likely to be a paying concern is a question upon which it is too early as yet to form an opinion; but this consideration, happily, did not deter the promoters and shareholders in their patriotic efforts towards the advancement of the best interests of the island. The fares have been fixed at what would appear to be a low figure. Thus, for the first class to Inca the fare is only 7 reals (1*s.* 6*d.*); and second class 4·70 reals, or 1*s.*; but the company for the present have to compete with the low prices of the diligences, and in this country time is not money.

On a former occasion, twenty years ago, we were invited to take part in the ceremony of opening the first railway in a country which, like Majorca, had hitherto been subject to the caprices of mules and mule-drivers. This, however, was a railway of importance to the whole world, for it made easy the communication between the



waters of the Atlantic and the Pacific;<sup>1</sup> and we have seen new railways established in many places; but nowhere had we seen a railway received by the inhabitants with a warmer welcome than at Palma. For months after the line was opened all classes of the people flocked daily to the station merely to witness the arrival and departure of the trains, and the station became henceforth the fashionable *rendez-vous* and promenade for feast days, while persons came from all parts of the island on purpose to experience the sensation of a ride in the railway carriage. We heard one grave gentleman, who had probably never left the island, say that this sensation overpowered him. "The effect upon me, señor," he said, "was to bring tears of joy to my eyes."

During the first month upwards of forty thousand passengers were carried, and on some days as many as six thousand. Most of the persons who thus travelled by the line did so without having anywhere in particular to go to, but simply for the novelty of a journey in a railway carriage in the year 1875!

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<sup>1</sup> The Panama railway.

The proportion which the industrial classes of the islands bear to the agricultural labourers is exceedingly small, even including the shoemakers, who form the most numerous branch. With the exception of them, the number of artisans would only be a small percentage of the field labourers. The shoemakers, however, abound everywhere. One sees groups of them working on the pavement in almost every street, and one finds them at the cottage doors in nearly every village. The workmen in this popular branch of native industry have attained a very creditable skill and ability, and an extensive colonial export trade is, as we have shown, annually carried on in it. This trade affords employment to a large number of families both in Majorca and Minorca. But with the exception of shoemaking, there is hardly any native industry the produce of which would bear comparison with that of many other places or countries, especially with that of the United Kingdom. Hardly any of the native workmen have ever left the islands, or learned their trade in other places than the local workshop; nor have the demands of even the wealthier classes of the inhabitants offered, thus far, a market for very superior workman-

ship, so that, practically, it does not pay—“People will not pay extra price for highly-finished work.” At least this is the idea of master and workmen in the majority of cases. The islands having for a long series of years enjoyed but little intercommunication with other places in Europe, and hardly with the neighbouring towns on the Peninsula, the requirements of the inhabitants had been limited and simple in their nature, so that they were easily satisfied by the imperfect productions of native industry. The great majority of the people looked to agriculture for the means of a livelihood. In the neighbourhood of the towns of Palma and Soller, in Majorca, and Mahon, Alayor, and Ciudadela, in Minorca, however, the trades of shoemaking and weaving afford occupation to a considerable number of persons; while the industrious inhabitants of Soller, by applying themselves more lately to the latter employment, find material compensation for the loss of fortune and occupation which arose from the failure of the orange crops in that district.

Though, with the exceptions named, there can be said to be no industries other than those necessary to meet the local requirements, still those

which do exist to supply the home wants are considerably varied in their nature. Indeed, there are perhaps few places of the same size and population where the actual wants of the people can to an equal extent be supplied from home resources. The ladies of the *Noblesse*, for the most part, are content to take their drives in carriages constructed by the native coachmaker, and to furnish their mansions from the handiwork of the local upholsterer and furniture-maker. Majorcan carpets and matting cover the floors, as Majorcan-made cottons and linens and boots and shoes help to clothe the inmates of the houses. Native-made wine, liquors, preserves, oil, soap, earthenware and glass-ware supply the housekeepers' wants equally with the native markets, while even the shipowner need send out of the islands for hardly anything besides iron required in the construction and fitting out of his vessel destined to cross the seas to the West Indies laden with Majorcan produce; and if, now that more frequent communications are established with the Peninsula, the manufacturers of Barcelona step in to supply such articles of superior workmanship and quality as the local artisans are unable to produce, it is not necessarily so, but

rather for the gratification of the more luxurious tastes of the present generation.

Yet, as a rule, the workmen, considering their opportunities of attaining knowledge, may be said to be fairly competent in the branch of labour to which they dedicate themselves, and the shoemakers particularly so. The carpenters and furniture-makers are also handy and skilful, and have obtained reputation in the capitals of the Peninsula; and the masons have acquired considerable ability in working, for building purposes, the soft stone that abounds in Majorca. There are no cotton or other factories in the islands on a sufficiently large scale to employ foreign labour. The largest is the cotton factory at Port Mahon, which employs about three hundred and fifty persons, chiefly women, and all natives. At Palma there are several cotton factories on smaller scales, which in the aggregate give occupation to a great many persons, but also mostly women. While there are thus no manufactures or factories on a large scale, and only the one at Port Mahon, and one or two smaller ones at Palma, employing steam as a motive power, the increase in this trade which has taken place in recent years has diverted from agricultural and domestic pursuits a large portion of

female labour, causing particularly a scarcity of household servants, and at the same time, it must be added, a notable decline in the morality of the class from which this labour is obtained. But, with the exception of the making of shoes and shirts, which are exported to Cuba, and the manufacture of cotton goods and ropes, that are remitted to the Peninsula, there are in these islands few industries other than those required to meet the local requirements, which, as we have seen, are naturally limited and inconsiderable. The small amount of capital employed in the island manufactures also to a great extent limits their operation to local consumption. In all possible trades, such as tailoring, sail-making, spinning, &c., women are chiefly employed; hence the scale of wages is very low in these industries. While some of the native workmen take a certain degree of pride in their work and reputation, it cannot be said that, as a rule, they do so to the extent of making a stand against doing bad work. The capacity and good faith of the workman have doubtless, however, in the long run here, as elsewhere, a considerable influence in regard to the amount of wages he receives, and the facility with which he finds employment.

Without any fixed hour for a day's work, the practice is for the workman to commence work at from 5 to 6 A.M. in summer, and from 6.30 to 7 A.M. in winter, and to leave off at sunset, taking an hour for breakfast, and two hours for dinner and *siesta*.

It will probably be interesting to the English reader to know how far the trade of England is concerned in this country.

There are records of British trade with the Balearic Islands from almost the beginning of the present century. From thence to about 1837 a few small vessels entered the ports annually with cargoes of corn, flour, beans, sugar, salt, and other such like provisions and goods, chiefly from ports and places in the Mediterranean. With the exception, however, of the years 1815 and 1816, when the number of vessels so arriving were forty and twenty-two respectively, the average number during the period to which we refer was hardly more than three a year.

In 1837 coals were first imported in small quantities from Great Britain; and about the same time the Mediterranean trade would seem to have been discontinued altogether under the British flag. The average number of arrivals of British

vessels from 1837 to 1856 was about six a year. From 1857 to 1871 the average has increased to twenty-five per annum.

From the records of the entries of British vessels referred to above, and according to trustworthy accounts of custom-house agents who have been engaged many years in the business, the imports from Great Britain would seem to be now more than double what they were twelve or fourteen years ago; but, owing to the destruction of the custom-house books in the revolution of 1868, it has not been possible to obtain exact statistics on this matter. This increase in the trade is due to the establishment of new lines of steamers, gasworks, and factories within that period. In addition to the seven steam-ships that were constructed in Great Britain for the mail service of these islands, the telegraphic cables and the materials for the railway were imported from England. It may further be mentioned that bills of exchange on England, in connection with the trade of these islands with the West Indies, to the value of 120,000*l.* to 150,000*l.*, are negotiated annually at Palma. But there are no exports to Great Britain at present. The coal vessels almost invariably clear in ballast for one or other of the



ports of the Peninsula, whence they take home cargoes of salt or ore.

While the British trade is thus still of small proportions, it may be seen that it is almost entirely of recent origin, with a fair tendency to increase as the resources of the islands become more developed. There are at present, however, no British commercial establishments of any kind. Indeed, there are no foreign merchants whatever in any of the islands, the few foreigners residing in the islands being either not engaged in business, or small shopkeepers or artisans. An English company, a few years ago, carried out at great expense extensive works in draining land known as the *Albufera*, near Alcudia ; but these works are at present in abeyance.

Direct trade with Great Britain must always, however, be naturally limited in extent, the local requirements, as well as the native industries and productions, not being of a nature to create commerce with England to any considerable degree ; while the exclusively high Spanish tariff and the small capitals of the local traders tend to preclude the introduction direct of any but such British products as are indispensable. The direct imports have therefore, with few exceptions, been con-

fined to the steam-ships built in England, coals for the use of a few small factories and the gas-works, iron and iron-work in small quantities, and a little machinery and hardware, and the telegraphic cables to which we have previously referred.

The indirect trade with Great Britain is, however, in fair proportion to the general commerce with foreign countries and wants of the people, there being, especially in recent years, a considerable consumption of British manufactured goods, such as cotton stuffs and cutlery and hardware; but as all except the articles enumerated above are imported as received from the ports of the Peninsula, chiefly Barcelona, it would not be easy to give any estimate of this branch of the trade. But it has often occurred to us that there is a fair opening for one or two English houses who would import direct the kind of goods to which we have referred, and thus facilitate the sale by having a stock on hand, while avoiding the expense, in the shape of commission and charges, now paid to the importing house on the Continent.

It will be seen from the foregoing remarks that British trade, whether direct or indirect, while much greater than it was a few years ago, is still

comparatively inconsiderable. The chief British interest in these islands has, since Minorca was surrendered to Spain, arisen in consequence of Port Mahon being an important naval station, and one of the most frequented quarantine ports of the Spanish nation.

Under a system of very stringent sanitary laws as regards shipping, which, although somewhat modified of late years, is still sufficiently onerous to foreign trade, ships trading with other ports and places in Spain are frequently called upon, often in fact upon the first rumour of contagious disease in a foreign country, to proceed to Port Mahon to perform quarantine. Hence a considerable number of British and other vessels from time to time enter that port for this purpose. In one recent year, for instance, 1197 vessels destined for other ports on the Peninsula entered Mahon to perform quarantine. Of these 225 were British vessels. Indeed, under an arbitrary, not to say cruel, system, which too often prevails in Spain, whole kingdoms, and even continents, are sometimes treated as infected, when only a few cases of suspicious character may have appeared, or may have been reported to have appeared, in one place, and thus ships are sent

from distant ports with great loss of time and at considerable expense, and often with serious prejudice to cargo, to perform quarantine at Port Mahon.

The general appliance of steam to vessels of war has greatly diminished the value of Port Mahon as a winter station for the Mediterranean squadrons, and while, in former days, the British, French, and Russian fleets, as well as the Spanish squadron, used to anchor for the winter in the magnificent harbour of Mahon—which the inhabitants of Mahon proudly boast is capable of receiving at once the combined fleets of the world—the vessels now sent to that port are few and far between; and, on the other hand, the flourishing shipping of Mahon itself, which once numbered many large vessels carrying on an extensive trade with the ports of the Black Sea and the Levant, and supplying with grain many provinces of Spain, is now reduced to a small number of coasting vessels which certainly do not measure, collectively, 1500 tons.

Fishing now affords employment to a considerable number of persons, especially since the marine matriculas were abolished in 1873. About three hundred craft were engaged in this trade

per annum, according to a recent return of the captain of the port of Palma. The fish caught during the year weighed 452,930 kilogrammes, of the value of 135,879 pesetas, or francs. The fishing at Mahon is also considerable.

Within a period of eight years, Majorca, justly reported to possess one of the healthiest climates in Europe, has suffered from three epidemics, attended in each case by much distress, which have, doubtless, to a large extent impeded the progress and development of the resources of the island, as they have also naturally injured its sanitary reputation. These epidemics have originated and prevailed chiefly in the low, badly-drained capital, for in the interior and away from the coast the climate is as salubrious as it is agreeable.

The first of these epidemics was the cholera, which appeared suddenly in 1865. It was confined to the town of Palma, which was said to have been free from a scourge of the kind since the year 1821. The panic on this occasion created such fright and confusion that it may well be believed fear caused more victims than the disease itself. The deaths are reported to have reached one hundred and fifty daily, in a

population of less than fifty thousand inhabitants in normal times, and greatly reduced by the flight of those residents whose means enabled them to leave the city. The absence on such an occasion of the majority of the inhabitants, if it tends, as it doubtless does, to check the progress of the disease, causes, at the same time, the suspension of work and business of all kinds, and reduces to the lowest possible state the commercial transactions.

An analogous occurrence took place in 1870 during the reputed invasion of yellow fever, when the city was again deserted immediately on the official declaration of the prevalence of the disease. But in that year, when the panic was hardly perhaps less than at the time of the cholera, the death-roll for Palma was 1441 only, including 200 cases set down to yellow fever, being 2.72 per cent. of the population—a proportion, according to statistics published, equalled only by the capitals of the Spanish provinces in Teruel and Lugo, where the rate was 2.65 and 2.67 respectively in that year; while the total for the whole of this province was 6711, or 2.36 per cent. of the inhabitants. Six of the Spanish provinces only give, according to the statistics, a proportion more

favourable to life than this, viz., the Canary Islands, Lugo, Pontevedra, Corunna, Oviedo, and Orense.

The deaths from small-pox, always numerous, were more in 1873 than from the previous epidemic; but nearly all the cases may, according to the reports of the medical men, be fairly attributed to the opposition to vaccination that prevails in the town, not among the poorer and ignorant classes only, but amongst those whose education, one might expect, would lead them to set a better example; while, strangely enough, the prejudice against vaccination exists only amongst the townspeople. In the interior of the island vaccination is much more frequently adopted: the country women even vaccinate their children themselves with a needle when the help of a doctor is not attainable. Hence the spread of this disease out of the town is comparatively insignificant, and the disease itself of a milder form.





## CHAPTER V.

### *EDUCATION—STUDY OF FINE ARTS—HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE.*

**T**HE instruction of the middle and upper classes is provided for by a government college (*instituto*) situated in Palma, and by numerous private schools which exist in some of the larger towns as well as in the capital.

In the College of Palma arts and sciences are taught, and the degree of Bachelor of Arts may be taken; but for the higher branches of education recourse must be had to the Universities of Madrid, Barcelona, or others of the larger capitals on the Peninsula; and this course must of necessity be followed for all the faculty studies, or at least for examination in them.

The College of Palma is under the jurisdiction of the minister at Madrid (*Ministro de Fomento*), whose decrees from time to time form the rules by which it is governed. A resident director,



two non-resident secretaries, and about ten non-resident masters (*catedráticos*) form the college staff. The pupils generally number about three hundred. The class in each study lasts for an hour and a half daily, during which time the master takes the lessons from any of the boys in the class at his option, and gives such verbal explanation as he thinks proper. But it often happens, on account of the number of the pupils forming the class, that a boy's turn for reciting his lesson does not come once a week. It even happened in one year (1875) that more than two boys in one class, where there were upwards of one hundred, were not once called upon for their lessons during the term. Thus it is absolutely necessary that a pupil should either attend a private school, or study with a tutor, whilst attending the college.

Pupils are admitted from the age of ten on passing an examination in the preliminary studies. In order to take the degree of Bachelor of Arts it is necessary to pass first and second examinations in the undermentioned subjects in the following order :—

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|----------|-------|---|
| 1st year | . . . | Latin, Spanish, and Geography.                              |
| 2nd year | . . . | Latin, Spanish, Universal History, and<br>History of Spain. |

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3rd year	. .	Rhetoric and Poetry, Arithmetic and Algebra.
4th year	. .	Geometry and Trigonometry, Philosophy.
5th year	. .	Natural History, Physiology, Hygiene, Physics and Chemistry.

One or two living languages, such as French and English, may also be acquired, at the pupils' option, as "ornamental studies," but Greek is not taught at all.

The degree may thus be taken in five years, and in less time if the highest note of *sobresaliente* (excellent) is obtained in the examination at the end of the June term, which enables a pupil to study privately for the second examination on the opening of the college in September.

The term begins on the 1st of October and closes at the end of June. There are thus, in theory, nine months of study, and three of vacation, but to these official holidays three months more may fairly be added, if one takes into account that, in Spain, almost every other day is a feast day, and every festival a holiday.

The examining body is composed of three masters, of whom one is the master who has held the class upon the subject in which the students are to be examined, the other two

being professors in the same science or art. The examinations are founded upon three lessons, drawn by lot by the secretary of the tribunal. Each pupil is allowed to retain a programme containing a numbered list of the subjects upon which queries may be made during the examination. The president is usually the only master who questions the pupils, but the other examiners have the option of doing so, and each sets down on his list his own opinion of the note the pupil is entitled to. There are four of such notes: 1, "Approved;" 2, *Notablemente aprovechado* (very good); 3, *Sobresaliente* (excellent); and 4, "Suspended." In this last case the boy goes up again in September. Those who obtain the *sobresaliente*, or excellent, note are entitled to compete in another examination for certificates of merit, which are distributed when the college term is opened, in September, in presence of the civil governor. The fees are very moderate, being only 8 pesetas (6s. 8d.) for each term, and 5 pesetas (4s. 2d.) for examination dues at the end of each term. The defects of this system of education for boys of so young an age appear to us to be that it tends to "cramming." They forget in one year what they studied

in the previous ones. Thus, after the examination is passed in Latin, for example, studied for two terms, it is never looked at again until the final *cram* for examination for the Bachelor's degree; and so it is in all the branches.

The instruction of the poorer classes is provided for by a system beautiful in theory, but, we fear, sadly ineffective in practice. The government provides free schools for both sexes in all the towns and villages. It provides also schoolmasters and schoolmistresses of various qualifications, but too often it does not remember to pay them. Their salaries are frequently in arrear, or, at least, were so in our experience. In one village we found the boys' schoolroom occupied by half-a-dozen shoeless brats, whose last thought seemed to be that of learning their lessons. On asking for the schoolmaster, his wife was called from the kitchen; she told us that her husband, finding he could not live upon government promises, had combined with his scholastic duties those of shepherd, and that he was at that moment engaged tending his flocks. We had called to seek his service in his unoccupied hours for our own little boys. His wife volunteered an affirmative reply for him, and he was to come in the

evening. He came once, set the boys a lesson, and returned no more—so strong was erratic instinct in him! This was, however, no extraordinary instance of schoolmasters being obliged to have two strings to their bows; even those who keep private schools in the capital frequently leave their duties to be performed by the bigger boys, or, at best, a friend who acts as deputy, while they go out to give lessons or attend to other business elsewhere.

Then, with all the questionable advantages offered by the government schools, the villagers who have never themselves learned to read, frequently prefer that their children, on their attaining an age when they are capable of learning anything, should stay at home and help them in their labours. They themselves did very well, as their fathers did, without schooling, and their children may do so too. It is a common creed in the country that reading and writing lead to republicanism and free-thinking, and all the evils arising therefrom, and the village *cure* hardly disabuses the rural mind of this idea. According to the last government statistics we have seen (1868)<sup>1</sup> 85 per cent. of the population of these

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<sup>1</sup> 'Enquête Agricole,' p. 523.

islands could neither read nor write. We doubt whether since then there has been any vast change in these eloquent but sad figures. The mother country herself has had a hard lesson to learn during all, or nearly all, the period since that date.

We have now to speak of the Fine-Art School of Palma. By a curious coincidence, there exists in Spain the same number of government fine-art schools as in Italy. There are thirteen of such schools under the charge of the state in Italy, and, with the exception of the superior Academy of Fine Arts of San Fernando, there are also thirteen fine-art government schools in Spain. Amongst the Spanish academies, that of Palma now occupies, from the number of its pupils, as compared with the population, a very remarkable position. The study of fine art in the capital of the Balearic Islands in all branches has of late been much cultivated, but more especially of such as may be applied to industry. Drawing, applied to arts and industrial pursuits, is now studied here on a scale that compares in a noteworthy manner even with that of the well-subsidised schools of Italy; and the development of this pursuit is the more praiseworthy, as the result is attained at a cost comparatively insignificant.

From data lately published,<sup>1</sup> it appears that the Academy of Palma enjoys a grant of only 13,750 pesetas (francs) for professors, and 6125 pesetas for material, &c., which is all its revenue, and with which modest stipend the five classes required in the government instruction are sustained, in addition to three higher ones. There are no less than 425 matriculated students.<sup>2</sup> The distribution, when these numbers had reached only 397, was—class of arithmetic and geometry, 83; figure drawing, 88; lineal drawing, 100; ornament, 51; arts and building, 27; landscape and perspective, 29; drawing from antiquities, 11; drawing from nature or living models, 8.

Of these 397 pupils 136 thus attended the classes of figure and landscape drawing, and 261 the classes of application drawing. It would hence appear that more than two-thirds of the pupils dedicate themselves to drawing applicable to industry, as the foundation of their professions as architects, artisans, &c.

D. Juan O'Neille called attention, in the interesting paper from which this data is taken, to the remarkable fact that the academy of Milan,

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<sup>1</sup> Museo Balear, 'Bellas Artes,' por Don Juan O'Neille.

<sup>2</sup> February, 1875.

which owes its prosperity to the prominent place given therein to industrial drawing, is the only Italian school that numbered on its matricula more than 1000 students, while the rest of the Italian schools, without exception, numbered less than that of Palma. Thus Turin numbers 394; Naples, 357; Rome, 290; Modena, 289; Bologna, 255; Florence, 205; Massa, 70.<sup>1</sup> The expenses of these thirteen Italian schools—year 1872-73—amounted to 700,201 francs, which, apportioned amongst them, would give upwards of 53,000 francs to each. The school of Palma, with 425 matriculated students, costs, as we have seen, only 19,870 francs, or little more than a third of the above average.

The attendance at the Palma academy is free of charge to the pupils. The classes are held daily, in the evening, during the term from the 1st of October to the 31st of May. The professors are in several instances young men, natives of the island, who, for the most part with small available resources, have, with praiseworthy industry and application, developed the natural artistic talent common to these islanders. They have acquired

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<sup>1</sup> These figures are taken from 'La Italia Economica.'



in competition the honourable position they occupy; and when one sees the excellent work of some of them, one may be led to believe that in a larger sphere of action their abilities would find a still higher appreciation. Amongst the more prominent of the young Majorcan artists is Señor Ribas, whose charming landscape gained a first prize at the Vienna International Exhibition.<sup>1</sup> The remarkable drawings and etchings of Señor Maura are too well known abroad to require attention to be called to them.

That Majorca affords a large, varied, and interesting field to the artist may be taken for granted, upon the authority of George Sand, who will certainly not be suspected by her readers<sup>2</sup> of indulging in terms of too great eulogy in regard to the island:—

“Majorque est pour les peintres,” says this author. “Un des plus beaux pays de la terre et un des plus ignorés. . . . Il faut le crayon et le burin du dessinateur pour révéler les grandeurs et les grâces de la nature. . . . Si la navigation à la vapeur était organisée directement de chez nous vers ces parages, Majorque ferait bientôt grand

<sup>1</sup> See Frontispiece.

<sup>2</sup> ‘Un Hiver à Majorque,’ par George Sand, pp. 8, 9, 10.

tort à la Suisse ; car on pourrait s'y rendre en aussi peu de jours et on y trouverait certainement des beautés aussi suaves et des grandeurs étranges et sublimes qui fournirait à la peinture de nouveaux aliments. . . . Car je le répète, Majorque est l'Eldorado de la peinture. Tout y est pittoresque, depuis la cabane du paysan qui a conservé dans ses moindres constructions la tradition du style arabe jusqu'à l'enfant drapé dans ses guenilles et triomphant dans sa *malpropreté, grandiose* comme dit Henri Heine à propos des femmes du marché aux herbes de Vérone. Le caractère du paysage, plus riche en végétation que celui de l'Afrique ne l'est en général, a tout autant de largeur, de calme et de simplicité. C'est la verte Helvétie sous le ciel de la Calabre, avec la solennité et le silence de l'Orient."

One would, indeed, be almost tempted to add to George Sand's eulogiums, and say that the artist might find in Majorca all that Mr. Disraeli said, at the Academy dinner of 1875, the English artist was deprived of. He would literally *be* "favoured here by a climate of inspiration." He would *be* "surrounded by a sublime nature," and, if he did not exactly dwell in a city "glittering with symmetry," he would at least "be under purple

skies, and surrounded by human beings whose flashing forms and picturesque gestures would stimulate his invention, and often afford a happy hint of expression and grace." For him there would be, in Majorca, "bannered processions, parading the squares and streets to animate his fancy, amid the fall of fountains and the carolling of sacred bells."

There are a few good pictures in Majorca, and a great many very bad ones. Ancient paintings on wood abound. They are especially to be found in the churches; and while there are few of them supposed to date from the beginning of the fourteenth century, the majority are probably of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. This style of painting remained in fashion in the island for some time during the latter period. The invention of painting on canvas was not known in the island, says Furió, until that epoch, when it was introduced by native gentlemen who travelled, and brought from Italy some of the oil-paintings which may now be seen in such numbers in the houses of the ancient families. Amongst the best collections at Palma this author mentions those of the Marqués de Ariañy, where are paintings by Correggio, Giulio Romano, Titian, Paolo Veronese, Rubens, Ribera and Juanes; the gallery of the

Counts of Montenegro, which contains a host of pictures, amongst them a Sta. Maria Magdalena and a San Francisco de Asis by Murillo, and a portrait of Van Dyck by himself. The collection of Don Juan Saas contains a Crucifixion, supposed to be by Rafael, a San Geronimo and a portrait of Lazarus by Rubens, a Cock-fight by Jordan, Adam and Eve by Solimena, and others. The house of Armengol also contains good pictures; amongst others, a San Cosme and San Damian by Juanes, a San Geronimo and a landscape by Mesquida, a Virgin by Mengs, and some Majorcan landscapes by good artists. The house of the Marquis of Vivot is also mentioned, and that of Don Felipe Villalonga Mir, in which there is a Samson by Ribera, and the 'Repose in Egypt' by Murillo. The Marquis of Campo Franco also owns Mesquidas and others.<sup>1</sup>

Furio attributes to Francisco Roselló, an engraver, *muy distinguido en su siglo*, the honour of being one of the first of the Majorcan artists who dedicated himself to engraving on copper about the middle of the seventeenth century.<sup>2</sup> We ourselves

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<sup>1</sup> 'Diccionario Histórico de los ilustres profesores de las Bellas Artes en Mallorca,' por Don Antonio Furio, pp. 14, 15.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. pp. 47, 48, and 146.

picked up, in an old curiosity shop at Palma, an engraving of a considerable size of this artist, representing Paradise, with Adam and Eve, and many kinds of animals, birds, &c. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil stands in its centre, upon the top of which rests the Virgin. At the foot of the tree is the escutcheon of the Majorcan family of Sureda (Marqués de Vivot). The foreground is occupied by the four doctors who were celebrated for their advocacy of the doctrine of the immaculate conception, San Gregorio, San Buenaventura, Beato Raymundo Lulio, and the venerable Juan Dums Escoto, who appear to be dipping their pens in the four rivers of Paradise, with which each writes the text held in his hands allusive to the miracle they advocate, which so much later became a dogma of the Catholic Church. This engraving, which is sufficiently curious, and not without artistic merit, bears the following inscription:—

“Rosello delin. et excusit, 1671, in tempore tribulationis.”

During the spring of 1875, a friend of ours, a British artist, painted from life, at Soller, a charming picture representing the gathering of the orange crop. It was a painting which, from the

richness of its colouring, its beauty and merits generally, naturally attracted the attention and excited the admiration of the native artists of the island; but the genuine and honest expressions of praise, the exclamations of "Jésus!" and "San Antonio!" that were lavished upon it by the villagers must have been hardly less gratifying to the artist. When the painting was finished and our friend was about to leave Soller, the landlady of the little *fonda* at which he had been staying begged, on behalf of her neighbours, that the picture might be exposed to public view for a few days; so the big dining-room in the *fonda* was set apart for the exhibition. The morning was devoted to the upper circles who called to inspect it, and after them the villagers generally were treated to a view, while the *madona* stood on guard to keep hands off.

