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SPANISH  
REVOLUTION.

E. BLAQUIERE.

LONDON  
1822.

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**JUNTA DE ANDALUCÍA**

AN

**HISTORICAL REVIEW,**

P.C. Monumental de la Alhambra y Generalife  
&c. &c. **CONSEJERÍA DE CULTURA**



**JUNTA DE ANDALUCÍA**

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JUNTA DE ANDALUCIA

P.C. Monumental de la Alhambra y Generalife  
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AN  
HISTORICAL REVIEW  
OF THE  
SPANISH REVOLUTION,

INCLUDING SOME ACCOUNT OF  
RELIGION, MANNERS, AND LITERATURE,

IN  
SPAIN;

ILLUSTRATED WITH A MAP.

P.G. Monumental de la Alhambra y Genaralife  
CONSEJERIA DE CULTURA

BY EDWARD BLAQUIERE, ESQ.

AUTHOR OF

“LETTERS FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN,” &c.

“Say not thou, what is the cause that the former days were better than these? for thou dost not inquire wisely concerning this.”

ECCLESIASTES, Chap. 7.

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## P R E F A C E.

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AN apology is due to the public, for having delayed my volume on the State of Spain so long after its first announcement. In observing that I fully intended to produce a rapid and limited view of Peninsular affairs, immediately after my return from Madrid; it may also be proper to add, that when several literary friends hinted that the newspapers of Europe, had teemed with so many details, on the subject of my proposed publication, as to afford me but little chance of attracting notice, unless I could present something more solid than that which was served up by the purveyors to the diurnal press; prudence whispered, that I was bound to follow their advice. How far those who counselled delay were right, and whether they would not have acted a still more friendly part, in recommending an indefinite postponement, is for the public to decide.

I can neither forget, nor be ungrateful for, the extreme indulgence shown towards me,

ten years ago, by those from whom I could not expect so much courtesy. If the forbearance of some, and approbation of others, arose from a belief that the interests of my country had a greater share in urging me to incur the ordeal of criticism, than the vanity of authorship, it affords me an additional source of consolation.

The tone of impartiality I have adopted now, as on every former occasion, and those modifications of opinion, suggested by a more careful examination of facts, will necessarily expose me to the censure of those, who think consistency in error to be the best criterion of virtue. Invariably actuated by a desire to promote the happiness of the greater number, I had no other course left, than the one I have pursued: satisfied, that the surest, perhaps the only way of diminishing those fatal effects, which the slavery of party and faction have, heretofore, exercised on the liberties of mankind, will be found in observing the strictest impartiality towards all those who divide political society, I have never lost sight of that object in the following pages; though this path neither leads to ministerial patronage, emolument nor place, yet it is that which honour and patriotism dictate.

Let it not be imagined from the sketch I

have drawn of these abuses, which ignorance and fanaticism have introduced and perpetuated in the religious system of Spain, that I am the less favourable to toleration in its utmost latitude; or that I conceive the plan of exclusion, which continues to prevail against our Catholic brethren and fellow-citizens, is less injurious to the state, than urgent to those, who are thereby debarred from the enjoyment of their political rights: unable to say all I could wish on this subject, I shall only add, that I recognize no limits to religious tolerance, except those which may be opposed to it by morality and reason.

The day on which Protestant and Catholic shall meet in the same temple, to adore one common Father, will, in my estimation, exhibit the greatest triumph ever obtained by humanity: need I say that this glorious victory can never be achieved while the system of exclusion exists? It is not amongst the least absurd of those anomalies, which I have been called upon to expose, in treating the religious or political affairs of Spain, that while the various sects, into which Christianity is unhappily divided, fervently invoke the protection of Providence, they are, with scarcely a single exception, more or less into-

lerant towards each other; as if the fundamental maxim of their faith, were a mere watch-word to cover hypocrisy and falsehood. Surely there was more philosophy in Boileau's exclaiming — "*tous les hommes sont fous!*" than most people have imagined.

Where so much has been drawn from the stores of others, it would be unjust not to take this opportunity of acknowledging my debts: if I do not name all my creditors, it is because many were anonymous, and others did not feel ambitious, either from fear or delicacy of figuring in a preface. The frequency of foreign names and places, has rendered the correction of the press a difficult task to those friends who had kindly undertaken that thankless office: where errors appear, it is hoped the reader will be indulgent to that which was altogether unavoidable.

