manner, toilet, and language noted, as we traversed the streets, markets, and public places, furnished us constant amusement.

Among the animals native to the rock are hares and rabbits. Monkeys of extraordinary size still exist in the inaccessible fastnesses. They have no tails, and are harmless, but frequently come down and rob the gardens. They live on the roots of the palmettos and the fruits of the prickly pear. They are of a species to be found in northern Africa, and there has been much speculation whether they originally existed in Gibraltar or were brought in by the Arabs. Those who hold that the rock was once connected with Africa draw an argument for that view from the existence of these Barbary apes on Gibraltar. Montero thinks either supposition possible. Andalusia was the Tarshish of the old times, and these are the descendants of the apes for which Solomon sent, as described in 1 Kings x, 22: "For the king had at sea a navy of Tarshish with the navy of Hiram: once in three years came the navy of Tarshish bringing gold, and silver, ivory, and apes, and peacocks." A native of Gibraltar told us that no dead body or skeleton of any of these apes has been found. Whether these manlike animals conceal them in caves, or throw them into the ocean, none can tell.

Of public buildings there are in Gibraltar none of importance. A thousand towns in Europe have more to exhibit in the way of architecture, monuments, and other works of art. Had the English cathedral been intended as a burlesque of some form of architecture it would be counted a successful attempt. Presbyterians, Wesleyans, and other dissenting bodies have chapels, and there is a Roman Catholic church, a structure which, without saying much for it, can be represented as the most attractive public building in Gibraltar.

CHAPTER XIV.

Gibraltar.—(Continued.)

Geological Formation—History—Tour of Exploration—View from the Highest Point—Gibraltar Compared with the North Cape—Power of England.

GEOLOGISTS describe the rock as composed of compact limestone, varied by beds of red sandstone, and fissures of bony breccia, resembling what is found in the limestone rocks of Nice, Pisa, and Dalmatia. In this they discover fossils, such as bones of antelope, deer, tigers, rabbits, rats, birds, shells. Fossil shellfish are found "with both valves adhering," from which it is concluded that the animals must have been alive at the time of the upheaval.

A convincing evidence of the catastrophic character of the formation is the existence of a marine beach nearly five hundred feet above the level of the sea. Some maintain that the rock was formed by four shocks. In the first was elevated the highest part, chiefly the northern crests; in the second, the middle or western declivities; and in the third and fourth, the crests at the southern point. All, so far as I can ascertain, agree that no general change has taken place in the historic period. The rock is so steep as to afford the best opportunities for studying its geology, as the strata, almost from sea level to summit, can be distinguished without the trouble of excavation.

As it rises from a flat surface, and there is no hill fifty feet high within several miles of it, Gibraltar presents an imposing, and, from some points of view, an appalling aspect. The Phœnicians either believed that this was the end of the world, or were determined to make others believe it, so that they could maintain a monopoly of the commerce of the region. The Pillars of Hercules are thought to have been Calpe, the Greek name for Gibraltar, and Abyla, a mountain opposite to it in Africa. It is supposed that with all their enterprise and curiosity, the Romans never went beyond the Pillars of Hercules until the time of Augustus. In ancient times no human

beings lived upon the rock, which was the dwelling place of apes, wolves, and other wild animals. It derived its name from Gebal Tarik, who landed there April 7, 711. Fortified and held by the Moors until 1309; captured by Spain; twenty-seven years afterward reconquered by the Moors; held for one hundred and twenty-nine years; wrested from them once more, and finally incorporated with the Spanish crown in 1502, it was retained by Spain for two hundred and two years.

