

of linen, silk, and cotton, with tanneries. The port, which is small, is defended by two forts. Being exposed to the N., and elevated, Castel-a-mare has acquired great celebrity as a summer residence, in consequence of its coolness, the salubrity of its air, and the beauty of its environs. But in autumn it becomes damp, chill, and disagreeable.

Castel-a-mare is built on the site of the ancient *Stabie*, which, having been destroyed by Sylla during the civil wars, was afterwards principally occupied by villas and pleasure-grounds. It was here, A.C. 79, that the elder Pliny, wishing to approach as near as possible to Vesuvius during the dreadful eruption that overwhelmed Herculaneum and Pompeii, fell a victim to his curiosity and thirst for knowledge.

CASTEL-A-MARE, a sea-port town of Sicily, prov. Trapani, cap. cant., on a gulf of its own name, 6 m. NW. Alcamo; lat. $38^{\circ} 1' 51''$ N., long. $12^{\circ} 52' 43''$ E. Pop. 11,959 in 1862. It is a mean dirty town, with a castle falling fast to decay. The bay is spacious, but it is not safe with northerly winds which throw in a heavy sea. The neighbouring country is well cultivated; and considerable quantities of wine, fruit, grain, manna, and opium are exported.

CASTELLON, or CASTELLON-DE-LA-PLANA (an. *Castalio*), a town of Spain, Valencia, cap. dep., 4 m. from the coast, and 41 m. NNE. city of Valencia, on the railway from Valencia to Barcelona. Pop. 19,340 in 1857. The town is finely situated in a well-watered, extensive, and fertile plain. This fertility is entirely the result of industry, the water which gives life and verdure to the plain being brought by an aqueduct, cut in great part through the solid limestone rock, from the Mijares, which flows about 5 m. S. from the town. This great work has been ascribed to the Romans and Moors; but others assert that it was constructed, about 1240, by James the Conqueror, king of Aragon. The town, which is well built, has 3 churches, 6 convents, 1 hospital, 2 houses of charity, and a public granary. The beauty of the situation, the mildness of the climate, and the abundance and excellence of the fruits, make this one of the favourite residences in the prov.

CASTELNAUDARY, a town of France, dep. Aude, cap. arrond., in an elevated fine situation, contiguous to the Canal du Midi, 21 m. WNW. Carcassonne, on the railway from Toulouse to Narbonne. Pop. 9,584 in 1861. The town is very indifferently built, and there are few edifices worth notice, except the church of St. Michael, said to be the finest in the dep. It has a tribunal of primary jurisdiction, a departmental college, and a philotechnic society. The canal has a superb basin contiguous to the town, surrounded by fine quays and warehouses, which, with the vessels by which it is sometimes crowded, give it the appearance of a sea-port. The public promenade commands this basin and a fine view extending as far as the Pyrenees. There are here manufactures of cloth and silk, with establishments for the spinning of cotton, print-fields, and tanneries; and a considerable trade is carried on in the manufactures of the town, and the produce of the adjoining country.

In 1632, in an encounter under the walls of the town, the Duc de Montmorenci, commanding the troops of Gaston, duc d'Orleans, was wounded and taken prisoner; and being conveyed to Toulouse, was convicted of treason, and executed in the same year.

CASTELO BRANCO, a city of Portugal, prov. Beira, on a hill on the Liria, 51 m. NE. Abrantes. Pop. 5,893 in 1858. The town is the see of a bishop, and the residence of the captain-general of

Lower Beira. Streets narrow and steep, and the houses mean, except some modern ones without the walls; the latter are double, and flanked with seven towers. The cathedral also is without the city; and there is an old ruined castle on the summit of the hill on which the town stands. It has a college and two collegiate churches.

CASTEL-SARRASIN, a town of France, dep. Tarn-et-Garonne, cap. arrond., pleasantly situated in a fertile plain on the Songuine, 1 m. from its confluence with the Garonne, 13 m. W. Montauban. Pop. 6,838 in 1861. The town is well built, and the walls and ditches by which it was surrounded have been converted into promenades. It is the seat of a court of primary jurisdiction, and of a departmental college; and has manufactures of serges and other woollen stuffs, hats, and tanneries.

CASTELVETERANO, a town of Sicily, prov. Trapani, cap. cant., on a hill 6 m. from the sea, and 12 m. E. Mazzara. Pop. 14,540 in 1862. The town is well built with stone, the streets being spacious, and disposed with some attention to regularity; and there are several churches and convents. It has a good trade in wine and olives, the former grown in the neighbourhood, and much renowned.

CASTIGLIONE-DELLE-STIVIERE, a town of Northern Italy, prov. Brescia, on a hill 22 m. NW. Mantua. Pop. 5,237 in 1862. The town is surrounded by a low wall, and contains several churches, the ruins of a castle, and a conventual seminary; but is chiefly noted for a decisive victory gained here by the French over the Austrians, 5th August, 1796; from which Marshal Angereau derived his title of Duc de Castiglione.

CASTILE, the central and largest division of Spain, lying between: lat. $38^{\circ} 25'$ and $42^{\circ} 50'$ N., and long. $1^{\circ} 2'$ and $5^{\circ} 37'$ W.; it has, N. and NE., the territory of Reinosa, Alava, and Navarre; E., Aragon and Valencia; SE., Murcia; S., Andalusia; W., Estremadura and Leon: length about 306 m. from N. to S.; mean breadth about 160 m. Area about 48,600 sq. m. It is divided into two parts by a range of high mountains, called in different parts Urbians, Carpetanos, Sierra de Guadarama, Gata, Somosierra, and de Estrella. The country to the N. of the ridge, having been the first recovered from the Saracens, is called Old, whilst that to the S. is named New Castile. Old Castile comprises the modern provinces of Burgos, Soria, Segovia, and Avila, so named after their chief towns. New Castile comprises the provinces of Madrid, Guadalajara, Cuenca, Toledo, and La Mancha, each also so called after the names of their chief towns, except La Mancha, whose cap. is Ciudad Real. Principal towns, exclusive of the capitals, are Osma, Calahorra, Logroño, Caizada, Haro, Alfaro, Miranda, Briviesca, Almazar, Toledo, Aranjuez, Alcala de Henares, Talavera de la Reina, Illescas, Zurita, Tembleque, Villanueva, &c. The Ebro, Douro, Tagus, and Guadiana have their sources in this province. The first flows SE., along the NE. boundary, to the Mediterranean; the Douro and Tagus, to the Atlantic; and the Guadiana, WSW. to the same. There are many other rivers, affluents of the above. The Xucar, flowing E. to the Mediterranean, also rises in this province. Besides the chain of mountains that separate Old and New Castile, there are three other important chains that traverse these provinces. First, the Sierra de Toledo, which winds semicircularly past Daroca, from the Castilian chain, and then runs SW. nearly parallel to it, to the hills of Santa Cruz, near Merida. Next, the Sierra Morena, or Black Mountains, beginning above Alcazar, near the source of the Guadalquivir, and running like the two former, nearly SW., to the narrow pass of