

every year from all parts of Spain, to present their offerings of silver and gold, and to kiss the small portion of the jasper pillar which is left exposed for that purpose; jewellers and fancy shopkeepers of the town do a profitable business in selling imitations of the Virgin's pillar in gold, silver, and all sorts of baser materials; and on the 12th of October, the anniversary of the descent of the Virgin, there have been known to be as many as 50,000 pilgrims in Saragossa, and we have the testimony of Pope Innocent III. that God alone can count the miracles which are performed on these occasions.

Not far from this cathedral is the ancient leaning tower of Saragossa. This, like the tower of Pisa, leans far out from the perpendicular; but this is said to be the result of a defect in the foundation, rather than of the whim of the architect. The settling of the foundation, which fortunately has not gone far enough to endanger the superstructure, has added to it this element of interest, if not of beauty. From its summit there is a fine view of the many-towered city, the olive and vine-clad plains around, the canal with its poplars and willows, the winding Ebro, and the snow-crowned Pyrenees to the north.

But at this point the present record of our wanderings must end. Time and space have their limits, beyond which the wanderer, whether literal or literary, cannot pass. It is not possible, however, to turn our back upon this interesting country without a sigh. Its past history sufficiently illustrates its splendid possibilities. It has all the natural resources necessary to secure for it the highest state of prosperity. The exuberant fertility of its soil, its inexhaustible mineral treasures, its commanding position on the great highway of the nations, and the industry, energy, and capacity of its people, all seem to indicate that it was designed by Providence to occupy a high position among the nations. And only three centuries ago it held unquestionably the first place in Europe. But, as a recent writer has said, "under the paralyzing influence of political tyranny, and religious bigotry, its cities have fallen into decay; its fields have been smitten with barrenness; its commerce and manufactures have perished. It contains but the ruin of its former greatness." And there is evidently nothing but a free Bible, a free Gospel, and a powerful revival of pure spiritual religion which can recover it from the condition of apparently hopeless paralysis into which it has fallen.