In the first year of the eighteenth century all western Europe became involved in the war of the Spanish succession. The kings of France and Austria claimed the throne left vacant on the death of Charles II without heir. This would include the sovereignty of the Spanish Netherlands, the Milanese, Naples, Sicily, and Italy, and all the vast possessions Spain then held in America. The complications became so numerous through the operations of the King of France, who succeeded in having his second grandson Philip made king, that Great Britain, Germany, and Holland entered into an alliance against France and Spain. It was in the fourth year of that war, on the 24th of July, 1704, that the rock was attacked and captured by an English force, though it was taken in the name of the Austrian Duke. At the end of the conflict Gibraltar was given to Great Britain, which did not value the acquisition, and George I was ready to relinquish what was generally thought to be a "barren rock, an insignificant fort, and a useless charge." Spain tried to conquer it soon afterward, but failed. It was again besieged by France in 1779, and in 1780 Spain joined France in a siege lasting four years. An English author, with pardonable pride, speaking of the repulse of the besieging force, says: "It ended in the repulse of the enemy, whose floating batteries, the invention of the ingenious M. D'Arcon, —that could neither be burned, sunk, nor taken—were either burned, sunk, or taken by plain Englishmen, who stood to their guns, on the 13th of September, 1783."

Our first tour of exploration consisted of a walk of about twelve miles, including the entire western front along the bay, ascending to the summit of Windmill Hill, passing around Europa Point to the east side of the rock. It was not possible to accomplish a great distance on the east, as the cliffs are

perpendicular, and no fortifications are needed. The ascents, descents, parallel walks, and view from the summit of the lighthouse which stands on Europa Point, give a series of prospects in which the beautiful succeeds the picturesque, rises to the grand, and culminates in the sublime. Europa Point is but five miles north of the most southerly point in the continent of Europe, and is one of two headlands which form the Bay of Gibraltar, the other being Cabrita Point in Spain. The glory of being the most southerly point belongs to Tarifa Point, formerly an island, but now united to the mainland by a causeway.

We ascended the lighthouse, and from its summit beheld the African coast before us; on the right the Straits, stretching away to the Atlantic; on the left the Mediterranean, with the mountains of Spain, Tarifa Point, and other headlands on the right; while above us, for more than a thousand feet, towered the rock. The lighthouse is one of the solid structures which the English build. Over its door is this inscription: "Placed by Adelaide, Queen Dowager of Great Britain and Ireland, 17 October, 1838."

Our guide was a native of the rock, who probably had never walked four miles in one day, and a score of times intimated as much to us, saying that the visitors generally rode, and he "could not understand these Americans who always wanted to walk." Yet he had too much courage to flinch, and the next day was boasting of his exploit—as though the tramp of twelve miles was anything more than wholesome exercise. Our next tour was directly up the side of the rock, before a permit to enter the fortifications had been secured. Lured by the charms of the scenery, we proceeded until halted by a sentinel, who ordered us to show a pass. The result of the interview was that we concluded to retrace our steps. While on this tour certain supposed monuments which had attracted attention were found to be ventilating shafts for a new system of sewerage, made necessary by the unhealthfulness of the town. The tops of these shafts are five hundred feet above the sea level.

As for monuments, there are none of any beauty on the rock. One to General Eliot, another to the Duke of Wellington, are all that I recall.

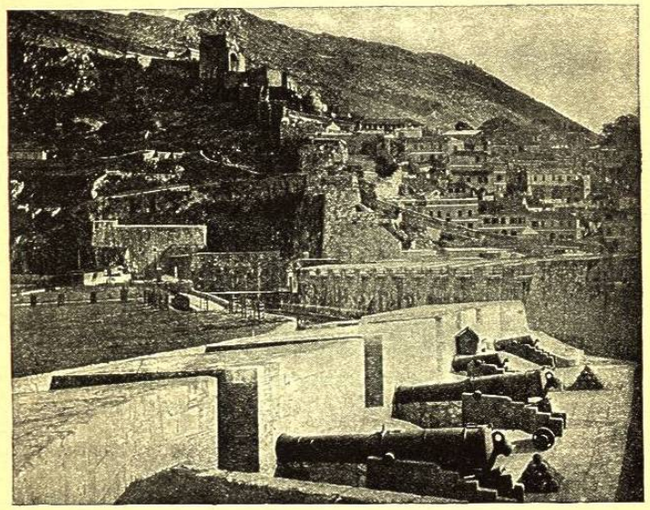
When Mr. Sprague had secured our permit, we began the ascent to examine the fortifications; no slight task, for every point "bristles with defensive works and artillery galleries and batteries hewn in the solid stone." We ascended first to the castle, which dates from 725. It is riddled with shot. The master gunner accompanied us through the galleries, excavated out of the solid rocks, tunneled in tiers, running along the north front, and a mile and a half in length. St. George's Hall is fifty feet by thirty-five; in it Nelson was *fêted*.