Law and justice are administered in the Balearic Islands by Spanish functionaries, who, like the other government officials, are frequently changed. The procedure is according to the sufficiently well-known and tardy practice of the Spanish courts. The examination of witnesses does not take place in open court, but their evidence is taken down in writing, and thus as the case

proceeds it becomes naturally and literally voluminous. We were tempted once in an idle moment to stroll into *la Audiencia*, or court of appeal, held in the capital. It was about half-past eleven, and the court had then been sitting for an hour. On a little square bit of green baize at the doorway stood an *aguacil*, or usher. He wore the uniform of his office, consisting of a tightly-buttoned, diplomatic-looking blue cloth tail-coat, trimmed with gold lace and gilt buttons; a cocked-hat was on his head, and a sword hung by his side. Passing by this official, we were motioned to a seat on a bench against the wall, in front of which was placed also a slip of green baize for our feet. These pieces of baize, we presume, were intended to preserve the carpet with which the court-room was covered, for there was a special bit for everybody. In front of the entrance, on a raised dais, and under a canopy of damask silk, on the corners of which were the arms of Castile and the arms of the province, sat in one row the *magistrados*, or judges, in their *togas*, or gowns, and caps. They were five in number. The president, called *regente*, is entitled to occupy the centre seat; but he was not present, and his place was filled by the senior

judge. A long table was before the judges, upon which were placed inkstands, pens and paper, and the president's bell. On each side of the court, towards the body of the court-room, was a bench, with a table, occupied by the counsel for the plaintiff and defendant, in their gowns; and then, in front of the judges, below the dais, stood another long table, at which sat the *relatores*, or official reporters; behind them were the attorneys. These seats were inclosed by a railing, which thus separated the court from the public. Against this railing stood a porter on his little square of green cloth, and wearing a uniform and cocked-hat similar to the usher's. The case we listened to was one of considerable importance, involving the fortune of a widow, and affecting interests to the extent of between 50,000 and 60,000 dollars, 10,000*l.* to 12,000*l.* The suit had then lasted for eight years; but there was no one present to hear it besides ourselves and one gentleman. The process, which formed a manuscript volume of considerable thickness, was being read aloud by the *relator* when we entered, and the reading lasted for a long time afterwards. As soon as one *relator* got out of breath, another took up the reading, and so on to the end; during



which time the judges settled into comfortable attitudes, looking meanwhile rather sleepy, if they did not actually indulge in a furtive nap. Not an observation was made by any one, and the only break to the monotony of the *relator's* voice was the ceremony of relieving the ushers and porters, which took place every twenty-five minutes. It was an occurrence of extraordinary solemnity. The new official, who entered with his hat in his hand, stood for an instant at the doorway and bowed; then, stepping up to his bit of green baize, he bowed again. He then placed his cocked-hat on his head, and bowed once more; after which he put his hands under his coat-tails, and stood like a statue until his turn came to be relieved. Our only anxiety was lest he should sneeze, but, happily, this catastrophe did not happen to disturb the gravity of the proceedings. The ushers and porters going off duty made their retreat in like solemn manner; they made three grave obeisances before they left the court, which salutations, it is unnecessary to say, were not noticed or returned. There was only one thing which caused one of these stern officials to change the attitude he took up when once he had settled on the green baize, and we were inadvertently

the cause of it. Fatigued by the drawling of the *relator's* reading, and influenced, probably, by the comfortable attitudes the five judges had, one and all, taken up in their stalls, we unwittingly crossed one leg over another. The majesty of the law could not brook this! we were instantly motioned to uncross, and thus we learned, to our cost, that the ushers had something to do, after all.

All things, happily, come to an end; and so, at last, the apparently interminable reading of the process was ended. We all brightened up thereat; even the president of the *Audiencia* brightened up enough to say, "Let the counsel for the plaintiff speak." (In this case he was virtually the counsel for the defendant, as it was an appeal against a decision given by the judge of first instance.) The pleadings on both sides struck us as being eloquent and to the purpose, but, like the reading of the process by the *relator*, nobody seemed to pay much attention to them. The judges took no notes; indeed their pens were never once dipped in ink. No remarks or comments were made. When the first barrister had had his say, the president merely uttered, as before, a brief permission for the opposing counsel to

speak. At a quarter to two another usher entered the court, bowed three times, and informed "his excellency" that it was a quarter to two—a fact which was self-evident, as a large clock in front of his excellency plainly marked that hour. No notice was, however, taken of the announcement, and the usher made, in silence, his three retiring salutations. The advocate, who had paused for the moment, then continued speaking. At two o'clock the ceremony of announcing the hour was repeated by the usher. The president then asked the advocate if he had much more to say, and on learning that the speech would be finished in about twenty minutes, the advocate was told he might go on to the end; and he did so, when judges, barristers, *relatores*, ushers, and porters hurried home to dinner. No other remarks were made in court by the judges than those we have mentioned. They then took eight days to give their decision, which, in this case, was in confirmation of the sentence of the court below. The point was then, in natural course, referred to the supreme court at Madrid. This suit, as we have said, had already lasted eight years, and a dozen decisions on various points had thus far been given against the de-

defendant, but it was expected by all parties that when the final decision shall be given the estate will have been fully consumed.

A curious and, to our mind, indelicate practice exists at Palma of all parties interested in a lawsuit calling to pay court to the judges who may have to decide upon it. They then explain privately their rights, and pray for his kind consideration of their case. It sometimes happens that both plaintiff and defendant meet at the judge's house on these occasions, when the scene may be better imagined than described. No previous acquaintance or introduction to the judge is considered necessary as a preliminary to the visits of the litigants.



## CHAPTER VI.

*SOCIAL LIFE—MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF SOCIETY.*

**T**HERE is perhaps nothing more pleasing to a stranger on his arrival in any Spanish-speaking country than the graciousness with which he will be received by the persons amongst whom he may mix, and the charming frankness with which everything that he is forbidden in the Tenth Commandment to covet is with such apparent sincerity placed at his disposal, in that ever-present and oft-repeated phrase, *á la disposicion de usted*. It has more than once occurred to us, however, that to enjoy this civility to the full, and to retain ever after the most pleasing remembrance of it, one should perhaps, after having paid one's first round of visits, disappear for good, like a sovereign on a tour to a foreign court.

The Balears have attained this first lesson of Spanish politeness to a very high grade of perfection. It greets you everywhere—on the threshold of the mansion of the greatest of their nobles, and at the door of the poorest countryman's cottage; and on no occasion is it ever forgotten. You will not be able to go inside a *café* to take an ice without some gallant gentleman, with whom you will probably be only on bowing acquaintance, instantly proffering you the refreshment in which he may happen at the time to be indulging, be it a half-eaten boiled egg or an unfinished cup of chocolate. But the favoured person upon whom such civilities are so profusely lavished should be upon his guard, lest unwarily he might be led to suppose that the polite offers, any more than the remains of the half-eaten egg, are actually intended to be accepted. George Sand relates, in her book 'Un Hiver à Majorque,' that she fell into an error of this sort during her residence in the island. She sent to borrow a carriage that had been politely offered her to drive out in, and she was told, in reply to her message, that it was not the custom of the country to take advantage of such offers.

This reminds us of an occurrence that was

related to ourselves by a Spanish officer. He had met and become intimate with an English gentleman, when one day the Englishman's attention became attracted to an elaborate walking-stick that the Spaniard carried. The Englishman admired the stick, and the Spaniard quite naturally told him that it was at his disposal, and offered it, we presume, with so much frankness and apparent earnestness, that the Englishman was tempted to accept it.

"I lost my stick for my good manners," said the officer, "and got laughed at into the bargain by my comrades, to whom I related the story at mess."

"I dare say the Englishman thought you meant what you said," we remarked; "and his idea of good manners was perhaps not to offend you by refusing the stick."

There are two morals to this story—which is a true one: The Spaniards', we dare say, would be, "Don't be too free in your offers to foreigners who are not acquainted with the customs of the country;" ours ought to be, "Don't accept too freely the offers which a Spaniard's idea of etiquette compels him to make to you, but take them as they are intended, merely to show that he is a well-bred gentleman."

A foreigner, moreover, is always a stranger in the islands, notwithstanding any length of residence; which is doubtless to be attributed to the little intercourse that the natives have thus far had with foreigners. The stranger, therefore, though he will receive much show of civility, must not look for any real disinterested service from his neighbour. Our remark is, of course, an abstract, not a personal one; but we may safely say, without meaning anything unkind, and without being unmindful of exceptional acts of kindness and friendship received, that, abundant as the wordy civility is, hospitality, as we understand it in England, is a word as completely unknown in the vernacular idiom of the Balears as 'home' is. In nothing is this lack of hospitality more apparent than in the repugnance the better classes of persons have to letting the houses they monopolise the possession of. It is almost impossible for a foreigner to get a decent habitation without he builds or buys one, although there be many unoccupied houses shut up. It is considered beneath Majorcan dignity to let a house, and no recommendation, and no expressed sentiments of good-will or friendship for a stranger, will have any effect in changing the determination on



this subject. The houses that are built for letting are unfurnished flats, with small rooms and narrow staircases, and wanting in every comfort and convenience. One can hardly make a more offensive proposal to a Majorcan grandee than offer to take, as a tenant, one of his unoccupied houses, either in the town or country. Nor is there a decent inn in the capital, although the dirty *fondas* are always full of visitors. But if all this has its dark side, there are, happily, many light shades. The social treadmill, for instance, is in this country an easy-going machine, and the greatest expense attending social intercourse is pasteboard for visiting-cards, to be left at one's friends', who are rarely or never at home to receive you. It is difficult to make this understood fully without an example; but we could name in a breath a dozen families with whom we maintained, during half-a-dozen years' residence, relations of the most affectionate friendship, and upon each of which we have left at least a pack of cards in return for visits paid, but the threshold of whose house we never *once* crossed. People, as a rule, are only "at home" to those members of their family whom they could receive in dressing-gown and slippers. Political aversions and party feeling,

which permeate all classes of society, and extend to ladies, have destroyed all inclination for social gatherings; and the only neutral ground where people will meet is the church, the theatre, or the promenade. Nor is it easy to combine the elements. Three ladies, for instance, on one sofa, not on speaking terms with each other, on account of their husbands' political opinions, are somewhat discouraging social incidents to get over; and this happened in our own house at a party, when, in our innocence, we omitted properly to sort our acquaintances; but it is fair to state that this occurred on the smaller island. Thus while there is little society even amongst the natives, a foreigner rarely enters into native gatherings at all. In social meetings, where everybody is everybody else's cousin, a non-relative must necessarily be a stranger in the land, not so much for want of kindness and a desire to be civil on the part of the people, as because their mode of life is different from that of the outer barbarians; and the civility which, at a push, the natives are constrained to offer to a stranger is a forced, tight-fitting courtesy, which takes them out of their regular groove and strains upon their social life; like the stately bedrooms and saloons, hung

with ancient tapestry, it is only meant to be used once in a way upon extraordinary occasions, and then carefully put away again.

With all this the people greet you pleasantly, are profuse in their offers to be of every kind of service to you, and are quite happy that you should go your way in peace, and they go theirs. A few years ago an attempt was made by the members of the aristocracy to maintain a casino, where their families now and then met for dancing parties; but it was short-lived, and, for the reasons above stated, fell to the ground soon after the fall of the monarchy, after a brief existence. But this was an establishment where ladies were admitted on the reception nights. The Majorcans, where men only are concerned, comprehend perfectly the essentials of old club life. While the great house with gilded saloons fell to the ground, there exist at Palma at least half-a-dozen primitive, but really genuine clubs—not casinos, where every one is admitted, but exclusive assemblies, where birds of a feather only congregate together for conversation, a cup of coffee, or a game at *Tresillo*, and where an uncongenial member would be as much out of place as a hawk amongst a flock of pigeons. Some of these clubs,

which are called here *Botigas*, probably from their being situated on the ground-floor like the shops, have a political shade; but more generally the distinguishing features are sympathy in ideas, age, &c. Thus young men would not belong to a club where they would meet their fathers, nor a Carlist where he would be likely to come into contact with a Republican. These clubs are maintained by a small monthly subscription, just sufficient to pay the few necessary expenses, such as rent, lighting, and servants. They are, naturally, purely local institutions, affording no attraction to foreigners. There is one casino to which strangers are admitted on presentation, which is well supplied with newspapers, and where are to be found the 'Times,' 'Illustrated London News,' and French papers as well as Spanish.

Perhaps the habitual diner-out might not find these islands quite to his taste. During our six years' residence we dined away from our own table *three* times. There are no native dinner parties, and no foreign element to occasion them. With rare exceptions, every one dines at two; and the *siesta* in summer, taken immediately after the meal, like the hour of the repast, does not conduce to conviviality. But when one comes

to understand all this, one finds social life easy and pleasant enough. Friendly greetings, and visits are exchanged at the theatre and on the promenade, and there are always time and opportunity enough for that purpose. The theatre and the promenade are the two principal sources of public amusement in the capital. The former, however, lasts only during the winter months; while the latter, with a change of hours, exists all the year round. The Palma theatre is prettily and comfortably arranged, and capable of containing nearly two thousand persons, and when filled—as it usually is on feast days only, when it is quite full—the house presents a very good appearance. The whole of the ground-floor is distributed in stalls, to which the tiers of boxes descend. The first and second tiers of boxes and part of the stalls are usually subscribed-for for the season. It sometimes happens that a very fair company for Italian opera is collected on the Peninsula, which of course affords the entertainment one least tires of; but the prices are generally too low to make opera a paying speculation. Many of the richest families club together for one box; while, as the Palma theatre, like those in many Spanish towns, was built by subscription,

the shareholders take their dividends in the shape of right of entry at all times, without payment of the entry-fee, which is apart from and about two-thirds as much as the charge for the seat. These two circumstances have, naturally, a depressing effect upon the finances of the lessee, and the consequence sometimes is that a cheap and inferior company of players in Spanish verse and comedy is substituted for the opera. In this case the long season of the same kind of performance becomes tedious to the *habitúes*.

The remarkable feature of Spanish play-actors, as compared with those of England, and even of France, would seem to be the versatility of their powers, and the extraordinary facility with which they are ready to take up and appear in entirely new characters night after night. In a season of a hundred consecutive nights at Palma, for instance, and we suppose it is the same in most Spanish provincial towns, the same plays are rarely performed on two nights running, and seldom repeated more than once or twice during the season; while one sees the same actors and actresses, now in comedy, now in tragedy, and now and then in broad farce; and if their acting is not always of the highest order, it can seldom be

said that the players do not know their parts. It must be remembered, too, that most modern as well as the older Spanish plays are written in verse, the proper delivery of which forms a great part of the attraction to Spanish playgoers, who are very severe upon a *lapsus linguæ*, or a deviation from the text of any kind. The voice of the prompter of course does much, but it cannot do all.

The hours for the promenade at Palma vary, as we have said, according to the seasons. During the winter months the time is from twelve till two; at the latter, to a moment, everybody retires to dine, and so punctually and instantaneously is this movement made, that, two minutes after two, not a soul is left where there had just before been perhaps a couple of hundred persons. There are two walks in the town of Palma much frequented on feast days, called *el Borne* and *la Rambla*; but they are both very short, being *alamedas* in the town itself. More agreeable than either of them is the promenade by the seaside on the ramparts, which extend all round the city, with the exception of the small portion in front of the port, which was thrown down in 1872. On one or other of these places, on Sundays and festivals,

the whole of the smart part of the population turns out at a given hour, to take exercise and to see and be seen; while the carriages drive round and round the promenade. The military band, when there is one, plays twice a week at the hour of the promenade; but since the outbreak of the Carlist war Palma has lost its garrison and military band. In the winter the walk on the ramparts is frequented towards sunset. When the *Borne* is not occupied by the upper classes, it is frequented by domestic servants and their civil and military lovers.

Although every one lives in the town for the most part of the year, almost every native family owns besides a house in the country, for the summer months. The landed proprietors invariably reserve for themselves the upper part of the house on the farm in which the farmer lives; while those who have no landed property build villas or cottages by the seashore or in the villages adjacent to the city. But, while such residences abound everywhere, many persons possessing several of them, it is, as we have said, almost impossible for a stranger to hire or otherwise obtain one of them. This is a great drawback to foreigners visiting the islands. In this is manifested the



little intercourse these islanders have had with foreigners, as it is also in the very indifferent hotel accommodation afforded even in the largest towns, and in the capital itself. Nothing better, indeed, is provided than quite third-rate *fondas*, or *casas de huespedes*, after the Spanish style—inns, or lodging-houses, where only the necessities, none of the luxuries, and hardly any of the comforts of life can be obtained; so that there is little inducement offered in this respect for strangers to visit the islands, or for those who may come to remain long. We have often thought that a decent hotel would prove a great source of attraction as well as comfort to foreigners, and might be profitably maintained. With steamers running over to Marseilles in a couple of days, and a fair hotel for passengers to land at, even Cook's travellers might be tempted to visit the Balearic Islands, with amusement to themselves and profit to the natives; but, under the present circumstances, it would be difficult to lodge them.

Almost every person of moderate means keeps a carriage of some sort, and it is not a very expensive luxury, the carob beans, which grow so extensively throughout the islands, forming an

excellent and economical food for both horses and mules. A pair of horses or mules may be fed for under three pounds a month ; and, although the new tax on carriages, imposed in 1874, caused some persons to give up theirs, those who keep them form still the rule, rather than the exception, among the upper and middle classes.

The Balearic Islands possess one attraction in contrast, perhaps, with many, if not most, of the provinces of the Peninsula. One can ride or drive there at any hour in perfect safety. Any man—we had almost said any lady—may go from one end of the islands to the other without the slightest risk of being molested, be it in the middle of the day or the middle of the night. Few passages of Majorcan life are more pleasant than a ride on horseback by moonlight along the seashore, or at spring time amidst its fragrant fields ; and it is not that an efficient police force protects the traveller—the charm lies in the almost complete absence of it. The countryman whom one may meet on one's way will stop to raise his hat, and gracefully bow with it ; but the highwayman does not exist, and the tramp, or even beggar, is hardly to be met with outside the city walls, and few even within them.

Some of the customs which govern social life are sufficiently curious. On moving to a new house, it is etiquette to send your servant to all your immediate neighbours—in fact, to all the residents in the street, if it be a short one—to announce that your house is at their disposal. It does not a bit matter whether you had previously been on visiting terms with the persons to whom you make this overture. It would be considered a breach of good manners to omit sending the message in any case. It is your neighbour's duty to respond to this attention by a call in person, which it is of course your duty to return; and there, for the most part, the matter ends as regards that street and those neighbours. Again, on moving to a new house, it is necessary to call on all your old friends and inform them of the fact, which in like manner entails upon them a visit. Inattention to these matters would be equivalent to a "dead cut," and bring an acquaintanceship to an untimely end. Again, the birth of a child requires a message to neighbours and friends, and in like manner the birth of a second one, if not of the same sex; but here that matter ends. Future births need not be announced except to *new* acquaintances. The response to these

announcements is a visit ; and these are occasions in great houses where the shut-up drawing-rooms are opened and dusted.

Like the Icelanders, the Balears in society eschew titles in social intercourse. Men and women alike are addressed in conversation by their Christian names, and no difference is made in this practice in regard to married or unmarried ladies. We have seen actual trouble taken by a gentleman to find out a strange lady's Christian name, in order that he might address her by it in the first few words of conversation ; and one hears more often the second person used in speaking than the third. While this lack of ceremony exists on the one hand, on the other persons are continually, in theory, at one another's feet ; and it would be a want of civility and good breeding to address a note without putting outside the inevitable " B.L.M.," which means that you kiss the hands of the person to whom you are writing ; and the shoemaker or tailor would be so much offended by the omission of the title of " Don," or the capital " D." which stands for it, on a letter, that he would probably take no notice of your order if addressed only as Señor. The farmer and his wife, moreover, are never spoken of or

spoken to otherwise than by their titles of *L'Amo*, the master, and *Madona*, the mistress. These terms are employed alike by the landlords and their labourers. If a distinction must be made, the Christian name would be added thus: "*L'Amo Tomeo*"—"La *Madona Maria*." The common forms of salutation still in use serve to illustrate the feudal instinct of these islanders. Thus the inferior says "*Bona nit tenga*," or "*Bon dia tenga*"—may you have a good night or good morning; to which greeting the superior returns only "*Bona nit*," or "*Bon dia*"; and if the difference in rank is great, as between employer and employé, "*Adios*" only is vouchsafed.

A traveller, who wrote a *Voyage to Majorca* some thirty-five years ago,<sup>1</sup> then remarked that Palma was a city of Europe, but not a European city of our age. The same remark might be made to-day. "It is," in the words of this traveller, "a city *sui generis*; a town was conquered, from which the conqueror turned out the conquered; and even now their room has not been filled. The population is of 40,000<sup>2</sup> inhabitants;

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<sup>1</sup> 'Viaje á la Isla de Mallorca en el estío de 1845,' por Juan Cortada. (Barcelona, Brusi.)

<sup>2</sup> Now from 50,000 to 60,000.

and, in order that there might be a movement corresponding to other cities of its importance, there ought to be at least 120,000 inhabitants." "The city," he justly says, "is an historical document, whose pages close in the sixteenth century. If our grandfathers returned to the world, hardly in any town of Europe would they find the places in which they had lived ; but if the punctilious and brave Majorcans of the sixteenth century were to rise from the grave, all would find their country and their house as they had left it." This was written in 1845 ; with little difference it might be written in 1875 of many of the old streets of Palma proper. Yet, as the town has grown and extended, new streets wider, and new houses brighter in appearance, but certainly less comfortable, and more unsuited to the climate, have been constructed, which strike the attention of visitors, and lead one to suppose that Palma, amidst all its ancient monuments and antiquities, is a progressing place as regards street architecture.

The periodical literature of the islands is sufficiently prolific, comprising four small daily papers and nine or ten other publications, which appear at intervals during the month. With one or two

exceptions, however, they possess few attractions, either literary or otherwise. The most noteworthy amongst them is the "Revista (now Museo) Balear," a bi-monthly magazine, dedicated to native history, literature, sciences, and arts, in which papers of considerable merit occasionally appear. The daily papers, for the most part, are copies of the Madrid and Barcelona journals, with a few articles of local interest. Since the establishment, however, of the telegraph to Valencia, an additional value has been given to these papers on account of the telegrams which they contain. When any extraordinary event occurs on the Peninsula, a miniature supplement is issued, of which we give a facsimile opposite, which is interesting as being a *small child* of the press of the nineteenth century, as well as for its contents, which record an incident of contemporary Spanish history.

It may hardly seem a proper place in this chapter to speak of the feasts of the Church; but, apart from their religious character, they enter so much into the daily social life of the inhabitants, that one cannot overlook them when treating of the customs of the people. In addition to Sundays, which the religion allows to be set apart as

**SUPLEMENTO**

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**EL DIARIO DE PALMA.**

MARTES 13 DE ENERO DE 1874.



**PARTES TELEGRÁFICOS PARTICULARES**



Torrevieja 13 (11'45.)

Tropas entraron Cartagena, huyeron insurrectos en la *Numancia*.

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PALMA.—IMPRESA DE GUASP.

TRANSLATION.

January 13, 1874. Troops entered Cartagena. Insurgents fled in the 'Numancia.'



a day of holiday enjoyment as well as for Divine worship, and which is *the* day in these islands specially dedicated to the promenade, theatre, and bull-fight, there are no less than fifty or sixty saints' days and festivals besides, which are kept as close holidays, when no work of any kind is done, and people dress as smartly, go to church, and amuse themselves as fully as on Sundays. It will thus be seen that religious festivals afford no inconsiderable season for holiday-making; and when it is taken into account that between *cua-venta horas* and *novenas*, which take place every day at one or other of the numerous churches in the city, where there is always some service going on, it may easily be seen to what an extent the Church enters into and forms part of social life. You will hardly meet a lady in the street, at any hour of any day of the week, who is not on her way to or on her return from church; while the numerous processions which are still in vogue on the great festivals, aside from their spiritual character, afford entertainment, if not amusement, to the greater part of the populace. In this way the female inhabitants, at least, pass a great portion of their time.

If we were to select two adjectives that should

comprehensively qualify the amusements of the people of these islands, those two adjectives would be, we fear, "cruel" and "monotonous." Many of the popular amusements are barbarously cruel: most of them appear to us to be very monotonous, whilst not a few are both cruel and monotonous at the same time. The entertainment still most popular with all classes is the bull-fight, which has little to distinguish it from the similar performances in the great cities of the Peninsula, unless it be that all the animals, both men and bulls, engaged in the performance at Palma are generally of an inferior order. The bulls are second-rate, and the men are third-rate at best. About once a year a dozen Peninsular bulls, with a company of more or less celebrated players, are brought over for the Palma Circus, which is a fine construction in its way, capable of holding 10,000 persons. There have been instances lately of its having been quite filled; for on these occasions all classes of society, from the noble to the labourer, who goes without his dinner in order to buy a ticket, flock to the entertainment. But at other times the less timid of the Algerian cattle imported to supply the daily market are selected

for the display of the prowess of the amateur performers, and meet their death in the bull-ring instead of at the butcher's shambles. There is nothing certainly in these performances to free them from the application of our two adjectives. On one occasion the players were women, two of whom were gored by the bulls and seriously injured. Cock-fighting is also indulged in; but, like dog-fighting, another Sunday entertainment, it is not one greatly patronised by the better classes of native society, though largely so by the lower orders. The amusements of the villagers are often no less cruel than those of the inhabitants of the city. One of the most popular is the killing of a cock by blindfold countrymen, than which it is difficult to imagine anything more stupid and spiritless. A poor bird is suspended by its legs from a cord stretched across the public square. The privilege of attempting to kill it is then put up to auction and sold to the highest bidder. The man is taken some twenty or thirty yards off and blindfolded. A sword is then placed in his hand, with which he is allowed to strike once at the fowl when he supposes himself in a good position to do so. If the bird is killed it is his; if not, the auction

is repeated, and a new attempt is made. These proceedings often last several hours before the bird is finally put out of his misery, for a blow which does not kill does not count. The bag-pipes play again, and a new champion takes the sword.

We gladly turn from these amusements to those which, if monotonous, regard at least only the human species. Dancing, in this, as in many countries, seems for some mysterious reason to be the beau-ideal of enjoyment when a sufficient number of persons of both sexes are collected together, and in the Balearic Islands when two or three are gathered together. We never saw a village festival of any kind where there was not dancing. There is dancing in the country on all the popular saints' days and festivals of the Church—dancing at the countryman's wedding—at the grape-gathering season—at the country fairs—on Sundays and holy days—and generally whenever there is any sort of a pretext for dancing.

But a more solemn, steady-going, matter-of-fact business than this island dancing it would not be easy to imagine. The first impression that strikes one on seeing it is that the performers

as well as the musicians are paid for their services; but, far from this being the case, the honour of dancing with a native belle is often very dearly purchased, especially for the privilege of the first dance. On great occasions this privilege is, like the right of striking first at the cock, put up to auction. We have heard of as much as two and even three pounds being paid on such occasions, although, of course, when the matter is left entirely in the hands of the villagers the bidding is confined within much more moderate limits. It generally, however, lasts a long time if, as is usually the case, there are many ambitious lovers. When at last the privilege is knocked down to the fortunate possessor, he starts off to fetch his fair companion, accompanied by the players on the bagpipes, who are never wanting on such occasions. It is the fair one's duty to remain at home until she is called out in this way, and however anxiously she may have been awaiting her lover and the musical escort, village etiquette forbids her appearance on the gay scene where the fiddlers play until she is thus waited upon.

The island fairs, which are held in succession during summer in all the principal towns, are

frequented by, and afford amusement to, all classes of society. These fairs are generally held on Sundays, Sunday being the day when most persons can attend them without detriment to their normal occupations. The spiritual difficulty is got over by attendance at early mass. Two or three Sundays are usually allotted to each inland town of importance. In the neighbourhood of most of these places the great landowners have estates and houses situated either on their property or in the town; but if the house be in the town, as is often the case at Manacor, Inca, and other places, it is called a *posada*, or resting-place, where the señor may put up with his family and servants for a short time, which is generally done only during the fair. Besides cattle, fruit, and the more important local products, a great variety of articles are carried out to these fairs from Palma. There is generally a whole street of jewellers' stalls to tempt the farmers' wives and daughters, while saddlery and hardware offer more substantial objects to the farmers themselves. Palma, too, has its cattle and poultry fairs in the proximity of the city walls, where at Christmas and Easter, fowls and turkeys, pigs and lambs are inspected by the *élite* of the city,

previously to being eaten. The grand lady walks or drives amongst them, while her cook does the bargaining for the Christmas or Easter dinner. And so it is at the fairs inland. All classes mingle together, landlords and their farmers, city dandies and countrywomen, and add by their presence life and gaiety to the scene. In the city, the turkeys bought at the fair of St. Thomas, held on the 20th of December, are driven about the streets by the children of their purchasers until killed for their Christmas dinner; and in like manner the Easter lambs afford amusement to the urchins as they bleat away the few days between their sentence and its execution. Thus are the young Majorcans (instead of being taught to bring down their food with the *honda*, or sling, as their ancestors were) prepared by early cruelty to dumb animals to look calmly on the goring of horses' sides at the bull-fight!

We have mentioned that it is a golden rule in the islands that every family should kill a pig at Christmas. The establishment of the double octroi dues in 1874, under which Christmas pigs paid *pesetas* various, both to the government at Madrid and to the local municipality, operated as a sad check to the free enjoyment of a time-

honoured custom; and wonderful were the devices to avoid the tax. A case came to our own knowledge of a woman having dressed a live porker as a baby in long clothes, which she successfully smuggled under the collector's nose, while she held hard and fast the poor pig's nasal organs. Truly, the talent for smuggling is inborn where Spanish revenue is concerned.

The Church processions, which appeared during the last few years to be likely to fade away entirely under republican Spain, were maintained in almost all their primitive pomp in the Balearic Islands during the revolutionary period; and while the priests on the opposite coast of Barcelona were obliged to disguise their calling, and wear the dress of laymen, the *pasos* were carried through the streets of Palma in procession as hitherto. The religious festivals during Holy Week, at Corpus Christi, and at Christmas, occupy the mind of the whole population, and the churches on such occasions are literally a "sight to see."

