

and a spacious hall, to an interior part of the building. Here the bándage was removed (rimüvd) from his eyes, and he found himself in a còurt, dimly lightened (litend) by a single lamp. In the centre was the dry basin (bàs'n) of an old Moorish fòuntain, under which the priest requested him to form a smàll vāult, bricks and mōrtar being at hand for the pūrpose (pūrpus). He accòrdingly worked (wërkt) all night, but withòut finishing the job. Just before day-break, the priest pūt a pièce of gold into his hand, and having again blindfòldeð him, conducted him back to his dwelling.

"Are you willing¹", said he, "to return and complete your work?"

"Gladly, Sennor Padre, provided I am so well paid."

"Well, then, to-mórrow at midnight I will call again²."

He did so, and the vāult was completed.

"Now", said the priest, "you must help me to bring fòrth the bódies that are to be³ buried (bérid) in this vāult."

89.

Continuation.

The poor mason's hāir rose on his héad⁴ at these words: he fòllowed the priest, with trembling steps, into a retired chàmbér of the mánsion, expecting to behòld some ghāstly spéctacle of déath, but was relievéd on percèiving three or four pòrtly jars standing in one còrner. They were évidently full of money (múnni), and it was with great làbour that he and the priest carried them fòrth and consigned (consind) them to their tomb (tüm). The vāult was then closed, the pāvément replàcéd, and all traces of the work obliterated. The mason was again hoodwinked, and led fòrth by a ròute different from that by which he had come. After they had wandered (wónderd) for a long time through a perplexéd maze of lanes and àlleys, they hālted. The priest then pūt

¹ voudriez-vous. — ² je reviendrai vous prendre. — ³ qui doivent être. — ⁴ les cheveux se hérissèrent à la tête du pauvre maçon.

two pièces of gold into his hand: "Wait here", said he, "until you hear the cathèdral bell toll for mátins¹. If you presume to uncover (uncúver) your eyes before that time, evil will befall you": so saying, he departed. The mason waited faithfully, amúsing himself by weighing (wà-ing) the gold pieces in his hand, and clinking² them against each other. The mòmènt³ the cathèdral bell rang its matin pèal, he uncovered his eyes, and found himself on the banks of the Xénil, from whence he made the best of his way⁴ home, and révellèd with his fámily for a whole fòrtnight on the prófits of his two nights' work; after which he was as poor as éver.

He continued to work a little, and pray a good déal⁵, and kept saints'-days and hólýdays, from yèar to yèar, while his family grew up as gāunt and ragged as a crew of gýpsies⁶.

90.

Conclusion.

As he was seàted one èvening at the door (dòr) of his hóvel, he was accòsted by a rich old curmúdgeon, who was nòted for òwning⁷ many houses, and being a griping lándlord. The man of money⁸ eyed him for a mòmènt from benèath a pàir of ànxious⁹ shagged eye-bròws.

"I am told¹⁰, friend, that you are very poor."

"There is no denyng the fact, Sennor — it speaks for itself."

"I presume then, that you will be glad of a job, and will work chèap."

"As chèap, my māster, as any mason in Granàda."

"That 's what I want (wónt)¹¹. I have an old house fallen into decay¹², that còsts me more money than it is worth (wèrth) to keep¹³ it in repàir, for nòbody will live¹⁴ in it; so I must contrive to patch it¹⁵ up and keep it toghèther at as small expènse as pòssible."

¹ matines. — ² faire sonner. — ³ supplèez when. — ⁴ to make the best of one's way, se rendre en toute hâte. — ⁵ beaucoup. — ⁶ bande de Bohémiens. — ⁷ he is noted for owning, on sait qu'il possède. — ⁸ le richard. — ⁹ avide. — ¹⁰ on m'a dit. — ¹¹ c'est ce qu'il me faut. — ¹² vieille maison délabrée. — ¹³ entretenir. — ¹⁴ loger. — ¹⁵ raccommoder.

The mason was accordingly conducted to a large deserted house, that seemed going to ruin. Passing through several empty (émti) halls and chambers, he entered an inner court, where his eye was caught (cāt) by an old Moorish fountain. He paused for a moment, for a dreaming¹ recollection of the place came over him.

"Pray", said he, "who occupied this house formerly?"

"A pest upon him²!" cried the landlord, it was an old miserly priest, who cared for nobody but himself. He was said to be³ immensely rich, and having no relations, it was thought he would leave all his treasures to the church. He died suddenly, and the priests and friars thronged to take possession (pozéshun) of his wealth; but nothing could they find but a few ducats in a leathern purse. The worst (wērst) luck has fallen on me, for, since his death, the old fellow continues to occupy my house without paying rent, and there's no taking the law of⁴ a dead man. The people pretend to hear the clinking of gold all night in the chamber where the old priest slept, as if he were counting over his money, and sometimes (súmtimz) a groning and moaning about the court. Whether true or false, these stories have brought a bad name⁵ on my house, and not a tenant will remain in it."