From St. George's Hall we went to the "Crow's Nest," a ledge pushing out at the extreme north. The six or seven hundred feet of rock above us appeared to culminate in an overhanging cliff. This is one of the illusions common in such situations, and was dissipated when we were informed that there is a considerable slope inward. As we stood looking down more than seven hundred feet, the gunner said that the present colonel, who had recently arrived, was unable to walk within ten feet of the edge. Below, the town seemed in miniature, and the vessels in the bay like mere paintings upon the water; the tombs and monuments in the cemetery were reduced to glistening white specks, and pedestrians to midgets.

From the highest point the outlook is dazzling, entrancing, bewildering. The elements of the panorama are the Straits of Gibraltar, and beyond the coast of Morocco, including the other Pillar of Hercules, with the fortified town of Ceuta apparently in its lap; the "Seven Mountains" westward; across the bay the town of Algeciras, and the beaches through which several rivers which rise in the mountains of Ojen and Castellar run in a serpentine course to the bay; the fort and the creek filled with vessels; ancient towers along the Spanish shore; villages in the meadows at the foot of the mountains; the coast of the Mediterranean, and the whole of that sea as far as the hills that surround Malaga; interlacing mountain ranges, and far in the distance the lofty snow-clad summits of the Sierra Nevada, which "shelters in its folds that delightful and picturesque city [Granada] once the splendid court of the Arabs."

Gibraltar is the only rival I have seen of the North Cape.

That has the midnight sun; the boundless, unexplored mystery of the Arctic Ocean; the silence, solemnity, and severity of an uninhabitable promontory which, though enveloped half the year in a flood of light, is during the other engulfed in an abyss of darkness. But it has no history. It is a type of eternity rather than of time. Gibraltar, equally grand as commanding a view of two continents, the scene of pivotal conflicts, and the center of various civilizations, presents to the physical eye a spectacle worthy of comparison with any natural



Defenses of Gibraltar.

scene, while the mind's eye beholds the adventurous Phœnicians, pioneers of commerce and discovery, followed by the Greeks, the Romans, the Spaniards, the Moors, and the English, in irregular but well-defined order, so that the rugged rock is engraven with invisible hieroglyphics, the records of human progress.

Before our departure we made an excursion on horseback to a mountain in Spain, at a distance of twelve miles, known as the "Queen of Spain's Chair." During the last im-

portant siege she ascended that mountain to behold the engagement, and declared she would never depart from it until the Spanish flag waved once more over Gibraltar. The road was along the beach, thence through various villages, and finally across unfenced fields to the foot of the mountain, which was about a thousand feet in height. The excursion became somewhat adventurous as the way lay through a region where a number of Spanish cattle were grazing. Some of the bulls looked savage, but contented themselves and us with merely gazing. From the summit another grand prospect, including the rock itself, a more striking figure than any other was commanded. Thence a long descent took us to the village of San Roque, and finally, after a ride of eight hours, just before the sundown gun was fired, we passed over the "neutral ground" into the town.

This neutral ground deserves mention. It is a strip of land dividing the rock from the mainland. A portion belongs to Spain and the rest to England. The English have undermined the whole of their part, and have also made arrangements so that it could instantly be covered with water. At the border a contrast is noticeable between the Spanish and English sentries. The Spanish sentinel is somewhat rhetorically described (by an Englishman, of course) as the "burnt-up, black-eyed, thin, ill-fed, but picturesque child of the sun, who lazily mounts guard side by side with the fair-haired, blue-eyed, and prosaic son of fog and rain."

When Gibraltar first fell into the hands of the English the power and uses of steam had not been discovered. Vessels were of wood, and as a constant current flows in from the Atlantic about two miles and a half an hour, they could not get through the channel without a fair wind. Gibraltar then commanded the straits. Now it cannot do so. By no guns yet invented can it prevent ships from passing into the Mediterranean, or out into the Atlantic. The question thus arises of how much value is it to England, and on this, a practical matter, as it costs the government one million dollars annually, differences of opinion have arisen. Edmund Burke, who spoke before the days of steam, declared it to be a "post of power, post of superiority, of communication, of commerce;

one which makes us invaluable to our friends, and dreadful to our enemies."