One is carried back by the entertainment for the people afforded by the Church in Majorca to the period in history when the Church almost



exclusively assumed this function; and if one is led to remark the apparent want of devotion in the gaily-dressed crowds who laugh and crack their jokes and roasted nuts as the images of their favourite saints are carried along the streets, one may also wonder whether the Church really intends or wishes that such exhibitions should be only devoutly observed. The opportunity of providing a holiday and amusing sight to the faithful would seem to be as much the object in view, and this is certainly fully attained. In these processions it is customary for all the parishes to take part, each church sending its tutelary saint and large cross. Before the revolution, and since the restoration of monarchy, it has been the practice for the chief civil and military authorities to take part in the processions.

One of the curious customs of these islands, destined probably to disappear shortly under the march of civilisation, is the blessing of horses and donkeys on the festival of *San Antonio Abad*. On this fête all the horses and donkeys in the islands, gaily bedecked with many-coloured ribbons, receive from the priest a sprinkling of holy-water. In the capitals of Palma and Mahon the ceremony is one which half the population turn

out to witness. The priest, in his surplice, takes up his position in the doorway of one of the houses in a principal thoroughfare. Beside him is placed a table, on which is set a bowl of holy-water, and a large plate to receive the offerings of the owners of the quadrupeds. The animals are then ridden past by their owners or servants, hardly stopping as they pass the priest to receive the blessing and sprinkling, for which a copper is, or ought to be, dropped into the plate held out by the minister's assistant. The opportunity is taken on this occasion to show off the paces of the horses and the skill of the riders, and the animals are displayed to the admiring crowd for an hour or two after the blessing has been bestowed upon them. The popular belief is that the sprinkling of holy-water will keep the devil out of a donkey for at least a year, when the ceremony should be renewed on the next anniversary of St. Anthony. But, as we have said, this is one of the time-honoured practices of the island that is gradually falling into disuse.

But one of the most remarkable processions, or rather series of processions, that took place of late years were those of the Papal Jubilee of 1875.

These were processions in which there were no *pasos*, no images carried through the streets, nothing in the shape of a show to attract the lookers-on. Preceded simply by the large silver cross of the parish church, literally thousands of the faithful formed themselves into rank and followed their priests from one temple to another; the great majority of the persons were women, from high-born ladies to those in the lower ranks, but men and the chief local authorities joined. It was estimated in the newspapers that upwards of 6000 of the devout visited one church alone on the first day, and nearly as many on other occasions; and these processions lasted for three or four days. If a demonstration were wanting of the love of the inhabitants of these islands for Church processions, it was surely afforded by these gatherings (which were also proofs of the encouragement given to the Church by the government), since the object to be attained by them might also be attained by private attendance at church. Thus, however, the faithful preferred to parade the streets to express their attachment to a belief which one is apt to think ought to find support rather in practical life and work. But who shall dare to criticise on such a

subject? “As for me, I went home enriched with two new observations; first, that one may not speak of anything relative to a foreign country as one would if one was a native. National censures become particular affronts.”<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Pelham, vol. i. chap. xxiv.





## CHAPTER VII.

### *HOUSEKEEPING, AND COST OF LIVING.*

**T**HE one great drawback to comfortable living for a stranger in the Balearic Islands—or rather the two chief drawbacks—are the difficulties that exist in obtaining a good house and good servants. It is, as we have said before, considered derogatory for a native gentleman to let a house, and the accommodation to be obtained by a foreigner consists mostly of a whitewashed flat, built as cheaply as possible, as a speculation, for the purpose of letting to military officers who are not expected to remain long, and who are not supposed to care for comfort and luxury in this particular. For such apartments as are to be had the price is from 4*l.* to 6*l.* a year. The usual answer to an application for an empty house is, “Let it! no.” “Sell it! yes;” and the only nice house that was let to an

Englishman in our time was, as we afterwards learned, let in order that the tenant might, by residence, become tempted to purchase it. The only decent house that we ourselves were able to get during our long residence was sold over our heads almost as soon as we had got fairly settled in it, and we had to leave it with less than a month's notice; while for more than a year previously we had been obliged to live in a new, damp, unfinished, whitewashed flat, to the staircase of which for several months there was not even a balustrade, the owner and the blacksmith who was to do the ironwork being always at variance, and so, in true Majorcan fashion, the work was put off from week to week and month to month to the imminent risk of life or injury to all who went up or down stairs unguardedly. The same difficulty that occurs in the town in this respect occurs in the country. Of the two principal island towns it is, perhaps, more easy to procure a house, and even to hire furniture, at Mahon than at Palma; the people there are more accustomed to treat with foreigners, and, as a general rule, more accommodating. The scantiness of the population in the smaller island also renders available a larger number of houses to

meet the requirements of strangers ; and, on the whole, living is cheaper in Minorca than it is at Majorca.

There are numerous small cottages scattered about in the vicinity of the city and large towns, but they are seldom to be let, and are mostly quite unfit for a residence during the winter months, as they are lightly constructed and not fitted with fireplaces or any means of warming them. They can also be rarely procured for a less term than one year—when to be had at all—which must be in long anticipation of the summer season. The fact of one being required by a foreigner is also generally sufficient to put up the price of the rent from 50 to 100 per cent. It is not usual, however, to take houses in the town on a lease. They are let from month to month, and no notice is required on the side of either landlord or tenant ; but while the occupier may, if he chooses, send in his rent for even a number of odd days to his landlord with the key, it is not so easy for the landlord to get rid of a tenant unless the property is sold, as he must, if required, allow time for another residence to be found. The law or custom seems to be somewhat unequal in this respect, and more in favour of the occupant

than the owner. It is not easy, while it is expensive in the end, to hire furniture at Palma; the better plan is to buy and sell again on one's departure, if the residence is likely to be long enough to attempt housekeeping at all. All necessary articles of furniture may be readily procured at Palma of native workmanship.

It would be a flattering comparison as regards domestic servants in these islands to say that the combined services of two native men, or those of three women, were equal to those of one Englishman or maid-servant. It is an old-established custom of the country that a large number of domestics should be maintained in each establishment to help each other, as it would seem, to do nothing. If we were to offer advice to any persons about to make a sojourn in either of these islands, it would be to take with them at least a couple of trusty, *contented* servants of their own as a stand-by. It becomes a duty, indeed, in this first page on the subject of housekeeping, to forewarn our feminine readers on the matter of servants. The native servant, though not particularly dishonest, is certainly the most untidy, screaming domestic that it has been our fate to encounter; and this is saying a good deal, after



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having travelled much and been more than once under the treatment of the lazy West Indian negro, and even the expatriated Chinaman. In the Balearic Islands, service bad at the beginning was bad to the end. One instance will suffice, though we could quote several; but this was one of the quite recent ones. Within a period of two months we had four different cooks, all of whom, before entering our service, had taken care to make due inquiries as to *our* character, although we had no means of ascertaining much about theirs. The first of these four cooks cheated us so abominably in her daily marketing—for in this matter one is entirely at the mercy of the cook—that we were, in self-defence, obliged to get rid of her. The second, a tolerably honest woman, though she could not boil a potato, after being a month in the house, left us, as she said, to get married, but her impatience for the joys of wedded life did not allow her, as we heard afterwards, to go through the comparatively easy ceremony of an ecclesiastical marriage. Number three was positively only two days in the house when she really did find a husband, who took her to church in due form; and her successor, the fourth of this batch, after about a fortnight's

residence, coolly walked into her mistress's room one morning to give the first notice that the priest and her lover were waiting for her at church, for she was to be married on that same day at eleven. These are positive facts—related as they occurred—without any colouring whatever. Every Majorcan maid has a lover or follower always at hand, though constancy is not a charge one would lightly lay at their door. One handmaiden of ours begged to be brought away by us. "But then you could not marry, Angela," said the lady: for they are mostly called after angels and saints, though they may not imitate them so much as might be desirable. "Oh, I might find another and a more handsome lover in a foreign country," replied the angel. "I have only courted *him* that they might not say I have no one to love me. A girl of my age and looks must, of course, have a lover." And so it happens that these women often assume the man's share of the courting, and, judging from the results, the practice seems, on the whole, to be sufficiently successful.

Another of our cooks—this was at Mahon, on our first arrival, when we did not know the people so well—walked off with all the linen she could lay her hands on, and made off with it, too, before

she could be punished; and yet, in the face of these instances, we should not say that, as a rule, the Island servants are dishonest. They are fond of pilfering and picking rather than stealing, and it seldom amounts to downright theft; and in the midst of a number of very bad ones we sometimes found a faithful, honest creature; though, like the prizes in the Spanish lotteries, they were few and far between. The servants in these islands are usually treated with great familiarity by their mistresses, and the natural result is, in general, a great want of respect. Native ladies, indeed, frequently sit down to needlework in the company of their maids, and the most private conversation is sometimes carried on in their presence.

The principal rule by which a servant in these islands seems to be governed is that of never doing anything to-day that can, by any possibility, be left for to-morrow, and, as the great chances are that "to-morrow" is a feast-day, when of course nothing *can* be done, the particular work in question gets put off indefinitely. Then their vocal powers are all-prevalent. Your cook sings—as she would call it—in a loud voice as she prepares your dinner. The housemaid sings louder as she pretends to disturb the dust on the

furniture, and the ironing woman sings louder than either as she knocks the buttons off your shirt. This is when they are all happy and there is domestic peace, but the day that the demon of anger enters the household the singing is suppressed, and screams of rage are substituted. We will not record in these pages the hard names that are then banded about; one unaccustomed to such a scene must fancy that nothing short of bloodshed could end the row, but it does somehow come to an end without it, and the detested singing prevails again—which you then almost learn to love in your dread of an affray.

Then, again, servants require to be told of everything they have to do at least three times. The first they forget altogether; on the second telling they promise; and on the third they may by chance do it for that day, but on the morrow one has to begin again. The wear and tear and worry of this to housekeepers are naturally very great. Then the best of them take the first thing that comes to their hand for any purpose—your clean towels to dust with, the glass and water-jug from your bedroom to give any thirsty soul a drink, while there may be plenty of other glasses and water in the kitchen close by; and, as a

matter of course, such things never find their way back to their places. These are trifles in themselves, but they make up a sum of discomfort in every-day life.

There are two principal sources of the recent demoralisation of domestic servants in these islands: the cotton factories which came into existence of late years, where women, if not earning very much higher wages when their boarding is taken into account, have their nights to themselves, as well as the numberless feast-days which are religiously observed; and the lotteries, which meet one in every street to entice away one's earnings. In 1872, the great Christmas prize of the Madrid lottery fell to Palma, and something like 70,000*l.* was distributed amongst upwards of 200 persons, many of whom were domestic servants, who, having put into that drawing a few pence, found themselves suddenly winners of large sums. The natural consequence was that, for months afterwards, it was difficult to procure a lottery ticket at Palma, they being all bought up soon after they arrived. Such sources of demoralisation were certainly not required in the ranks from whence the servants are supplied; and while they now take

their employers' character before engaging themselves, masters and mistresses are obliged to forego all inquiries, and even close their eyes often to known defects little short of immorality and dishonesty. It is a continual source of complaint amongst the doctors that the wards of the lying-in hospital are full! The wages for cooks are—men, 6 to 10 dollars<sup>1</sup> a month; women, 4 to 5 dollars; coachmen, 6 to 10 dollars; man-servant, 5 to 6 dollars; maid-servant, 2 to 4 dollars a month, and they are all found in washing.

That we do not stand quite alone in our estimation of the domestic servants of these islands, may be seen from the following amusing verses, which appeared in an Annual published at Palma in 1874.

While helping to give the reader a general idea of the "maid of the period," these verses will at the same time afford a fair specimen of the Majorcan dialect, as well as the style of conversation adopted between ladies and their servants. This is Majorcan *pure*, which foreigners must master before they can understand or be understood by the people in general. The Majorcan

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<sup>1</sup> One dollar = 4s. 2d.

dialect, like that spoken in Catalonia and Valencia—but differing somewhat from those idioms—is derived from the *Limosin*, the common root of all three of these local dialects. It was called after the head province, *Limousin*, and was introduced into Catalonia by the first conquerors of that principality.<sup>1</sup>

UNA CRIADA, PER QUI NO 'N TÉ.

—¡ Jo estich apurada !  
 ¡ No sé qu' hé de fer !  
 ¡ Tot cau y tot penja !  
 ¡ La feyna no 'm ret !  
 Per anár darrera  
 Nou infants que tench,  
 No trob cap criada  
 Que valga un doblé . . . .  
 ¿ No 'm diria un ángel qu' hé de fer ?

—Deu la guard, senyora.  
 ¿ No sab perque vench ?  
 —Si tú no t' esplicas . . . .  
 —M' han dit qu' ha mesté  
 Una bona criada.  
 —La cerch ja fá temps.  
 —¡ Si jo li agradava ! . . . .  
 —¿ D' hont ets ? —De Sineu.  
 —Parlarém ; á veurer que sabs fer.

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<sup>1</sup> Dameto, vol. i. p. 80.

—Jo se fer, senyora,  
Tot quant se present ;  
Rentar, fer bugada,  
Planxar . . . . També se  
Aparrussar roba,  
Sersir qualque esqueix,  
Debaná' una troca,  
Fér calsa . . . . —Corrent  
¿ Y en quant á la cuyna, que sabs fer ?

—Cuynar lo ordinari  
Vosté ja m' enten.  
Bollit, un principi,  
Sopa, y ademés  
Si importa, reöles,  
Pilotes, bistech,  
Ous en castanyola,  
Crema, sopa en llet . . . .  
—Diguesme. ¿ Que guanyas cada més ?

—Me dará tres duros.  
—¡ Que dius ! —Lo que sent.  
—¡ Sabs tú que t' enfilas  
D' amunt ! —Jo 'n guany més.  
—Si jo 't don dos duros,  
Trob qu' estirás bé.  
—Es poch. —¡ Deu pessetes  
Sou molts de dinés !  
—Jo las gast de botes cada més.

Per dotze pessetes  
Puch estar molt bé  
Com á rebostera  
D' aquells forasters



Que tenen sas cases  
 Al plá del Castell. . . .  
 Pero viure á fora  
 No m' agrada gens.  
 —¿ Si tu 't portas bé las té daré.  
     Digués. . . ¿ Que festetjas ?  
 —Ja ho crech ; y si vés  
 Quin jove mes curro :  
 Pareix cavallér.  
 Vull que cada dia  
 A ca 'l conco m' deix  
 Aná 'l de capvespre  
 Per conversá ab éll.  
 —Hi anirás una hora. ¿ Vols rés més ?  
     —Diumenjes y festes,  
     Ploga ó fassa neu,  
     Vull sortí 'á les dues  
     A passeitx. — Molt bé.  
     Mentres l' horabaixa  
     Te retírs á temps  
     De tancar persianes  
     Y encendre els quinqués,  
 Pots aná hont vulgas. ¿ Vols rés més ?  
     —D' hivern les vetlades  
     Vull tenir brasé  
     Y llum, perque feynes  
     Moltíssimes tench  
     Per cosir la roba  
     Del meu casement,  
     Qu' ha d' essé el setembre  
     D' aquest any qui vé.  
 —Te cosirás roba. ¿ Vols rés més ?

—Tench d' aná á matansses  
Desde Sant Andreu  
Fins á la Puríssima.  
En veni el Janér  
Vull aná als cassinos.  
Per Sant Bartomeu  
Tench d' essé á la vila,  
Per fira també. . . .  
—¡ Tot el temps que vulgas ! ¿ Téns res més ?

—M' ha de dar p' el conco  
Lo que el vespre qued,  
Y á mi les despulles  
Y vestits dolents,  
El vidre, les connes,  
Tot el ferro vell,  
Pedassos, porgueres,  
Cloveyes y tests.  
—¡ Tot per tú ! Demana encara més.

—Vull per mí un bon cuarto,  
Un catret decent,  
Miray, cantarano,  
Ribella y pitxé.  
No hé de fér de teta.  
No hé de tocar fems.  
Vull tenir Monyera ;  
—T' esplicas molt bé. . . .  
Pots quedar desd' are. —Ido, me qued. . . .

—¡ Ay ! ¡ Y jo que no 't deya  
Lo que hé mesté més !  
¿ Has après de piano ?  
—Senyora. No gens.  
—¡ Ay filleta meua !

¡¡ Que me sab de greu !!  
 Si no tocas piano  
 Ja no 't tench mesté. . .  
 —¡ Vaya una sortida !. . . ¡¡¡ Justament !!!<sup>1</sup>

The following is a literal prose translation of the verses :—

A SERVANT FOR ONE WHO HAS NONE.

LADY. I am very much worried, and don't know what to do. The things all lie about. The work all stands still. To look after my nine children I cannot find a maid that's worth a copper. Will not some good angel tell me what I am to do?

SERVANT. God preserve you, lady. Don't you know why I am come?

LADY. If you don't explain—

SERVANT. They told me that you are in want of a good servant.

LADY. It is long that I look for one.

SERVANT. If I might please you.

LADY. Where are you from?

SERVANT. From Sineu.

LADY. Let us talk, and see what you know how to do.

SERVANT. I know, lady, how to do everything that offers— wash, scald the clothes, iron; I also know how to mend the linen, darn the holes, wind cotton, knit stockings—

LADY. Very good; and about the cooking, what do you know how to do?

SERVANT. Cook in the common way, you understand— boiled beef, a dish to follow; soup, and if necessary, rissoles, meat balls, beefsteak, creams, milk soup—

<sup>1</sup> Père d'Alcantara Penya.

LADY. Tell me what you earn a month?

SERVANT. You will give me three dollars——

LADY. What are you saying?

SERVANT. What you hear.

LADY. You know you are soaring very high.

SERVANT. I earn more than that.

LADY. If I give you two dollars I think you will be well off.

SERVANT. It is too little.

LADY. Ten *pesetas* is a good deal of money.

SERVANT. I spend them in boots every month. For twelve pesetas I could be very comfortable as housekeeper to those foreigners whose house stands under the castle. But to live out of town does not please me at all.

LADY. If you behave yourself well I will give them to you. Tell me, do you court?

SERVANT. I should think so, and if you were to see what a smart young man—he looks quite like a gentleman. I require to go every day to my uncle's house in the afternoon to converse with him.

LADY. You shall go for an hour. Would you like anything else?

SERVANT. On Sundays and feast-days, should it rain or blow, I must go at two to the promenade.

LADY. Very good; so long as at sundown you come home to shut the shutters and light the lamps, you may go where you please. Would you like anything else?

SERVANT. In the winter I must have a fire and a good light, for I have plenty to do in sewing the linen for my marriage, which will take place in September next year.

LADY. You shall sew your linen. Would you like anything else?

SERVANT. I must go home to the pig-killing from St. Andrew's Day to the feast of the Holy Virgin ; and in January I want to go to our house for St. Bartholomew's, and I must also be in our village for the fair.

LADY. All the time you wish. Would you like anything else ?

SERVANT. You must give me for my uncle the dinner that remains of an evening, and for me some of the left-off things and old dresses, broken glasses, bits of cheese, old iron, rags, seeds, shells, and cracked plates.

LADY. All shall be yours. Ask something more.

SERVANT. I want for myself a good room, a decent bed, a looking-glass, a chest of drawers, and a good jug and basin. I won't take care of children, I can't touch the dust, and I must have my hairdresser daily.

LADY. You explain yourself very well ; you can come at once.

SERVANT. Then I will stop now.

LADY. Ah ! but I forgot to tell you what I most wanted. Have you learned to play on the piano ?

SERVANT. Lady, no, never !

LADY. Ah, my poor girl, how sorry I am ! If you don't play the piano, you are no use to me.

SERVANT. That *is* coming out, indeed !

In the Palma market is exposed, at once and together, everything the country affords for the maintenance of human life, all arranged on stalls and on the ground in a large square. Mutton, and beef and pork ; live chickens, and fowls killed and cut up, as required, into halves and quarters ; fresh fish, and enormous barrels of salted sardines.

Then there are fruits and vegetables in profusion—in fact, the cook need not leave the *plaza* for anything; even boots and shoes, as well as everything else, may be had within that limited space.

The butchers' stalls all display, in conformity with the municipal law, a board with the prices of the different kinds of meat marked upon it; and there are officials appointed by the municipality to inspect the meat and re-weigh it upon the request of any purchaser. All this, like most Spanish laws and regulations, is excellent in theory; but it sometimes happens that the cooks—who, to begin with, cannot read the prices current—pay more than they ought to, and often get short weight. A pernicious custom exists of the vendor paying the purchaser a percentage on the amount of the purchase. This practice, in the great majority of cases, makes the servant a friend of the dealer, and an enemy of his or her employer; while the temptation to spend, even in the purchase of useless articles, is great.

There is, however, a great sameness in the island market and cooking, which it is not easy, or hardly possible, to obviate.

Tired of the salt, hard Majorcan hams, and of those “deux cents espèces de boudins assaisonnés

d'une telle profusion d'ail, de poivre, de piment et d'épices corrosives de tout genre," which George Sand says put one's life in danger at each morsel, we were tempted once to follow the custom of the country, and have a pig killed specially for our own eating. We had an idea that English-cured bacon would make an agreeable change for breakfast, and that a ham which one could have boiled all at once would ring the changes pleasantly on the little square bits of raw ham which are offered to you by the native cooks with the olives after soup. But we discovered again—as we had discovered a hundred times before—that when in Rome one must do as the Romans do. To kill and cure a pig in Majorca, in any way but Majorcan fashion, is utterly impossible unless one has had at least the personal experience of the Claimant: with Majorcans to help you, signal failure is assured. Long before the pig-killing season, we personally selected a handsome porker from amongst a troop of his tribe who were feeding and fattening upon acorns under the grand old oak-trees on the Valldemosa hills. The friendly farmer who sold the animal promised that our choice should be carefully looked after, until the weather became cool enough

for ham-making. The services of the local butcher were bespoken, and two of his female relatives, who divided their attention between nursing and ham-curing, were engaged for the occasion. Having made these preliminary preparations, we left our pig to his acorns, and waited, in hope and confidence, for the approaching winter, happy in the thought of the nice breakfasts we should have at Christmas from our home-cured bacon. Determined, moreover, to make success certain—for our cookery-book gave, perplexingly, half-a-dozen different recipes for curing hams—we determined to experimentalise first on an extra leg of pork, which our friend the village butcher was good enough to procure for us. We could only, alas! turn to the cookery-book; for, owing to a long expatriation, our personal experience of the art was “nil.” Selecting, then, the recipe which appeared the simplest, and mentioned the ingredients, which *could* be procured at the drug-shop (an important consideration), the leg of pork was rubbed and turned about according to the directions. But the fates proved against us. At the end of a week—to our own dismay, but evidently to the inward joy of the native servants, who had from the first prognosticated that “it



would not cure"—our ham, number one, had to be thrown into the sea. Nothing daunted, however, we were convinced that we had been premature; the weather was still far from cool, and it was evident that nothing less than a "profusion d'épices corrosives" would have saved a ham at that moment. At last the snow fell on the mountain chain; the natives wrapped up their throats in great coloured handkerchiefs, and we had a message from the farmer to say ours was the last unkilld pig. This time, at least, we had the weather in our favour. The butcher was again specially instructed, and particularly told that, instead of cutting up the pork into little square bits, after the native fashion, he was only to separate the two hams, and leave the two sides for bacon intact. But it was not to be. When we drove out to give the nurse her orders again—for *once* never does for a native—we found that the faithless butcher had carefully separated all the bones from the meat. Alas! the sides of bacon were strips of limp fat. There was nothing for it but to hand them over to the women to be turned into lard. But our disappointment was tempered by the sight of two chubby legs of pork—two *York hams* in embryo.

This time the curing was successful, as far as "sugar and spice, and all that's nice," were concerned; but our cookery-book insisted upon the smoking, and this was an unheard-of performance, and a difficulty not easily to be overcome. All resources failing, we applied to a former cook of ours, who had lately set up in trade as a baker. He kindly cut the Gordian knot at once, by offering to hang the hams up his oven-chimney. Now, gentle reader, would you believe it?—the heat of the oven melted the fat of the hams; the melted fat caught fire; the fire set the baker's chimney in a blaze, and we had to congratulate ourselves that our attempt at ham-curing did not end in the burning down of the street.

*Moral.*—When in Majorca, you must kill and cure your pig as the natives do.

Before the establishment of the lines of steamers to the Peninsula, the Balearic Islands were probably very cheap to live in. We have seen accounts of sixteen or eighteen years ago wherein it was shown that a family of six or eight persons could live comfortably, including house-rent and clothing, on 200*l.* a year. At that time it was said that a good house could be obtained for about 1*l.* a month, while 42 ounces of beef

could be purchased for *5d.* to *6d.*; wine *1d.* a bottle, and other things in proportion. But these things happened, or were possible, in the good old times. In consequence of the frequent means of communication with Barcelona and Valencia the islands have become now suburbs of those cities, everything, or the best of everything, being carried off to the markets there; while, on the other hand, it has become necessary to import beef for local consumption from the Peninsula and Algeria.

The following may be quoted as the average prices of provisions in the cooks' market, 1874:—

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Beef (half bone) <sup>1</sup> per kilogramme		
(2 lbs. 5½ oz. avoirdupois) . . .	1	7½
Mutton, per kilogramme . . .	1	5½
Pork do. . . .	1	10
Fish do. . . .	1	6
Fowls, per pair . . . .	6 <i>s.</i> to	7 0
Turkeys, cocks, each . . .	10 <i>s.</i> to	12 0
Do. hens do. . . .	4 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to	6 0
Bread, best, per kilogramme . . .	0	6
Do. servants' do. . . .	0	5
Flour do. . . .	4 <i>d.</i> to	0 7
Rice do. . . .	0	7½

<sup>1</sup> The law only allows butchers to give 3 to 3½ oz. in 12 oz., but this quantity is always exceeded. We lately found in 4 kilogrammes of beef 17 oz. more of bone than meat.

			<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Fresh butter, per kilogramme	. . .	6	3	
Salt do. do.	. . .	4	8	
Lard do. do.	. . .	2	10	
Tea do. do.	. 8 <i>s.</i> to	10	0	
Coffee do. do.	. . .	3	0	
White sugar do. do.	1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to	1	8	
Brown do. do.	. 1 <i>s.</i> to	1	2	
Eggs, per doz.	. . . . .	0	10	
Milk, per pint	. . . . .	0	3	
Candles, per kilogramme	. . . . .	2	7½	
Oil do. do.	. . . . .	1	2	
Potatoes do. do.	. . . . .	0	1½	
Charcoal, per 75 lbs. English	. . . . .	4	2	
Coke do. do.	. . . . .	2	1	
Wood do. do.	. . . . .	0	11	
Soap, per kilogramme	. . . . .	0	7½	
Red wine, per gallon	. 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to	2	6	
White wine, <i>Albafior</i> , per dozen	. . . . .	25	0	

The recent re-establishment of the *derechos de consumos*, or octroi dues, has however considerably augmented even these prices, and we may add that we have been repeatedly informed by old residents that the present rates of servants' wages, quoted in page 185, are fully double what those rates used to be ten years ago. Our own experience, indeed, goes to show a steady increase, year by year, of the cost of living, and a diminished purchasing power of money throughout the islands. We should recommend, more-

over, housekeepers to provide themselves with plates and dishes of silver or other metal, for certainly nothing proves to be so expensive in the long run, in the hands of the native servants, as china ware or crockery of any kind, which has a fatality of slipping through Majorcan servants' fingers with a facility perfectly ruinous to moderate incomes.





## CHAPTER VIII.

### *ON COURTSHIP AND MARRIAGE.*

**T**WO forms of marriage were lately performed at these islands—the religious sacrament and the civil ceremony; that is to say, after the passing of the new law, which came into force in 1870, making civil marriage compulsory. But this new law was held in great disfavour, and compliance with it frequently put off for a long time after the religious ceremony had been performed; indeed, in some cases, until the neglect of compliance exposed the heir to be born out of legal wedlock, even when there was property to inherit; while amongst the lower classes, where there were no such interests, children were not unfrequently so born.

The aristocratic or upper-class marriages may be divided into two distinct series: those, perhaps the minority, which are approved generally by

parents and guardians ; and the others, probably the majority, where the bride is *robada* or robbed, as it is called—that is to say, carried off, not physically, but morally, to all appearance in opposition to the will of the parents and guardians aforesaid. It sometimes also happens that the bridegroom is so carried off, but these cases are naturally more rare. As due to the majority, it is only proper therefore to treat of these robbery marriages first. A young lady is said then to be robbed, when the lover for good, the gentleman who really aspires to her hand, marries her against the consent of her guardians ; and the circumstance actually occurs often enough to make all parties interested in such matters quite accustomed to this mode of proceeding. It seems almost, indeed, to be accepted as a convenient method of saving appearances for all concerned, when it is desirable for appearances to be saved.

Dameto, the Majorcan historian, whom we have quoted before in these pages, mentions that the Greek author Diodorus Siculus wrote of the aborigines of these islands, that they were so fond of women that they would give three or four men for one woman, and that when they went to war in favour of the Carthaginians they

took their pay and booty in women and wine, rather than in gold and silver, which these primitive people looked upon as "the cause of every evil."

Matters have naturally changed considerably in regard to these questions in the Balearic Islands as elsewhere, and since the islanders or their wives can no longer lay claim to the title of "Gymnesiæ" from their absence of dress, such *trash* as gold and silver is found to occupy an important place in matrimonial considerations; and while love of the fair sex is perhaps as strong a passion as ever, social considerations step in not only to make it impossible that three men should be given for one lady, but to make it a very grave question when a new lady is to be introduced into an ancient family at all. Hence arise the robbery marriages which form so curious a feature in the social life of the present inhabitants of these islands.

