

COSTALUZ LAWYERS



BRITISH IN IBERIA

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL



Jesús de Castro

Introduction and Acknowledgements

We are pleased to bring you this year, as our holidays Present, this e-book containing some, of perhaps hundreds of stories that narrates episodes in which people from the United Kingdom, Ireland and the United States have played an important role in the development of Spanish History.

Did you know that Garcia Lorca was born and dwelled in an Estate that belonged to the Duke of Wellington? That Mercedes Gleitz was the first of us all to swim across the Strait of Gibraltar? Or that direct trade between Seville and England dates back to XIVth?

We hope you enjoy the above stories and this whole piece of work written by a member of our team, Jesús de Castro and kindly translated by Rachel Harrison, which recounts the long imbrications among our countries and people, and for which we look forward to its perpetuation over time to come, with you among the protagonists.

Wishing you Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year,

María Luísa de Castro and The Costaluz Lawyers Team. BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Sir Francis Drake and the Spanish proverb

Drake lived until 1908, not the brave pirate but the venerable and peaceful turtle Drake, which was a giant turtle of those species with Latinscientific names living in the London zoo, and that in those days of the early twentieth century was about four hundred years old and was one of the oldest inhabitants of the planet.

The turtle was caught in the Galapagos Islands in the late eighteenth century, when captured, it was observed that in its shell, there was, dotted



with a knife, a data, whose figures were almost undone, being readable just the first two, which were 16 ... Because of this, it was concluded that it had been caught in the seventeenth century. The author of the dotting was a corsair, one of the many who in those days, threatened Spanish galleons lurking between America and the Philippines, currently hit the Galapagos Islands. So they called it Drake.

Reading the book "The voyage of Lionel Wafer" (1680) evoking the exploits of the English buccaneers, the French filibusters and Brethren of the Coast that sheltered in Santo Domingo and the Turtle, plaguing the seas of the Antilles, you can see how Wafer, buccaneer by fondness and curiosity about such an adventurous life, dedicated his book to the Duke of Marlborough, giving to him a head-up call for England to occupy the space of Darien (Panama), as it was highly advisable that this territory passed from Spanish to English hands.

If we ask ourselves about the origin of the proverb "War against every nation, peace with England", I would humbly say what follows:

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

In 1588, after the conquest of Portugal, Philip II had in his mind his old and ambitious project, that one he had always cherished and which was to take revenge against England motivated both by the personal slights inflicted by Queen Elizabeth and the fact she consented that the English corsair Drake persecuted and arrested many ships from America, heavy galleons stuffed of American wealth: gold, silver: Treasures of the West Indies, ripped at the expense of blood and burnt by men of the peninsula, falling without much trouble into the hands of daring islanders.

The above, within the more critical frame of the Religion war: the English Protestants threatened to lead a relentless fight against the Spanish Catholics, made Philip II to organize such a tremendous squad that was named Invincible, consisting on 150 ships and 20,000 men. The first admiral of the fleet, was the Marques de Santa Cruz, this was succeeded by the Duque de Medina Sidonia, as the former succumbed at the leaving of Lisbon waters.

A storm when rounding Finisterre Cape and the admiral's inexperience led to the loss of eight ships. The survivors, taking refuge in the port of La Coruna and insisted on the mission, once they have almost recovered the squad, continued its course toward the channel of La Mancha, being overwhelmed by Drake, who was appointed vice admiral of a fleet to fight against La Armada Invencible. Drake, favored by the fury of the storm, made the Spanish lose 90 ships and 10,000 men. King Philip II trying to store some cold-blood, uttered then: "I have not sent my ships to fight the elements." The aftermaths of this failure were appalling for Spain; the British fleet attacked the Spanish possessions and laid siege to La Coruna. Since then, England was the Queen of the Seas.

Drake was born in the hold of a ship, being orphaned since soon after this, the Captain of a boat picked him up, and he entered into the life of the Seas. John Hawkins taught him the theory and practice of the art of navigation. In 1567, commanding the expedition, Judith in a Mexican coast expedition, the fleet his ship was part of, was

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

destroyed by the Spanish in a naval battle, Drake escaped but vowed revenge on the Spanish and gave his entire life to the realization of this plan. His maxim, "No peace beyond the line" was famous becoming the scourge of Spanish resources.

