

and moist. In but rendered prevailing winds, entry; but this long dry winds, floods by which would very un- at Madrid, dry complaints. le reduces the e on the coasts. The ordinary, are 90° Fahr. but the ther-, and fails be-

t of the Castiles rt to Valencia, other province l yet so sweet, n abroad. The al de Peñas, or t. It is a dry, species, and is y that a bottle d. It is drunk Castiles; but in ive district, on e skins in which Castiles produce l. Hemp, flax, ily cultivated. On the moun- erable numbers e raised; but most annihilated Castiles. There ves, hares, pea- d small game in has decreased d land near the Ferdinand VII. lynxes are not. Not only the fields in New broom (*genista* and the *Daphne* x feet in height, prospect. These us, and several d in the pasture o the landscape trees, which is and unsheltered dryness of the e against them, t; the peasantry nothing, unless n. They dislike hose planted by t. It is believed t humidity has t to bad govern- les. From the a stream ankle ls. Agriculture the consequence n, having little opolised by the hich in such a y little practised, neglected; and country remain r crops of grain e between the d still more the hich prevents

the farmer from living insulated on his farm, are additional checks to agriculture. Eight or ten miles frequently intervene without a single habitation, and the country looks poor and miserable in the extreme. Nothing can be more gloomy than the appearance of the towns, with old-fashioned towers projecting out of a dismal group of houses plastered over with clay. At the entrance of each is a gate for receiving the duties on all articles that pass; and in the centre a square, round which are the buildings occupied by the ayuntamiento, or municipality, the posada, or inn, and the butcher, baker, tailor, cobbler, and village surgeon, or barber. Most of the towns exhibit every symptom of decline. (Slidell, i, 136; Inglis, i, 56.) Before the construction of railways, there was nearly a total want of free communication, all but the main road to France being neglected. The old road between Madrid and Toledo was mostly carried over ploughed fields, sometimes with hardly a visible track. The new iron roads, established chiefly by English capital, and built by English 'navvies,' have greatly improved this state of things, and bid fair to raise even Castile from its state of poverty and misery. (See SPAIN.)

Manufactures, though formerly considerable, are now at a very low ebb. The cloths of Segovia were once the best in Europe; and there are still some woollen fabrics, among which is the famous vigogna cloth and coarse camlets, serges, and flannels, and some of wrought silks, silk stockings and gloves, galloons, blond lace, coarse linens, hats, caps, soap, saltpetre, gunpowder, the celebrated plate-glass of St. Ildefonso, white earthenware, tanned leather, and paper, but they are all inconsiderable. Castile has little commerce; wool is the staple commodity. The exportation of sheep was always strictly forbidden, till by the treaty of Basle the French were allowed to purchase 5,000 Morino rams and as many ewes; and from this stock, and subsequent exportations from Spain, the quality of the wools of France, England, Germany, and other parts of the world, has been greatly improved.

The following table shows the area and population of the two Castiles according to the census of 1857. Valladolid and Valencia are sometimes included in the Castiles; but they did not formerly belong to them, and are excluded in this table.

Provinces	Area in Eng. Sq. Miles	Population in May, 1857
New Castile—Madrid . .	1,315	475,785
Guadalaxara . .	1,946	199,088
Toledo . .	8,774	328,755
Cuenca . .	11,304	229,959
Ciudad Real . .	7,543	244,328
Total . .	30,882	1,477,915
Old Castile—Burgos . .	7,674	333,356
Logrono . .		173,812
Santander . .	3,686	214,441
Oviedo . .		524,529
Soria . .	4,076	147,468
Segovia . .	3,466	146,839
Avila . .	2,569	164,039
Leon . .	5,894	848,756
Palencia . .	1,733	185,970
Valladolid . .	3,279	244,023
Salamanca . .	5,626	263,516
Zamora . .	3,562	249,162
Total . .	72,447	5,473,826

The Castilians have the character of probity, sobriety, and moderation; they are serious and contemplative, which makes them, at first, seem gloomy and haughty; but, after a time, they are found not deficient in the agreeable qualities.

They have to boast of many illustrious men; at the head of whom stand Cervantes, the inimitable author of *Don Quixote*, and Lopez de Vega. They are not what would be called hospitable, but they are, notwithstanding, generous. The middle and upper classes are fond of display and ostentation to an extraordinary degree, while inconsiderateness and carelessness are conspicuous in the characters both of the lower and middle classes. Almost every one lives up to his income; even the *employees*, whose tenure of office is so uncertain, seldom lay by anything, and generally die penniless. But the love of ease and pleasure, and proneness to indolence, is less marked, perhaps, in Castile, than in the southern provinces. Their want of industry is the result of the circumstances under which they have been placed, and of their vicious institutions. No man will be industrious, where industry does not bring along with it a corresponding reward; and this it very rarely does in Spain. Had the Castilians the means of improving their condition by labour, their apathy and listlessness would speedily give place to activity and enterprise. In Madrid, and generally in Castile, there is something more of luxury at the table than in the N. provinces, though the Spaniards in general are abstemious, and little addicted to its pleasures. The dining-room is generally the meanest apartment; but the houses of respectable persons are scrupulously clean, particularly the kitchens and bed-rooms. Female education begins to improve; besides embroidery and music, a little history and geography is taught in the schools, though not in the convents, where the higher orders are educated. In the time of the constitution of the Cortes, there were two Lancasterian schools for boys and one for girls at Madrid; but those for the boys were suppressed on the king's return. The influence of the regular clergy is diminished much more than that of the monks, who are still, through the austerities they practise, and the alms they distribute at the convent doors, held in considerable veneration, except in Madrid, where less attention is paid to religious ceremonies and processions than in any other city of Spain. The large towns have a sombre aspect, the women being nearly all in black, without a bonnet or a riband. Every one has a mantilla or scarf thrown over the shoulders, which varies in quality with the station of the wearer. Besides a waistcoat and jacket of cloth, covered with abundance of silver buttons, the men usually wear a sheepskin jacket with the woolly side outwards; or, instead of this, an ample brown cloak, the right fold of which is thrown over the left shoulder with a Roman air. The head is covered with a pointed cap of black velvet, the ends of which being drawn down over the ears, leave exposed a high forehead and manly features. They have tight breeches, sustained above the hips by a red sash, and fastened the whole way down the outside of the thigh by bell buttons, woollen stockings, stout shoes, and leather gaiters, curiously embroidered, and fastened at top with a gay-coloured string. The love of dancing is universal among them: the ladies usually dance well, but in a style quite different from the French; they laugh and talk while they dance, and are strangers to that burlesque silence and gravity that prevail among the quadrillers of France and England. Music is much cultivated; and it is rare to find a female even in the middle ranks who is not a good pianist. Among their amusements, the bull-fights, to which all classes are passionately addicted, must not be forgotten. These have been prohibited several times; and the cruelties practised at them may seem sufficient to stamp them with the character of brutality and barbarism. Yet there is