The cause of such marriages is a matter-of-course refusal given in the first instance, not from any objection to marriage as a desirable attainment for the sons or daughters of the aristocracy, but on account of a microscopic difference discovered in the social status of the families of the would-



be contracting parties. In this, more perhaps than anything else, may be seen how peculiarly insular these people are in their sentiments and way of feeling. The few ancient families who really can trace their ancestry back to the great Majorcan era of Don Jaime's conquest have hardly moved away from their island home, and have naturally seen nothing of an outside larger world. They have consequently grown to consider themselves as of a semi-regal order of nobility, and the less the intercourse they may have had with strangers the greater the idea of their own superiority. These sentiments are perhaps quite natural in islanders. It follows, however, that the new families which have come into existence in more recent times, are of little account socially in the estimation of the ancient ones. But in an island city, like Palma, for instance, of between 50,000 and 60,000 inhabitants, living so much out of doors as people in these climes do, where all reside within the city walls, and where every one meets every one else at least three or four times a week, it is of course quite impossible to avoid a certain kind of social intercourse; thus young persons naturally have opportunities in abundance for courtship, clandestine

or otherwise, though when it comes to a question of marriage the matter becomes suddenly serious in the eyes of aristocratic papas and ambitious mammas. And similar sentiments to those which govern the higher aristocratic families in these affairs prevail also in the ranks below them. But if the ruling sentiment of pride were really to govern every one to the end in such matters, it is somewhat difficult to see where young ladies who are not moved off an island would find husbands. The young people, however, are seldom guided in their love affairs very much by the counsels of their elders, and so, in most cases, courtship goes on to the end, and bears its fruit in spite of all opposition.

Nothing would, probably, more strike the attention of a stranger than the curious phases courtship assumes there. Day after day the constant lover waits with indefatigable patience under his charmer's window for the furtive recognition or few words of conversation that she may have an opportunity of bestowing upon him, when unobserved by the opposing members of the family. The opinion of the passers-by is disregarded, meantime, as perhaps a necessary evil that cannot be avoided, or it may be that such observance is not

objected to, as demonstrating the flattering attention of which the young lady is the recipient. The only precaution that seems to be necessary is that such *rendez-vous* should be arranged to take place unobserved by the stern members of the family who are inimical to the lovers, and whose opposition to the courtship is thus of material consequence.

Don Vicente Mut, in the history of the kingdom of Majorca which was published in the middle of the seventeenth century,<sup>1</sup> makes curious allusion to this method of courtship, in praise of which he even devotes a paragraph of his work. He shows that the practice of window courtship in Majorca dates from almost the time of the Conquest, and mentions an instance, in the middle of the thirteenth century, of Raimundo Lull, or *Lulio*, as he is here called, having before his conversion, when attached to the court of the king, Don Jaime, probably paid his court to his mistress in this manner, for it was occupation in which, it was complained, he then employed all his time. "Perhaps," says the Majorcan author, "then, as

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<sup>1</sup> 'Historia General del Reino de Mallorca, escrita por los cronistas, Don Juan Dameto, Don Vicente Mut y Don Geronimo Alemany.' Palma. Vol. iii. lib. ii. p. 40.

now, was introduced in Mallorca, the custom of paying court publicly at times—the gallant in the street, and the lady at the window. If this be truly permitted with such confidence by parents, with so much honour, with so much courtesy, and with so much security, that lovers do not even hide on the appearance of their parents, nor does any scandal arise therefrom; probably by this means (avoiding messages, writings, and the intervention of maid-servants) have been preserved with such integrity the innocence and purity of Mallorcan youth.”

We should hardly be tempted to speak now so eulogistically of a practice which, whatever merits it may have had half-a-dozen, or even two centuries ago, seems, in the present, to be uncommonly favourable to clandestine love-making. Probably ladders of rope existed in all these ages.

The many stratagems to which clandestine love-making give rise would appear to be almost too absurd to be true, if one did not see them. One pair of ingenious lovers, for instance, contrive to make the water-pipe outside the house serve as a speaking-trumpet, by boring a small hole in the upper part of it communicating with the lady's

apartment, by which means she is able to convey a soft whisper to her lover below, without the neighbours participating in the conversation, as they are too often able to do when it is carried on from the window to the street. More droll still is the practice followed at Mahon—where the houses are inhabited on the ground-floors, instead of only on the upper storeys, as at Palma, and where it is, consequently, much more convenient for the lovers, who are able to chat with each other less audibly, and say their [pretty, tender speeches in an undertone—when, as is often the case, the lover, to avoid observation, draws the outside shutters around his body, leaving only his legs below them exposed to view; and this performance is repeated half-a-dozen times in one short street. It forms a remarkably funny picture, more especially when the legs are cased in the red cloth worn by the army. There, as at Palma, it is only the *admitted* lovers—those who have obtained the actual consent to marriage—who are received *inside* the houses to pay their addresses. But as either lover at any time, after or during the preliminary skirmishes, however long they shall have lasted, may feel disposed to change his or her mind, and may do so, it is per-

haps, under such circumstances, only a proper parental precaution, while by this means the reputation of every one concerned is preserved unblemished, and there is no food for scandal. No action for "breach of promise" ever takes place in this country; and it would probably not be easy to bring a recalcitrant lover to book, and make him pay for his fickleness. Spanish blood scorns a money recompense for injured honour or blasted hopes matrimonial.

Thus is carried on the courtship, which often begins at a very early age—in fact, from a girl's entry into her teens. But constancy would not seem to be a necessary element therein. It may, perhaps, be thought well to be early in the field. At last, however, comes the time for marriage, and then in many cases comes, too, the refusal of the formal consent on the part of the noble papa or ambitious mamma aforesaid. But, as all this is well understood and expected beforehand, the remedy is near in the person of the notary, who in due course arrives with papers drawn up in the proper form of law. In the presence of witnesses he makes a formal request in the name of the gentleman for the hand of the lady. Thereupon papa or mamma, or the powerful uncle or stern

guardian, as the case may be, as formally says, "No—never." Then the notary solemnly but respectfully exposes that the law allows three months for reflection; but that after that period, if the determination should be "No," the young lady, being of age, would be free to marry without the consent of anybody. And then comes the fatal clause that, in order that there may be no undue influence used to change the young lady's mind, her lover, in accordance with the provisions of the law, requires that she should forthwith be "deposited" in the house of a mutual friend in whom he has confidence, and where he will be allowed to see her periodically during the three months of probation. Thereupon straightway the fair one, if she be so disposed, packs up her boxes, and, in the midst of tears and frowns, quits the paternal roof for the home of this obliging friend, probably an aunt. If, however, the opposition to the marriage is really only made, as we have said, to save appearances and the dignity of one's position, the young lady may elect, with the consent of her lover, to remain at home for the probation period, in which case the courtship goes on clandestinely, much as hitherto. But the *official* consent is still refused to the end; so the marriage

takes place at last in quite a private way in the church, without the presence of any of the bride's family at the wedding. No white robe and no pretty flowers are worn on the occasion. She is married, and she is literally "done for," as far as her own friends are concerned, until the reconciliation is brought about, which in due course generally takes place at a convenient time before the birth of the first baby. The dark clouds then pass away, and everybody is joyful again. It must be added that when, as is too often the case, there is really no reason why the opposition should have been made, these marriages are in the end as happy as others; but the system—and it is almost a system under which parental authority is thus temporarily but openly set at naught—cannot but appear a most deplorable one.

The robbing of the males takes place in this way. Don Joaquin de la Portella, a well-favoured youth of twenty, is the lineal descendant of the great family of Portella, whose ennobled ancestor, the warrior Colonel Porta, came over from Catalonia with the Conqueror in 1229, and opened the morisco gate for his majesty when the sovereign rode over the bodies of the defeated Moors straight into the city of Palma, for which gallant



act the Colonel was granted on the spot the title of Count of Portella. His lineal descendant, the young Don Joaquin, even before he had escaped the supervision of Padre Marrowfat, had, like his ennobled ancestor, devoted himself to conquests ; but his were gallant conquests of his countrywomen, the fair sex of the ancient city. There was not a Palmesana belle amongst the 150 *habitués* of the Sunday promenade who had not from the time of their first long skirts cast the prettiest and tenderest of their smiles in the path of the young Count, who was a very pretty gentleman, as well as the heir, as we have seen, to one of the most aristocratic names to be found in the Majorcan peerage.

The noble youth's relations and friends, particularly his aunts and feminine cousins, from the first to the sixth degree, if not usually unanimous on most matters, had long ago unanimously made up their several minds as one mind, that the young noble should wed only with the purest double refined by frequent intermarriage Majorcan blood. The very idea of his having any serious thoughts in regard to the beautiful Isabella Sanchez, whose father had only been granted his title for military services in the present century,

when he settled at Majorca, was quite too unreasonable to be entertained for a moment. All Doña Isabella's manifest beauty and all her father's reputed wealth—and she was an only child—not all this would compensate for such an alliance. And yet the Portellas were very far from being a rich family; for the property had been sadly cut up by the recent laws against primogeniture and by contribution to the Carlists, so that when Don Joaquin came to pay the succession duties on his title the ready money would be considerably dipped into. Indeed, some of those aristocratical great aunts and sixth cousins displayed perhaps the most valuable items of their worldly belongings in the silk dress and lace mantilla which they wore at church. The young Count, therefore, could not in truth be very much blamed if, after having been reared to live with great prudence and moderation, he should have an eye to the main chance when in search for a partner of his ancient, but somewhat impoverished, nobility,

In spite of opposition, however, the lovers frequently met. Every Sunday after mass they walked on the Borne promenade together from noon, until they returned simultaneously to dine at two; and again, as regularly on the afternoon of

each feast-day, they purposely fell into each other's company on the walk on the ramparts; while on other occasions they talked by signs and whispers from the balcony of the young lady's house, or from a high window leading to a narrow, unfrequented street. All this went on under the eyes of every one; but as there had been no formal declaration of an intention to marry, and Don Joaquin had not yet been received into Doña Isabella's home as an accepted lover, no one was seriously compromised. But at last, in the fullness of time, that formal declaration is made by the lover himself—which was a little departure from the rule, as the proper form is for the head of the family to call at noon, in evening clothes, and demand a lady's hand in marriage; but of course, in this case, such a proceeding was not to be thought of; and then Don Joaquin took the much-dreaded step of announcing the matter at home.

His father had been buried with his warrior ancestors several years ago, and the son and heir had remained under the tutelage of his mother during his minority. Her opinions in regard to such an alliance were not so decided as that of the other members of the family, but the poor

lady dared not give way. Not one amongst the numerous relations could be expected to hear of such a thing. Don Joaquin knew all this beforehand. He had over and over again heard the oft-repeated doctrine that it would be an unheard-of atrocity to bring plebeian blood into a patrician family such as his; and although it was true that Doña Isabella was a young lady within the pale of the best Majorcan society, and was in every way an accomplished, nice girl, still there stood out in bold lines the insuperable objection of a *parvenue* nobility. There was no getting over *that*, in Majorcan estimation. On the other hand, Don Joaquin, who had begun, and perhaps gone on with his courtship very much because he had really nothing else to occupy him, had in the end grown so much accustomed to so very agreeable an occupation, that he brought himself to feel that it was really necessary to his happiness, while the opinion of his relatives on the matter he grew to think perhaps less indispensable to that end. He never, however, entertained any hope that the consent of his family to his marriage with Doña Isabella would be obtained; and in this, we have seen, he was not deceived; and so the necessary papers for the marriage had to be

made out without it; thus this wedding, too, took place in the most private way possible at church at night, the bride wearing a high black-silk dress—without even a flower in her hair, which to a Majorcan belle was a very great sacrifice of adornment. And this marriage, like the one referred to above, is frowned upon for several months—as long, indeed, as Don Joaquin's heir is in announcing his intention of making his appearance in the Majorcan world. But when he does so, then straightway do congregatè the aunts and sixth cousins around poor tired Isabella's bedside, and in their prayers for the safe birth of the heir, forgive his mother the sin of having come into the family, and they are the dearest friends in the world ever afterwards.

The courtship to which there is happily no opposition—where the course of true love may run smoothly, as far as parents and guardians are concerned, and where the lover is a welcome guest from the first, at home and *inside* the box at the Opera, as well as a faithful companion by his charmer's side on the promenade—this courtship is known by the somewhat expressive denomination of “plucking the turkey.” A place by the lady's side is left on all occasions for such



lovers, and it at once becomes a fully recognised fact that they are to take no part in the general conversation; while it follows that any conversation that may be carried on between them is not to be participated in by other members of the society in which they may be; and so they are left side by side pulling out the feathers of their "turkey," until the day arrives, sooner or later, for it to be roasted in honour of their union.

These marriages, where the approval of the friends is obtained beforehand, are too often, however, those of more or less distant relations, the natural and least serious consequence of which is that the principal families of the islands are all connected with each other; and this has also, as naturally, the effect of confining ideas within a narrow and somewhat illiberal groove. But these are the marriages where the bride enters upon her new life amidst all the pageantry and surroundings considered befitting so honourable a state. The great drawing-rooms of the paternal mansion, that had not seen daylight, except to be dusted, perhaps since the birth of that daughter in whose honour they are now illuminated, are opened and brightened in great splendour for the occasion. The high white-washed walls are hung

with the carefully-preserved tapestry, the cherished heirlooms of the family, while other saloons, for which there is no tapestry, are adorned with full-length portraits in profusion of the noble ancestors of the house. For months before the marriage the feminine members of the family had been occupied in cutting out and embroidering the *trousseau*; and when it is all done and ready, a large room in the mansion is arranged with counters and wardrobes, where everything the bride is to wear in her future state, from boots to bonnets, is displayed to the visitors who flock to the exhibition. It would take up too much space to enumerate the articles set forth for show on such an occasion; but when it is said, in truth, that the list includes really everything, from dresses to pocket-handkerchiefs, and every one of them, it may be supposed that in a well-ordered family the counters literally groan under their load; for the Majorcan ladies set great store by a large stock of home-made clothing and linen, and elaborate and really very beautiful embroidery is lavished upon it. It is indeed a boast of Majorcan ladies that their wedding outfit of linen lasts a lifetime; and one who has seen a *trousseau* displayed may well believe it. As the friends and

relations send in their presents of jewellery and other things, they are of course added to the exhibition, which takes place several days before the marriage. Then comes the day for the wedding, to which are usually invited only the near relations; but amongst the principal families the list of relations is long enough to supply all the requirements for a goodly gathering, without the admission of non-relatives. In fact, the aunts and cousins assemble in such numbers that no room is left for even intimate friends who cannot claim relationship. Then in the family chapel, at eight o'clock in the evening, the religious ceremony is performed, and the civil one generally, as we have seen, any time afterwards.

A month or two after the event, the friends are informed of it by a circular note from the parents on both sides, and the newly-married couple offer their house and themselves in the new state, and receive visits; but it is the custom to send to such new acquaintances only as had been friends of the husband; the lady's friends, if not also those of the gentleman, are dropped.

On the second or third day after the wedding, one or other of the pretty new costumes which had been admired in the exhibition may be seen



worn by the bride on the public promenade, the going out of town for the honeymoon being rather the exception than the rule. On the occasion of a marriage among the country people, the bridegroom assembles his friends with guitars and fiddles, and they go in procession to fetch the bride from her parental house. After the wedding there is generally a dance and a generous distribution of *aguardiente* and sugar-plums.

The wooing of the domestic servants is what the Americans would call an institution. Each Sunday and feast-day they assemble, the maids and their lovers, on the most public promenade in the city, and take entire possession of it for the time granted as leave of absence for this purpose. The first stipulation a maid-servant would make on engaging herself would be that she should have proper time on Sundays and feast-days for courting; and have them they do, while the men-servants take them without asking. It is a curious but common expression among these women that it is *they*, not their male companions, who do the courting; and probably the expression has imperceptibly grown out of the truth—for, in many cases, the truth it is. A maid-servant who had not a lover would consider herself dis-

graced in the eyes of her companions ; and some sacrifices must sometimes be made to attain, under difficulties, so desirable an end. In the island of Iviza the popular emblem of love is gunpowder. The most delicate attention that the most devoted of lovers in that island can pay to his mistress is to pop at her legs with a loud-reporting pistol or gun ; and the most brilliant accomplishment the young woman can display—truly Spartan in its nature—is to stand fire unflinchingly. In popular feasts, where, in the other islands, gallantry displays itself by offering to the fair ones sweatmeats and roasted nuts, in Iviza the tribute is gunpowder ; and so much is expended in this way, that more powder is said to be consumed in that island alone than in any one province of the Peninsula. Girls' legs, from the time they enter their teens, are scored from the peppering of pebbles they receive as the charge, aimed at the ground close to their feet, raises up a volley of earth. This amusement, so popular amongst the lower classes, happily does not extend to "society." We mentioned at the beginning of this chapter that the civil marriage was much neglected in these islands—neglected not only by the upper and educated classes, but unhappily, as is proved,

for themselves, by those in the lower ranks of life. Civil marriage is, in fact, a detested institution, hated naturally by the clergy, as opposed to their teaching, and hated consequently by all the faithful of their flock. But the civil law was easy to comply with; all that was required was a notice at a judge's office of intention to marry, accompanied by certificates of birth and parentage: nothing connected with the law in Spain was half so easy. Indeed, one would be tempted to think the rules somewhat over-indulgent; for, on perusing the edicts or banns that were posted up outside the court-houses, and which everybody was invited to read, we observed amongst the regulations that a boy—we beg his pardon, for we suppose one ought to say a man—might marry at the ripe age of fourteen, and a girl (she will not perhaps be offended by not being called a *woman*) at the age of twelve. These would not seem to be over-stringent regulations as regards the matter of age! It is true that the guardians' consent is required for minors; but if the law fixes twelve and fourteen years as proper periods for marriage, he would be a stern parent indeed who should stand in the way of his son's or daughter's happiness, should he or she choose to enter upon

matrimony at those ripe ages! But the neglect of the civil law bore, unexpectedly, in 1874, very bitter fruit. "Marry at leisure and repent in haste" then came to be the proper reading of the well-known proverb. Matters had so long been literally upside down in the country, that one was not greatly surprised to find even a steady-going, respectable proverb, like that we have inverted the reading of, thus in practice turned inside out. The whole of this normally quiet province was suddenly thrown into the greatest possible state of matrimonial alarm and excitement by the decree of the republican government making a levy of conscripts for the 125,000 reserve force; this time not of boys nineteen and twenty years old, but from amongst the men of from twenty-two to thirty-five years of age, excepting only those who had served and those who were married.

The contingent for the islands was not less than 2066 men, bachelors in the eyes of the law. The state of restless anxiety that prevailed when the telegraph flitted this dreadful news to the capital of the province one quiet Sunday in July, while lovers, and couples lately married by the church only, were enjoying their holiday as usual, may be better imagined than

described. "Whose turn would it now be?" was the anxious thought of all. The father of that bright-eyed boy, just a couple of summers old, whose birthday his proud parents were celebrating by taking the child out on the Borne, and feasting him with sweetmeats and roasted Barcelona nuts—must this father go? And the husband of that smart maid, who had been employing herself for the last twelvemonth in making her wedding outfit, while Farmer Grumble's son had all this time been trying to gain his father's consent to receive a daughter at home in the person of his son's wife—would he be taken? All husbands, such as these, who had neglected the civil marriage, and lovers, though they had drawn a good number in the *Quintas*—those detested *Quintas*, which the republicans had so long and so loudly shouted to get rid of—must stand their chance again. Most of these persons, moreover, had paid a large sum to the municipalities or clubs that undertook, at the time of the later *Quintas*, to provide substitutes for the unlucky ones; they had accustomed themselves therefore to feel that, come what might, they at least were safe from the terrors of the Carlists' muskets, and could marry, civilly or otherwise,

when it pleased them to do so. The lover felt this, and those who had been married by the Church, one, two, or even three years ago, believed so too. Now this fatal decree destroyed all these illusions by one fell swoop, which nobody had been prepared for. Only those who were married according to the detested and neglected law felt safe; for the learned from the first said that no marriage would be recognised but the civil one, and this was the ceremony which the imprudent ones, in their sense of security—and must we not add, with their confessor's advice?—had studiously or carelessly neglected. Now where was consolation or relief to come from? Was there no escape but in the payment of upwards of 50*l.* by people who, in the majority of cases, could not lay their hands upon 50 *pesetas*, and which, in the rare instance that such a sum could be raised, would be so useful to persons lately married, or about to marry? The following morning, long before they were opened, the judge's chambers were besieged by anxious couples trembling for their fate, and while feeling to be drowning, catching in their despair at a twig that at best could bear them up but temporarily. The judge, when at last he did come, stated, in a few

heartless words, that he was there to marry, not to expound the law regarding recruits. If they chose to marry, they might do so ; but whether it would be in time now to save them from military service was a matter which it was beyond his province to express an opinion upon. Unsatisfactory as this was, it seemed to be just sufficient not quite to destroy all hope.

Then there was a run upon the tobacconist's shops for stamped paper, and a rush to the curators of the parishes for the required certificates of birth and lineage. All that day, and all the next day too, the young men never rested. Stamped paper went up to an enormous premium, till the *estancos* were absolutely cleared out at last. The priests and curators were exhausted in searching the parish archives for the necessary certificates and copying them out. Young men who had hitherto been slow to come to the mark lost not another moment in idle reflection. In our own house we had at work a little dressmaker, who had been "keeping company" with a young barber since she had entered her teens. He, having drawn his good number, had lately set up a shop, or a saloon, as it is called, on his own account,

with a view to matrimony ; but the savings that could be accumulated by shaving at *2d.* a chin, with a discount on a quantity of shaves subscribed for, and dress-making at *10d.* a day, feast-days excepted, which are so abundant, were naturally not great ; so this prudent couple had decided to wait just one more year before combining their fortunes. But when this dreadful decree arrived, their determination, like that of many others similarly situated, was taken at once. One of the first notices of marriage posted up at the judge's court in their district was that of this too-prudent couple. Another man, a shoemaker, was literally weeping in despair on the black Monday in question, when a friend accosted him with the remark, then on every one's lips, "Why don't you marry?"

"Marry!" replied the shoemaker, "who would have such a fellow?"

"Have you, man! why, a wife is just the easiest thing in the world to find. Try that girl opposite."

The girl in question was cleaning the steps at a little shop door in front of them ; and try the girl he did, in these words :

"Do you keep company, my lass?"



“What business is that of yours?” was the sharp reply.

“No, but I am not joking,” urged the swain.

“Well, then, if you really want to know in earnest, I *don't* keep company.”

“Will you marry me, then?”

“If you are not joking *now*, I will.”

“Then give me an account of your lineage, and I will run and hand in our names to the judge.”

Between these impromptu lovers and their friend, who took a warm interest in the affair, probably for the fun of the thing, and who was able to write, the girl's pedigree was set down in writing, and an edict of this marriage was posted up forthwith at the judge's court.

All this actually occurred in the hearing of the neighbours, and doubtless many other notices of such hasty marriages were registered at that time. We were told that on the first day the edicts of the civil marriages made out at the various judges' offices in the city and interior towns of the island amounted to seven hundred and twenty, and that the total on the day following was over nine hundred! These numbers, of course, included those of persons who had been

married by the Church only; but, in any case, they must be confessed to be a fair offering to the god of love, considering that his colleague of war had claimed only a couple of thousand votaries. But when these two days of brisk work were over, when the young men found time again to smoke their contraband tobacco, and when the judges, and their clerks, and the curators were once more allowed to repose, the mail steamer brought in the Madrid Gazette with the decree printed at full length, wherein it was set forth, beyond all doubt, and as the wise ones had predicted, that only those actually married according to the civil form at the date on which the decree had been issued, would be exempted from the hated military service. Those who, having married at leisure, had repented in haste, had done so to no profit. They must stand their chance of becoming food for the Carlist cannon.

These were not the only curious circumstances that came to our knowledge in connection with the new marriage laws. One gentleman, the heir to considerable property, married a young lady of no fortune, and, as customary, according to the canon law only. He died in a short time before his son was born, and also, as customary,

before the civil marriage had been performed. Upon his death one of his brothers stepped in and claimed the estates. The widow, powerless in the matter, was left not only without means, but with a child who could not bear, legally, his father's name. It is proper to state that this case did not occur in the islands; but another which did occur there would match it. A *sharp* young man, having an eye to the property of an heiress, made love to her and was accepted. She was of a strictly-educated Catholic family, but her friends were anxious that the marriage should be *en règle*, and so the civil ceremony was performed first. When, however, a few days afterwards, it was proposed that the couple should be really married, as the family understood it, according to the rites of the Church, the lover, for he was still only so in the eyes of the bride and her friends, objected to go any further in the matter. All he required he had got in the authority necessary to administer to the lady's property, which the law now afforded him; he did not care for the society of a wife, and by refusing to go to church he was free. In view of such examples, it would be difficult to say which of the two ceremonies ought to have been performed first.

But it may well be imagined the influence that has been brought to bear on the question, which has led to the repeal, virtually, of the civil marriage law in Spain, since the accession of the King.

It would seem to be sufficiently proved, however, that the most confirmed bachelor in this country preferred even civil marriage to military service. The instances of men who had never thought of marrying at all, but who were hurried into matrimony by the frequent levies for the Carlist war, were numerous. We had in our own service a man who was considered by all who knew him to be proof to feminine charms. He had served his term of soldiering as an officer's servant, and during all the years he wore his country's uniform, he had never been known to pay court to, or to admit court from, any one of the most attractive spinsters in his class, which could be said of few of his companions. But in the new levy his brother got a bad number; and there was a younger brother coming of age. If our man married, the younger son would be left to take care of his father, an old man, but so long as he remained single the boy must go. So the alternative of marriage was accepted. The father, a small farmer, sent in a message to say

he had found a girl who would do as wife for our *Tomeo*; but this seemed more than his enduring spirit could stand, so he proposed straight off to our cook, a woman who had hitherto, to all outward appearance, done all she could to render his life miserable by quarrelling with him about their respective household duties. The offer was at once accepted, and this marriage, like many others that came under our knowledge, was due solely to the dislike to military service which prevails throughout the islands.





## CHAPTER IX.

### *LIFE IN THE COUNTRY.*

“Verily, there is nothing in all Italy so beautiful as Valldemosa.”  
BAYARD TAYLOR.

**A**T a distance of between 17 or 18 kilometres, or about two hours' drive, on a good though hilly road from Palma, is situated Valldemosa. It is here, on one of the most fertile and delightful valleys or mountainsides of Majorca, that we would invite the reader to spend the third quarter of the year, which the heat at that season renders so much more agreeable in the country than in town. Of the interior towns and villages there are few that afford so much to interest the traveller as Valldemosa, where the scenery is so attractive and the climate so agreeable. Long before the Spanish conquest of the island, this pretty spot was known and held in high estimation as a Moorish hamlet. It was named after an Arab chief called Muza,

from whom it derived its original denomination of Velet-Muza, "Velet" signifying a hamlet in the Moorish tongue. Valldemosa, after the Conquest, became famous from being the place selected for the construction of a castle by an invalid king of Majorca, Don Sancho, who, suffering from asthma, chose these hills for his summer residence, and under his reign, about 1321, a royal castle or palace was built. Later on, in 1399, Don Sancho's palace was granted, by one of his Majesty's royal successors, Don Martin, king of Aragon, to the Carthusian friars, by whom it was converted into a convent, which lent a new and still unfaded interest to this spot. About this time the irregular old village of Valldemosa, built on a spur of the mountain range, which has now a population of about 1600 souls, probably came into existence on the site of the original Moorish hamlet.<sup>1</sup> Little now remains of Don Sancho's summer palace, the very chapel of which has been turned into a ballroom, and young ladies and gentlemen now dance where devout courts formerly prayed.

The Carthusian convent was originally laid out

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<sup>1</sup> The reader is referred to Bayard Taylor's description of his excursion to Valldemosa, copied in the guide-books.

on a quadrangle on a higher spur of the mountain chain, of which the Teix, 426 mètres above the level of the sea, is the highest in this neighbourhood. The centre space was left for a cemetery, but only one wing, or a quarter of the intended building, which is 150 mètres in length, was completed, and inhabited by the friars, when the mortmain property was finally appropriated by the State under the Spanish law of 1833. With the exception of the convent church—which has been well taken care of, and is still an object of great interest in the island, having an exceedingly pretty interior, decorated by frescoes, the work of one of the friars—the whole of this property has been converted to the purposes of lay life. But it has yet undergone so little change in its appropriation to worldly purposes, that it would require no great stretch of imagination to fancy the gentlemen who, having replaced the monks, now occupy their cells, and parade the shady corridors of the cloister during the summer months in slippers and skull-caps, to be the monks of old in mufti, were it not for the feminine forms that flit across one's path as the fair inhabitants of cell No. 11 pop into cell No. 12, after mass, for the morning's gossip



(the like of which, of course, never charmed the life of the old Carthusians).