Drake is one of the favourite heroes of the English people, with good motivation, as he was one of the most attended nationals to raise the maritime preponderance of their land.

The first English fleet that sailed around the world was that of Drake.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The origins of English "Hispanismo"

One night of March, 1623 by midnight, arrived at the inn that was the residence of Lord John Digby in Madrid, Earl of Bristol, extraordinary ambassador at the court of Spain's King James I of England, two gallant English gentlemen. When waiting for the Earl, a man arrived, the Ambassador's servant. The two British men asked him, using a bad Castilian and a well coined piece of eight, what beer the Earl drank, the servant answered that they brought it from England as beer in Madrid was difficult to find and if found it was bad because here people do not drink anything but wine, which was delicious because people like being drunk more than anything else.

A long time ago, the geographic remoteness was not an obstacle for some British nobles to take part as crusaders in the Reconquista. Also as it is told by William Wey, member of Eton College, a profuse number of British people visited the grave of James. Trade relations have always existed between the two nations as well as royal weddings between the two lands. Chaucer and the Archpriest of Hita did much in their time for the conjunction between England and Spain.

The main fact that helped to decidedly increase the influence of Spanish literature in England was the marriage between Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon. A very relevant person of that time was Luis Vives, great friend of Sir Thomas More, who wrote and published six editions of his "Instruction of a Christian woman "(1540-Hyrde) as well as his "Instructions to Wisdom". In 1580 John Rastell did not perform a correct adjustment of "La Celestina". This was better performed by James Mabbe in 1681.

But the most influential person in the literature of the Islands was the Bishop of Mondoñedo, Fray Antonio de Guevara, who was followed by John Lily and the school which was born out of the novel "Euphues": The Euphuism (Euphuism). The Euphuism is, in English literature, a simulated, redundant and supremely prepared style, which took his name from the work "Euphues, The Anatomy of Wit" 1578, and from the

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

other work, "Euphues and his England", 1580. Lily was reached by Robert Greene and despite his harsh criticism by William Shakespeare too.

The origin of the processed Euphuism is the courtly Spanish prose of Fray Antonio de Guevara, a very well known writer on a European scale. This style flourished in England from 1580 until the early XVIIth century, getting its culmination in the reign of Elizabeth I. It is characterized by extensive use of similes and a large ornate descriptivism, domination of eloquence and poise of wise quotations.

The politic-religious wars of the period, made some Protestants in Spain to flee to England: Antonio del Corro, Valera Cipriano, González Montes, who did not lose time to begin to popularize in Castilian his Protestant Bible which were published in Londoner prints as Thomas Vantrollerius, Thomas Puerfoetus and Richard Field, who hispanicized his name turning it to "Ricardo del Campo" for starting to print protestant works in Castilian. Field is necessarily known due to the printing of the first poems of William Shakespeare. His imprint is an anchor with the motto "Anchora Spei" (anchore of hope). We can see this mark on the cover of the 1597 edition of the "Institution of the Christian religion."

In the seventeenth century, it can be remarked the work as an Hispanist of Ambassador to Madrid, Lord Bristol, who passed Calderon to the English language and Hardy, who took complete comedies of Lope de Vega. In this century the Spanish Theatre company of Juan de Navarra acted in London in 1685, acting even in the very Court and the press published Classic Spanish works on a daily basis.

The glory of Cervantes owes much to the numerous translations that the work has had in England, where the first deluxe edition was published in 1738 paid by Lord Carteret. For the publishing of the work, he launched a competition among the best English painters of the time. The winner was J. Vanderbank. The edition was great, with excellent impressions: 68 paintings of this artist, 65 of them were engraved by Vander 7

Gucht. The work was dedicated to the Countess of Montijo, wife of the Spanish ambassador in London. This produced an increased interest for the Spanish literature,



Martin Hume's History of Contemporary Spain conducting many writers, travelers, collectors and onlookers to walk by our fabulous cities collecting in writing their stories and emotions. 8

This was the born of the English "Hispanismo", which has led authors who love Spain to teach on the relationships between their literature and our own. To cite a few: Alpern, Barker, Hills, Martin Hume.

