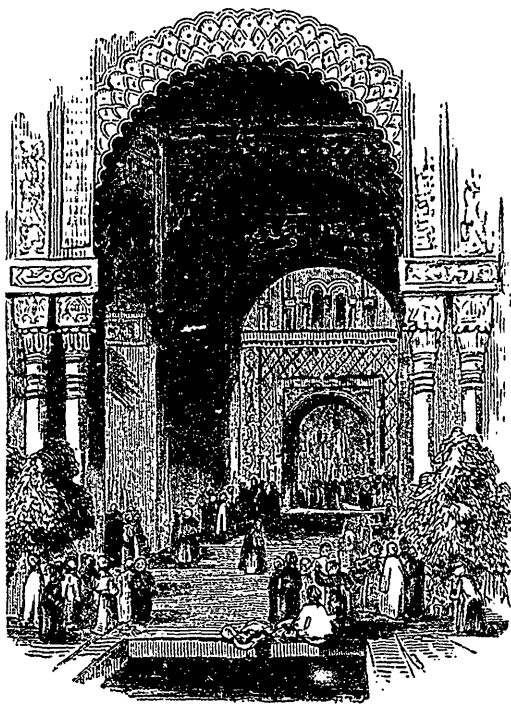


The diversity of the natural scenery of Andalusia gives it an ineffable charm. It unites many kinds of beauty. Even here there are, as in other parts of Spain, tracks of country which were fertile and inhabited under the Moorish rule that have since become sterile and depopulated wastes. But these, and the savage wildness and barrenness of its lofty mountain, while possessing a peculiar charm of their own, heighten by contrast the

softer beauty of the "heuartas" and "vegas," with their tropical luxuriance of vegetation and fruitfulness.

Seville is the typical province of Andalusia; and it is not surprising, in view of its situation and surroundings, that it is the home of Spanish art. The greatest of its painters, Murillo and Velasquez, were born here; and here Zurbaran painted his best pieces. Here the most celebrated novelist of modern Spain, Ce-



THE ALCAZAR, SEVILLE.

cilia Bohl de Faber, had her home. Amador de los Rios composed his chief works here. This, too, is the birth-place of both Becquers—the painter and the novelist. Though the Moors have left deeper traces, in some respects, in Granada, in Seville they have fused more thoroughly with the population, and have given it the Oriental grace and culture which is lacking at the former place. The wit of the people of Seville is peculiar to themselves.

Of the monuments of Moorish art, space will permit us to mention but two—the Giralda and the Alcazar. The former of these is by far the finest relic of purely Moorish architecture in