The convent is built on a terrace commanding a charming view of the picturesque valley below, where all Nature's shades of green are mingled together in the verdure of the oak, the pine, the cypress, the date, the elm, the poplar, the olive, the orange, the fig, and many other fruit-trees, which, dispersed about, rise above the ground-crops of corn and vegetables that are cultivated on cleverly constructed terraces on the hillside, each flanked by a stone wall, and many overgrown with ivy. Each cell of the convent has a little bit of garden embracing this pretty view, and in every garden is a stone water-tank, a fine old orange-tree, and a companion lemon-tree, which doubtless administered to the comforts of the former occupants, as they now do to the present inhabitants, by their delicious fruit.

When this fine property was brought under the hammer by the government after the monks had been expelled in 1835, it went for "an old song"; for, although it was the second time that the monks had been turned out, people were chary in those days of meddling with ecclesiastical property. So ten bolder persons who

clubbed together became the fortunate possessors of it all.

Since then some of the cells have changed hands. They have now a market value of from about 1000 to 3000 dollars, or from 200*l.* to 600*l.* each. Little has been done to change the original distribution or arrangements of the cells otherwise than, in some cases, by joining two together to meet the wants of the larger of those families by whom they are occupied during the summer months. For the remainder of the year they are shut up, and the long corridor becomes the playground of the village boys. The accommodation of the cells is naturally very limited, being confined to an antechamber of tiny dimensions, a parlour, refectory, dormitory, a small upper chamber or storeroom, and an attic; kitchens have been added by the lay inhabitants, as the monks received their food ready prepared from the priory, and did not want them much, and had only a little one in the garden for washing up. A curious arrangement existed for lighting the cells with one lamp, similar to that now adopted on board passenger steamers, by a niche in the corners of the walls, by means of which the one lamp served for two or three chambers at once,

and economised oil. The most delicious fruits Majorca produces are grown in this neighbourhood; and fish, upon which the monks chiefly lived, brought up fresh from the sea, hard by, every morning by the village fishermen, is superior to that to be had in the market of the capital, while the mutton, fed on the surrounding hills, is excellent; so that the visitor who, like the monks of old, is content to take such good things of the land and water as are to be found on the spot, will not fare badly in regard to creature comforts. Beef is of course out of the question; but then beef is out of the question everywhere in the islands, except in the capital, and then it is of Algerian cows—cowy. But if our visitor be a sportsman, he may add partridges and woodcocks later on, and he can console himself for the absence of beef by the recollection that the monks, his predecessors, indulged not even in mutton.

Many of the rich proprietors of the island have a "possession," as it is called in this neighbourhood; that is to say, a large square-built house, which serves alike for landlord and farmer, standing on its own ground, generally in some well-selected, picturesque spot. While the farmer lives therein all the year, the landlord, who has

usually several of such properties, only comes occasionally from the city with his family, when he occupies the quarters on the upper storey, always reserved for him. There are several of these possessions, almost within sight of each other, so that their owners, when they inhabit them during the hot weather, are enabled to keep up a little neighbourly intercourse amongst themselves and with their friends at the convent.

While speaking of the convent, we must not forget to mention a picture to which our attention was called, in the modern decoration, by a native artist, of the ancient palace chapel in its transmutation into a drawing-room—a picture which stood out in bold and peculiar contrast to the subject-matter of its companion paintings. Whilst one wall was covered by the representation of a fight between the early inhabitants of Vallde-mosa and the Moors,<sup>1</sup> who had sacked the village on one of their many piratical excursions to the islands, and were repulsed by the local heroes as they were carrying off their ill-gotten gains; and another wall was occupied by a painting of the Beato Raimundo Lulio, engaged in teaching the Arabic

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<sup>1</sup> Probably the Algerian Pirates under Barba-roja—or the red beard.

language to the Spaniards in his school at Miramar, in the neighbourhood (of which we shall presently speak), and a third picture represented the donation of the palace at Valldemosa to the Carthusian friars by Don Martin; and another canvas was a representation of early printing from the first island press, which was also set up at Miramar. Amidst all these local historical subjects, the Majorcan artist devoted a canvas to an incident, as he thought, of English customs. The scene of this picture is laid in Greenwich Park, where the artist, seated on a camp-stool, and surrounded by a group of lookers-on, is engaged in drawing a landscape on a Sunday afternoon. While thus occupied, a park-keeper in his smart livery informs the Spaniard, to his astonishment—very well depicted in the picture—that the fine arts are not allowed to be practised in the British parks on the sabbath. This picture, like those in the company of which it is placed, was declared by the artist to be historical. It happened, he said, to himself.

At a distance of half-an-hour's drive from the convent is situated Miramar, referred to above; a spot to which some interesting historical associations belong; amongst others, from its having been the first seat of printing in the island. This

property has lately acquired a new interest on account of its having been purchased by the Archduke Luis Salvador of Austria, the author of an interesting work on the islands. The house which existed on the site of the former convent there has, under his direction, been recently rebuilt, and fitted up and furnished with original or imitations of old Majorcan furniture—curious old tables and chairs, bedsteads beautifully carved, and quaint old lamps which have fallen into disuse in the island.

Amongst other curiosities collected by the Archduke are several specimens of majolica ware, of the beautiful metallic varnish now much sought after in this island, supposed to be once famous for the manufacture of this porcelain.

In his treatise on porcelain, M. Jacquemart quotes, as an authority for calling Majolica after the island of Majorca, 'Le Dictionnaire de la Crusca,' and says that M. Davillier has placed second in the rank of ancient faïence that of Majorca, which he found mentioned in a treaty of commerce and navigation by the Italian author Giovanni di Bernardi da Uzzano, who, writing in 1442 of the various articles manufactured at Majorca and Minorca, quotes, "la faïence qui avait

alors un très-grand débit en Italie."<sup>1</sup> M. Jacquemart maintains, moreover, that the manufacture of pottery in the islands would probably date much farther back, from the fact of the conquest of Majorca by the Christians having taken place in 1230. He argues, from the circumstance of Minorca having remained under the dominion of the Moors until 1285, that the style of the pottery would retain its purity in spite of the conquest of Majorca, on account of their proximity and the commercial habits of the people.

We are led to suppose, however, by those who have gone more deeply into the question than we can pretend to have done,<sup>2</sup> that majolica ware was first made in Italy, and was never made at Majorca at all. It was commonly believed that the manufactories of this celebrated porcelain were at Inca, in this island, but there is good reason to believe that this is an error. It would seem to be more probable that the manufactories of the Hispano-Moresco pottery were at Manises, near Valencia, and that the mistake arose from the articles being carried to the Levant and other places in Majorcan

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<sup>1</sup> 'Les Merveilles de la Céramique,' par A. Jacquemart, première partie, p. 278.

<sup>2</sup> Especially Don Alvaro Campaner y Fuertes, of Inca.

vessels. No trace whatever would seem to exist of such a factory at Inca or elsewhere in the island. We need not remind the reader, however, for the matter of that, that "Panama hats" are not made at Panama, but hundreds of miles away, in the Republic of Ecuador. Be this as it may, the Archduke's collection of majolica is, of its sort, a very pretty one, and would alone repay a collector's visit to Miramar to look at it.

The view commanded from this spot—like, indeed, that from almost every place in this district—is also quite lovely; and Miramar affords, in addition to the mountain scenery, a fine view of the sea; and in no part of the island may be found finer olive-trees. It was in this neighbourhood that we walked round one or two that required the outstretched arms of eight or ten men to encircle, which we have previously mentioned.

Along this coast may be seen, on the prominent places, the remains of the rough chimney-pot looking *atalayas*, or watch-towers, from which a watch was kept to signalise the invasion of the Berber pirates. There are in the island upwards of fifty of these martello look-out towers, which were constructed in the sixteenth and beginning of the seventeenth century. In many of the



houses of larger "possessions," to which we have formerly referred, may be seen also a high tower, which served alike as a watch-tower and a place of refuge for the people when the Moors effected a landing on the coast. From the time of the conquest, when the King of Aragon succeeded in expelling the Saracens from the island of Majorca, hardly a year passed that they did not form an expedition to retake it; but being invariably unsuccessful in their efforts, they were confined to landing on the coast, and killing, sacking, or burning all that fell in their power.

Valldemosa and Soller were especially the scenes of these savage exploits. On one occasion, on the night of the 30th September, 1552, five hundred Moors are said to have landed at Valldemosa from ten vessels, who, according to the Majorcan legends, were repulsed by an armed force of twenty-eight men under the command of a captain called Ramon Gual dez Mur,—“who brought into the village on the lances the heads of seventy-two of the enemy, and eighteen live prisoners, many more having perished in the fight.”<sup>1</sup> This is the occurrence represented in the painting at the convent, which we have noticed.

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<sup>1</sup> ‘Vida de la Beata Catalina Tomas,’ p. 30.

So frequent and so harassing were these invasions of the Morisco pirates who infested the Mediterranean about the middle of the sixteenth century, that there is a legend that the inhabitants of Majorca were induced to make a treaty of peace with the Bey of Algiers, paying him a tribute of a hundred virgins annually to keep his hordes away from the island; but we have never found any published account of this circumstance.

The Archduke has restored prettily a little chapel attached to Miramar, which contains, amongst other relics, ancient pictures of the Beata Catalina Tomas, and the Beato Ramon Lull—objects of great devotion for miles around this spot, and indeed throughout the island. Those, however, who may be induced to visit Miramar with motives less devout than a pilgrimage to these objects of veneration, will be rewarded for their journey by the charming scenery they may enjoy on every inch of the road in this pretty neighbourhood.

Ramon Lull, or Raimundo Lulio, as called by the Spaniards, like the Beata Catalina Tomas, occupies so prominent a place in Majorcan history that any notice of the islands would be incomplete without some account of him. The

Majorcans are very proud of Lull. Ancient streets and modern steamers are named after him. On each year the Ayuntamiento of Palma goes to church in procession to hear the mass said on behalf of his soul. We could choose no more appropriate spot than Miramar, the scene of Lull's earliest labours, to speak of the celebrated courtier, hermit, alchemist, philosopher, and linguist. We gather from the published accounts of his life that Ramon Lull's father came to Majorca with the conqueror Jaime I., and was therefore one of the earliest settlers in the island. He received, like the rest of the king's followers, grants of land, and Ramon Lull was born at Palma.

His earlier years were passed in the service of the second Majorcan king, Jaime II.; while his time would seem to have been devoted to promiscuous love-making, which he carried on with such excess of gallantry that it is reported of him that on one occasion he rode his horse straight into the church where his mistress was at prayers, in his desire to see her. To cure him of his violent passion, which was disapproved alike by his sovereign and family, his friends arranged a marriage for him, but without, it would seem, any satisfactory result, for his entry into church

on horseback occurred when he was a married man. He only then desisted from his pursuit of the beautiful lady who happened then to be the object of his passion when she discovered her breast and showed him a cancer from which she was suffering. From this time Lull became melancholic and a reformed character. Without following the Majorcan chronicles in the relation of the miracles repeatedly performed in Lull's behalf—wherein it is recounted how he was many times visited by our Saviour and the Virgin Mary—we may say that the miracles with which the life of Ramon Lull is connected by local historians are legion, and add, in the words of a recent commentator, that “if two places disputed the glory of having been the scene of one of these miracles—if the circumstances were in any way differently referred to, the historians, in order to keep well with everybody, doubled and tripled them.”<sup>1</sup> He now devoted himself to the pursuit and study of religion, philosophy, and languages, especially Arabic, in order to qualify himself for the conversion of heretics, a work upon which he set henceforth his mind. He obtained from his

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<sup>1</sup> Ramon Lull. ‘Fragmento Histórico crítico,’ por José Maria Quadrado. ‘Museo Balear,’ p. 306.

late master, King Jaime II., a grant for the establishment of a seminary for teaching Arabic to the religious orders who were to be employed with him in teaching and preaching the gospel to the infidels, for which work he also obtained the approval of Pope John XXI. (1276). From this period Lull's life was devoted to his studies and pilgrimages in furtherance of his great scheme, the conversion and conquest of the Holy Land. From this time to that of his death and martyrdom, when he was stoned at Bugia for his teaching, Lull's life belongs to history, wherein he is known as the *Catalonian* philosopher and founder of the sect of Lullists. That he is not appreciated away from Majorca as in it, may be gathered from the language of a modern writer, who says of him, "de chevalier il devint docteur prêcheur et mauvais scolastique."<sup>1</sup> His remains were conveyed to Palma, his birthplace, and interred in the church of San Francisco, where a marble sarcophagus covers his ashes. The seminary founded by Lull at Miramar would seem to have been of short duration. It was declared in 1393 to belong to the royal patrimony. For some

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<sup>1</sup> J. Michelet.

years afterwards it was occupied by Carthusian monks, and in 1479 the convent was united to the rectory of Muro. The Dominican friars also possessed this convent at one time, and later on it was inhabited by hermits.<sup>1</sup>

Speaking of hermits reminds us of the little hermitage of the Holy Trinity, founded in 1646, still existing midway between Valldemosa and Miramar, on an estate called Son Galzeran, another of the sights to see in these parts. On the summit of a high hill overlooking the sea coast is the habitation, in the shape of a tiny cloister and miniature chapel, of the last of the several orders of the once wealthy and powerful Majorcan monks. Five hermits now linger out here their solitary existence, living on vegetables and a little fish, which are chiefly provided for them by local charity, and the donations of visitors in return for the plate of olives and pickles which are invariably offered to the picnic parties who come out to this spot to drink of the delicious water from the fountain hard by.

Clothed in simple blue cotton smocks, the hermits, in the absence of their hooded cloaks,

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<sup>1</sup> 'Historia General del Reino de Mallorca.'

are somewhat unclerical in their appearance, and hardly give one an idea of the austere life they actually lead.

It was by a curious chance that this community was allowed to prolong its existence when the monks were banished from their cloisters. But the Señor who had made the original grant of land for the building of their little convent, put a clause in the deed to the effect that should the convent cease to exist, the property should return to his heirs; so when the government claimed it, the heirs of the original donor came forward with their papers, showing that nothing would be gained by turning the hermits out, and they were allowed to remain.

The long residence of wealthy monks in this neighbourhood would seem to have had a prejudicial and depressing effect on the energies of the people of Valldemosa.

The village is perhaps one of the poorest of its size and population in the island, while the monks who flourished by its side were a very rich community, and charitable enough for the matter of that. Bread and surplus provisions were to be had for the asking at the convent gate, while medicines were supplied gratuitously to all who

applied for them, not only to neighbours, but to people from all parts of the island. Indeed, the apothecary's shop, with its well-stocked, quaint old jars and bottles, is still one of the sights of the place. But charity so promiscuous would seem to have had the effect of converting the village men into women, while the women became the workers and bread-earners.

Many of the men found special protectors in one or other of the rich monks, and preferred the free gifts of the convent to the hardly earned wages of mountain labour. But the wife and daughters, who of course were never allowed inside the gates of the cloister, found that it was necessary to work to live, and thus one sees even now traces of this in the round-shouldered, high-backed women whom one meets in every direction, tripping lightly down the rugged path on the mountainside, with an enormous load of faggots on their shoulders, under which many a strong man would probably stagger. It was indeed so well established a practice that women in these parts should do this rough work, that only a few years ago a common article put into the chest of a Valldemosa bride was a piece of strong cord to tie the faggots together with ; and



to this day most of the Valldemosa women are high-backed and round-shouldered.

The village, too, speaks in hard terms of utter stagnation and inactivity on the part of the men. The houses are for the most part but poor stone cottages built in narrow, crooked streets, and lacking the accommodation and comforts to be found elsewhere in the islands. The streets straggle about over the mountain on which the village is situated, and they are roughly paved with irregular shaped stones of all possible sizes, in a manner which suggests that the mud-made mortar had been originally shovelled down, and the stones pitched into the mess haphazard, and never since touched by the hand of man.

Now that the convent no longer affords bread to the idle, the men of course have to work, and they are for the most part occupied as charcoal-burners or fishermen, while some are employed in the neighbouring farms and estates. But the women still do much forest work; besides carrying wood, they work with the hoe, and gather in the olives and almonds in their season. They are also much employed in the orchards and gardens which abound in the valleys from Valldemosa to Soller; for in no part of the islands is fruit

grown in such variety as in these parts, where water is so abundant. On every farm of consideration there is a large orchard and garden, which is let and cultivated for the market; thus farming is no inconsiderable part of the landlord's income, and in the majority of cases these orchards and gardens are cultivated by women. Their great occupation indoors is netting for the fishermen. One rarely passes a cottage door without finding some of the female members of the family, even the children, engaged in this work, or in making from the tow the string used in netting. Skilful workers, we were told, earn in this way half a peseta, or 5*d.* a day, but old women and children are content to earn half that sum; so the labour brings no great riches to the household, and the people for the most live and die poor. The nets are either made to order for the local fishermen, or collected and carried into the city for sale.

There are many charming walks in the neighbourhood of Valldemosa besides those to which we have alluded above, and delightful views may invariably be had from the site of the houses on the large estates. A curious custom exists of giving the prefix of "Son" to these properties. Thus "*Son Very*" and "*Son Moragues*," which are

called after the names of their owners. We have never been quite satisfied with the explanation given of this prefix; but we noticed that if a property had been called after a saint's name, *Saint* was used instead of *Son*—thus, *Santa Maria*, *San Juan*.

A pleasant feature of Majorcan country life is the non-necessity for lock and key. The villagers go out to their work, or about business which takes them from home for the day, without locking their doors; and when they do lock them, to close them against dogs or pigs, they leave the key on the outside.

A curious custom prevails at Valldemosa of altering the clock in accordance with the season. As the days get shorter, the village clock is put forward to keep pace with them, and thus when winter has set in there is a considerable difference between the time on the hills and that in the city. It seems that the villagers like to fancy that they work in winter to the same hour as in summer, and they are accustomed to claim their supper by the stride of the clock.

Winter is a season of much profit to the boys and idlers of the mountain villages, from the flocks of *tordos*, or thrushes, which come over

from Africa in the colder weather. These birds form a favourite dish of the Majorcans—*arroz con tordos* (rice with thrushes). They are easily caught in nets as they go to and leave their roosts amongst the pine and oak trees on the summits of the hills, and they are readily sold in the market for about 3*d.* a brace. In a good year a couple of hundred pounds may be made in this way in Valldemosa out of *tordos* and woodcocks, which will give an idea of the numbers killed. The natural honesty of these simple people is further illustrated even in the catching of thrushes. The nets with which the birds are caught are left at the spot taken up by the bird-catcher, and no one would think of interfering with either “the ground” or the nets of the village sportsman.

There is no *fonda*, or inn, at Valldemosa; but the Archduke has provided a hostelry near Miramar, where strangers are allowed to put up themselves and their horses, and are provided with beds, fire, and light free of charge. The house contains eight or nine beds for the use of visitors. The furniture, though simple, is all kept charmingly clean by an old woman, who takes care of the house and cooks the food which the visitors may take to her for the purpose.

Continuing our walk or drive, amidst lovely scenery, and overlooking the sea all the way, we come, in an hour from Miramar, to the village of Deyá, which is midway between Valldemosa and Soller, once so famous for its extensive orange groves. Deyá is a neat village, of about 1000 inhabitants, built on a hill in a picturesque valley on the coast. And here ends the carriage road. From this spot to Soller one must take to mule or donkey-back, over a rugged road which it requires a couple of hours to pass; but this trip should not be missed, as it embraces the prettiest part of the coast scenery, while the landscapes and mountain views are as beautiful as many one meets with in Switzerland. Deyá is one of the few places that has partially escaped the ravages of the orange disease. We recently walked through orange groves there which were as yet untouched by the malady. But it is heartrending now to see the groves of Soller, where thousands of magnificent orange-trees stand shrivelled and leafless, wearing a burnt-up, blasted appearance.

At Soller one finds a decent *fonda*, and a day or two may be passed pleasantly enough in that neighbourhood. The inhabitants are kindly, in-

dustrious people, and have made the best of their losses from the failure of the orange crops.

There is an excellent carriage road to Palma, partly constructed on wonderfully-built stone-flanked terraces on the mountainside, which is one of the greatest public works of Majorca.

The town of Soller is one of the oldest in the island, and its houses are commodious and well built, in almost every one of which one now sees the weaving-machines which have been introduced so generally within the last few years. We were told when we last visited this place, in 1874, that orchards, and such like property, owing to the failure of the oranges, now produced less than a third of its original value; notwithstanding which Soller is one of the most active and thriving of the island towns.

Another excursion from Valldemosa, which may be pleasantly made on donkey-back, is across the mountain pass to Esporlas, and thence to *La Granja*. Esporlas is, to our mind, one of the prettiest and nicest villages of Majorca. Its streets are clean and wide, and the houses well built, tidy, and comfortable; while *La Granja*, the country seat of one of the ancient families of the island, is considered by the Majorcans

to be the most picturesque spot of all. Like many of the pleasant places, it was originally the site of a convent, the home of the Cistercian monks while their own monastery, called *El Real*, was being constructed. It was sold by them in 1447.<sup>1</sup> The gardens of La Granja are laid out after the Cinque Cento gardens at Seville. But the great charm of La Granja is water. One of the few important springs of Majorca exists in the mountain on which this pretty property is situated—a spring that is never dry even in the driest of summers, and is hence a mine of wealth to the fortunate owner. The house and grounds are naturally picturesquely situated, and command the view of a lovely valley; and, with water in abundance, the gardens are able to be kept up without great cost, which seldom happens in the island. The owner has manifested his delight at the constant flow of his spring by bringing “water here, water there, water everywhere,” and playfully displaying it to his visitors in a series of practical jokes. One goes near a table to take some tempting refreshment hospitably offered, when water squirts out from its legs upon

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<sup>1</sup> ‘Noticias de Mallorca,’ por J. M. Bover, p. 282.

one's boots ; another instant, as one toils up a steep path to look at a pretty flower, a refreshing, but hardly welcome, shower starts out from amidst the rocks straight at your waistcoat. At a later period, when all thought of practical joking has left one's mind, one is invited to see the fountains play. Half-a-dozen different mouth-pieces are brought out by the gardener, who displays an unequalled skill in so disposing them that they turn suddenly upon some innocent bystander, who, determined to be safe, at last rushes into a summer-house hard by, where, when he least expects it, a dozen jets at once start off under his feet and above his head.

The owner has also endeavoured to make in a more substantial way the most of his silver stream, which is brought down the mountain from the spring in an open aqueduct of about twenty inches square. A couple of water-mills have been constructed on the grounds for making blankets and grinding corn ; and while the Señor thus makes profit of his godsend, the villagers below are thankful for the drops that fall from the rich man's table. The stream which has turned the mills above them is made to work two paper-mills on its reaching the village.



There is a good carriage road from Esporlas to Palma, from which it is distant about nine miles, or a two-hours' very pretty drive. The country in this neighbourhood, like that of Valldemesa, is rich in olive-trees, and some of the best oil is made here.

In the enjoyment of excursions to these places, in pretty walks and drives, and an occasional trudge up the mountainside, or down the rocky seacoast after the red-legged partridge, or by the torrent's course in pursuit of woodcock, a few weeks may be passed in these mountains in a primitive state of pleasantness. The busy world troubles one not on the Majorcan hills; and, happily, one hears there no more of politics and the din of Carlist battles than the local sheet, which is brought out to the village each evening by the rural postman, is allowed to report. In innocent and unsophistical bliss, one may dance and sing in the old king's chapel with the fair occupants of the convent, who make the present cloister life so happy and gay, forgetting the world of noisy, disputing politicians who are struggling for power just beyond that "silver streak of sea." The village folk, too, are for the most part happy and joyful, notwithstanding their

hard life and the calls of their lovers to the army. They, too, kept, with all the splendour that torchlight and music could afford, the feast of their patron saint. They also danced, though somewhat more solemnly, in the open public square, from dusk till daylight; while the young men who had drawn lucky numbers showered sugar-plums on their mistresses, which the haughty village beauty trampled under feet for the small boys to scramble for when the dance was over. We have given in a previous chapter a description of the popular amusements of the islanders. We too had our special convent fête. Eight days before the Feast of the Virgin the *custos* of the convent church called upon his temporary parishioners, to invite them to plant their pots of corn in honour of the feast. The wheat and maize so planted were kept well watered in a dark chamber, and on the eighth day the pots, full of virgin blades of a delicate pale rose colour, six or seven inches high, were carried to the church to decorate the altar. Then the fair faithful in the neighbourhood sent in choice nosegays and pots of beautiful flowers and shrubs for the further decoration of the church, radiant in the light of myriads of wax candles. The corridors were

hung with myrtle wreaths, and lighted with lamps of many colours; and after the church service balloons were sent up into the air, and fireworks were let off in the evening, and again the holiday-makers danced and sung merrily. Then the village doctor had his feast, which was held on the day of the saint after whom he had been called, and poplar branches were set up against the doorway of his cottage, and myrtle leaves and twigs were strewn on the ground in front of his house. His patients took this occasion to send in their presents of cakes and cash; while later on they called to pay their respects personally, and taste of the good things that had been thus collected together under the doctor's roof. And so it was when the chaplain held his feast, when the women and children amongst his parishioners stepped in to kiss his hand and wish him many happy returns of the day, in return for the cakes and sweetmeats he dispensed on that happy occasion.



## CHAPTER X.

### *THE LEGEND OF A MAJORCAN SAINT.*

**I**N the summer of 1864 we were called to receive the visit of two ladies, a beautiful girl of sixteen summers, one of the choicest flowers of the garden of Majorca, and her chaperone, a lady of—well, of the “same age as other persons,” not to particularise. Our younger visitor was one of a bouquet of charming flowers then employed for the same purpose. The little blue velvet bag which she gracefully held, together with her fan, in one hand, while she arranged the folds of her mantilla with the other, left us in no doubt as to the nature of the immediate object of the visit by which we had been honoured, and we might have spared her few pretty, pleading words, and the more touching appeal of those lustrous black eyes, which were but a quarter concealed under

the fringe of the mantilla, had we not been too egotistical to deprive ourselves of the enjoyment of so charming a study. Such bliss as this, however, must have an end, and in a few moments—alas! how short they appeared to us—the pretty speech had been made, and the delicate fingers placed the little bag before us in so irresistible a manner that, without allowing ourselves to think of thinking as to the object for which our donation was requested, we slipped into it a coin of the proper colour and size, feeling more than amply repaid for so humble a contribution on our part by the graceful smile of thanks which those beautiful eyes so charmingly expressed on behalf of those appointed to celebrate the festival of the “Beata Catalina Tomas.” After our fair visitor and her companion had left, we felt it a duty to instruct ourselves more fully than we had hitherto done in regard to the object for which, under the spell of a pair of pretty eyes, we had so unreflectingly contributed. Our curiosity on this matter had never been much excited before, and we had only gathered from the ladies that it was the third centenary of the Beata’s death that was to be celebrated this year. But we may as well confess at once that, under the charm of similar influence,

we should hardly have had the courage to refuse a donation for any object whatever.

Turning, then, to the limited number of authors on Majorcan history on our bookshelves, we lighted upon a hitherto neglected volume, entitled, 'The Life of the Beata Catalina Tomas, Professor of Religion in the Monastery of Santa Maria Magdalena, in the City of Palma, Capital of the Kingdom of Majorca, by Cardinal Don Antonio Despuig y Dameto, Archbishop of Seville. Written in 1797, and published at Palma in 1816.' In this work the following passages in the life of the Beata are related, amongst others, for the edification of her countrywomen:—

The Beata was the seventh child of honest agricultural labourers of Valldemosa, as we have seen, one of the most picturesque spots in the island of Majorca. From her earliest infancy, according to the legend, Catalina was the object of miracles. In the third page of the Cardinal's history we are told that she refused to take her mother's milk on Fridays, out of regard for that fast-day. A little farther on it is related that, having been carried in her mother's arms to a church feast on the eve of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin,

the child had her arm dislocated in the crowd. Suffering intense pain, she on the following day entreated her mother to carry her to church again, and on her request being complied with, she recovered from her accident on the threshold of the church. In her infancy she acquired amongst the people the name of *Viejecita*, or little old woman; and she preferred the commonest dress of the country to the finer clothes which her parents were disposed to dress her in, for at the age of three years, says the Cardinal, she was "enlightened by the eye of faith" to know and love God. This knowledge induced her to shun all secular diversions, and whilst her companions amused themselves in the village fêtes, the infant Catalina retired to a corner of her room and "wept for the blindness of their passions."

On an occasion when she was three years old, being alone when her companions were amusing themselves in this manner, "the moment was selected by the Lord for her divine instruction." Her grandmother saw through a chink in the door that she was accompanied by a "beautiful boy," who caressed her, whilst a brilliant light was shed around the room. On the sudden entry of the old woman the beautiful boy and the

light disappeared, and the infant Catalina pretended to have been occupied in combing her hair—a subterfuge by which, says His Eminence, “her grandmother was not deceived, knowing how foreign such a care was to the child’s nature.” No comment, however, is made as to her conduct in thus attempting to deceive her grandmother.

Then the Cardinal’s history goes on to tell how, beloved of the Lord, He never ceased to shower upon her graces and heavenly blessings; and that, having about this time lost her father, she was infinitely more concerned about the state of his soul than for his loss, until one day at church she saw an angel, who assured her that her father was in a state of salvation; and this favour was followed by another, “by which she was allowed, when passing the cemetery, to see him in purgatory.”