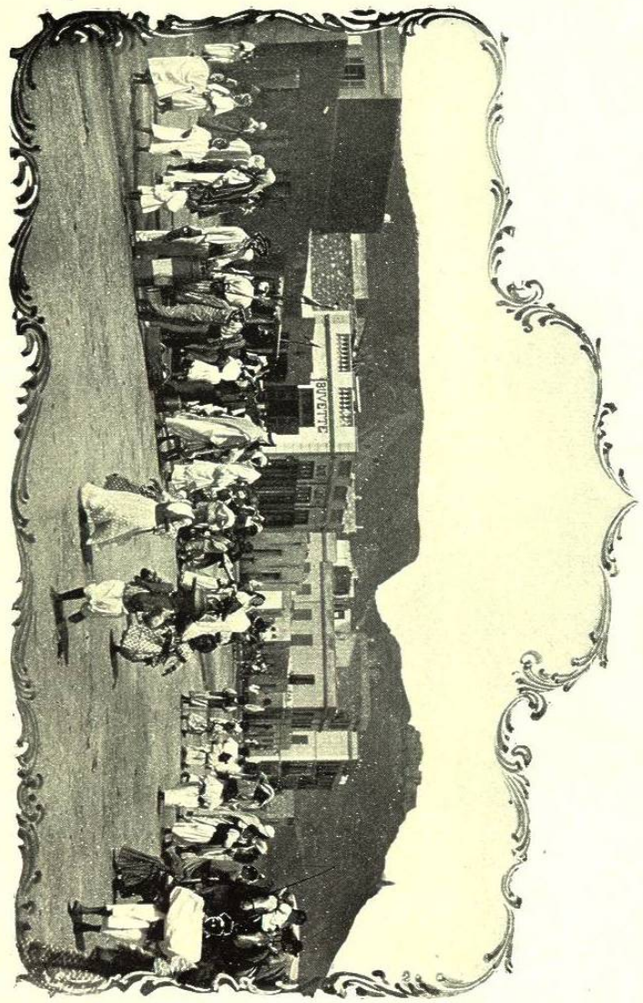
A grave question is whether Gibraltar is impregnable at the present time. The English do not so regard it, and are constantly strengthening the fortifications. At the time that we were there extraordinary improvements were being introduced. Two new guns of one hundred tons were being placed in position, one on the Alameda, another nearer Europa Point. The summit of the rock is also being fortified. At present, should an enemy land, there would be no guns to cover him, but arrangements are being made to supply this defect. Three pits thirty feet deep are being dug, one near O'Hara's Tower, another near the signal station, and a third near the flagstaff. In the lower part of these pits are to be magazines, and above revolving guns, which will have a complete circuit of fire, cover boats at anchorage, and from their elevation, averaging from twelve hundred to thirteen hundred feet, they will command the town of Gibraltar. Nine two-inch guns are to be placed above Queen's Row, at a height of six hundred feet, running the entire length of the rock.

The impressive feature of the whole situation is the evidence of the power of England. It is one of the outposts on the way to her wide Eastern domain. Here her fleets can be sheltered, provisioned, and coaled. Malta and Cyprus, the former one of the strongest fortifications in the world, lie at convenient distances beyond. When reflecting upon the small size and comparatively limited population of Great Britain, I felt myself in the presence of a power vaster, taking all the forms of influence into the account, than any now existing, perhaps than any which has ever existed. Observe the table which I had before me:

	Area, sq. m.	Population, 1881.
United Kingdom	121,135	34,885,000
European Dependencies	423	328,000
North America	3,510,611	4,520,000
West Indies and Central America	20,564	1,244,000
South America	79,664	255,000
Africa	565,000	3,490,000
Asia	1,410,000	257,467,000
Australasia	3,175,870	2,914,000
Total	8,983,267	305,103,000

Note how small a proportion the size and population of Great Britain and Ireland bear to the whole empire which acknowledges Victoria!