As a preference to single volumes, where the subject relates to politics or religion, is amongst the salutary innovations of the present day, a fear of interfering with this improvement in public taste, has alone prevented me from adding a variety of facts, that would have greatly contributed to illustrate the text. I had even ventured to approach the ground, which has been rendered sacred by

the steps of Robertson and Hallam, and prepared an introduction, founded on the most prominent points of Spanish history, ancient and modern. It is, doubtless, fortunate for my literary reputation, that this effort of an inexperienced hand is laid on the shelf: there are, however, some miscellaneous anecdotes and information, which I should have most willingly submitted to my readers.

It will be seen that frequent allusions are made to France, and that I have spoken of the defects in the social institutions, (which must strike the most superficial observer who visits that country,) with the same freedom as I have those of Spain: had it borne an immediate relation to the main object, I could have said infinitely more; as it is, I am sure those celebrated men, with whom I have conversed, relative to the existing state of affairs, and which menace their country with fresh reactions, will not charge me with being actuated by any improper motive.

With respect to passing events in Spain, they are, probably, more full of interest to Europe now, than at any former period: it is impossible any longer to misconceive the real nature of the struggle, or to deny that the people who were slaves, little more than two years ago, are now the advanced guard of

civilization. Does it arise from accidental causes, or is it in the order of nature, that those who have suffered most from oppression, are destined to find a compensation, in conferring freedom and happiness on others?

Should the contest which has been already communicated from the Peninsula to Italy and Greece, be conducted with the firmness and wisdom, which have hitherto marked its progress, in the land of Pelagius and Themistocles, it is not within human comprehension to predict or conceive the magnitude and extent of the benefits which such a struggle is capable of producing to society.

It is impossible to name Greece, without adding to the thousand voices which curse the policy that obliges England, not only calmly to witness the extermination of a brave and suffering population, but, oh! shame of our age, and ruin of our glory! co-operate in the work of death.\* To complete this scene

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\* A political prophet of France, and one whose former predictions have been but too often realized, (he foretold the occupation of Paris by the people of Europe,) says that the power which has permitted four millions of Greeks to be given up to the knife of the infidels, and which suffers the Colossus of the north to make such immeasurable strides, will herself share the fate of Babylon and Carthage.

of national degradation, continental politicians, who dwell on the subject, confound a generous people, with the errors and blindness of their rulers. I will boldly tell those Editors and Publicists of France, Italy and Germany, as I proclaim it to the world, that posterity will acquit the people of England from the foul charge, and that if they knew us better, it would never have been made.

Having spoken of men and manners with that frankness required by the paramount interests of truth, throughout my correspondence; no wonder that I should have been called upon to praise and blame parties and individuals, according to their conduct at different periods; so far from retracting a single word relative to the patriots of 1812, who have lately degenerated into a cabal, a great number of facts, proving that public opinion has not condemned them without cause, are omitted. I trust that their return to the line of honour and duty, may prevent the necessity of producing those additional motives for censure. The same feeling which induced me to speak somewhat lightly of General Morillo, when I saw him prefer a crusade against freedom, to the glory of giving liberty to his country, impels me to notice his recent conduct in terms of unequi-

vocal applause, and by which this distinguished officer has effaced every former impression. The gallantry and resolution displayed by Morillo on the memorable 7th of July, has placed him on a level with the heroes of La Isla, Ballesteros, Mina, Alava, Espinosa, and a few more, who do honor to our age, no less than to our country. It is a fortunate event for Europe, that those men feel they belong to the great family, and that the most trifling victory achieved over oppression or fanaticism, by their exertions, vibrates through every vein of civilized society. Aware of the dignified position in which they are placed, and of the incalculable interests at stake: Aye! convinced that the fate of Europe is in their hands, I feel satisfied the military heroes of Spain and Portugal will realize the hopes of mankind. That in consolidating the fabric of freedom in the Peninsula, they may establish the liberties of other nations, must, therefore, be the anxious wish and ardent prayer of every man, whose breast glows with sentiments of humanity and virtue.



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Madrid, July —, 1820.

YOUR conjectures as to the state of popular feeling in this country were quite correct ; so that all my anticipations have been fully realized. It would, indeed, be extremely difficult to conceive a more interesting spectacle than that now exhibited in the Spanish capital ; where, notwithstanding the period which has elapsed since the Constitution was proclaimed, all classes of the community still seem borne along by that full tide of joy, which marked the first stages of their political regeneration.