"Enough (inúf)", said the mason sturdily: "let me live⁶ in your house rent-free⁷ until some better tenant present⁸, and I will engage to put it in repair, and to quiet (qui-et) the troubled spirit that disturbs it. I am a good Christian and a poor man, and am not to be daunted⁹ by the devil himself, even though¹⁰ he should come in the shape of a big bag of money!"

The offer of the honest mason was gladly accepted; he moved (múvd) with his family into the house, and fulfilled all his engagements. By little and little¹¹ he restored it to its former state; the clinking of gold was no more heard at night in the chamber of the defunct

¹ obscur. — ² la peste soit de lui! — ³ on dit qu'il était. — ⁴ on ne peut pas intenter une action contre. — ⁵ renommée. — ⁶ loger. — ⁷ sans redevance. — ⁸ jusqu'à ce qu'un meilleur locataire se présente. — ⁹ je ne me laisse pas effrayer. — ¹⁰ quand même. — ¹¹ peu à peu.

priest, but began to be heard by day in the pocket of the living mason. In a word, he increased (s=ss) rapidly in wealth, to the admiration of all his neighbours (nàberz), and became one of the richest men in Granada: he gave large sums to the church, by way¹, no doubt (dòut), of satisfying his conscience, and never revealed the secret of the vault until on his death-bed to his son and heir (är).

91.

Aventure dans une Ménagerie.

Récit d'un jeune marin.

(Marryat.)

One day we all had leave² from the first lieutenant (levténunt) to go to Postdown fair³. It was a most beautiful spectacle. The bright blue sky, the coloured (cúlerd)⁴ flags flapping about in all directions, the white tents, the music at the booths⁵, and the bustle (búsl) of the people — all this made my heart quite jump. After having seen a great variety (i-e) of curious things — clowns and harlequins (qu=k), giants (dji-ants) and dwarfs, the learned pig⁶ and a bloody (blúdi) tragedy, with a ghost and thunder, — we agreed to go and see the wild beasts fed at Mr. Polito's ménagerie⁷.

It was a very curious sight, and better worth seeing⁸ than any thing in the fair. I never had an idea (idé-a) that there were so many strange animals in existence. They were all secured in iron (i-ern) cages, and a large chandelier⁹, with twenty lights, hung in the centre of the booth, and lighted them up, while the keeper went round and stirred (stérd) them up with his long pole. At the same time he gave us their histories, which were very interesting. I recollect a few of them. There was the Tapir¹⁰, the great pig with the long nose, a variety of the Hiptóstamass¹¹, which, the keeper said, was an

¹ by way of satisfying, pour satisfaire. — ² congé. — ³ foire. — ⁴ bariolé. — ⁵ th en booth, a le son doux. — ⁶ le cochon dressé. — ⁷ ce mot se prononce comme en français. — ⁸ elle méritait plus d'être vue. — ⁹ lustre. — ¹⁰ quadrupède de la taille du boeuf, dont le museau est allongé en forme de trompe. — ¹¹ corrompu de hippopotamus, hippopotame.

amphibious¹ animal, as couldn't² live on land, and dies in the water — however, it seemed to live very well in a cage. Then there was the Kangaroo³ with its young ones⁴ peeping out of it — a most astonishing animal. The keeper said that it brought forth⁵ two young ones at a birth⁶, and then took them into his stomach⁷ again, until they arrived at years of discretion⁸. Then there was the Pelican of the wilderness, with a large bag under his throat, which the man put on his head as a night cap⁹. The bird feeds its young with his own blood (blüd), when fish are scarce. And then there was the laughing (läsing) Hyæna (hi-ëna), who cries in the wood like a human being¹⁰ in distress, and devours those who come to his assistance — a sad instance¹¹ of the depravity of human nature, as the keeper observed. There was a beautiful creature, the Royal Bengal Tiger, only three years old, that grew ten inches every year, and never arrived at its full growth¹². The one¹³ we saw, measured, as the keeper told us, sixteen feet from the snout to the tail, and seventeen from the tail to the snout; but there must have been some mistake there. There was a young Elephant, and three Lions, and several other animals, which I forgot now; so I shall go on¹⁴ to describe the tragical scene which occurred.

92.

Continuation.