But the time came to depart, and at ten o'clock on Wednesday, January 2, we embarked in a small boat, and rode out two miles to the point where our steamer was coaling. As we drew near she began to move, and this gave us the most beautiful starlight ride of five or six miles, until the object of our pursuit came to anchor. We were not disturbed, being four hours in advance of the advertised time of sailing. The huge frowning rock that seemed to rear its head to the stars, the thousand lights in the town and barracks, the sparkling tapers in the half-score of villages, and colored lanterns upon the hundred ships in the bay, the distant mountain peaks, and the phosphorescent gleam upon the waters, while carrying visual delight to a point of ecstasy, taught us its limitations, for we were in a pleasurable pain lest, while looking in one direction, another view would be lost. Meanwhile a military band was playing upon the esplanade, and clear and sweet across the waters came snatches of martial music, rising and falling "like bells at evening pealing." Suddenly a flash like lightning gleamed on the highest summit of the huge black mountain, and the loud boom of the evening gun was heard. We were six miles away, and more than thirty seconds elapsed before the thunder overtook the lightning.



Scene in Oran.

CHAPTER XV.

Algeria.

Voyage from Gibraltar to Oran—Description of Oran—Railway Journey to Algiers—Its Appearance on Approaching by Night—Jardin des Plantes—Old Arab Town—"Marabouts."

ON sailing from Gibraltar for Algeria we were pleased with the name of our steamer—the *Afrique*. But as "the legs of the lame are unequal," so is the conclusion of him who hath but one premise; for the *Afrique* is old enough to have had the choice of names when the line was established; noisy, rickety, literally unstable as water, the voyage of three or four days was linked misery long drawn out.

The *Afrique*, after bumping day and night, silenced its machinery in the alleged harbor of Nemours, the first French town on the coast of Africa, only twenty-five miles from the frontier of Morocco. The bay is sheltered from all winds except the one from which in that latitude bad weather generally comes. It is impossible to get on shore except during fine weather. Had it been a little worse, none of the passengers for that place could have disembarked, and no cargo could have been taken on. We loaded over eight thousand sacks of Algerian wheat of an inferior quality, all of which was brought off amid raging waves in open boats manned by Moors and Negroes. It was a spectacle of unceasing interest to see the long line of men with sacks on their shoulders coming down among the breakers, filling the boats, and then rowing them more than half a mile out to the ship.

Above the town were the fortifications and the ruins of the old Arab settlement. The coast is high, stern, and almost inaccessible. There are mines in the neighborhood, and a company formerly manufactured and exported much pig iron; but during the insurrection of 1871 the Arabs destroyed the machinery.

Late in the night we reached Oran. Remaining on board

till daylight, on disembarking we found a town which, in beauty of situation, fine streets, noble public and charming private buildings, surpasses most French seaports. It lies on the steep slope of a mountain whose summit is crowded with fortifications. Rocky capes tower a thousand feet, and promontories surmounted by lighthouses project picturesquely into the sea. The public buildings are mostly new, and the mosques and cathedral are of marble. We rode through the entire city, and nowhere were without something to charm the eye. The forts on the heights and in the town, some at an elevation of above a thousand feet, strike the beholder at once as impressive features. The city is surrounded by a high wall, with nine gates. Everywhere modern enterprise was evident. Many new buildings of remarkable proportions were in process of construction.

For unmingled pleasure commend us to the railway ride by day from Oran to Algiers. The thirteen hours, instead of fatiguing, exhilarated. Algeria is divided into the Tell (the beautiful region between the mountains and the coast range), the High Plateaus, and the Desert of Sahara. The divisions are caused by the Atlas Mountains, which run fifteen hundred miles from Cape Nun, on the Atlantic, to Cape Bon, in Tunis. The Tell is only from fifty to a hundred miles in width, and in the province of Oran it does not average sixty.