Having been an occasional visitor in various parts of the Peninsula, during the days of its dejection and calamity, I came prepared to contrast the past with the present, and accordingly, I had scarcely entered the populous and beautiful valley

of Bastan, in crossing the Pyrenees, from Bayonne to Pamplona, when the cheerful aspect and bustling activity visible amongst the peasantry, and in the towns, convinced me that a considerable change had been already produced : even the sombre capital of Navarre seemed to have thrown off its proverbial gloom ; and in proportion as I advanced towards the interior, the scene became more gay and animated.

While passing over the fine Moorish bridge on the Ebro, which leads into Tudela, an immense crowd was seen moving slowly under a range of trees that shade the public walk : approaching nearer, I observed a long procession, composed of monks of several orders, bearing the host, numerous banners, and other religious symbols. These were preceded by a train of some hundred females, dressed in white, and veiled : a regiment of infantry marched in the rear. The whole assembly had just consecrated the *lapida*, or constitutional stone, in the great square, and was then taking a circuitous route to the Cathedral, there to complete the work, by singing *Te Deum*. Alighting, with my travelling companion, a native of the city, we joined the procession, and witnessed the remainder of the ceremony.

When high-mass had been concluded, and the multitude reached the space before the edifice, a general *viva* rent the air ; this was followed by some bands striking up national airs, and parading the streets in different directions : these were suc-

ceeded by private parties, who went about the town, serenading with vocal and instrumental music: the evening terminated in a general illumination.

*July 1826*

My approach to Zaragoza naturally awakened all those recollections of wonder and admiration, which its heroic efforts are so well calculated to call forth. The various and intrepid struggles made by this celebrated place, from the remotest periods of Spanish history, down to its memorable defence in 1808, were present to my mind; when I reached the suburb, and perceived that there was not even a parapet to prevent the approach of an enemy, I could not help exclaiming to those around me, "is it possible that this can be the place which stood two regular sieges, repulsed an army of thirty thousand men, in the first instance, and was obliged to submit to a still greater force, only through the effects of famine and disease?"—"Yes," said one of the party, pointing to a height called Torrero, on the right, and then to the left bank of the Ebro; "I, myself, witnessed a combined attack made from those two positions, by the army of Marshal Lefebre, and repelled, after a most sanguinary conflict of ten hours continued fighting; during which, we had not ten thousand regular troops, nor one well constructed battery to oppose a force of more than double that number, fully provided, and prepared for conducting a formal siege!"

Owing to the events which succeeded the King's return in 1814, many parts of the city still

present an undistinguishable heap of ruins: a decree of the Supreme Junta, promulgated soon after the first attack, accorded various honours and rewards to the brave defenders, and the town itself was to be exempted from the payment of taxes for ten years; but this, like all the other decrees of the patriotic government, was consigned to oblivion, and Zaragoza has been suffered to feel all the evils arising out of a struggle, that can be compared only to those of Numantia and Saguntum.

Most of the houses in the *Coso*, or main street, are perforated with innumerable bullets, fired by the contending parties: while the Spaniards possessed one side, and their opponents the other, it frequently happened that a party of French and Spanish met and disputed possession of the same house, and on one occasion fifteen hundred of the enemy, who had penetrated far into the *coso*, were sacrificed in the course of two hours. If any traits could be cited, to mark the national character of Spain, they will be found in the resolution manifested by the females of Zaragoza: not contented with performing all the duties of the soldiery, by serving the cannon, bearing arms, and throwing up works, they forced their children to co-operate in the defence; and, but for those heroic women, little doubt is entertained that the city would have been much more easily reduced. As the people of Zaragoza must be strongly imbued with the love of glory, it is some consolation for them to reflect that, if not

enriched by their heroism and constancy, they have acquired imperishable fame; while their defence will serve as a bright example to present times and future generations.

July 1820

It is scarcely necessary to add that such a population have exulted, with more than ordinary enthusiasm, in the restoration of liberty: I had, during my short stay, abundant occasions to observe this; for, whether I attended the religious ceremonies at the magnificent temples of El Pilar and La Seo, entered the Theatre, or frequented the superb public walks, there was always some object or occurrence to remind me of the recent change. In the Cathedral, a Priest was appointed to explain the articles of the new political code; nearly all the pieces selected for representation on the stage, were either composed to celebrate, or had an immediate analogy to the new order of things; and almost every corner presented a placard, on which *Viva la Constitucion!* was inscribed.