In continuation of her austere life, when her aunt obliged her to dress to go to a dance she complied with her request, but at the moment of departure she hid herself under a bed, and thus avoided an amusement which she had always hated; and when, having changed her clothes, she retired to pray for the soul of her parent, “a venerable personage, surrounded by heavenly



light, pointed out to her with his finger her father's soul, which now enjoyed a happy eternity." From this time, says the Cardinal, divine favours were so showered upon her that she had rarely any trouble which was not lightened by the special counsel of the Lord.

She burst into tears of shame when, as a child, one of her neighbours said in a joke that she hoped that one day Catalina might be the wife of her infant boy.

At five years old extraordinary strength was granted to her to help her old grandfather ascend a difficult mountain-pass; and at the age of six "our Saviour crucified" appeared to her and consoled her with these words, "See what you cost me. Thou art mine because I purchased you with my blood, and thou shalt be eternally." On another occasion when she had retired behind an olive-tree, Santa Catalina and Santa Praxedes appeared to her and offered her consolation.

Then the Cardinal goes on to relate how she was frequently tempted and attacked by Satan, who assumed the character of a negro, and how Santa Catalina often came to her assistance. On one occasion the devil rolled her down a hill, when Santa Catalina appeared and cured her

hurt. At another time the evil spirit, more gallant, offered her pearls and jewels, as Mephistopheles did to poor Marguerite, when "a venerable personage, supposed to be Jesus Christ," appeared to her, and told her that she had done well to refuse both the jewels and the companionship of the tempter; and then came Santa Catalina, who conducted her home. Then the devil assumed the form of a gallant young man, and waited for her at the church doors, and at the cemetery, where he offered her delicious fruit, and became so angry when it was refused that he threw her down on the ground, and, not content with this cruelty, he pursued her again with force and violence, till the curate, hearing her cries, came to her relief.

On the death of her mother, when Catalina was ten years old, she went to live with her uncle at a farm about a league distant from her native village, where she was employed in cooking and farm-work. Thus separated from her church, she constructed in the fields an altar of stones, and made a cross of olive branches, where she worshipped while she was set to guard her uncle's flocks, which profited by her neglect of them to enter the adjoining corn-fields. At this her uncle

was very angry, but to his astonishment they did no harm to the crops, "the Lord doubtless permitting this," says His Eminence, "in order that her uncle might understand that an invisible hand detained the cattle, that they should not injure the fruits of the earth while Catalina nourished her soul with those of heaven." And far from her uncle suffering from her want of attention, his farm visibly improved during her residence with him, while women whom she detained several hours to pray with her found afterwards, to their surprise, that "more work was done than if they had laboured all day."

In other respects she was attentive to her work, rising the first in the house, and being the most punctual in the performance of her duties.

On one occasion, about this time, Catalina fell into a pit from which she could not get out, when San Bruno appeared and extracted her with his crosier. At another time, when the devil threw her down as she was carrying the dinner to her uncle's labourers in the field, Santa Catalina, Santa Praxedes, and San Antonio came to her assistance, and collected the broken fragments, "and never," says our author, "was served in the mountains of Valldemosa a richer repast, nor did

the reapers ever taste more delicious morsels than those which had passed through heavenly hands.”

Under the spiritual direction of a gentleman of noble family, called Castañeda, who had once been a soldier, but who afterwards became a hermit at Majorca, Catalina passed to Palma, where she was placed in the service of one of the great families of the island, when she was taught writing and reading and embroidery “in return for the spiritual lessons which she gave her employers,” Catalina being then seventeen years of age. While at Palma she became ill from long fasting, and was taken by her mistress to a country seat called *Raxa*, where the devil again pursued her. Assuming this time the form of the hermit, he endeavoured to dissuade her from the employment of the discipline which she was then using; and he left in the room so bad a smell that “the perfumes of many days were insufficient to dispel it.”

Castañeda (the true one) then endeavoured to procure her admission into a convent, and on being refused, on account of her having no dowry, he tried to beg a sufficient sum for her, but failed in doing so. Ultimately, however, the sisters of the convent of St. Mary Magdalen,

of the order of St. Augustine, admitted her without any payment. "Having brought nothing from her home, she wished for nothing from others." "Her cell," says the Cardinal, "was the poorest of the community, her furniture consisting only of a humble bed, a crucifix, a breviary, and a few books of devotion, besides the precious hanging of that chamber, disciplines, iron chains, waistbands sewn with the points of nails, and other instruments of penitence—adornments the much more worthy of Christian attention from their becoming every day more rare and absent amongst us."

It would take too long to follow our author in all he recounts of Catalina after she entered the convent, where her life was reported to be exemplary. One chapter is devoted to speaking of the principal virtues which Catalina shed over the monastery into which she had been admitted, and to her direction of spirits, when she ruled the affairs of persons outside, as well as inside the cloister walls, great prelates of the Church coming to counsel her on important matters. Another chapter speaks of her ecstasy and continued communication with God; while the following one relates to the repeated attempts of Satan to attain

her perdition. Upon one occasion, it is recounted, he drove a large nail into her neck, which returned to the wound each time it was withdrawn, until it pleased God to put an end to her suffering. Another time, it is stated, the devil threw her into a water-tank, from which she was with difficulty extracted, when the only light that would burn was one that had been blessed.

Then chapters are devoted to speak of the supernatural powers with which Catalina had been endowed, her communication with souls in purgatory, her gift of prophecy, and her gift of miracles, of which several instances are quoted. The following is one. Some young nuns asked her in a joke to give them sweetmeats in order that they might sing better at matins. "I assuredly have none," replied Catalina, "but come back to me before going into the choir. This the nuns neglected to do, "knowing," says the Cardinal, "that neither in the cell nor in the cupboard of their sister were there any sweets other than the instruments of her penitence." But on the superior going in to visit her, "Catalina was found on her knees in profound ecstasy, and in her hand a loaf of sugar whiter than snow, and as delicious as it was celestial." A similar

miracle, says our author, was performed on another occasion in the following year, when a nun, who had caught cold, applied for sugar, which after a time was found in her hands when she was in ecstasy.

Having been elected prioress of the convent, Catalina accepted, but immediately after resigned, that high honour, and ended her days as a simple nun, on the 5th of April, 1574. In this convent her remains, several times transferred from one tomb to another, are now preserved in a magnificent sarcophagus of marble, with a glass front, where they are intrusted to the care of the nuns, and are exhibited to the faithful once a week by the drawing of a curtain within the church, communicating with the convent. Catalina had hardly died when the Majorcans began to pay the same religious tribute to her as to canonised saints. Thus passed fifty-two years, when in 1625 a decree of the Pope, Urbano VIII., reached the island, in which was prohibited the public worship of those who had not been canonised or blessed by the Church. It was then decided to appeal to Rome to legitimise the worship. A commission, consisting of six jurists and seventy-one counsellors, was named to take the necessary

preliminary measures for procuring the beatification. Forty-six witnesses were examined, and the labours of this commission lasted from October 1625 to August 1627, the result being that the virtues and miracles performed by the Beata were stated to be proved by eleven eye-witnesses and by many hearsay witnesses of the first order, that is to say, witnesses who stated what they had heard from the mouths of those who had been eye-witnesses.

The decree of beatification by the Pope, Pius VI., was preceded by three others, all of which were favourably resolved after examination of proofs and re-examination of witnesses. The first was a decree of the 17th of January, 1779 :—

“Super dubio : an constet de virtutibus theologalibus fide, spe, et charitate in Deum et proximum ; nec non de cardinalibus prudentia, justitia, fortitudine, et temperantia, earumque anexas in gradu heroice in casu, et ad effectum de quo agitur ?”

The second decree, dated the 8th of December, 1791, was

“Super dubio : an et de quibus miraculis constet in casu, et ad effectum de quo agitur ?”

The three miracles canonically pronounced by the Pope to have been performed by God through



the intercession of Catalina after her death were:

1. The instantaneous cure of blindness in a child.
2. The instantaneous and perfect cure of lameness in a child three years old, born lame; and
3. The sudden and perfect cure of a nun suffering from chronic muscular contraction, and immovableness of the knee and left leg, resulting from severe fever.

The first of these miracles is reported to have taken place in 1756, the second in 1774, and the last referred to in 1647. Two would have thus occurred two hundred years, and one nearly one hundred years after her death.

Then followed the preliminary decree as to beatification and canonisation :

“Super dubio : an stante adprobatione virtutum ac trium miraculorum tuto devenire possit ad solemnem ejusdem Ven. Servæ Dei Beatificationem ?”

which, after a long preamble, was resolved in these terms on the 15th of February, 1792 :

“Deo Optimo Maximo incruenta novi fœderis hostia litaverat rite pronuntiavit : Tuto procedi posse ad Beatificationem Ven. Servæ Dei Catharinæ Thomasiæ.”

And on the 3rd of August following, the decree of beatification was issued by Pius VI., when

solemn festivals were celebrated in the Vatican and at Majorca.

In quoting from the Cardinal's work we have endeavoured to keep as closely as possible to the Spanish text. We think we have cited enough to show what these islanders are taught to believe in regard to the Beata, and we may say that the lesson has not been lost upon them.

We could not, however, more appropriately conclude this notice of the Beata than by transcribing an inscription written at the foot of a celebrated engraving of her, published in France in 1669, which, says the Cardinal, "greatly tended to propagate the devotion to her." The inscription runs thus :

"Venerabilis, et extatica Virgo Catharina Thomas, Majoricensis Monialis, Canonica Regularis Divi Augustini; eximia animi modestia prædita, omnes animi affectus à primis annis refrenans, quo minor illi ætas, gratia major fuit. Orationi tam dedita ut nunc sex dies, jam octo, et aliquando mente avia terris, ternas hebdomadas egerit. Virtutum omnium, sed præcipue obedientiæ, exemplar insigne. Jussu superioris oclusis oculis, mente ad superos erecta, mirifice telas variavit acu. Puritatis integritatem, quam viva servavit, incorruptionis munere adhuc loquitur. Humilitate perfectissima, charitate in Deum et proximos ardentissima. A Dæmone sæpe cæsa, victa fuit nunquam. Multos dies sine cibo, ambrosia dumtaxat refecta cælesti, transegit. Ei tecta patuere corda, absentia, videns, futurorum præscia.

Visum cæsis, naufragantibus portum dedit. Rixantes sæpe sæpius oratione sedavit. Denique virtutibus illustris, crebro sociata Divis, clara miraculis, inferni pavor, cæli deliciæ, decusque terræ, post 41 annos sanctissime exactos, diebus viginti quinque minus, obiit nonis Aprilis 1574, cujus corpus non vidit corruptionem; nam integrum, et incorruptum, proprio suavissimo odore, gloriæ ostentum Palmæ Balearium perseverat."

In such matters as this the public mind seems to be exercised and occupied to an extent that can hardly be conceived. It is far from our purpose to speak irreverently of the religious sentiments of a whole community, numbering nearly three hundred thousand souls, but we may be permitted to say that probably in no other place of its population is to be met with at the present day a Christian community in whose religious belief and devotion miracles, saints, relics, and processions take a greater part than they do in the faith of these islanders; and in saying this we are probably saying that which they would be most pleased to hear.

Every trifle worn by the Beata Catalina, for instance, from her hat to her thimble, has been religiously preserved, and they have become objects to which recourse is had in the time of sickness and trouble; and as it is with the Beata, so it is with

the particular saints held in devotion by the people. We quite lately saw, during a church service at the second town in the island, a town of fifteen thousand inhabitants, collections made at once for five different objects; one for the Virgin Mary, another for St. John, another for St. Antonio, and so on, each collector carrying an image on his plate—a doll dressed to represent the object for which he asked alms of the faithful—while the several collectors watched each other in, apparently, no very charitable spirit.

It may easily be understood how great a part of the social life of the people is thus occupied, when we say that we could quote an instance of six sisters—all the girls in one household—having become nuns, while the family in which there is no member a priest is the exception rather than the rule. We have, indeed, heard a very charming lady, the mother of a large family, say she should see with joy all her sons follow that vocation, and should be very happy to have one or two of her daughters nuns. This is a lady mixing in the world, and going to balls and theatres. In most of the religious processions the mayor and town council, and principal local authorities, take part.

Whether the numerous processions, and espe-



cially the manner in which they are conducted, are calculated to conduce to real devotional fervour and a pure religious faith, is a question upon which our opinion would probably be of little value. We shall have carried out our purpose if we have conveyed to the reader an idea of such matters as they actually exist in the islands; our endeavour has been simply to treat the subject historically.

It was to celebrate this feast of the Beata Catalina's three hundredth year that the great ladies and gentlemen and priesthood of Majorca had formed themselves into committees in the summer of 1874. The celebration was intended to be on a scale of unusual splendour, and it was expected that not only the people from the interior towns of the islands, but that many from the Peninsula would come to Palma for the occasion. Great preparations were made for the street procession. The convent church was newly decorated. Pictures, representing the principal incidents of the Beata's life, were ordered to be painted for the church decorations and the streets as the procession passed by. Fans, illustrated by passages in her history, were made for the event; a new edition of the Cardinal's book was published, and

altars and lights were arranged to be set up at every principal doorway. But while all these preparations were thus being made, the Republican Captain-General was advised that the celebration was intended as a Carlist demonstration. To the consternation of its promoters, and the faithful throughout the island, the festival was therefore forbidden; even the ordinary annual procession, in which a cavalcade conducting a personification of the Beata, seated in a triumphal car, passes through the streets, was not allowed to take place, and thus the great celebration had to be confined within the church doors.

A curious event connected with the Beata, and related by the Cardinal, was that of her young mistress, Doña Isabel Zaforteza, who had wished to become a nun, but was married young. On the death of her husband she had herself walled-in in a part of the Palma Cathedral, leaving only a window communicating with a chapel, and one for the admittance of her food. This lady, who was known by the name of the "walled-in lady," died in the place of her voluntary confinement in December 1581.

The establishment or re-establishment of Christianity dates from the very moment of the Spanish



## CHAPTER XI.

### *POLITICAL OPINIONS AND POLITICAL DOINGS DURING THE INTERREGNUM.*

**H**E who should have set himself to discover the prevailing political sentiments of the majority of the inhabitants of these islands would have set himself no easy task. The subject of politics is indeed one that we might be tempted to shirk altogether, but during a time when politics engrossed much the attention of all classes of the people, to omit the mention of them in an account of the Islands would be to speak of native cookery without referring to garlic. If, however, the political currents were as variable on the Peninsula (and we may presume they were so) as they have been for the last half-dozen years in this province, it is not difficult to understand the instability of the various governments that have assumed power from time to

time during all this period—governments which would seem to have been quickly formed only to be as quickly dissolved. Yet a province like that of the Balearic Islands, which sends, or sent, seven deputies and four senators to Cortes, ought not to be quite an insignificant depository of the voice of the people, and would be supposed at least to have some political opinion or creed prevailing over the others. As to what that creed may really be, however, the experience of the last seven years, since the Revolution, would afford little clue.

It would be a curious, though perhaps not very profitable, preliminary study, to find out and define the peculiarities of all the numerous political parties in Spain that existed previously to, or came into power since, the Revolution of 1868. We never, however, yet met any single Spaniard who was equal to the task, and yet one could count on one's fingers something like a score of parties, and their sub-divisions, which were all flourishing but a few months ago. First we had the CARLISTS—1, *Intransigentes*; 2, *Viejos*; and, 3, *Cabreristas*; then the ALFONSINOS, comprising, 4, *Isabelinos*; 5, *Alfonsistas*; 6, *Doctrinarios*; 7, *Liberales*; and, 8, *Polacos*;



then the great LIBERAL party, comprehending, 9, *Unionistas*; 10, *Fronterizos*; 11, *Sagastinos*; 12, *Radicales*; 13, *Perlinos*; and, 14, *Canovistas*; and last, not least, the REPUBLICANS—15, *Federales*; 16, *Intransigentes*; and, 17, *Cantonalistas*; with *quién sabe* how many more besides! With such a field to choose from, it is no wonder that the poor provincial Spanish voter became bewildered; and it may be easily understood that he of the Balears might be forgiven for losing his way, and sending one year Carlists, the next, Radicals, and then Republicans to represent him in the national Cortes. If you talked to the aristocratical “Butifarra” you were told, in his earnest faith, that the people of these islands, with a few unworthy exceptions of place-hunters and Republicans educated by the Internationalists, were Carlists; and he would point, with a semblance of reason, to the elections of 1869, when Majorca alone returned to the Cortes five Carlists out of the seven deputies, notwithstanding the government influence that was then used in all directions to the contrary; and while the noble smoked his cigarette he would unfold to you his dream of bliss when the country should be once more governed by her legitimate king, and the

*Fueros*, or ancient privileges of the provinces, be restored to them, and the Church should hold her own again. So far as the upper classes of these islands are concerned, it is probably true that the great majority of them are, or at least were previously to the Restoration, staunch supporters of Don Carlos; and their influence with their tenantry, when they thought it worth while to use it, was of course very great; but in the majority of the recent elections the Carlist partisans stood aloof from the poll, under orders from the chiefs of their party, looking on in cold disdain at the ministerial candidates—neither voting themselves nor allowing their followers to vote. Yet, while this was so, there are, probably, few places so far removed from the actual seat of war that are reported to have contributed so much old money and so much young blood to the cause of Don Carlos as these islands have; and this was especially said of Majorca. It was in Majorca, in the early part of 1860, that General Ortega, then captain-general of the province, was so far gained over to the Carlist cause by local and other influence, that notwithstanding the high post he then held under his sovereign, Queen Isabella, he was tempted to originate that important Carlist rising

during her majesty's reign, which was headed by the nephews of Ferdinand VII., the Count of Montemolin, and his brother Don Fernando. This insurrection, which thus originated in the Balearic Islands, and for which the captain-general actually carried off to the Peninsula the whole of the forces stationed on the islands, came to grief in San Carlos de la Rapita; the general, like many others since his time, paying with his life for his temerity, he having been tried by court-martial and shot. And if local Carlism dared thus much when the throne of Spain was actually occupied by an established and recognised dynasty, it may easily be supposed that great efforts have been made by this party since the Revolution of 1868. Many a son of the noble families of the islands, it is said, has in later years fled to the standard of Don Carlos, and many a long treasured-up island purse is reported to have been emptied in that cause. All this, if more or less true, was talked about and blurted out in the Republican prints, after the Carlist doings at Bilboa, Estella, and Cuenca; and so, when the notice of the decree of the Spanish Government confiscating the property of persons who should be found aiding the Carlist was telegraphed to

Majorca, in July 1874, on the very Sunday on which it was issued, that same night, or before daylight on the following morning, a dozen or more gentlemen supposed to be favourable to the Carlist cause were arrested—some in their beds—and carried off straightway to Bellver Castle. The persons so arrested included members of the nobility and principal families of the island, and all those who had been returned to the Cortes as deputies and senators for the province in 1869, and one or two priests. For the first three days their friends were not allowed to communicate with them, and the priests, who sent in a petition to be allowed to say mass, were not allowed to do so. But later on, their families were permitted—one or two at a time—to visit them, with orders from the authorities; and then instructions came from Madrid to let the majority of them out of Bellver, but they were not permitted to reside in the city. An embargo was also placed upon their estates, prohibiting the sale or mortgage of them; and their vacant places in Bellver fortress were occupied by prisoners sent over from Barcelona for sympathy with the Carlist cause.

This confiscation of the property of Carlist partisans, initiated by the republican government,

was a measure which the succeeding government also adopted with much rigour as a reprisal for the Carlists' doings. The reported Carlist partisans of Majorca were amongst the first to come under the severity of this punishment, and were sent away in batches, twenty-five by one steamer, and a dozen by another. Ladies, too, whose sons or husbands were supposed to be Carlist partisans, were not spared; but as we are writing history rather than recording more recent doings in Spain, we may properly close this subject with the accession of the king. It did appear to us, however, that the Balearic Islands had been rather hardly treated by all the Spanish governments in this matter of politics. Loyal subjects of Queen Isabella were awakened suddenly from their *siestas*, in September 1868, to be told that it was treason to speak of her majesty. The sacred cry was then, Down with the Bourbons! Down with their statues on the public promenade! Then they were soon after ordered to illuminate in honour of the regency of Marshal Serrano. A little later they were to hang out banners and light up their houses in King Amadeo's honour. Then again, on a sudden, they must fain shout, *Viva la Republica!* and long life to Castelar!

Now their horses, their sons, and their money were called for under the dictatorship of Serrano, and hardly had they got accustomed to this order of things, when all were rebels and traitors who did not swear allegiance to His Majesty Don Alfonso. Considering that all these changes had been brought about within a period of seven years, it did seem a little hard that old nobles and other influential persons in the island should be packed off at a moment's notice, and a forced absenteeism created as punishment for political sympathies. Surely this pacific province, which paid to a *real* every contribution and tax levied upon it by any one of the several governments—which sent every boy called for as a soldier—which gave money, blood, and horses, without defalcation, as no other of the forty-nine Spanish province has ever done; surely, we say, the islands might have been more tenderly dealt with. It seemed, to say the least of it, bad policy to kill the hen which laid such golden eggs. It is, moreover, quite certain that the partisans of the Carlist, or any other cause here, were utterly powerless to advance, in the slightest degree, the cause they might espouse; yet, in the cruel necessities of civil war, apparently inoffensive

persons, for the sins of some member of their family, over whom they had perhaps no control, were treated like rebels in arms, and turned away from their estates and homes.

We all remember the excitement that arose on the Continent, and the comments that were made by the German press, on the Prime Minister's speech at Guildhall, in the autumn of 1874, and the wilder comments of the French press after the explanation that appeared in the 'Times' on the subject. But neither the German nor French papers need have gone so far as Count Arnim's business for illustration of the truth of Mr. Disraeli's remarks as to the position of foreign noblemen. We need only refer to the case cited above, when, in July of the same year, in the middle of the night, in one of the most pacific of the capitals of the Spanish provinces, no less than a dozen nobles and gentlemen were arrested—some in their beds—without a word of warning, and conveyed to a fortress, where they were placed in confinement, and not allowed for some days to communicate with their friends. From confinement in the fortress they were banished the town, and when ultimately allowed to return to their homes, they were never informed, verbally

or otherwise, of the reason of their arrest. Had the Prime Minister needed examples of the position of noblemen in foreign countries, they were to be found in plenty in the Spanish provinces generally during the last years of anarchy, and in the Balearic Islands especially.

But to return to our subject. Our noble Carlist friend with whom we were talking having finished for the while his cigarette and his eloquence in favour of Carlism, you turn to your next neighbour in the casino, who was a loyal subject of Doña Isabella, and who saw no salvation for the country but in the restoration of Queen Isabella's son. If you but gave him time, he would set about to demolish the pretensions of Don Carlos by arguments which appear to him, and must appear to you, logical, if not irresistible. He would tell you, if you waited to hear it, that from the time of Pelayo, the daughters of the Spanish kings have by right inherited the crown; that even Felipe V., who endeavoured to change the law of succession in the interests of the French court, did not absolutely exclude women from the throne, though his majesty's decree of 1713 was the act of an arbitrary sovereign, which was published before the Cortes had cognisance of it, and



that it was altogether informal and null. That the Cortes of 1789, duly convoked, had moreover abolished this decree of Felipe V., while the subsequent Cortes established by the constitution the right of women to the crown, and that nothing moreover had henceforward been done to alter the law. But, he would add: if even for argument's sake, one admits the authority of Felipe V. to change the order of succession, one must also admit in like manner the Acts of Carlos IV. and Fernando VII., in 1830 and 1832, annulling the Act of their predecessor. And lastly, that as Doña Isabella had been solemnly proclaimed Queen of Spain and acknowledged by the great Powers, there could be no question as to the right of her son to the crown in the late vacancy. Then he would tell you that the nephews of Ferdinand VII. had one and all long ago renounced their pretensions to the crown in favour of the queen, and that last, though not least, amongst those who had so renounced their right or pretensions, was Don Juan, the father of the present pretender. That in no case had Don Carlos any shadow of a right to the crown, since he was neither born nor brought up in Spain, as required by the very Act of Felipe V. under which he pretends thereto.

You were assured, too, that the army to a man are in favour of Don Alfonso, and this statement your friend would support by telling you how the officers of the Majorcan garrison had expressed their opinion a little while previously, by each writing the name of his party on a piece of paper, which was put into a hat, of course unsigned, and when the papers were read, they were every one of them in favour of Don Alfonso. "We must come to this, señor, sooner or later, or we are a lost nation"; and this man proved to be a prophet.

Then the Republican shoemaker would, on his part, refer as proudly as the aristocrat to *his* elections in 1873, when no less than six Republicans out of the seven deputies were returned to Cortes. But after hearing this, if not before, you inevitably come to the conclusion that these elections really mean nothing, for you remember that only the year before those very six seats were gained by Radicals, and thus you are left, as far as the elections are concerned, as much in the dark as ever as to the political opinions of the majority of the Baleares.

With the Carlist exception, to which we have referred above, the elections have been chiefly carried by the party in power at Madrid, and it

is not too much to say, that as records of the votes of the people in this province, they were utterly valueless. The first care of every new ministry was to name a governor for the province who was likely to be serviceable in this matter, and he went out with his party. (Nine different governors have held office in the Balearic Islands, if we remember rightly, since the Revolution of 1868.) A host of local functionaries from the village municipalities, who love place and power, of tobacco-sellers and postmen, are more or less in the hands, or under the patronage, of the governor for the time being; and they are all made useful in distributing voting papers of the right political shade for the moment. Then with the help of *Aguardiente*, and it was said the votes of dead men, and men yet unborn, it was not difficult for the government candidate to obtain a majority. Public opinion and political morality had certainly exercised no perceptible influence on the elections held in these islands in the time of which we write. Politics have, moreover, unhappily for the progress of these people, become since the Revolution almost a trade, not only in the larger towns, but also in the villages. One finds now, or found only the other day, as surely as one found

the village church, and more surely than the village school, casinos or clubs of the various political shades. The Carlists had their casino, and the Republicans had theirs, and if the country members could not read the daily organ of their party, which came out by the carrier at night, they could get it read to them, and talk politics in a loud voice after their day's work was done. It was only under the Republic of Marshal Serrano, in 1873, that the liberty of speech and liberty of assembling together came to be curtailed. The province was then declared, from time to time, to be in a state of siege, and was put under martial law. Then the Carlist casinos were ordered to be shut and the Carlist prints suppressed, and the Republican newspapers which spoke too plainly cautioned and fined. But for all this the people did and said pretty much as they were wont to do and say before.

The first thing that would seem to occur in this country, when the government issues any new decree likely to be obnoxious to the community, is for some ingenious individual of a fertile imagination to devise the means of driving four mules—not to say a coach and six—straight through it with profit to himself; and thus poli-

ticians who could not meet in casinos met elsewhere with greater zest. When the Republican Government, in 1873, abolished the *Quintas* and called out for military service, at first without admitting redemption, the young men of twenty, it was soon found out that a sufficient number of doubloons discreetly distributed would serve to disqualify the unwilling recruit. And so again when the government put in a requisition for horses for the cavalry, enterprising persons were not at a loss to discover a way out of the difficulty, with a little money-making in the bargain. We were driving into the city one morning, when our honest man pointed out to us, in a long speech full of complaint and indignation, his brother, a small farmer, who had been obliged to bring in his only horse to the cavalry barracks to pass the required examination as to height, age, and other qualities. The horse that the farmer was leading, and occasionally patting sorrowfully, was a somewhat rough, awkward-looking animal, but our companion said he was a long-trusted friend, and that his brother would be sorry to part with him at any price. While the farmer led his horse out of the group in which he was standing, a man "in brief authority" stepped up to him, and,

whilst he smoked his cigarette, proposed for four doubloons to undertake to get the horse clear. "It is too much," said the farmer, whose native sharpness was awakened by the idea of a deal. "The animal is hardly worth more than that sum, and I suppose if they take him I shall be able to sell the paper I get in return for him for something; but for an ounce, or even two, I should not mind settling the matter, just to save the trouble of having to buy another horse some day, although the old mule at home will serve my purpose well enough for the present." This offer the *soi-disant* examiner, or whoever he was, indignantly rejected as a mean bribe that would not pay for the risk to be incurred, and before they came to terms the horse was taken in to be measured, when, to the joy of the farmer, his favourite steed was found to be below the standard of height. How many less sharp countrymen than he paid their doubloons away, history will perhaps never relate.

The only serious ebullition of political feeling that took place of late in this pacific province occurred in 1868, when the news of the Revolution and the downfall of Queen Isabella's monarchy reached Majorca. A band of ruffians which it would be hardly fair to attach to any defined branch

of the so-called Liberal party, headed by a few known leaders, then attacked the Alcalde's house, set fire to his furniture, and burned the municipal archives and custom-house books, while they exploded further their ideas of liberty by destroying some royal and ornamental statues, which had been lately set up on the public promenade. They thus destroyed a statue of the queen, which was surmounted on a handsome pedestal borne by figures representing peace, war, commerce, and agriculture. An effort was ineffectually made to save at least the lower part of the handsome monument, but it was answered by the cry of "They are the queen's chamber-women; let us smash them"; and smash they thus did, peace, war, commerce, and agriculture, probably out of pure vandalism. But since that time there has been no political demonstration that really tended to disturb public order. When the republican form of government was declared, all of a sudden in 1873, permission was asked, and obtained at once by telegraph, to pull down a portion of the ancient walls by which the city of Palma is encircled; and in the excitement of throwing down stones and shovelling down earth, as the band of music played airs of liberty in the pre-

sence of the republican Alcalde, municipality, and delegates from the republican committees, the effervescence of the populace was exhausted.