The railway runs through the very heart of this expanse of undulating land, where crops can be cultivated successfully through the year, and the traveler may see oranges in bloom, and at the same time countless groves filled with ripe fruit. The almond with its beautiful blossoms resembles a cherry tree in bloom. Along the shore are low hills, between which we caught glimpses of the sea; while fifty miles inland rise the loftier mountains. The country is without fences, and the roads are smooth and hard as granite. We were never out of sight of native cottages, establishments of landed proprietors, charming villages, and picturesque Arabs laboring in the fields, donkeys laden with vegetables, processions of Arabs on foot intermingling freely with the French. The French are the aristocrats of this whole region, and when employed

for menial work they often become drunkards. In subordinate capacities they are found unreliable.

Algiers, when approached by night, presents the appearance of the milky way. Its shops being gayly lighted, and the principal streets arcaded, a confused mellow light which only yields distant points to the vision when the eye is concentrated, gives the spectator a sensation with which only the stolid would fail to be pleased. On coming nearer, it was difficult to distinguish the sky from the earth; for the high hills upon the side of which Algiers is built sparkled with lights radiating from the Moorish and other villas which occupy them.

A long walk to the Jardin des Plantes made us familiar with the general aspects of the city, revealing a landscape containing all the elements of natural beauty; the sea in agitation beyond, calm as a lake on a summer evening within the bay; afar ermine mountains ; nearer vine and forest covered hills, and every variety of tree and flower artistically arranged in spacious avenues adorned with fountains. At no great distance appeared the city, and upon the slopes the villas and gardens of the wealthy French, English, and Scotch, who winter there, and of prosperous merchants of Algiers who have suburban residences. In the Jardin grow magnolias, india rubber, fig, orange, lemon, bamboo, palm, dwarf palm, banana, cork, olive, and eucalyptus trees, together with the *acacias casuarinis*, imported from Australia.

The old Arab town gives a more favorable impression than that made by Tangier. It is on a steep hillside, the houses are white, the streets only five or six feet wide, and so crooked that no carriages can pass through them. They are connected by alleys, some of them less than two feet wide. The roofs lean toward each other, sometimes leaving not more than twelve inches for the sunlight to enter. Yet there is a constant draught of air, the slope keeps them clean, and they are sweeter than many wide streets in European cities.

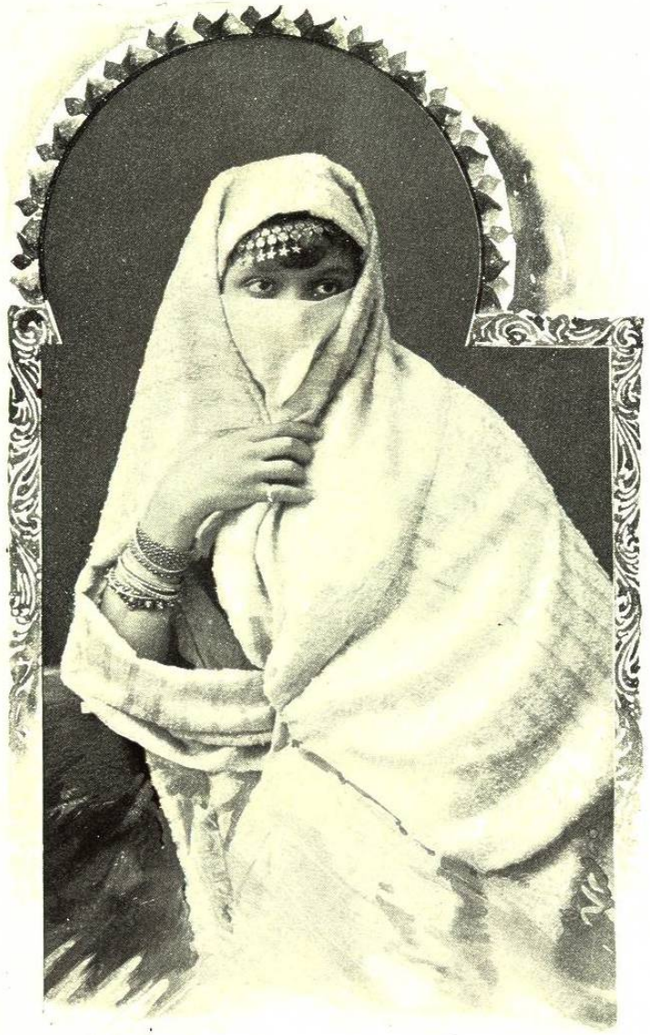
It is impossible to obtain access to the interior of a Moor's house of the better class. Residents told us that the wealthier Moors, avoiding studiously everything like external display, carry internal elegance and picturesqueness to the highest pos-