A conspiracy, in which the Bishop and the late Governor were implicated, had just been discovered as I arrived; it was suppressed, without producing any other consequence than affording the troops and inhabitants an opportunity of proving their zeal and moderation in support of freedom.

To form some notion of what bad government and defective laws have done for Spain, it is merely necessary for a traveller to survey the country between Zaragoza and Madrid, a distance

of one hundred and eighty miles. Although the rude and strongly built vehicles of the country contrive to effect this toilsome journey, there is no regular road, until you arrive within about forty miles of the capital: in other respects, millions of acres uncultivated and unenclosed, of a soil naturally fertile; a most scanty population, and every mark of abject poverty amongst the people, completely embittered my reflections, and destroyed the pleasure I could have otherwise experienced, in traversing the extensive plains and romantic hills of Arragon and Castile.

Although Madrid has always been regarded as one of the dullest capitals in Europe, the people appear to have enjoyed a continued festival during the last month: when the hours of recreation arrive, the Prado, Puerta del Sol, and the numerous streets which branch off from it in every direction, are immediately filled with people of all ranks, ages, and sexes: the usual round of serenades and other musical parties, enliven the scene at night, while some popular play or patriotic chief attracts crowded audiences to the Theatres. Many hundreds, and these of a respectable class, attend at the societies of the Cruz de Malta and Fontana de Oro, where some of the most eloquent men in Spain emulate each other in impressing the value of rational liberty, and the importance of constitutional government on the minds of their countrymen. Here, it is but a common act of justice to add, that of all those whom I have heard speak in

the above assemblages of the people, whether priests or lawyers, soldiers or citizens, not one amongst them has ever advocated any doctrine that is not recognized and sanctioned by the new political code. As the most perfect tranquillity has reigned here since my arrival, I have not failed to mix, as much as possible, with the joyous multitude; and, though a mere spectator, it is impossible not to participate in pleasure which has had its origin in a source so pure and sacred.

Such are the auspices under which the preparatory juntas, or meetings of Cortes, were held on the 27th ultimo: since that time, I have witnessed the gratifying ceremony of Ferdinand's appearing before this assembly, to swear the oath prescribed by the 173rd article of the Constitution. As this event forms an important epoch in the history of Spain, if not in that of Europe, you will not perhaps, be displeased to have it shortly described.

It having been ascertained that the party, whose interested motives and criminal ambition are so deeply affected by the late changes, have made great efforts to prevent the King from performing this last act, which has identified him with his people, it became necessary to take such precautions as were requisite to counteract their designs, and for the preservation of order; so that the scene presented a civic as well as a military pageant. The evening of the 8th was given up to that hilarity, to which the people of Spain surrender themselves on all their national festivals; but, from the in-

July 1820

Monumental de la Asamblea y Generalife  
CONSEJERIA DE CULTURA

JUNTA DE ANDRÉS

terests at stake, their gaiety was not unmingled with apprehensions, lest some untoward accident, or evil design, should intervene to obstruct the completion of their hopes: never did I witness the contending passions of joy and anxiety so strongly manifested, as on this occasion; all seemed to regard the ceremony of the following day, as one upon which their future happiness depended. I was exceedingly gratified by the eagerness universally shewn on this subject, and could hardly believe myself amongst a people who had just emerged from so many centuries of oppression.

The morning of the 9th was cloudless, and suited to the occasion; it was ushered in by the ringing of bells, and, at four o'clock, all the churches of Madrid were filled. The streets, through which the procession was to pass, were swept and watered; flags, tapestries, and silk draperies, fringed with gold or silver trimmings, ornamented the houses on each side; the street leading to the Cortes, was strewn with branches of olive, myrtle, and flowers of various hues: the whole population of Madrid, and not less than twenty thousand visitors, who came from the provinces to witness the scene, were in full activity by six o'clock, when the space before the hall of Cortes became crowded to excess. Before the doors, leading to the galleries appropriated to the public, were seen hundreds of well-dressed individuals, and amongst them many officers of rank, who had taken their station there, long before day-light.



When I reached the spot, they were all seated, *July 1820* and exchanging those repartees usual on such occasions. As the crowd increased, they found it necessary to rise; what with the effects of an ardent sun, and the close contact of so many people, several were obliged to withdraw, and give place to their neighbours, who were less susceptible of this suffocating position. It was thus that I contrived to form a part of the impenetrable mass, and I had the additional good fortune of being literally carried up the first flight of steps without making a single exertion of my own. It is needless to say, that the two galleries, though capable of containing fifteen hundred persons, were filled, to overflowing, in a few seconds. As the doors were opened at eight o'clock, I had an opportunity of surveying the interior arrangements of the hall, before any of the deputies arrived.

