

of Saracenic influence in Spain is one of the most striking events in history. When the rest of Europe was sunken in ignorance, fair and flourishing cities—Cordova, Granada, Seville, Segovia, Toledo—with their famous mosques, colleges, palaces, and castellated strongholds, attested the splendour of the brilliant but short-lived exotic Mahometan civilization of the land.

The pride and dignity and punctilious etiquette of the Spaniard has passed into a proverb. Even the railway porters address each other as “Your distinguished excellency,” “Your honourable highness.” The gloomy bigotry which seemed incarnated in Philip II., appears to brood over society, and nowhere is the antipathy to Protestantism more intense than in Spain.

There are in Spain a great number of gypsies—that mysterious people whose origin and history are the standing puzzle of the ethnologist. They are the same clever, unscrupulous, thieving charlatans that they are elsewhere in Europe. George Borrow, the distinguished Bible Society agent in Spain, who shared for years the wandering life of the gypsies, has given an interesting account of their manners and customs. Many of their women, with their lithe figures, slœe-black eyes, and ivory-white teeth, are exceedingly beautiful. But the sinister qualities of the race betray themselves in the countenance of the men, as shown in the portrait of the chief, figured in our engraving.

Spanish towns have a very monotonous sameness. We have, therefore, selected as a type of the rest, one famous both in ancient and modern history, Zaragoza. The city of Zaragoza was named for Cæsar Augustus. You see how the change came; first Cæsar Augustus, then Cæsarea Augusta, then C-sara Agusta, and so Saragossa, as the English write it, or Zara-goza. The city has about 90,000 inhabitants, and is situated about 176 miles north-east of Madrid, the capital of Spain. Let us take a stroll over the quaint old town.

Here is the massive old stone bridge over the Ebro, the largest river in Spain, as yellow and as swift as the Tiber. Only four of the seven arches of the bridge are represented in the picture. It was built in 1437 A.D., fifty-five years before Columbus sailed from Southern Spain in search of a new world. That spire you see at the farther end of the bridge is part of La Seo, one of the two ancient cathedrals of which Zaragoza boasts. La Seo has stately gothic pillars within, and as the cathedral is