The keeper had poked up¹⁵ all the animals and had commenced feeding them. The great lion (li-un) was growling and snarling over the shinbone of an ox, cracking it like a nut; when, by some mismanagement¹⁶, one end of the pole, upon which the chandelier was suspended, fell down, striking the door of the cage in which the lioness (li-unes) was at supper, and bursting it open¹⁷. It was all done in a second: the chandelier fell, the cage opened,

¹ corrompu de *amphibious*, amphibie. — ² could not. — ³ pron. kangerū. — ⁴ ses petits. — ⁵ mettre au monde. — ⁶ à la fois. — ⁷ pron. *stímuk*, estomac. — ⁸ raison. — ⁹ bonnet de nuit. — ¹⁰ être. — ¹¹ exemple. — ¹² grandeur entière. — ¹³ celui que. — ¹⁴ continuer. — ¹⁵ faire lever en poussant et frappant. — ¹⁶ maladresse grossière. — ¹⁷ ouvrir en fracassant.

and the lioness sprung out. I saw her body in the air, and then all was dark as pitch. What a change! Not a moment before all of us gazing with delight (dilit) and curiosity (s=ss), and then to be left in darkness, horror and dismay! There was such screaming¹, and shrieking, and crying², and fighting (fiting), and pushing³, and fainting⁴ — nobody knew where to go, or how to find their way out. The people crowded first on one side, and then on the other, as their fears instigated them. I was very soon jammed up⁵ with my back against the bars of one of the cages, and feeling some beast lay hold⁶ of me behind, made a desperate effort, and succeeded in⁷ climbing (climbing)⁸ up to the cage above (abuv), not, however, without losing (lüzing) a part of my coat, which the laughing hyæna would not let go⁹.

I hardly knew where I was when I climbed (climd) up; but I knew the birds were mostly stationed above. I turned round, with my back to the bars of the cage. But I had not been there a minute (minit), before¹⁰ I was attacked by something which stabbed¹¹ me about a dozen (düz'n) times¹². I, therefore, contrived by degrees to shift¹³ my position, until I was opposite to¹⁴ another cage. I was wondering (wundering)¹⁵ what danger I should next encounter, when to my joy I discovered (discuverd) that I had gained the open door from which the lioness had escaped. I crawled¹⁶ in and pulled the door after me, thinking myself very fortunate, and there I sat very quietly (i-e) during the remainder of the noise and confusion.

93.

Conclusion.

I had not been there but a few minutes, when the beefeaters¹⁷, as they were called, who played the music outside¹⁸, came in with torches and loaded muskets. The sight which presented itself was truly shocking:

¹ there was such screaming, on criaît tant. — ² to cry, pleurer. — ³ to push, pousser. — ⁴ to faint, s'évanouir. — ⁵ presser. — ⁶ saisir. — ⁷ réussit à. — ⁸ grimper. — ⁹ lâcher. — ¹⁰ lorsque. — ¹¹ darder. — ¹² fois. — ¹³ changer de. — ¹⁴ vis-à-vis de. — ¹⁵ curieux de savoir. — ¹⁶ se glisser. — ¹⁷ corrompu de buffetier; beefeaters, nom donné aux soldats aux gardes (*Yeomen of the Guard*). — ¹⁸ en dehors.

twenty or thirty men, women (wimen), and children, lay on the grôund, and I thought at first the lioness had killed them all; but they were only in fits¹, or had been trampled down by the crôwd; no one was sèriously hurt. As for² the lioness, she was not to be found, and as soon as it was ascertained that she had escàped, there was as much terror and scámpering away³ outside, as there had been in the menagerie. It appeared afterwards (würdz) the animal had been as much frightened (frit'nd) as we had been, and had secrèted⁴ herself under one of the wággons. It was⁵ some time before she could be found. At last the bèefeaters bórrowed a net or two from the carts which had brought calves (câvz) to the fair, and threw them over her. When she was fairly⁶ entangled, they dragged her by the tail into the menagerie.

All this while⁷ I had remained in the cage, but when I percèived that its lãwfùl òwner had come back to retãke possèssion, I thought it was time to go out; so I called to my compãnions, who were assisting the bèefeaters. They had not discovered (discúverd) me, and laughed (lãft) very much when they saw where I was. One of them shut the bòlt of the door, so that I could not jump out, and then stirred me with a long pole. At least I contrived to unbòlt it again and got out, when they laughed still more at my coat being tòrn⁸. It was not exãctly a laughing⁹ matter to me, although I had to congrátulate myself upon a very lucky escàpe; and so did my friends think, when I relàted my advèntures. I bórrowed a dark silk handkerchief (hãnkerchif), which I tied round my wãist, so that my misfòrtune might not attrãct any nòtice; and then we quitted the menagerie.