The hall of Cortes is of an oval form, and decorated with a degree of elegant simplicity, which I was, by no means, prepared to see. As if every thing connected with the present state of Spain was destined to form a striking contrast with its former condition, this edifice was once a church, but fitted up for the Cortes, on their removal from Cadiz to the capital in 1814: it is within a few hundred yards of the Royal Palace, and though an irregular structure, seems peculiarly well adapted for the reception of a popular assembly.

The front is surmounted by a cross, at the base of which there is a group, composed of three

figures; Hope supported by the symbol of Christianity, points to Spain, also represented under a female form, at whose feet is seen a torch, the emblem of paternal affection: underneath is a lion grappling a globe, on which both hemispheres are traced; and about the center of the façade there is a large marble slab, with the following inscription, in gilt letters:—THE POWER OF ENACTING LAWS, IS VESTED IN THE CORTES, WITH THE KING. A niche on each side contains statues of Patriotism and Liberty.

The hall is one hundred and fifty feet long, by sixty in breadth. On entering the great door, there is a platform extending twenty feet, and of a rectangular shape: here a barrier is formed by two bronze lions couched on pedestals, and holding a massive gilded bar in their mouths, to be drawn aside only when the Sovereign appears: the Deputies enter by four small doors placed on the sides. On a second platform at the upper extremity, more elevated than the first, a richly embroidered crimson velvet drapery, lined with ermine, and sustained by Cariatides, overhangs a throne or chair of state: opposite to this, and directly over the entrance, is the following inscription:—THE NATION IS ESSENTIALLY SOVEREIGN; CONSEQUENTLY IT POSSESSES THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF MAKING THE FUNDAMENTAL LAWS.\* A treble

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\* Both the above mottos are taken from the Constitutional Code. Vide Chap. I. and II.

range of benches, covered with red damask, accommodate the members; there is a table and chairs for the president and secretaries, below the throne. Two rostrums, in the centre and nearly level with the floor, serve for those who address the chair. Besides the statues of Wisdom and Genius, which occupy niches to the right and left of the throne, there are several square slabs containing bas-reliefs, on which some memorable events, connected with the late war, are sculptured. Others bear the names of Daoiz, Alvarez and Valerde, celebrated martyrs to the cause of Spanish freedom; these are in letters of gold.\* Four recesses, at equal distances, command a full view of the hall and galleries; three are appropriated to the reception of the royal family, foreign ambassadors, grantees, and other distinguished visitors: the last is exclusively opened for the reporters to the public press. Four niches on each side, are occupied by statues, representing the cardinal virtues. Six chandeliers of cut glass, are suspended from the ceiling; and the hall is well lighted, from semi-circular windows above the frieze by which it is surrounded. The galleries are spacious and convenient: Beadles are in attendance, to preserve decorum: and no money is exacted for admission.

Struck by the superior execution of the statues,

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\* The Cortes have since decreed that the names of Lacy, Porlier, Acevedo, and a few other patriots, shall be added, on similar lapidary memorials.

and other sculptured ornaments, no less than by the taste displayed in the minor arrangements of the building, I was most agreeably surprised to find, on inquiry, that none but native artists had been employed. These seemed to have vied with each other in rendering the hall worthy of the object for which it is designed; and, from subsequent information, I am led to believe that they were actuated more by a desire to show what Spain could produce in this way, than any view to pecuniary profit. They are entitled to great praise, for the manner in which the task has been performed, and it is gratifying to bestow it, when the object is so closely connected with the interests of humanity.

The arrival of the President, attended by most of the Deputies, about half past eight, having called my attention away from the embellishments of the hall, I prepared myself for the enjoyment of a sight still more interesting. His Majesty, preceded by the Queen, and the other members of the Royal Family, in state carriages, left the palace a little before nine o'clock, amidst the firing of cannon, enthusiastic cries of the people, and to the sound of patriotic airs. The whole of the body guard, composed of noblemen or their sons, rode before, and a regiment of cavalry brought up the rear. When the arrival of the first carriage was announced, the deputation appointed to receive her Majesty went out and conducted her to the balcony. She was splendidly attired, and

came in supported by the two Princesses, the wives *July 1820* of Don Carlos and of Don Francisco de Paolo. Advancing to the front, they bowed to the Deputies and those in the galleries, who received them with reiterated plaudits. A conviction on the part of the spectators, that those lovely women exulted in the emancipation of their adopted country, ensured a most cordial reception; nor, judging from their personal charms and the way in which they appeared to enjoy the scene, would it require any great effort of imagination to conceive, that the Graces had now descended, to preside at the consecration of human liberty!