But it seemed as if the republican victory would not be complete without some demonstration of the anti-religious sentiment of some of the leaders of the party. There was in Palma a time-honoured, antiquated institution of city night watchmen, called *serenos*, composed for the most part of harmless old men, who parade the streets during the small hours with long mounted staves, warning evil-doers of their approach by calling out the hours. It had been customary from time immemorial for the *serenos*, before naming the hour, to cry *Alabado sea Dios!* (Praised be God!) and to wind up their cry with a brief account of the weather. Thus, "Praised be God! a quarter-past eleven, raining." But the new republican municipality would not allow so innocent a harmony as this of Church and State. The oration was ordered to be suppressed, and the *serenos* were instructed to give out the hour straight off without it. The consequence was that the public, who had accustomed themselves to hearing the preliminary tones of the *sereno's* chant before listening for the hour, now lost it altogether.



When Castelar's government fell to the ground, in the beginning of 1874, *Alabado sea Dios* was established again in Palma, and we may safely say that hardly any one circumstance connected with all the changes of government, caused such universal satisfaction amongst the good people in the capital of the islands as this did.

Perhaps the most remarkable feature, in regard to the political changes which have so repeatedly taken place since the Revolution of 1868, was the facility with which the party in the ascendant for the time being mustered forces for political demonstrations. Thus, on each successive change of government, an apparently *unanimous* assemblage was ready to shout "Viva Serrano!" "Viva el Rey Amadeo!" "Viva la Republica!" and "Viva Don Alfonso!" as the case might be. One sees only the partisans at such times; but the dissentients would appear to be non-existent, or they must lie by in chrysalis state somewhere ready for their innings. And so, when at last his Majesty Don Alfonso XII. was restored to the throne of his ancestors, as numerous a crowd were ready to welcome the restoration, to illuminate their houses in his honour, as had been marshalled for the regency of Serrano, the reign

of Don Amadeo, the republic of Castelar, or the government of Marshal Serrano. Not a word was ever raised anywhere in defence of the falling star. The newest order of things was, as far as political demonstration went, regarded as the blessing fondly hoped and prayed for. Long may it last! that the Balearic Islands may enjoy, with the other Spanish provinces, the advantage of a settled government. But unhappily the last government out in Spain is the reverse of the *bon-mot* in regard to Austria. It is always the *worst* thought of; and the one prevailing feature amongst Spaniards of all classes with whom we have conversed is, that they spoke gloomily of their country and its future. If united in nothing else, they were united in this hopeless despondency.

The Republicans in this province, previously to the Restoration, probably formed alone the single party of consequence which could be opposed to the Carlists; and when united, as they have on occasions been at Madrid with the Radicals, they are able to carry the elections and other matters very much in their own way; but union in this country seems only to be regarded as strength for the purpose of undoing and upsetting the powers that be.

It is fair to say of the Republicans in this province that, when they had carried all before them—when they had sent their deputies to Cortes, elected their own mayors and town councils, and when the National troops had been replaced by Republican volunteers—matters were peaceably and quietly conducted. Political excitement appeared to have sufficient vent in the newspaper.

“ But chief he glory'd with licentious style  
To lash the great, and monarchs to revile.”

It really says much, however, for the peaceable disposition of these people, left as they were in 1863, perhaps for the first time in their Spanish history, without garrison or military force other than afforded by a handful of carabineers left for the custom-house service, and in the hands of a new-raised corps of Republican volunteers, and with the example of Carthage before them—that at no time throughout the constant political changes and excitements that took place on the Peninsula, there should have been any local disturbance of public order except the one outbreak in 1868. This much must be said for the credit of all parties, but especially to the credit of those then in power, the first Republicans.



## CHAPTER XII.

### *PORTS AND HARBOURS—CONCLUSION.*

**W**E are tempted to offer, for the information of sailors and yachtsmen, such particulars as we have been able to gather in regard to the ports and harbours of the islands.<sup>1</sup> In speaking of ports, one is naturally tempted to describe first the famous Port Mahon,<sup>2</sup>—which, however, is probably as well known to British navigators as it is to Spanish; indeed, to the nautical mind, the Balearic Islands rather belong to Port Mahon, than Port Mahon to them. The wide reputation of this magnificent harbour would perhaps be better deserved if its

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<sup>1</sup> Compiled from 'Noticias Histórico-Topográficas de Mallorca,' por J. M. Bover, Palma, 1864; 'El Puerto de Palma,' por Don Emilio Pou, Engineer-in-chief of the Province; and other sources reputed to be trustworthy, and verified as far as possible by personal knowledge and experience.

<sup>2</sup> So called after the Carthaginian captain Magon (B.C. 702), and named *Portus Magonis*.

entrance were easier of access, for in stormy weather it is difficult for a sailing-vessel to pass its narrow rock-bound gates. Once inside, however, the spacious harbour is capable of affording perfect security to vessels of the largest size, and to a great number of them at once, as illustrated to our own knowledge by the fleets of men-of-war that on one or two occasions visited the port during our residence there. The long-established reputation for safety of this port gave rise to Andrea Doria's proverb: "Los puertos del Mediterraneo son Junio, Julio, Agosto, y Puerto Mahon."

The bay is about three miles and a half in length; and on four rocky islets which exist within it are constructed the Lazaretto, the hospital, the quarantine establishments, and arsenal—the former of which are sufficiently distant from the town, which lies at the bottom of this deep and narrow harbour.<sup>1</sup>

At the entrance of the port is situated the new fortress of the Mola, opposite to Fort St. Philip, which our gallant General Murray so heroically defended in 1782; it is said to be capable of affording accommodation for three thousand

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<sup>1</sup> A note of the shoal and anchoring buoys in this harbour will be found in the Appendix.

troops. But this great work, upon which immense sums have been spent, is still in a very far from finished state. The guns now on this fortification are mostly old-fashioned smooth-bore pieces, of small calibre, and probably not more than a couple of hundred could now be counted on the batteries, upon which it was intended to mount three times that number. A few years ago, between two and three thousand troops were constantly stationed at Mahon; but the force gradually dwindled down to a third of the number, and of late the garrison has been entirely removed, to the regret and loss of the inhabitants; for Port Mahon had long been nourished by foreign squadrons and national troops, and by the stupendous works of the fortification at Cape Mola, which had been carried on regardless of cost for a number of years, and upon which Spain is reported to have spent upwards of 300,000*l.* One after the other these sources of life and prosperity have disappeared, and, in the too visible stagnation that has followed, one often hears the period of the British dominion spoken of as the really good times, which it is regretted have disappeared for ever. The arrival of the British squadron in the waters of Mahon is hailed

with unfeigned joy by all classes of the people. This treat occurred twice in 1874, when the Flying Squadron and the Mediterranean Fleet both paid short visits to the port. But the introduction of steam was the death-blow to Port Mahon, for since then her magnificent harbour has been no longer required as the winter quarters of foreign fleets in the Mediterranean. Now and then a hundred or two merchant vessels appear to ride out quarantine ; but they come by force, and leave the very hour their imprisonment at the quarantine station is over, often without their captains setting a foot on the shore ; but those who do otherwise will find a bright little town, clean streets, and friendly inhabitants, some of whom yet express, in broken English, their love for England, while they speak joyously and feelingly of the good and flourishing times when Minorca was under British rule. It was then, probably, that money circulated freely, and as it has never circulated since in this now unfrequented island. Some of the inhabitants would appear to have little sympathy with, or love for, the Spanish rule, which they have now enjoyed, after many changes, without interruption for seventy years, and they are apt naturally to contrast some-



what bitterly their present state of insignificance with the prosperity and importance of their island when it was a British possession. The town of Mahon is, indeed, a striking contrast to all one sees on the Spanish coast as regards its cleanliness, but there is a stillness and silence about the place which is depressing. Not a horse's hoof or the wheels of a cart break in upon this stillness. No one walks in the streets, for they are paved with hard, knobby stones, which lacerate one's feet and make walking in the town unpleasant. Then, too, all one knows of the outer world is from the arrival of the invariably empty mail steamers, which once a week bring in the letters and papers from Barcelona, and about which the islanders themselves seem to care very little. The violent north wind, which sweeps over the island frequently in winter, often, too, closes all communication with the Peninsula for several days together.

In fine weather this island is distant by steamer some eighteen hours from Barcelona, and ten hours from Palma.

In the island of Majorca there are twelve ports or harbours, the five principal of which are those of Palma, Andraix, Soller, Alcudia, and Porto Colom; but the Port of Palma is the only one



really open to foreign trade, although the English Land Company have the privilege of discharging at Alcudia the vessels consigned to them there, and Soller is open for the receipt of timber.

The great want of this island is a good and safe port in Palma Bay. This fine bay, 13 kilomètres in depth, is formed by Cape Cala Figuera and Cape Blanco, which are distant from each other nearly 25 kilomètres. The present port is formed by a breakwater and a mole, originally constructed in the fourteenth century, of 387 yards in length, and subsequently extended to about 600 mètres, giving the port an extension of only about 918 yards, with a depth of water varying from 6 to 8½ yards.

A space so limited naturally renders the operation of shipping frequently difficult and troublesome, as when vessels exceed a certain draught of water, about 14½ feet, they have to discharge a part of their cargo before entering, and finish loading after leaving the mole; and as the trade is irregular, depending upon certain seasons and other circumstances, twenty-five or thirty ships have been seen in the bay at times unable to enter the port.

The works of the prolongation of the mole by

125 mètres, and the cleansing of the harbour, forming part of a scheme for improving this port, which was approved by the Central Government, and for which special dues have been levied since 1873, have been begun, but it is probable that these operations will at best proceed but slowly, and in the present state of the finances extend over many years, five years even being allowed for the termination of this portion of the work only.

The current of a mountain stream called the Riera, which originates at Mount Galatzo, 5 leagues from Palma, though dry during the greater part of the year, becomes a furious torrent in the season of rain, and has to a great extent injured the port, as it has also injured at times the lower part of the city. On these occasions deposits of earth in considerable quantities are made in the port, as is proved by the constantly increasing shallow water near the mouth of the current, and the deposits found on the anchors and chains of the shipping. In addition to this, numerous sewers empty themselves into the port, causing a horrible effluvium in the hot weather, and nourishing fevers and epidemics, which from time to time prevail at Palma, and invariably take their origin and seat near the port.

Several violent storms are recorded to have taken place in the Bay of Palma, among which may be cited one in 1824 (Dec. 7), which broke the mole in two places, causing various disasters among the shipping, and personal accidents; and more recently, in 1862, a storm from the south occurred at nightfall, which threatened the very existence of the port, and caused serious loss of life and other accidents, as well as shipwreck. And the want of a secure harbour was further illustrated in 1873 by the wreck of a large Norwegian vessel, which was driven ashore in a south-west gale, while discharging timber in the port, the crew being obliged to be landed over the surf by ropes.

The following is the result of observations of the prevailing winds, taken in the lighthouses of Palma, Porto Pi, Cala Figuera, and Cabo Blanco, in the Bay of Palma during five years, 1865—1869:—

	1st Quadrant.	2nd Quadrant.	3rd Quadrant.	4th Quadrant.
	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Palma . . .	660	234	769	163
Porto Pi . .	689	211	736	190
Cala Figuera	377	318	914	217
Cabo Blanco	331	390	822	283
	<u>2057</u>	<u>1153</u>	<u>3241</u>	<u>853</u>

By the project for the extension and improvement of this port, which received the approval of the Spanish Government in March 1871, the mouth of the Riera would be turned aside from its present position, the mole would be extended, and docks constructed. The other ports of Majorca being closed to foreign trade, it will only be useful to mention them briefly, forasmuch as they might serve as harbours of refuge from storm or accident at sea.

The harbour of *Porto Pi* is situated in the Bay of Palma, about 2 miles from the city. It is capacious, and sheltered from wind and sea, and was once a well-reputed port of the island. It would still afford secure shelter for shipping, as it did in former times, but the entrance has become nearly filled up by the Riera deposits, which have thus rendered the harbour quite useless, except for small craft.

*Porrassa* is a wide cove, also in the Bay of Palma. It is well protected from all winds but those from the south-east and south; but the wind from these quarters renders it exceedingly dangerous.

*Paguera* is a clear bay in the district of Calvia, 2 miles from the Malgrat islets. It has a fine

captain of the small steamer in which we had taken passage would allow none of his passengers to remain on deck, and we got into port late in the afternoon. Being desirous of seeing the English Company's works at the Albufera, near Alcudia, we asked the driver of the carriage that had been sent from Palma to meet us, if it would be possible to accomplish that object on our way to Palma. His reply encouraged us to make the attempt, and all went well until we were leaving the works, when our driver undertook to rejoin the main road by a short cut across the paths of the newly-drained land. It had been raining lately, and our road was covered by water in several places, and at last we found ourselves up to the axles of the carriage-wheels in the swamp. In this dilemma night came on, and our driver, who thoroughly lost his head as well as his way, was without lamps to his carriage. Probably we should have passed the night there, and taken with us a marsh fever to Palma as the consequence—for there were ladies and children in our party—had we not, by the aid of a small travelling-lamp, which was luckily in our bag, been able to find our road out of the swamp; but this accident made it impossible for us to get farther than Inca, halfway to Palma, that night.

*Cañamel* is situated between Capes Vermell and Raix, on the coast near Artá. It has been filled up by a stream, and is only available for vessels of small draught of water, affording shelter from the winds of the fourth quadrant.

*Porto Colom*, distant three-quarters of a mile from Felanitx, has an entrance 70 fathoms wide, and the anchorage is said to be very good; but this port is reported to be fast filling up, so that large vessels are obliged to anchor at the mouth of the harbour, where there is a considerable sea in the south-west and south-easterly winds.

*Puerto Petra*, on the coast of Santañy, has its mouth to the south, with a narrow entrance. To anchor in this port it is necessary to make for Figuera Cove, on the eastern coast, and anchor off from 5 to 6 fathoms, as the anchorage changes suddenly from 3 fathoms to 1. The winds from the south-east and south are those most dangerous in this port.

The Port of *Campos* is about 8 miles from the town of that name. The entrance is difficult, and it is only available for small vessels.

The entrance to the Port of *Fornells*, in the island of Minorca, like that of Port Mahon, is

narrow; but there is said to be a depth of water inside of from 17 to 20 fathoms, with 12 to 8 fathoms off the tower. This harbour is reputed to be free from shoal or reef, and to be well sheltered from all winds.

The Port of Ciudadela, also in Minorca (which town was once the capital of that island, and is still a bishop's see), is a small, shallow harbour, which makes it unsuitable for any but small craft.

A considerable quantity of stone for building is annually embarked at this port for Algeria, which gives occasion for the entry at times of small French vessels.

The Port of Iviza, in the island of that name, is considered to be one of the finest harbours in the Mediterranean. This port is, however, only open to foreign import trade for certain well-known articles, such as corn and grain, timber, &c. The mail steamer between Palma and Alicante calls in at Iviza on her weekly voyage to and from the Peninsula.

The Balearic Islands are well lighted. The lighthouses, indeed, are the most noteworthy of the public works of these islands; they were constructed in conformity with a prearranged, comprehensive plan, and they are maintained in good







ANCIENT BREECH-LOADING GUN FOUND IN PALMA HARBOUR IN 1864.  
*From a Photograph by DON JULIO VIRENQUE.*

*To face page 319.*

order, and carefully attended;<sup>1</sup> and we may add to the preceding particulars, that at Palma and Port Mahon considerable facilities exist for the repairs of damages to shipping. The work is generally well and conscientiously done, but at these two ports only are such facilities available.

In dredging the Port of Palma in 1864, among other objects brought up from the bottom were some twenty or twenty-five breech-loading iron guns, of which the accompanying woodcut represents one. These guns, on account of their light weight, are supposed to have belonged to the marine artillery. They were probably the armament of a ship foundered in the port. Some of these guns were found to be filled with copper coins; a large ship's keel was also discovered on the same spot as the guns. The dimensions of the gun shown by the sketch, and now preserved in the Museum of Painting at Palma, are as follows:—Total length, 1·30 mètre; length of barrel, 95 centimètres; supposed diameter of projectile, 3 centimètres. Various other objects of

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<sup>1</sup> A list of the lighthouses now in operation, corrected for the Author to the 6th of April, 1872, by the courtesy of the Engineer-in-chief of the Province, Don Emilio Pou, will be found in the Appendix.

like nature have been thus dredged up, amongst them, on the 6th of July, 1866, a howitzer, or iron mortar; and on the 27th of the same month a culverin of brass, weighing upwards of 14 quintals, which was claimed by the military authorities.

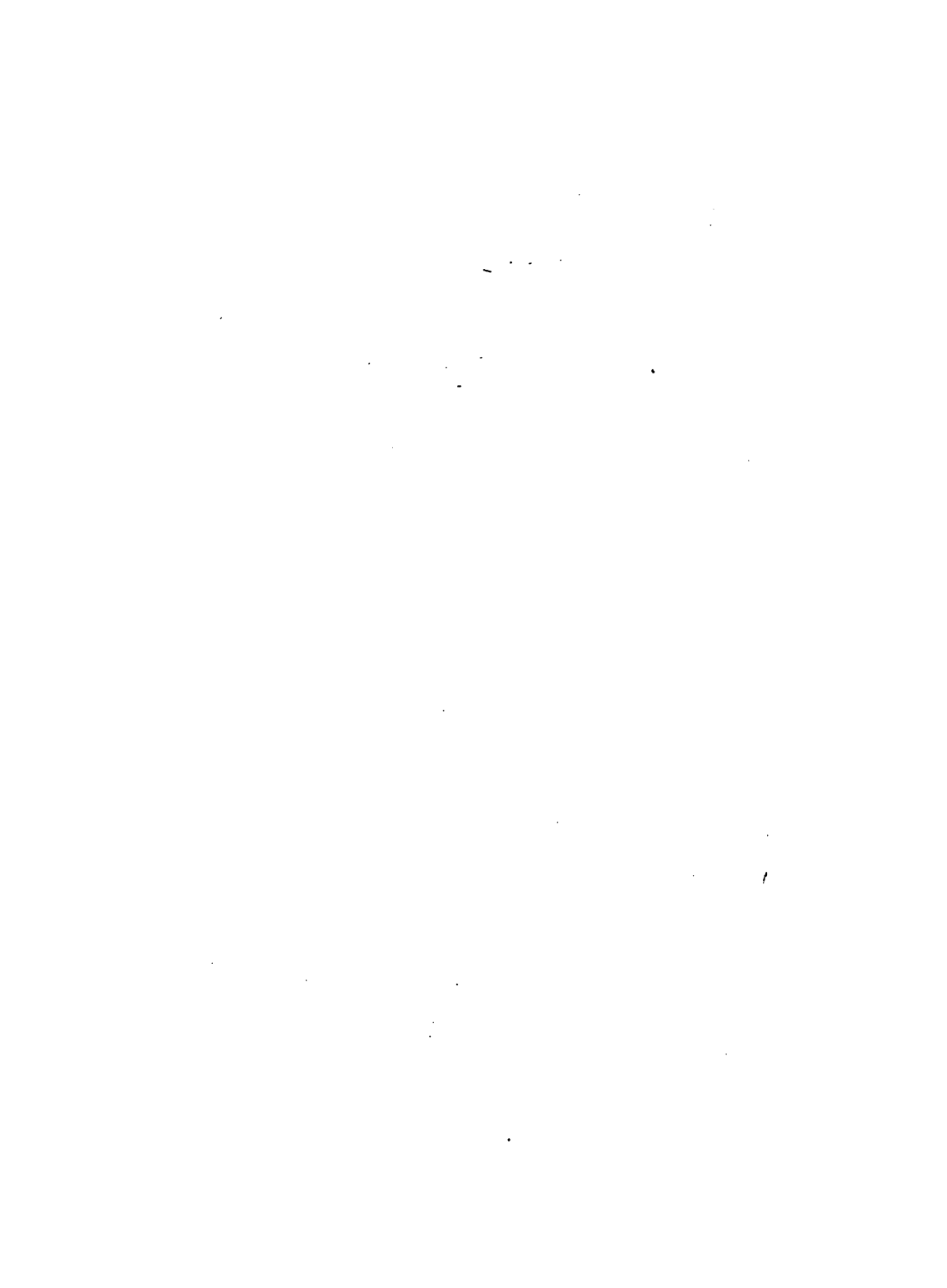
The guns found in Palma harbour bear, as will be seen, considerable resemblance to an ancient breech-loading gun discovered in British Guiana, of which we give a woodcut and a description taken from the 'Illustrated London News.'

“The object shown in our engraving is perhaps a relic of the Dutch expedition to Guiana in 1580. It was found twenty years ago, by the Macusi Indians, at the mouth of the Annai Creek, on the Rupununi River, whence it was brought last year to Georgetown by Mr. Charles Brown, who had visited the place in his geological survey of the British Colonial territory. It is a breech-loading gun, which has burst; and a small portion of its upper part, at the junction of the breech-chamber with the barrel, has been blown away. The chamber is  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches in diameter, and the barrel  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch. There is a rectangular aperture in the side of the chamber, close to the back of the gun, where a wedge was perhaps driven in, to force up the breech-block against



BREECH-LOADING GUN DISCOVERED IN BRITISH GUIANA.

*To face page 300.*



the charge. The handle, which is of iron, as is the pivot also, the rest being of gun-metal, passes quite through the back of the breech. There is no inscription of the date; but on the top, near the trunnions, are four raised letters, G. W. C., combined in a sort of cipher, and a large Z above them. The Z may stand for Zealand, from which the expedition came. Its first settlement, near the Pomeroon River, was called New Zealand. The colonists found another village afterwards on the west bank of the Essequibo, but were driven out, in 1596, by the Spaniards and Indians, when they removed to another place, called by them Kyk-overall. This part of the country has belonged to Great Britain since 1796, except during a few months in 1802, after the Peace of Amiens."

In concluding these pages we are reminded that we have left unsaid much that might be said about these pretty islands, but we have thought it unnecessary to write of those places and objects which are more or less described in the guide-books on Spain that have given a chapter to the Balearic Islands. There are, however, many subjects of interest to the scientific and artistic traveller, as there are many picturesque

places and objects which it has been impossible to dilate upon within the limits we had set ourselves in this work ; nor would it be hardly fair to the traveller to tell him beforehand all he would meet with, and ask him to see everything through our spectacles. Amongst the architectural sights of the capital the beautiful Gothic *Lonja*, the building which excited the enthusiastic admiration of Charles V. on his visit to the islands, would help to repay one for the voyage ; and there is a glass window in the cathedral of Palma that has attracted the admiration of many subsequent travellers. The town architecture, indeed, abounds in objects of interest in the narrow streets, whose overhanging roofs almost meet, and which contain the curious old palaces of the nobles, where are to be seen beautiful Gothic columns with wonderfully carved capitals and charming windows. Then there is the pretty castle of Bellver, referred to in these pages, which was erected by Jaime II. in the thirteenth century, where political and state prisoners have lingered from the time of Jovellanos, the learned Asturian, and Arago, the astronomer, to, in our days, hundreds of Carlists and others, not excepting that general

who the other day set King Alfonso on his throne. The *patio*, or courtyard, and arched columns of this picturesquely situated fortress quite repay one for a visit to this spot. There are also excursions about the islands full of interest. The new railway to Inca has made easy the journey to the celebrated grottos at Arta, whose wonderful chambers are said to be the most remarkable in the world; and besides the beautiful grottos of Majorca and the fossils scattered over the islands, the flora to be found in many parts will offer abundant attraction to the naturalist. To see the islands well the traveller should journey chiefly on horse or donkey-back; the carriage roads naturally pass through the least picturesque parts of the country. One friend of ours, an English gentleman, with his young wife and two small children, lately spent several months in travelling about Majorca with a tent: their caravan consisted of three good donkeys for riding and one for baggage, and when they found a pretty or interesting site they encamped for as long as it suited their pleasure. No place could be better suited than Majorca for the pleasures of a Bohemian life of this kind. Immediately outside the city walls



the natural beauties of the Majorcan landscape begin; fertile gardens and pleasant cornfields are within the reach of the most indolent of pedestrians, whilst within the gates there are, as we have seen, many attractions. We shall have carried out our purpose if our imperfect description of these hitherto neglected islands may lead to their being better known. But we must say of them, as Mr. Latouche has lately said of Portugal, they "are yet a virgin soil as far as the British tourist is concerned; no preparation has as yet been made for him, hardly any one speaks his language, no innkeeper expects to see him, no guide is ready to show him the lions," unless it be the one interpreter at the port, who speaks a little of the *lingo* of all comers, and helps the ship-captains of all nations in their dealings with the natives.



## APPENDICES.

### APPENDIX I.

The following table shows the population of the Balearic Islands, according to the Census of 1860. From official statistics published at Madrid in 1870, it would seem, however, that the total population in that year was 289,225, giving an increase for the ten years of 19,407 inhabitants, or 1940 per annum.

JUDICIAL DISTRICTS.					
PALMA.			INCA.		
Places.	Families.	Souls.	Places.	Families.	Souls.
Palma . . . . .	11,949	53,019	Inca . . . . .	1,411	6,038
Algaida . . . . .	870	3,675	Alaró. . . . .	1,145	4,879
Andraitx . . . . .	1,498	5,663	Alcudia . . . . .	383	1,500
Bañalbufar . . . . .	117	550	Binisalem . . . . .	696	3,273
Buñola . . . . .	497	2,160	Búger . . . . .	357	1,228
Calviá . . . . .	599	2,457	Campanet . . . . .	616	2,310
Deyá . . . . .	225	897	Costitx . . . . .	425	1,735
Esporlas . . . . .	512	2,250	Escorca . . . . .	49	299
Establiments . . . . .	399	1,507	Lloseta . . . . .	363	1,482
Estallenchs . . . . .	172	665	Llubí. . . . .	510	2,016
Fornalutx . . . . .	267	1,087	María . . . . .	330	1,259
Llummayor . . . . .	2,036	8,742	Muro . . . . .	866	3,462
Marratxí . . . . .	564	2,468	Pollensa . . . . .	1,794	7,451
Puigpuñent . . . . .	356	1,517	Puebla (La) . . . . .	882	3,037
Santa Eugenia . . . . .	313	1,291	Sansellas. . . . .	667	2,712
Santa Maria . . . . .	572	2,341	Santa Margarita . . . . .	665	2,717
Sóller . . . . .	1,897	8,355	Selva . . . . .	1,121	4,529
Valldemosa . . . . .	368	1,595	Sineu . . . . .	1,100	4,453
	23,211	100,239		13,380	54,980



## APPENDIX II.

TABLE SHOWING EXTENT and VALUE of OLIVE CULTIVATION in the BALEARIC ISLANDS.<sup>1</sup>

Judicial Districts.	Extent of Land.						Produce.	Gross Value.	Net Value.
	Total.		Uncultivated.		Cultivated.				
	Hectares.	Ares.	Hectares.	Ares.	Hectares.	Ares.	Litres.	Reals Vellon. <sup>2</sup>	Reals Vellon.
Palma . .	126,248	51	30,953	08	95,295	43	1,819,278	7,111,258	2,588,699
Inca . .	101,816	45	23,497	30	78,319	15	1,001,250	3,674,420	1,352,332
Manacor .	133,725	97	25,909	86	107,816	11	229,032	718,315	351,758
Minorca .	68,310	51	14,201	97	54,108	54	..	..	..
Iviza . .	62,866	68	24,606	62	38,260	06	102,933	326,673	191,961
Totals .	492,968	12	119,168	83	373,799	29	3,152,493	11,830,666	4,484,750

<sup>1</sup> From 'Estudios sobre la riqueza territorial de las Baleares,' por Don Casimiro Urech y Cifre.<sup>2</sup> Ninety-six reals vellon = £1.

APPENDIX III.  
METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS TAKEN at PALMA, MAJORCA, DURING 1873-74.

