

Could such things be proposed in Asia? No,—the Hindoo would say, “I am very sorry, but I have an expensive idol to keep, and I must pay the people who cover it with spangles and paint, and beat drums, and blow trumpets, round it.”

Could such institutions be proposed in Spain? No. The spirit of the mailed knight of La Mancha would reply, “I really cannot afford it: for I must maintain the dignity of the Crown and the splendour of the Court balls. What the country would come to without its chivalry, and its noble national sports, its bull-fights, and grandees, and all that, to take care of it, I shudder to think of.”

I have often heard it said that the Americans are a lord-loving people, which is only so far true as that there are some vain and silly, dressy Americans, who generally flock to Europe, because there only, if they obtain introductions, they can gratify their love of finery and ostentation. I have met with some such of both sexes, but I never met with an American of sober and serious thought, who did not prefer his own institutions, and assign as a reason for it, that they were the only impartial ones, and the best fitted for promoting the happiness of all.

It is also true, that there is a great deal of luxury in furniture and dress, displayed by the wealthy classes of New York, though principally by young people, and those of the weaker sex. But how small are the demands made upon a man of fortune by such items, in comparison with what would take place in England! Here are no game laws, and in consequence no poachers, and, as a further consequence, no regiments of