sible point. No Moorish woman of high rank is ever seen alone in the street. The description given to us of the interior of the best Moorish houses is fascinating. The outer door opens into the vestibule, on each side of which is a stone bench divided into stalls by marble columns. Above is the arch. The master here receives his male friends. Then comes the open court, paved with marble or tiles, having an arcade all around. Here the important domestic festivities, such as marriage and circumcision, are held. Around it are kitchens, storehouses, baths. The private rooms are above. The houses rise one above another, and each has a flat terrace.

In some respects the palace of the archbishop is as interesting a building as Algiers contains. It and the Cathedral of St. Philip, built on the site of the Mosque of Hassan, exhibit to excellent advantage the present condition of Roman Catholicism in Algiers. The archiepiscopal palace is of Moorish origin, modified to suit modern purposes.

A remarkable tomb is shown containing the body of an Arab, named Geronimo, who accepted Christianity at the age of twenty-five years, having been baptized as an infant. Being captured four years after his formal acceptance of Christianity, and refusing to recant, while yet alive, his feet and hands having been bound with cords, he was covered with fresh concrete, after which the block thus formed was properly shaped and built into an angle of the wall. The place was carefully recorded, and in 1853, three hundred years afterward, it was necessary to destroy the fort, and in the very spot the skeleton was found inclosed in the block. The bones were interred in the cathedral. Liquid plaster of Paris was then run into the cavity and a model obtained showing his very features and the marks of the cords that bound him.

The so-called new mosque is probably two hundred years of age, and a legend says that the Italian architect who built it was put to death by the Arabs because he had constructed it in the form of a Greek cross. But the Grand Mosque is far more impressive, and is the most ancient in the country, dating from the eleventh century. To this day a part of it is used as a court of justice, and we saw the cadi engaged in the transaction of business.



Moorish Woman in Street Costume

On and near the tomb of Sidi Abd-er-Rahman-eth-Thalebi perpetual lamps burn, and the richest silk drapery is hung. All about are banners, eggs of ostriches, and other gifts. Next to the Grand Mosque it is the most ancient religious building in Algeria. We visited the tombs of several "marabouts." These are saints, and such visits, if made in faith, are supposed to heal diseases, ward off ill luck, and do many other things which the Catholics claim are accomplished by their pilgrimages, and professional Protestant "faith healers" by their operations.

Some of the living "marabouts" we saw. Most of them are insane; and the Mohammedans, like many of the inhabitants of Russia, believe that a person who has lost his senses is visited by God, with whom he holds converse. This gives wide scope for impostors, many of whom feign madness. An old fellow of this sort we found engaged in fulminating bitter imprecations against some one. A friend, who translated the Arabic for us, said that probably he was paid to do it. We heard much of the fanatic religious ceremonies of the *Aissaoui*, which consist of the beating of drums and other instruments, after which one of the order, claiming inspiration, rushes with a wild howl into a ring and begins to dance, joined by others who continue until they fall exhausted or are stopped by the head of the order. After this they sear themselves with a red-hot iron, eat live scorpions and serpents, chew broken glass, and appear insensible to pain. The head of the order, with a keen eye to business, offered to get up a performance for us for forty-five francs. Having no difficulty in understanding how all that they really do could be done without supernatural aid, we declined the tolerably cheap offer.

Those ancient sacrificial rites performed on the seashore, in which Negroes, degenerate Jews, and Mohammedans participated in slaughtering fowls and lambs, burning incense, and smearing themselves with blood in order to cure diseases and obtain prosperity, have disappeared under the influence of European civilization. We saw some who still perform in secret places, and thus passed from mosque, synagogue, and church to the darkest heathenism and superstition.