94.

Le Gouverneur et le Notaire.

(Washington Irving.)

In fòrmer times there rùled, as governor (gúverner) of the Alhãmbra¹⁰, a doughly (dãti)¹¹ old cavalier, who,

¹ évanouis. — ² quant à. — ³ désertion. — ⁴ se cacher. — ⁵ il se passa. — ⁶ entièrement. — ⁷ pendant tout ce temps. — ⁸ que mon habit fût déchiré. — ⁹ risible. — ¹⁰ L'Alhambra, ancienne résidence des rois maures, près de Grenade. — ¹¹ vaillant, preux.

from having lóst¹ one arm in the wãrs, was còmmonly known by² the name of el Governãdor Manco, or "the one-ãrmed³ governor." He, in fact, prided himself upon being an old sòldier, wore his mustãchios cùrled up to his eyes, a pãir of campaigning (campãning) boots⁴ and a tolèdo⁵ as long as a spit, with his pocket handkerchief (hãnkerchif) in the basket hilt⁶.

He was, moreòver, excèedingly proud and punctilious⁷, and tenãcious of all his privileges and dignities. Under his swày the immunities of the Alhãmbra, as a ròyal résidence and domàin, were rigidly exãcted. No one was permitted to énter the fòrtress with fire-ãrms, or éven with a sword (sòrd) or stãff, unless he were of a cèrtain rank; and évery hórseman was obliged to dismòunt at the gate, and leãd the horse by the bridle. Now as the hill of the Alhãmbra rises from the very midst of the city of Granãda, being as it were⁸, an excrèscence of the cãpital, it must at all times be somewhat (súmwort) irksome (èrksum) to the cãptain général, who commãnds the pròvince, to have thus an *imperium in imperio*⁹, a pètty indépendènt pòst in the very centre of his domàins. It was rendered the more¹⁰ gãlling in the présent instance¹¹, from the irritable jéalousy of the old governor, that took fire on the least quèstion of authorìty and jurisdìction, and from the loose (lūs) vãgrant chãracter of the pèople that had grãdually nestled (neslt) themsélves within the fòrtress, as in a sãnctuary, and from thence carried on a sýstem of ròguery and depredàtion at the expènsè of the hònest inhãbitants of the city. Thus there was a perpètual feùd and heãrt-burning¹² bètwèen the cãptain général and the governor, the more virulent on the part of the latter, in as mùch as the smãllest of two neighbouring (nãbering) pòtentates, is àlways the most cãptious¹³ about his dignity. The stãtely pãlãce of the cãptain général stood (stùd) in the Plaza Nueva¹⁴, immèdiately at the foot of the hill of the Alhãmbra, and here was

¹ ayant perdu. — ² sous. — ³ manchot. — ⁴ bottes de campagne (à genouillère). — ⁵ épée de Tolède. — ⁶ garde en coquille. — ⁷ pointilleux. — ⁸ comme; pour ainsi dire. — ⁹ un État dans l'État. — ¹⁰ d'autant plus. — ¹¹ cas. — ¹² animosité. — ¹³ susceptible. — ¹⁴ pron. plaza nouèva, la Place Nouvelle.

always a bustle (búsl) and parade of guards and domestics and city functionaries. A beetling bastion of the fortress overlooked (overlúkt) the palace and public square in front¹ of it; and on this bastion the old governor would² occasionally³ strut backwards and forwards, with his toledo girded (gērdid) by his side, keeping a wary eye down upon his rival, like a hawk reconnoitring his quarry (kwórri)⁴ from his nest in a dry tree.

95.

Continuation.

Whenever he descended into the city it was in grand parade, on horseback⁵, surrounded by his guards, or in his state coach⁶, an ancient and unwieldy⁷ Spanish edifice of carved timber⁸ and gilt leather, drawn by eight mules, with running footmen (fütmen)⁹, outriders, and lackeys, on which occasion he flattered himself, he impressed¹⁰ every beholder with awe and admiration as vicegèrent¹¹ of the king, though the wits¹² of Granada, particularly those who loitered about the palace of the captain general, were apt to sneer at his petty parade, and in allusion to the vagrant character of his subjects, to greet him with the appellation of "the king of the beggars." One of the most fruitful sources of dispute between these two doughty rivals was the right (rit) claimed by the governor to have all things passed¹³ free of duty through the city, that were intended for the use (s=ss) of himself or his garrison (s=ss). By degrees this privilege had given rise¹⁴ to extensive smuggling. A nest of contrabandistas took up their abode in the hovels of the fortress, and the numerous caves in its vicinity, and drove a thriving business (bíznes)¹⁵ under the connivance of the soldiers of the garrison (s=ss).

