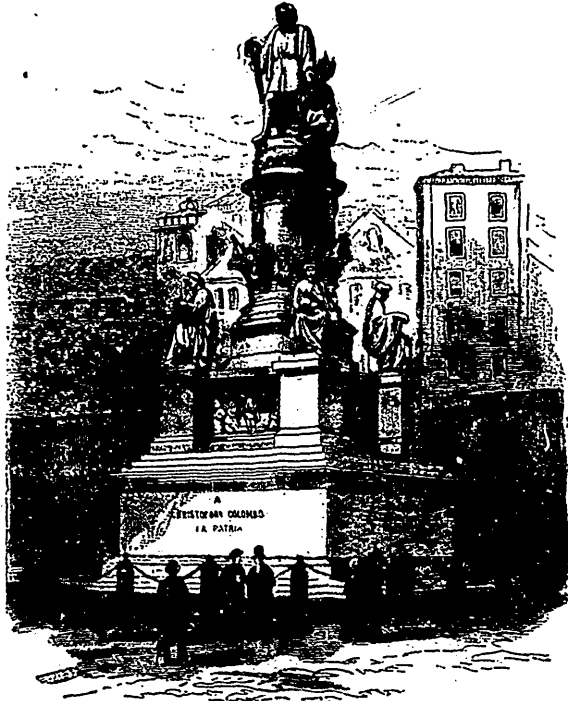


their lives of poverty and indolence are little better than a living death. One venerable-looking old fellow kindly drew from a deep well, with an old-fashioned wheel, water to quench my thirst.

A ride of a hundred miles, for the most part through grand mountain scenery, brings one to the ancient city of Genoa. On the way we pass the famous field of Marengo, where, in 1800,



COLUMBUS MONUMENT, GENOA.

was fought, during twelve long hours, the battle which changed the destinies of the whole of Europe. With its noble terraces of frescoed palaces, rising tier above tier from the sea, Genoa sits like a queen on the slopes of the lovely Gulf, and well deserves the proud name of *La Superba*.* No city in Italy contains so many old ducal palaces. These are, for the most part, built as a hollow square, with magnificent marble stairways leading to the stately halls and apartments of the upper stories.

* The initial small bird's-eye view of the city will give an idea of its splendid harbour and engirdling chain of forts on the surrounding hills.