

tellor to Loftonzo. Through him therefore a new communication was to be opened with the Count.

Thus by an unsuspected channel were new terrors added to the natural timidity of Henrico. He was informed “ that the title to
 “ his extensive territory depended on a testa-
 “ ment, the validity of which was deter-
 “ minable within Don Philip’s jurisdiction.
 “ —That by adhering to old engagements
 “ and national regards, he would forfeit that
 “ *friendly disposition* in his judge, which is
 “ so necessary to *equal* justice.—That the
 “ final adjudication of this great cause resided
 “ in the supreme assembly of the grandees
 “ in Spain, where Sancho had a suffrage;
 “ which suffrage the Count might ensure or
 “ alienate, as his conduct should be friendly
 “ or hostile to his government in Barataria.
 “ That in times of simplicity and ignorance,
 “ the Spanish nobles had restrained their
 “ judgments within the rigid precepts of
 “ law, and the austerities of justice; but
 “ that of late, refinement of manners had
 “ broken through those harsh restrictions,
 “ and legal severity yielded to the softer in-
 “ fluence of favour and affection.”

He proceeded to pour into the ears of the Count, instances of this high refinement in the grandees of Spain; and one especially, which had fallen even within the limited knowledge of Loftonso himself, *The late de-*
cision