

milder terms. In the following year not less than two thousand were burned.\* In March, 1492, every Jew unbaptized by July was ordered to leave the kingdom. Probably over three hundred thousand were thus banished, many to terrible sufferings and death. The Inquisition maintained against all heretics the policy pursued towards the Moors and the Jews. In the fact that Spain has fallen from its high estate some may see "the hand of God in history." For my part, I trace but the natural consequences of its own acts.

And this short-sighted and cruel policy, which is as absurd as it is atrocious, is still pursued by pre-eminently Christian Spain. Only last year some wretch at Barcelona threw a bomb at a religious procession. It must have been the work of some madman, or one provoked by the police. For no priest was injured; the procession was over when it was thrown, and only a drummer boy and some of the populace were injured. The panic was made the occasion for seizing over five hundred citizens; known Republicans, leading Freemasons, the heads of Trade Unions, the writers on Radical papers, Socialists, and philosophical Anarchists—all in any way obnoxious to the civil or ecclesiastical authorities—were arrested. Immediately before this the government had demanded 200,000 men to be sent to Cuba, and the humanitarians of Spain had made a protest. The bomb was an opportune one for the government, for it secured its tottering seat by enabling it to bag those it regarded as dangerous enemies. All were branded as Anarchists, a term of odium which is as recklessly employed as was "Atheist" in former days. Five were shot, many imprisoned for life, others detained without trial, and tortured to extract proofs of conspiracy. At length public attention was drawn to these uncivilized proceedings, and the Government graciously liberated those against whom there was no evidence, and who could pay, or find friends to pay, their passage to another country. Only those were set free who had not been convicted of crime. And now these men are visited with odium for Golli's crime, in which they can have had no share; and again two hundred more are arrested and cast into the Spanish prisons.

There are real crimes, and priest-made crimes. In Spain, it is a crime to read a book unauthorized by the priest; a deadly crime to marry without his blessing, or to bring up children without his baptism. All who act thus are criminals in the eyes of the priest. But humanity has another voice. The worst enemies of morality are they who obscure its natural foundations by inventing a multiplicity of pseudo-crimes. A child made to regard Sunday amusements as equally sinful with cruelty to animals is in a fit state to have its morals easily overturned. I have heard of an inscription written for a certain charitable institution:

"This hospital a pious person built,  
But first he made the poor wherewith to fill't."

\*"Crimes of Christianity," p. 160.