

ing away in all the notes of jackass salutation, courtship, joy, and desperation. I more than once instinctively closed my ears, making way as fast as I could to the entrance into the garrison. Crossing the drawbridge, a permit to reside thirty days at the Rock, was procured for me from a person in authority having an office near, signing himself, "Rombado, Inspector;" and passing through a long gloomy archway, under the rampart, I found myself within the walls.

From the circumstance of the space between the acclivities of the mountain and the Bay, being very restricted, there is scarce room for more than one street; and as the current of population is compressed into this channel, the crowd in it, as may be supposed, was very great. Every glance around, showed I was in a military stronghold. Soldiers were marching to and from the relief of posts, or were lounging about, in every direction, their gay scarlet rendering them more conspicuous. I have been in places where the garrison has been much larger than at Gibraltar, but, owing to the difference of costume, the military display seemed less.

There is certainly no place in the British dominions where so great a variety of the human family is to be seen, as at Gibraltar. Jew, Turk and Gentile, meet on every corner. All the languages of Europe, and the Arabic to boot, may be heard in one twenty-four hours by a loungers in the thoroughfares.

For a week after my arrival, I did little else than luxuriate in the agreeable change, from sea to shore life. During the day I amused myself sauntering up and down the streets, along the batteries, or on the Alameda, examining with curious eye the animate and inanimate peculiarities of the place. Of an evening, the most attractive spot I found, was a Café on the Square. The assemblage there was always great and multifarious. The officers of the garrison patronized it greatly, and there was no lack of Lieutenants and Middies from the numerous vessels of war, of all nations, then in the Bay. Civilians of the Rock, and a host of strangers from all parts of the world, thronged the place. It was a never failing source of amusement and curiosity to scan the manners of all these people, and note their speech. Here, one heard a group discoursing about the Brazils or Buenos Ayres; there, the conversation touched on the North of Europe; in one corner, it was about North America,—in another, concerning Asia. All the sounds and dialects of English, as used by Irish, English, Scotch and American, were mingled with the guttural, German and Dutch, the sonorous Spanish, the birdlike Italian, and the vivacious French. Strange tongues there were, too; unknown to my

Canadian ears, those of the Greek and the Mohammedan.

Another agreeable lounge of the evening, was the Theatre: the "Teatro Principal" as it was termed. The splendid language of the Spaniard is heard in all its sonorousness, richness and grandeur, on the stage. Well might Voltaire call it the "language of the gods." It was delightful to sit and listen to it, falling like pearls from the lips of practised dramatists. Besides the language of Spain, there was the dancing of Spain; the Bolero and the Fandango with its cracking castanets. There was beauty of person too, to add to the charm. The principal actress had been one of the chief ornaments of the Madrid Stage. The cause of her being at Gibraltar, was politics; the lady was a warm Constitutionalist; and *la Constitución* was then a proscribed thing. The Serviles compelled all its supporters to fly, or filled the gaols with them; and the Donna in question made her way to Gibraltar. Report gave out that she was the wife of a Grandee's son, and that the Grandee's family were mightily incensed against her in consequence. However this may have been, there can be no doubt she was, so far as personal attraction went, worthy of any Grandee.

Riding on horseback is a great pastime at Gibraltar, but, to enjoy it, one must go by the Neutral Ground into Spain. "The South," as the space between the Alameda and the Southern extremity of the Rock is called, is too restricted for the exercise; although what there is of it is extremely agreeable to the equestrian. It is the "Country" portion of the Rock. The civilian fashionables, (for Gibraltar has its fashionables, like all other places) many of them reside here. It is, however, chiefly inhabited by the military and their families. Scattered over it are numerous country-houses surrounded by gardens. The Governor's cottage is at the extreme end, facing Africa, and there are many other snug little cottages, after the English style, to add beauty to "the South."

The Peninsula, or Rock of Gibraltar, extends north and south three miles, and is half a mile in breadth. The population is about 12,000, exclusive of military. Even in these piping times of peace, the garrison is considerable. At the period I write about, there were no less than five regiments of infantry, and the force of artillery in such a place, as may be supposed, was considerable.

The town is at the base of the Rock, or Mountain, at its Northern end. The principal street is level, well built and paved, and about half a mile long. There are some narrow streets parallel to it, which are crossed by lanes, that climb the mountain side. The distance