The vigilance of the captain general was aroused. He consulted his legal adviser and factotum, a shrewd (shrüd) meddling escribano, or notary, who rejoiced

¹ en face. — ² était accoutumé. — ³ parfois. — ⁴ proie. — ⁵ à cheval. — ⁶ carrosse de parade. — ⁷ lourd. — ⁸ sculpture en bois. — ⁹ coureur. — ¹⁰ pénétrer. — ¹¹ représentant. — ¹² wit, homme d'esprit, ici mauvais plaisant. — ¹³ que tout devait passer. — ¹⁴ donner lieu. — ¹⁵ faire des affaires avantageuses.

in an opportunity of perplexing the old potentate of the Alhambra, and involving him in a maze of legal subtleties. He advised the captain general to insist upon the right (rit) of examining every convoy passing through the gates of his city; and he penned a long letter for him in vindication of the right. Governor Manco was a straightforward (stráfforward)¹ cut and thrust² old soldier (söldjer), who hated an escribano worse (wërs) than the dévil, and this one in particular worse than all other escribanos.

"What", said he, curling up his mustachios fiercely, "does the captain general set³ his man of the pen to practise confusions upon me⁴? I'll⁵ let him see that an old soldier is not to be baffled⁶ by schoolcraft (skülcräft)."

He seized his pen, scrawled a short letter, in a crabbed⁷ hand, in which, without deigning (dàning)⁸ to enter into argument, he insisted on the right (rit) of transit free of search, and denounced vengeance on any custom-house officer⁹, who should lay his unhallowed hand on any convoy protected by the flag of the Alhambra.

96.

Continuation.

While this question was agitated between the two pragmatical¹⁰ potentates, it so happened, that a mule, laden with supplies for the fortress, arrived one day at the gate of the Xénil¹¹, by which it was to¹² traverse a suburb of the city on its way to the Alhambra. The convoy was headed by a testy old corporal, who had long served under the governor, and was a man after his own heart; as rusty and staunch as an old toledo blade. As he approached the gate of the city, the corporal placed the banner of the Alhambra on the pack-saddle of the mule, and, drawing himself up to a

¹ droit et rude. — ² cut and thrust (terme d'escrime), d'estoc et de taille; a cut and thrust old soldier, un vieux soldat de fer. — ³ exciter. — ⁴ mettre en embarras. — ⁵ I'll = I will. — ⁶ ne se laisse pas bafouer. — ⁷ rude. — ⁸ sans daigner. — ⁹ douanier. — ¹⁰ prêt à se mêler des affaires des autres, impertinent; ici: jaloux. — ¹¹ fleuve près de Grenade. — ¹² il devait.

perfect perpendicular, advanced with his head dressed to the front, but with the wary side glance¹ of a cur passing through hostile ground, and ready for a snap and a snarl.

"Who goes there²?" said the sentinel at the gate.

"Soldier of the Alhambra", said the corporal, without turning his head.

"What have you in charge³?"

"Provisions for the garrison (s = ss)."

"Proceed⁴."

The corporal marched straight (strät) forward, followed by the convoy, but had not advanced many paces before a posse (pössè)⁵ of custom-house officers rushed out of a small toll-house.

"Halloo (hallū) there⁶!" cried the leader. "Muletèr, hãlt, and open those packages."

The corporal wheeled round⁷, and drew (drū) himself up in battle array⁸. "Respect the flag of the Alhambra", said he; "these things are for the governor."

"A figo for⁹ the governor, and a figo for his flag! Muletèr, hãlt, I say."

"Stop the convoy on your peril!" cried the corporal, cocking his musket: "Muletèr, proceed."

The muletèr gave his beast a hearty thwack¹⁰; the custom-house officer sprang forward and seized the halter, whereupon the corporal levelled¹¹ his piece¹² and shot him dead.

The stræt was immediately in an uprär. The old corporal was seized, and after undergoing sundry kicks¹³, and cuffs¹⁴, and cudgellings¹⁵, which are generally given impromptu (imprómtū) by the mob in Spain, as a foretaste of the after penalties¹⁶ of the law, he was loaded with irons (i-ernz) and conducted to the city prison; while his comrades (cūmrãdz) were permitted to proceed with the convoy, after it had been well rummaged, to the Alhambra.

¹ regard de côté. — ² qui vive! — ³ chargé. — ⁴ passez. — ⁵ foule. — ⁶ hé, holà! — ⁷ se tourner. — ⁸ ordre de bataille. — ⁹ foïn de. — ¹⁰ coup lourd. — ¹¹ coucher en joue. — ¹² fusil. — ¹³ coup de pied. — ¹⁴ coup de poing (taloche). — ¹⁵ coup de bâton (bastonnade). — ¹⁶ peine subséquente.

