

AQUEDUCT OF THE ALHAMBRA.

glowing with tints which in the transparent atmosphere have lost nothing of their original brilliancy, its airy halls, so constructed as to admit the perfume of surrounding gardens and agreeable ventilation of the air, and its fountains, which still shed their coolness over its deserted courts, manifest at once the taste, opulence and Sybarite luxury of its proprietors."

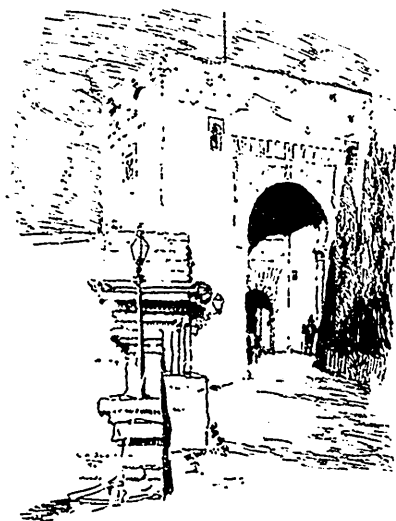
This is as much about the Alhambra as can be compressed into a sentence or two; for a fuller account of it the reader is referred to Washington Irving's incomparable description; but no word-painting, however vivid, can convey to the mind an adequate conception of the magnificence of this venerable pile of buildings, which stands to-day as it stood in the days of Boabdil. Across the ravine, among pompous groves and hanging gardens, is the Generallife—a summer palace of the Moorish kings, to which they resorted during the sultry months.

Ronda is one of the most picturesque cities in Europe. It stands on a steep rock encircled by the Guadiana, which foams and dashes through a chasm so narrow as to be

bridged over. The bridge which spans the Tajo, or rift in the rock, is a most striking object as looked at from beneath. At a height of six or seven hundred feet above the Moorish mills and castle in the valley, it seems as though suspended from the clouds. The beautiful river, emerging into light and sunshine from the gloomy defiles through which it has struggled, leaps from rock to rock as though rejoicing in its emancipation. The whole scene fully justifies the enthusiastic exclamation of Ford: "There is but one Ronda in the world."

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.

Spain has all the natural resources necessary to secure for it the highest state of prosperity. The exuberant fertility of its soil, its inexhaustible mineral treasure, its commanding position on the great highway of the nations, and the in-



THE GATE OF JUSTICE.