1873-74.	Mean Pressure.	Air Temperature.										Tension of Vapour.			Relative Humidity.				
		9 A.M.	4 P.M.	Mean.	Means of		Abs. Min.	Day.	Temp.	Abs. Max.	Day.	Means of		9 A.M.	4 P.M.	Mean.	9 A.M.	4 P.M.	Mean.
					Min.	Max.						Reflector.	Sun.						
Dec. .	30°222	51°358	9°55	144°660	6°38	4	16th.	66°5	6th.	40°3	80°8	299	360	330	76	73	79	76	76
Jan. .	195	51°358	3°54	8°44	7°59	6°37	4	8th.	64°7	22nd.	40°4	76°7	312	381	347	82	79	81	81
Feb. .	108	52°059	4°55	7°44	6°61	7°38	3	22nd.	69°4	10th.	40°1	78°1	313	373	343	81	74	78	78
March	30°195	54°960	8°57	9°45	1°62	6°82	0	13th.	76°1	30th.	41°2	77°9	324	383	354	75	73	74	74
April.	29°925	61°364	8°93	1°50	2°67	3°45	5	1st.	75°2	25th & 29th.	46°2	80°4	402	441	422	75	73	74	74
May .	29°938	66°468	5°67	5°54	0°72	1°48	2	6th.	82°4	31st.	50°0	84°9	466	497	482	72	71	72	72
June .	30°577	79°579	7°79	6°64	2°84	9°57	6	16th.	93°6	22nd.	59°9	96°4	603	659	631	60	65	63	63
July .	052	83°886	4°85	1°69	4°90	5°63	0	1st.	99°1	7th.	65°3	102°2	857	916	887	74	72	73	73
August	041	79°783	8°81	8°68	5°87	4°63	5	1st.	94°6	20th.	64°6	97°9	750	881	816	74	76	75	75
Sept. .	084	77°482	2°79	8°67	1°85	6°61	7	15th.	94°1	2nd.	63°3	98°6	790	937	864	84	86	85	85
Oct. .	30°935	67°673	0°70	3°59	9°76	6°53	6	26th, 27th, & 28th.	90°5	11th.	56°8	93°0	561	653	607	83	81	82	82
Nov. .	29°968	58°161	7°59	9°51	6°66	6°42	8	26th.	77°0	2nd.	48°6	80°8	403	446	425	83	82	83	83
For the year.	30°068	65°369	8°67	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	507	577	542	77	75	76	76

1873-74.	Amount of Cloud.			Rainfall.		Weather.							Wind.												
	9 A.M.	4 P.M.	Mean.	Total.	Max.	Day.	Number of Days of							Number of Obs. under each Point.											
							Rain.	Snow.	Hail.	Thunder-storms.	Clear Sky.	Overcast.	Gales.	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.			
Dec. .	1.9	1.7	1.8	0.047	.025	4th.	3	0	0	0	0	19	4	0	1	23	11	1	0	2	2	4	2	9	10
Jan. .	4.5	4.0	4.3	1.201	.487	17th.	7	0	0	0	0	9	5	0	1	16	12	2	0	5	5	6	6	14	2
Feb. .	3.5	4.1	3.8	1.044	.378	13th.	8	0	0	0	0	13	4	2	2	17	15	4	1	3	0	4	12	4	4
March	4.2	3.1	3.7	1.139	.658	27th.	9	0	0	0	0	8	4	2	2	14	14	2	2	3	15	6	2	7	7
April .	5.6	3.4	4.5	4.498	1.984	7th.	9	0	0	0	0	10	1	5	4	7	4	7	1	1	4	25	2	11	5
May .	4.9	2.0	3.5	2.249	.945	6th.	2	0	0	0	0	10	1	5	5	5	6	2	5	3	26	5	6	4	4
June .	1.5	0.0	0.8	0.018	.009	1st. & 7th.	2	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	1	2	7	4	2	5	30	1	0	9	9
July .	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.693	.362	18th.	3	0	0	0	0	27	0	0	0	6	2	5	0	8	36	3	1	1	1
August	1.1	1.9	1.5	0.031	.031	5th.	1	0	0	0	0	19	0	0	2	7	1	5	11	36	0	0	0	0	0
Sept. .	1.3	1.7	1.5	0.453	.284	14th.	3	0	0	0	0	21	0	0	0	5	6	6	1	11	28	2	0	1	1
Oct. .	4.7	3.0	3.9	5.332	2.001	14th.	10	0	0	0	0	8	4	0	13	13	1	1	4	16	5	2	7	9	
Nov. .	4.8	4.1	4.5	2.053	.882	26th.	10	0	0	0	0	11	9	1	1	20	0	1	1	7	2	4	10	9	
For the year .	3.2	2.4	2.8	18.758	..	..	72	0	0	0	0	176	37	18	114	106	30	19	66	229	40	67	59	59	

The above means have been calculated and converted to English measures in the Meteorological Office, London, from the original official observations taken at Majorca, and kindly furnished in M.S. to the Author. The extremes of temperature and rainfall are shown by Egyptian figures.

1 This column is simply headed "Reflector" in the original MS. without any explanation.

## APPENDIX IV.—SITUATION OF THE

Islands.	Names of the Light-houses.	Order.	Geographical Situation.	
			Latitude.	Longitude from Cadiz.
Majorca	Palma . . . .	5th.	39 34 0 N.	8 53 11 E.
	Porto Pi . . . .	5th.	39 33 0 N.	8 52 40 E.
	Calafiguera . .	5th.	39 27 42 N.	8 46 10 E.
	Dragonera . . .	3rd.	39 35 0 N.	8 53 0 E.
	Punta Grósa (Soller)	4th.	39 48 5 N.	8 56 53 E.
	Punta de la Cruz .	6th.	39 48 0 N.	8 56 20 E.
	Formentó . . . .	2nd.	39 57 45 N.	9 27 8 E.
	Aucanada . . . .	6th.	39 49 45 N.	9 24 38 E.
	Cabo de Pera . .	3rd.	39 43 0 N.	9 42 20 E.
	Puerto Colom . .	6th.	39 25 0 N.	9 30 40 E.
	Cabo Salinas . .	6th.	39 16 30 N.	9 18 10 E.
	Cabo Blanco . . .	6th.	39 22 0 N.	9 2 10 E.
Cabrera . . . .	2nd.	39 7 15 N.	9 15 0 E.	
Minorca	Mahon . . . .	6th.	39 52 0 N.	10 36 38 E.
	Isla del Aire . .	2nd.	39 47 36 N.	10 35 23 E.
	Cabo D'artuch . .	4th.	39 54 49 N.	10 4 29 E.
	Ciudadela . . . .	6th.	39 59 45 N.	10 4 40 E.
	Cabo Caballeria .	2nd.	40 5 40 N.	10 21 38 E.
Iviza .	Botafoch . . . .	6th.	38 54 0 N.	7 43 18 E.
	Ahorcados . . .	4th.	38 48 42 N.	7 41 2 E.
	Isla d'en Pou . .	4th.	38 48 0 N.	7 41 40 E.
	Formentera . . .	2nd.	38 38 15 N.	8 2 30 E.
	Conejera . . . .	2nd.	38 59 47 N.	7 28 48 E.
Punta Grosa . .	3rd.	39 5 0 N.	7 57 30 E.	

LIGHTHOUSES IN THE BALEARIC ISLANDS.<sup>1</sup>

Description of the Lights.	Elevation of the Light above the level of the sea.	Distance at which seen.
	Mètres.	Maritime Miles.
Fixed white light . . . . .	11' 15	4
White light, twinkling every 3 minutes . .	40' 13	8
Fixed white light . . . . .	35' 20	12
White light, twinkling every 2 minutes . .	360' 19	20
Fixed white light . . . . .	142' 50	15
Fixed white light . . . . .	23' 37	9
Light eclipsing every 30 seconds . . . .	180' 50	19
Fixed white light . . . . .	23' 50	9
{Fixed white light, with red twinkling every } { 2 minutes . . . . . }	73' 50	18
Fixed white light . . . . .	14' 00	10
Fixed white light . . . . .	15' 70	10
Fixed white light . . . . .	89' 50	10
White light, eclipsing every ½ minute . .	123' 00	20
Fixed white light . . . . .	22' 66	7
White light, eclipsing every minute. . . .	52' 00	20
Fixed light, eclipsing every 3 minutes . .	21' 25	16
Fixed white light . . . . .	20' 30	7
Fixed white light . . . . .	93' 75	20
Fixed white light . . . . .	31' 10	9
Fixed white light . . . . .	28' 15	16
{White light, with red, twinkling every } { 3 minutes . . . . . }	28' 70	15
Fixed white light . . . . .	158' 00	18
Light eclipsing every minute . . . . .	88' 00	20
White light, eclipsing every 4 minutes . .	54' 90	15

<sup>1</sup> Furnished in MS. to the author by Don Emilio Pou, engineer-in-chief of the province.



## APPENDIX V.

REDUCTION OF MAJORCAN WEIGHTS and MEASURES to the FRENCH METRICAL SYSTEM.<sup>1</sup>

MEASURES OF LONGITUDE.		Metrical Decimal Measures.
Majorcan Measures.	—	
La meridiana terrestre . . . . .	4 cuadrantes . . . . .	40.000,000'000,000 mètres.
El cuadrante . . . . .	90 grados . . . . .	10.000,000'000,000 "
	{ 20 leguas legatés españolas, llamadas tambien geográficas ó geométricas y marinas ó marítimas }	
El grado . . . . .	{ 17½ leguas comunes de Castilla . . . . .	III,111'111,111 "
	{ 16½ leguas de camino real . . . . .	
	{ 19,938,469,881,944. leguas de Burgos . . . . .	
La legua geográfica ó marina	{ 4 millas ó 20 mil pies geométricos . . . . .	5,555'555,555 "
	{ 3 millas para las operaciones de pilotaje . . . . .	
La legua comun . . . . .	{ 19,938,469,882 pies de Burgos . . . . .	
La legua de camino real . . . . .	{ 22,857 pies geométricos . . . . .	6,349'206,349 "
	{ 24,000 pies geométricos . . . . .	6,666'666,666 "
La legua de Burgos . . . . .	{ 3,333½ toesas de Burgos . . . . .	
	{ 20,000 pies de Burgos . . . . .	
La milla geográfica . . . . .	{ 20,061'720,002 pies geométricos . . . . .	5,572'705,000 "
El estadio . . . . .	{ 8 estadios . . . . .	1,388'888,888 "
El paso geométrico . . . . .	{ 125 pasos geométricos . . . . .	173'611,111 "
	{ 5 pies geométricos . . . . .	1'388,888 "

El pié geométrico ó geo- gráfico . . . . .	12 pulgadas geométricas . . . . .	0'277,778	"
La milla marina . . . . .	1,111½ brazas marinas . . . . .	1,851'851,852	"
La braza marina . . . . .	6 piés geométricos . . . . .	1'666,666	"
La cuerda de Burgos . . . . .	25 piés de Burgos . . . . .	6'965,875	"
La toesa ó hexápoda de id. . . . .	2 varas de idem . . . . .	1'671,810	"
La vara de id. . . . .	3 piés de idem . . . . .	0'835,905	"
El pié de id. . . . .	12 pulgadas de idem . . . . .	0'278,635	"
La pulgada de id. . . . .	12 líneas de idem . . . . .	0'023,220	"
La línea de id. . . . .	12 puntos de idem . . . . .	0'001,935	"
El <i>toynay</i> . . . . .	6 destres . . . . .	25'284,000	"
El destre . . . . .	{ 12 palmos de destre . . . . . 16 palmos de <i>monpellier</i> . . . . . 10 décimos de destre . . . . .	4'214,000	"
El palmo de destre . . . . .	{ 21'5,549,872 palmos de cana . . . . . 1'7,962,489 palmos de cana . . . . .	0'351,170	"
El palmo de <i>monpellier</i> . . . . .	1'3,471,867 palmos de cana . . . . .	0'283,375	"
El décimo de destre . . . . .	2'1,554,987 palmos de cana . . . . .	0'421,400	"
La cana . . . . .	8 palmos . . . . .	1'564,000	"
El palmo . . . . .	4 cuartos . . . . .	0'195,500	"
El cuarto . . . . .	3 dedos . . . . .	0'048,875	"
El pié de rey (frances) . . . . .	12 pulgadas de rey . . . . .	0'344,839	"
El pié romana antiguo . . . . .	12 pulgadas romanas . . . . .	0'294,025	"

1 From the Tables of Don. José Mathieu Forster of Palma.

Reduction of Majorcan Weights and Measures to the French Metrical System—*continued.*

MEASURES OF LONGITUDE.		
Metrical Decimal Measures.	—	Majorcan Measures.
La meridiana terrestre . . . . .	4,000 miriámetros . . . . .	.. .. .
El cuadrante . . . . .	4 cuadrantes . . . . .	.. .. .
	1,000 miriámetros . . . . .	.. .. .
El miriámetro . . . . .	10 kilómetros . . . . .	2,373,042,240 destres.
		51,150,895,120 palmos de cana.
		35,889,216,000 piés de Burgos.
El kilómetro . . . . .	10 hectómetros . . . . .	.. .. .
El hectómetro . . . . .	10 decámetros . . . . .	.. .. .
El decámetro . . . . .	10 metros . . . . .	.. .. .
El metro . . . . .	10 decímetros . . . . .	0,237,304 destres.
		5,115,090 palmos de cana.
El decímetro . . . . .	10 centímetros . . . . .	3,588,922 piés de Burgos.
El centímetro . . . . .	10 milímetros . . . . .	.. .. .
El milímetro . . . . .	1 milésima de metro . . . . .	.. .. .

Reduction of Majorcan Weights and Measures to the French Metrical System—continued.

MEASURES OF SURFACE.		
Majorcan Measures.		Metrical Decimal Measures.
La cuarterada . . . . .	4 cuarterones . . . . .	71'031,184 áreas.
El cuarton . . . . .	4 huertos . . . . .	17'757,796 "
El huerto . . . . .	{ 25 destres . . . . .	4'439,449 "
	{ 4 cuartés . . . . .	
	{ 64 destres . . . . .	
El cuarté . . . . .	{ 900 palmos de destre cuadrados . . . . .	1'109,862 "
	{ 1,600 piés de destre idem . . . . .	
	{ 2904'8.592,075 palmos de cana id. . . . .	
	{ 144 palmos de destre idem . . . . .	
El destre ó <i>sow</i> . . . . .	{ 256 piés de destre idem . . . . .	0'177,578 "
	{ 100 décimos de destre idem . . . . .	
	{ 464'6.174,732 palmos de cana idem . . . . .	
El palmo de cana cuadrado	16 cuartos de palmo cuadrados . . . . .	0'000,382 "
La pulgada de Burgos id.	144 líneas cuadradas . . . . .	0'00.000,539 "
Metrical Decimal Measures.		Majorcan Measures.
La hectárea . . . . .	100 áreas . . . . .	5'631,300 cuarterones.
La área . . . . .	100 centiáres ó metros cuadrados . . . . .	0'056,313 "
El metro cuadrado . . . . .	100 décímetros cuadrados . . . . .	0'000,563 "
El decímetro cuadrado . . . . .	100 centímetros cuadrados . . . . .	{ 4'046,566 cuartos de palmo cuadrados.
El centímetro cuadrado . . . . .	100 milímetros cuadrados . . . . .	{ 18'547,740 pulgadas cuadradas.
		26'709,000 líneas cuadradas.

Reduction of Majorcan Weights and Measures to the French Metrical System—*continued.*

MEASURES OF VOLUME.		
Majorcan Measures.	—	Metrical Decimal Measures.
El palmo de cana cúbico	8 medios palmos cúbicos . . . .	7' 472.058, 875 decímetros cúbicos.
El medio palmo de idem	8 cuartos de idem idem . . . .	0' 934.007, 359 " "
idem . . . . .		
Metrical Decimal Measures.	—	Majorcan Measures.
El metro cúbico . . .	1,000 décimos cúbicos . . . .	133' 824. 895, 875 palmos cúbicos.
El decímetro idem . .	1,000 centímetros idem . . . .	0' 133. 831, 960 " "
MEASURES OF BULK.		
<i>For Cereals.</i>		
Majorcan Measures.	—	Metrical Decimal Measures.
La carretada de trigo . .	10 cuarteras . . . . .	703' 400, 000 litres.
La carretada de cebada . .	12 cuarteras . . . . .	844' 080, 000 "
La carretada de avena . .	14 cuarteras . . . . .	984' 760, 000 "
La cuartera . . . . .	6 barcillas . . . . .	70' 340, 000 "
La barquilla . . . . .	6 almudes . . . . .	11' 723, 333 "
El almud . . . . .	4 cuartos ó <i>setens</i> . . . . .	1' 953, 890 "

<i>For Vegetables.</i>		
La carretada . . . . .	8 cuarteras . . . . .	92'000,000 litres.
La cuartera de habas . . . . .	6 barcillas . . . . .	90'000,000 "
La cuartera de garbanzos . . . . .	6 barcillas . . . . .	88'000,000 "
La cuartera de vezas . . . . .	6 barcillas . . . . .	86'000,000 "
La cuartera de lentejas . . . . .	6 barcillas . . . . .	84'000,000 "
La cuartera de alpiste . . . . .	6 barcillas . . . . .	..
<i>For Oil.</i>		
La somada ó carga . . . . .	2 odres ó pellejos . . . . .	99'480,000 "
El odre ó pellejo . . . . .	3 medidas . . . . .	49'740,000 "
La medida . . . . .	2 medias ídem ó jerrás . . . . .	16'580,000 "
La media medida ó jerra . . . . .	2 cuarteras . . . . .	8'290,000 "
El cuartan . . . . .	{ 9 libras en Palma . . . . . } { 8 libras en Llummayor . . . . . }	4'145,000 "
La libra de Palma . . . . .	4 cuartos de la de Palma . . . . .	0'460,555 "
La libra de Llummayor . . . . .	4 ídem de la de Llummayor . . . . .	0'518,125 "
<i>For Petroleum.</i>		
La libra . . . . .	Es la de aceite de Palma . . . . .	0'460,555 "
<i>For Wine.</i>		
La carretada . . . . .	20 cuarterines . . . . .	533'520,000 "
El cuartin . . . . .	4 cuarterones ó 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ cortés . . . . .	26'676,000 "
El cuarteron ó cortinelo . . . . .	2 borrhachelos ó 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ cuarteras . . . . .	6'669,000 "
El cuarté ó corté . . . . .	4 cuarteras . . . . .	4'104,000 "
El borrhachelo . . . . .	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ cuarteras . . . . .	3'334,500 "
La cuarta . . . . .	2 cuarterones . . . . .	1'026,000 "

Reduction of Majorcan Weights and Measures to the French Metrical System—*continued.*

MEASURES OF BULK. <i>For Spirits and Liquors.</i>																																														
Majorcan Measures.	—	Metrical Decimal Measures.																																												
El cuartin, que es el devino	4 cuarterones ó 64 libras	26'676,000 litres.																																												
El cuarteron id.	16 libras	6'669,000 "																																												
La libra	4 cuartos	0'416,813 "																																												
Metrical Decimal Measures.	—	Majorcan Measures.																																												
El kilólitro	10 hectólitros	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: right;">51'179,983</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: right;">almudes de cereals.</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: right;">..</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: right;">..</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">39</td> <td style="text-align: right;">almudes colmos de beans.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">de "</td> <td style="text-align: right;">..</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">40</td> <td style="text-align: right;">" "</td> <td style="text-align: right;">de "</td> <td style="text-align: right;">..</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">41</td> <td style="text-align: right;">" "</td> <td style="text-align: right;">de "</td> <td style="text-align: right;">..</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">42</td> <td style="text-align: right;">" "</td> <td style="text-align: right;">de lentils.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">..</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">43</td> <td style="text-align: right;">" "</td> <td style="text-align: right;">de alpiste.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">..</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">217'129,077</td> <td style="text-align: right;">pounds de Palma</td> <td style="text-align: right;">de Llummayor</td> <td style="text-align: right;">} of</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">193'003,619</td> <td style="text-align: right;">" "</td> <td style="text-align: right;">de petroleum.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">"</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">217'129,077</td> <td style="text-align: right;">" "</td> <td style="text-align: right;">cuartas de wine.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">"</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">97'465,887</td> <td style="text-align: right;">" "</td> <td style="text-align: right;">pounds de spirits.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">"</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">239'916,028</td> <td style="text-align: right;">" "</td> <td style="text-align: right;">" "</td> <td style="text-align: right;">"</td> </tr> </table>	51'179,983	almudes de cereals.	..	..	39	almudes colmos de beans.	de "	..	40	" "	de "	..	41	" "	de "	..	42	" "	de lentils.	..	43	" "	de alpiste.	..	217'129,077	pounds de Palma	de Llummayor	} of	193'003,619	" "	de petroleum.	"	217'129,077	" "	cuartas de wine.	"	97'465,887	" "	pounds de spirits.	"	239'916,028	" "	" "	"
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El hectólitro	10 decálitros																																													

El decálitro . . . . .	10 litros . . . . .	0'511,800 almudes de cereals, 0'39 almudes colmos de beana, 0'40 " " de " 0'41 " " de " 0'42 " " de lentils, 0'43 " " de alpiate, 2'171,291 pounds de Palma } of 1'930,036 " de Llummayor } oil. 2'171,291 " de petroleum. 0'974,659 cuartas de wine. 2'399,160 pounds de spirit. .. .. .. ..
El litro . . . . .	10 decilitros . . . . .	
El decilitro . . . . .	10 centilitros . . . . .	
El centilitro . . . . .	10 mililitros . . . . .	
MEASURES OF WEIGHT.		
Majorcan Measures.	—	Metrical Decimal Measures.
La somada ó carga . . . . .	3 quintales . . . . .	126'984,000 kilogrammes.
El quintal . . . . .	4 arrobas . . . . .	42'328,000 " "
La arroba . . . . .	{ 25 libras de al por mayor y 26 de } al por menor, llamadas tercias para } carnes y pescados	10'582,000 " "
La libra de al por mayor . . . . .	12'48 onzas . . . . .	0'423,280 " "
La libra de al por menor . . . . .	12 onzas . . . . .	0'407,000 " "
La onza . . . . .	4 cuartos . . . . .	0'033,917 " "



Reduction of Majorcan Weights and Measures to the French Metrical System—*continued.*

MEASURES OF WEIGHT.		
Majorcan Measures.	—	Metrical Decimal Measures.
El cuarto . . . . .	4 adarnes ó argentos . . . . .	0'008,479 kilogrammes.
El adarne ó argento . . . . .	36 granos . . . . .	0'002,120     "
El grano . . . . .	1 grano . . . . .	0'000,059     "
La tonelada de Castilla . . . . .	20 quintales castellanos . . . . .	920'186,000     "
El quilate ó karat . . . . .	2 medios, 4 cuartos, 8 octavos, etc.	0'000.205,872     "
Metrical Decimal Measures.	—	Majorcan Measures.
La tonelada métrica . . . . .	10 quintales métricos . . . . .	.. .. .
El quintal métrico . . . . .	10 décimos de quintal métrico . . . . .	{ 236'250,236 pounds wholesale.
El décimo de quintal métrico . . . . .	10 kilogramos . . . . .	{ 245'700,000     " retail.
El kilogramo . . . . .	10 hectógramos . . . . .	.. .. .
El hectógramo . . . . .	10 decágramos . . . . .	{ 2'362,502     " wholesale.
El decágramo . . . . .	10 gramos . . . . .	{ 2,457,000     " retail.
El grano . . . . .	10 decigramos . . . . .	.. .. .
El decigramo . . . . .	10 centigramos = 100 miligramos . . . . .	0'034,776 ounces medicinales.
		.. .. .

## APPENDIX VI.

ANCHORING AND SHOAL BUOYS IN PORT MAHON.<sup>1</sup>

Class of the Buoys.	Situation of the Buoys.	Depth of Water.	Colour.	Observations.
Shoal buoys	(Placed on <i>el bajo</i> <i>Tora</i> . . . . .)	Mètres. 12' 00	{ Red & white.	The first which serves as a protection from the north is in the line ( <i>enfiliacion</i> ) <sup>1</sup> of La Torre de Felipet, with that of El Lazareto, or <i>Les Clot d'Als Asas</i> , at the moment that the last-mentioned becomes free towards the north, and in line of the southern angle of the lighthouse, with the rough edge ( <i>arista</i> ) <sup>2</sup> nearest to the sea of the old wall or rampart ( <i>muro</i> ) of S. Felipe, or with the rough edge nearest to the sea of rampart S. Felipe's old wall. The second protecting from the west and west-north-west is in the line on which the shelf on the sea in front of Cape La Mola closes the narrow channel ( <i>freo</i> ) <sup>3</sup> , with the same Cape bearing with the belfry of Villa Carlos, between the gunpowder magazine and the fortification of the reef el Moro.
	{ Placed on <i>el bajo</i> <i>San Carlos</i> . . . . .	10' 00	Ditto.	
	{ Placed on <i>el bajo</i> <i>Felipet</i> . . . . .	9' 20	Ditto.	
Anchoring buoys .	(Placed on <i>el bajo</i> <i>Moro</i> . . . . .)	12' 20	Ditto.	
	{ Placed at the entrance of the port. . . . .	29' 00	Ditto.	
	{ Ditto ditto . . . . .	25' 00	Ditto.	

<sup>1</sup> *Enfiliacion*—Nautical term, "bearing."<sup>2</sup> *Arista*—Ditto, rough edge or salient angles crossing each other.<sup>3</sup> *Freo*—Ditto, narrow channel for the passage of boats.<sup>1</sup> Furnished in MS. to the Author by Don Emilio Pou, Engineer-in-chief of the Province.

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Reduction of Majorcan Weights and Measures to the French Metrical System—*continued.*

MEASURES OF BULK. <i>For Spirits and Liquors.</i>		
Majorcan Measures.	—	Metrical Decimal Measures.
El cuartin, que es el de vino	4 cuarterones ó 64 libras	26'676,000 litres.
El cuarteron id.	16 libras	6'669,000 "
La libra	4 cuartos	0'416,813 "
Metrical Decimal Measures.	—	Majorcan Measures.
El kilólitro	10 hectólitros	51'179,983 almudes de cereals. 39 almudes colmos de beans. 40 " " de " 41 " " de " 42 " " de lentils. 43 " " de alpiste.
El hectólitro	10 decálitros	217,129,077 pounds de Palma } of 193,003,619 " de Llummayor) oil. 217,129,077 " de petroleum. 97,465,887 cuartas de wine. 239'916,028 pounds de spirits.

		MEASURES OF WEIGHT.			
		Majorcan Measures.	—		Metrical Decimal Measures.
El decálitro . . . . .	10 litros . . . . .	3 quintales . . . . .	126'984,000 kilogrammes.		
		4 arrobas . . . . .	42'328,000 "		
		(25 libras de al por mayor y 26 de al por menor, llamadas tercias para carnes y pescados . . . . .)	10'582,000 "		
El litro . . . . .	10 decilitros . . . . .	12'48 onzas . . . . .	0'423,280 "		
		12 onzas . . . . .	0'407,000 "		
		4 cuartos . . . . .	0'033,917 "		
El decilitro . . . . .	10 centilitros . . . . .				
El centilitro . . . . .	10 mililitros . . . . .				
		{ 0'511,800 almudes de cereals. 0'39 almudes colmos de beans. 0'40 " " de " 0'41 " " de " 0'42 " " de lentils. 0'43 " " de alpiste. 2'171,291 pounds de Palma 1'930,036 " de Llanmayor } of 2'171,291 " de petroleum. 0'974,659 cuartas de wine. 2'399,100 pounds de spirit. .. " .. "                 }			

Reduction of Majorcan Weights and Measures to the French Metrical System—*continued.*

MEASURES OF WEIGHT.		
Majorcan Measures.	—	Metrical Decimal Measures.
El cuarto . . . . .	4 adarnes ó argentos . . . . .	0'008,479 kilogrammes.
El adarne ó argento . . . . .	36 granos . . . . .	0'002,120 "
El grano . . . . .	1 grano . . . . .	0'000,059 "
La tonelada de Castilla . . . . .	20 quintales castellanos . . . . .	920'186,000 "
El quilate ó karat . . . . .	2 medios, 4 cuartos, 8 octavos, etc.	0'000.205,872 "
Metrical Decimal Measures.	—	Majorcan Measures.
La tonelada métrica . . . . .	10 quintales métricos . . . . .	..
El quintal métrico . . . . .	10 décimos de quintal métrico . . . . .	{ 236'250,236 pounds wholesale.
El décimo de quintal métrico . . . . .	10 kilogramos . . . . .	{ 245'700,000 " retail.
El kilogramo . . . . .	10 hectógramos . . . . .	..
El hectógramo . . . . .	10 decágramos . . . . .	{ 2'362,502 " wholesale.
El decágramo . . . . .	10 gramos . . . . .	{ 2,457,000 " retail.
El grano . . . . .	10 decigramos . . . . .	..
El decígramo . . . . .	10 centigramos = 100 miligramos . . . . .	o'034,776 ounces medicinales.
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APPENDIX VI.  
ANCHORING AND SHOAL BUOYS IN PORT MAHON.<sup>1</sup>

Class of the Buoy.	Situation of the Buoy.	Depth of Water.	Colour.	Observations.
Shoal buoys	{ Placed on <i>el bajo</i>	Mètres.	{ Red &	<p>The first which serves as a protection from the north is in the line (<i>enfiliación</i><sup>1</sup>) of La Torre de Felipe, with that of El Lazareto, or <i>Las Clof d'els Asas</i>, at the moment that the last-mentioned becomes free towards the north, and in line of the southern angle of the lighthouse, with the rough edge (<i>arista</i><sup>2</sup>) nearest to the sea of the old wall or rampart (<i>muro</i>) of S. Felipe, or with the rough edge nearest to the sea of rampart S. Felipe's old wall.</p> <p>The second protecting from the west and west-north-west is in the line on which the shelf on the sea in front of Cape La Mola closes the narrow channel (<i>frezó</i><sup>3</sup>), with the same Cape bearing with the belfry of Villa Carlos, between the gunpowder magazine and the fortification of the reef el Moro.</p> <p><sup>1</sup> <i>Enfiliación</i>—Nautical term, "bearing."  <sup>2</sup> <i>Arista</i>—Ditto, rough edge or salient angles crossing each other.  <sup>3</sup> <i>Frezó</i>—Ditto, narrow channel for the passage of boats.</p>
	{ <i>Tora</i> . . . . . }	12'00	{ white.	
	{ Placed on <i>el bajo San Carlos</i> . . . . . }	10'00	Ditto.	
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	{ Placed at the entrance of the port. }	29'00	Ditto.	
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