Continuation.

The old governor was in a towering passion¹ when he heard of this insult to his flag and capture of his corporal. For a time he stormed about the Moorish (mūrish) halls, and vapoured² about the bastions, and looked (lūkt)³ down fire and sword (sord) upon the palace of the captain general. Having vented⁴ the first ebullition of his wrath (róth), he despatched a message, demanding the surrender of the corporal, as to him alone belonged the right (rit) of sitting in judgment⁵ on the offences of those⁶ under his command. The captain general aided by the pen of the delighted (dilitid) escribãno, replied at great length⁷, arguing that as the offence had been committed within the walls of his city, and against (agénst) one of his civil officers, it was clearly within his proper jurisdiction. The governor rejoined⁸ by a repetition of his demand; the captain general gave a surrejoinder⁹ of still greater length and legal acumen; the governor became hotter and more peremptory (péremturi) in his demands, and the captain general cooler and more copious in his replies; until the old lion-hearted soldier absolutely roared with¹⁰ fury at being¹¹ thus entangled in the meshes of legal controversy.

While the subtle escribãno was thus amusing himself at the expense of the governor, he was conducting the trial¹² of the corporal, who, mewed (mūd) up in a narrow dungeon of the prison, had merely a small grated window at which to show¹³ his iron (i-ern) bound¹⁴ visage, and receive the consolations of his friends.

A mountain of written testimony was diligently heaped up, according to Spanish form, by the indefatigable escribãno; the corporal was completely over-

¹ dans la plus grande colère. — ² tempêter, faire rage. — ³ lancer de ses regards. — ⁴ donner un libre cours; exhaler. — ⁵ exercer la justice, juger. — ⁶ suppléer: who were. — ⁷ fort au long. — ⁸ répliquer. — ⁹ duplique. — ¹⁰ de. — ¹¹ d'être. — ¹² le procès. — ¹³ où il pouvait montrer. — ¹⁴ entouré de fer.

whélméd by it. He was convicted of murder, and séntenced¹ to be hanged.

It was in vain² the governor sent dôwn remóns-trance and ménace from the Alhámbrá. The fátal day was at hand, and the cõrporal was put *in capilla*, that is to say³, in the chápél of the prísion, as is álways done with cúlprits the day before execution, that they may méditate on their appróaching end, and repént them of their sins.

98.

Continuation.

Séeing things dráwing to an extrémity⁴, the old governor détérmined to atténd⁵ to the affair in pèrson. For this púrpose he òrdered out⁶ his carriage (cárridj) of state, and, surróunded by his guárds, rúmbled dôwn the ávenue of the Alhámbrá into the city. Dríving to the house of the escribáno, he súmmoned him to the pórtal.

The eye of the old governor gléamed like a còal at behòlding the smirking (smèrking) man of the lãw adváncing with an àir of exultation.

"What is this I hèar", cried he, "that you are abòut to put to déath⁷ one of my soldiers?"

"All accòrding to lãw — all in strict fõrm of jústice", said the self-sufficiént escribáno, chùckling, and rúbbing his hands. "I can shòw your éxcellency the written téstimony in the case (s = ss)."

"Fetçh it hither", said the governor. The escribáno bustled (busld) into his òffice⁸, delighted (diltid) with háving another opportunity⁹ of displaying his ingenuity at the expénse of the hard-héated vétèran.

He returned with a sátschel¹⁰ füll of pápers, and began to rëad a long deposition with professóonal¹¹ volubility. By this time a cròwd had collécted, listèning (lísning) with òut-stretched necks and gaping¹² mòuths.

¹ condamné. — ² suppléez: *that*. — ³ c'est-à-dire. — ⁴ voyant que les choses se portaient aux dernières extrémités. — ⁵ s'occuper de, s'appliquer à. — ⁶ il fit atteler son carrosse de parade. — ⁷ que vous allez mettre à mort. — ⁸ bureau, cabinet. — ⁹ encore une occasion. — ¹⁰ sac. — ¹¹ de sa profession. — ¹² béant.

"Prythée¹, man, get² into the carriage (cárridj); out of this péstilent throng, that I may the better hëar thee", said the governor. — The escribáno éntered the cárriage, when in a twinkling³, the door (dòr) was clòsed, the còachman smácked his whip — mules, carriage, guárds, and all dáshed òff at a thúndering rate⁴, lëaving the cròwd in gápíng wonderment (wúnderment); nor did the governor páuse until he had lodged his prey (prà) in one of the stróngest dúngeons of the Alhámbrá.