When fresh salvos of artillery, and still louder shouts, announced the arrival of the King, another, and more numerous deputation went forth, and in about five minutes, Ferdinand, attended by the Infantes, his Ministers, and a long train of Grandees attached to the household, entered the hall; upon which the Deputies rose, and ranged themselves on each side: a dead silence followed the announcement of his Majesty's approach to the great door; but no sooner had he passed the gilded bar, than an hysterical burst of joy resounded through the hall, and applauses, mingled with benedictions on the head of the "Constitutional King," continued for a considerable time after he reached the throne. He must, indeed, have been an insensible being, who could have witnessed such a scene unmoved: although incapable of describing them, I shall never forget my own feelings on this occasion, and if I had reason to think highly of the Spanish

character before, such a display of virtuous enthusiasm was not likely to diminish my admiration.

Ferdinand was dressed in a blue coat, embroidered with gold, crimson velvet waistcoat and small clothes, white silk stockings, gold buckles in his shoes, and a cocked hat, which he carried in his hand: he wore a small sword, and was decorated with several orders. Previous to sitting down, his Majesty testified his satisfaction by frequent bows to the Deputies and spectators in the galleries. When he was seated, the auditory became silent in an instant, after which the ceremony proceeded.

When the King's brothers, Don Carlos and Francisco, the ministers and other attendants, took their places on each side the throne, the President and Secretaries advanced towards his Majesty: on approaching sufficiently near to administer the oath, they held a copy of the Constitution before him: placing one hand on the Holy Evangelists, presented by the President, and holding up the other, Ferdinand read the prescribed formula; upon which, a second manifestation of public feeling took place: when silence was restored, the President, who had resumed his place among the Deputies, addressed the throne, in a speech in which equal justice was done to the Monarch and his people. The answer, which followed, was read by Ferdinand himself, from a written paper, and delivered in a very clear and impressive tone.

As the unrestrained joy of the Deputies, spectators, and multitude, convinced me that this was a day of general oblivion and amnesty, I also endeavoured to forget the melancholy transactions of the last six years. From the moment of the King's entrance, until he retired, the Queen kept her eyes rivetted on his person: she appeared, in fact, to feel that fortune could not confer a greater blessing, than in thus enabling her to be present, when her husband had so effectually recovered the lost affections of his people.

After the President's reply, in which he thanked his Majesty for the speech just delivered, had terminated, Ferdinand, accompanied by the Queen, entered the same carriage, and were followed by the other members of the Family. It was with extreme difficulty the procession moved on, so great was the pressure of a crowd that filled the streets through which it had to pass, and the avenues leading to them.

In addition to the immense concourse that impeded their passage, the balconies and windows were filled by all the beauty of Madrid; innumerable banners waved from every side; garlands and flowers were thrown on the carriages as they passed, and nothing was heard but expressions of the most enthusiastic loyalty.

Several bands of music went before the procession, playing patriotic marches: the first carriage reached the palace at half past one; soon after which, the populace retired, and festivity was sus-

pended till the evening, when a general illumination took place; the theatres were also thrown open to the public, and the streets continued to be crowded till midnight.

Such was the reception of Ferdinand VII. and his family, when he swore to adhere to the Constitution, and thus ended one of the most impressive sights I ever beheld: it might be called the triumph of virtue as well as of freedom, for the people seemed to entertain only one sentiment, that of securing their future happiness, by identifying the interests of the Sovereign with their own.

The most perfect harmony reigned throughout this and the following days: it is true that the Ambassador of a neighbouring power is reported not only to have been rather dissatisfied, but to have even manifested his displeasure by attempting to break through a barrier placed in a street leading into that, through which the procession passed. An assassination had also been perpetrated the preceding night on one of the body guard; but, except as mere matters of historical fact, such isolated incidents do not deserve to be noticed, amidst the unequivocal acclamations of a hundred and fifty thousand human beings.

If I have dwelt, somewhat in detail, on the events of the 9th, it is because a knowledge of all those circumstances, however trivial, which attend the first efforts of a people who have recovered their liberties, is necessary for those who would form an accurate opinion of their motives and character.