He then sent dôwn a flag of truce⁵ in military style, propòsing a cartél or échange of prisoners — the cõrporal for the nòtary. The pride of the cáptain général was piqued (pèkt); he returned a contémptuóus refusál, and fòrthwith càused a gállows, tàll and strong, to be érected⁶ in the centre of the Plaza Nueva for the execution of the cõrporal.

"Ohò, is that the game⁷?" said the governor Manco. He gave òrders, and immédiateley a gibbet was réared on the vèrge of the great bëetling bástion that overlooked (overlùkt) the Plaza.

"Now", said he in a méssage to the cáptain général, "hang my sòldier, when you plèase; but at the same time that he is swung òff⁸ in the squàre, look up to see your escribáno dangling against the ský."

99.

Conclusion.

The cáptain général was inflexible; troops were paráded⁹ in the squàre, the drums béat¹⁰, the bell tollèd. An imménse mùltitude of amateurs¹¹ gáthèred togéther to behòld the execution. On the other hand¹², the governor paráded his garrison (s = ss) on the bástion, and tollèd the fúnèral dirge (dèrdj)¹³ of the nòtary from the Torre de la Campàna, or tówèr of the Bell.

¹ je vous prie. — ² montez. — ³ en un clin d'œil. — ⁴ comme le tonnerre (la foudre). — ⁵ trêve. — ⁶ he caused to be erected, il fit élever. — ⁷ est-ce ainsi. — ⁸ pendu. — ⁹ faire faire la parade. — ¹⁰ on battait la caisse. — ¹¹ ce mot se prononce comme en français. — ¹² d'un autre côté. — ¹³ chant funèbre.

The notary's wife pressed through the crowd with a whole progeny of little embryo escribanos at her heels and throwing herself at the feet of the captain général, implored him not to sacrifice (sacrifize) the life of her husband (húusband), and the welfare of herself and her numerous little ones¹, to a point of pride; "for you know the old governor too well", said she, "to doubt (dout) that he will put his threat in execution, if you hang the soldier."

The captain général was overpowered by her tears and lamentations, and the clamours of her callow² brood. The corporal was sent up to the Alhambra, under a guard, in his gallow's garb like a hooded (húdid) friar³, but with head erect and a face of iron (i-ern). The escribano was demanded in exchange, according to the cartel. The once bustling (búbling) and self-sufficient man of the law was drawn forth from his dungeon more dead than alive. All his flippancy and conceit⁴ had evaporated; his hair, it is said⁵, had nearly turned⁶ grey (grà) with affright (afrit), and he had a downcast, dogged look (lük), as if he still felt the halter round his neck.

The old governor stuck his one arm a-kimbo⁷, and for a moment surveyed (servad) him with an iron smile. "Henceforth⁸, my friend", said he, "moderate your zeal in hurrying others to the gallows; be not too certain of your safety, even though you should have the law on your side; and above (abúv) all, take care how you play off⁹ your schoolcraft (skúlcrâft)¹⁰ another time¹¹ upon an old soldier."

100.

Le Legs du Maure.

(Washington Irving.)

Just within the fortress of the Alhambra in front of the royal palace, is a broad open esplanade, called

¹ petits enfants. — ² qui n'a pas encore de plumes; ici: jeune, petit. — ³ moine encapuchonné. — ⁴ bavardage et suffisance. — ⁵ on dit. — ⁶ devenu. — ⁷ to stick one's arm a-kimbo, appuyer le bras (le poing) sur la hanche. — ⁸ désormais. — ⁹ jouer, essayer. — ¹⁰ les ruses de votre métier. — ¹¹ encore une fois.

the Place of the Cisterns, so called from being undermined by reservoirs (rizervörz) of water, hidden from sight, and which have existed from the time of the Moors. At one corner of this esplanade is a Moorish well, cut through the living rock to a great depth, the water of which is cold as ice and clear as crystal. The wells made by the Moors are always in repute, for it is well known what pains they took to penetrate to the purest and sweetest springs and fountains. The one of which we now speak is famous throughout (thruout) Granada, inasmuch that the water carriers, some bearing great water-jars on their shoulders, others driving asses before them laden with earthen vessels, are ascending and descending the steep woody (wüdi) avenues of the Alhambra, from early dawn until a late hour of the night.

Among the water carriers who once resorted to this well, there was a sturdy, strong-backed, bandy-legged little fellow, named Pedro Gil (gil), but called Peregil for shortness¹. Being a water carrier, he was a Gallego² or native of Galicia, of course³.

Peregil had begun business (biznes) with merely a great earthen jar, which he carried upon his shoulder; by degrees he rose in the world (wêrld), and was enabled to purchase (s=ss) an assistant of a corresponding class of animals, being a stout shaggy-haired donkey. On each side of this his long-eared aid-de-camp, in a kind of pannier were slung his water-jars, covered (cúverd) with fig-leaves, to protect them from the sun. There was not a more industrious water carrier in all Granada, nor one more merry withal. The streets rang with his cheerful voice as he trudged after his donkey, singing forth the usual summer note that resounds through the Spanish towns: "Who wants (wónts) water — water colder than snow? Who wants water from the well of the Alhambra, cold as ice and clear as crystal?" When he served a customer with a sparkling glass, it was always with a pleasant word that caused a smile; and if, perchance⁴, it was a comely (cúmlí)⁵ dame, it was always with a sly leer and compliment to her beauty that was

¹ pour brieveté: par abréviation. — ² Galicien. — ³ naturellement. — ⁴ par hasard. — ⁵ jolie.

irresistible. Thus Péregil was noted throughout all Granàda for being one of the civilest, pléasantest, and háppiest of mórtals.

101.

Continuation.

Yet it is not he who sings loudest and jokes most that has the lightest heart. Under all this air of merriment, honest (onest) Péregil had his cares and troubles. He had a large family of ragged children to support, who were hungry and clamorous as a nest of young swallows (swólloz), and beset him with their outcries for food¹ whenever he came home of an evening. He had a help-mate, too, who was any thing but² a help to him. She had been a village beauty before marriage, noted for her skill at dancing the bolero³ and rattling the castanets; and she still retained her early propensities, spending the hard earnings of honest Péregil in frippery. With all this she was negligent and lazy, and above all, a gossip of the first water⁴ — neglecting house and household, to loiter in the houses of her gossip neighbours (nàberz). Péregil bore all the heavy dispensations of wife and children with as meek a spirit as his donkey bore the water-jars; and however he might shake his ears in private⁵, never ventured to question the household virtues of his slattern⁶ spouse.

He loved his children, too, even as an owl loves his owlets, seeing in them his own image multiplied and perpetuated; for they were a sturdy strong-backed, bandy-legged little brood. The great pleasure of honest Péregil was, whenever he could afford himself a scanty holiday, and had a handful of maravedis⁷ to spare⁸, to take the whole litter⁹ forth with him, some in his arms, some tugging at his skirts (skèrts)¹⁰, and some trudging at his heels¹¹ and to treat them to a gambol¹² among the orchards of the Vega, while his wife was dancing with her friends.

¹ pour avoir de la nourriture. — ² tout, excepté. — ³ danse espagnole. — ⁴ du premier ordre. — ⁵ en secret, à part. — ⁶ malpropre et négligent. — ⁷ monnaie de cuivre; 1½ centime. — ⁸ d'épargne. — ⁹ couvée. — ¹⁰ basque. — ¹¹ à ses talons. — ¹² gambade, ébats.

It was a late hour one summer night, and most of the water carriers had desisted from their toils. The day had been uncommonly sultry; the night was one of those delicious moonlights which tempt (témt) the inhabitants of those southern climes to indemnify themselves for the heat and inaction of the day by lingering in the open air and enjoying its tempered sweetness, until after midnight. Customers for water were therefore still abroad. Péregil, like a considerate pains-taking little father, thought of his hungry children. "One more journey¹ to the well", said he to himself, "to earn a Sunday's treat² for the little ones." So saying he trudged manfully up the steep avenue of the Alhambra, singing as he went, and now and then bestowing a hearty thwack with a cudgel on the flanks of his donkey, either by way of cadence³ to the song, or refreshment to the animal⁴; for dry blows serve in lieu of provender in Spain for all beasts of burthen.

102.

Continuation.

When⁵ arrived at the well, he found it deserted by every one except a solitary stranger in Moorish garb, seated on the stone bench in the moonlight. Péregil paused at first and regarded him with surprise, not unmixed with awe, but the Moor feebly beckoned him to approach. "I am faint and ill", said he, "aid me to return to the city and I will pay thee double what thou couldst gain by thy jars of water."

The honest heart of the little water carrier was touched with compassion at the appeal of the stranger. "God forbid", said he, "that I should ask fee or reward for doing a common act of humanity." He accordingly helped the Moor on his donkey, and set off slowly for Granàda, the poor Mòslem being so weak that it was necessary to hold him on the animal to keep him from falling to the earth.

When they entered the city, the water carrier demanded whether he should conduct him. "Alàs!" said

¹ tour. — ² festin, plaisir. — ³ pour marquer la cadence. — ⁴ ou pour rafraîchir (encourager) la bête. — ⁵ suppléez: he was.