Menorca, English evocation

When the ambassador of Spain in France, the Marquis de Dos Rius Castell, informed the Duke of Anjou, later King Philip V, grandson of Louis XIV, who inherited the crown of Spain upon the death of King Charles II, said, " There are no Pyrenees anymore! They have been sunk into the ground and we are no more than a nation now! " Eighteen years later, when Spain and France entered into war, the phrase" There is no Pyrenees" became popular and was spread in a humoristic way; today, the phrase is used to name goods, works or situations of very short life.

According to historian Thomas Macaulay " the conduct of Spanish people during the War of Succession was extremely characteristic" Counted the few advantages of number and situation, they were ignominiously defeated; all the European lands

owned by Spain were lost, Catalonia, Aragon and Valencia allegiance owed to the archduke; Gibraltar was surprised under the power of England, a few troopers had made themselves masters of Barcelona, the invaders, penetrating to the centre of the peninsula, had their headquarters in Madrid and Toledo.



Juan Miguel Saura and Morell raised the menorquines to the Austrias and against Felipe V. It was on 19 September 1708, when an Anglo-Netherlands army commanded by Sir John Leake accompanied by Gen. James Stanhope took the island in less than nine days, being the Menorca Navy caught in a pitiful state.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The Peace of Utrecht awarded the domination of Minorca to England, which was later taken away to France by Admiral Galissoniere and General Duc de Richelieu, Admiral John Byng who was executed on the deck of his ship by his own countrymen, a very strange event apart from times of revolution or civil war. Bynd was defeated in 1756 and was returned to England under arrest. It was submitted to court-martial in which he could not be accused of cowardice but, of not doing enough and was condemned to death. Prime Minister Pitt made all in his hands for Bynd to be pardoned by King George but he refused. The Island returned to Britain with the peace in 1763 and was lost again in 1781, returning to British hands in 1798 until the Peace of Amiens, when this was incorporated into the Crown of Spain.

The British presence on the island lasted less than 70 years but still they left numerous influences and perennial features; emblematic interesting documents, mayonnaise types of that time drawn by Chiesa, colonial painter of those days. Paintings where British influence is seen in the dresses of women even when these were wearing the typical dress of the island. The map and printed sheets of Armstrong in his historical work "The History of the island of Minorca" (1752) report and stage the character of British, always respectful of the traditions and customs of the islanders. We need to remark too that the British presence was not always understood by all or estimated as shown in the engravings, lithographs and satirizing drawings of the customs of British in Minorca at that time.

The English governor who left the deepest imprint on Minorca was Sir Richard Kane, who made great works of sewerage in the strip of Es Vergers to prevent epidemics of malaria: he also improved the roads and fortifications (Camí d'en Kane). He also intervened on the economic adjustment of prices of products of the island, regulated imports and deforestation practices and introduced new weights and measures, ie English traces in public works, agriculture, livestock and also in language with different

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Anglicisms. Kane ended his government of Minorca Island by death in December 1736. He has conquered the appreciation of the inhabitants and the gratitude of their King. But there were also clashes between British and menorquines especially when the English needed men for their squads and ordered forced conscriptions. As there were also times of bad government and provocation with the Church.

Of the Anglicisms, still remain around 60 words in the language of Menorca as manifested by Vincent and Xavier Campos in his book "Els anglicisme of Menorca". In this context, the most comprehensive study is that produced by Professors Ortell and Campos. Some examples of these menorquine Anglicisms are: Correr de Berecs (barracks), bricbarca, berguin (bargain), boi (boy), Jan (Johm), Miledy (my lady), piquels (pilchard), pudin (pudding), grog, sutimbor (setting board), tiquitil (tea kettle), xaques (shake hands), mervles (marbles).

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Boy Scouts of Spain

"Many venerable institutions and many famous regimes, praised by men, perished in the storm, but the Boy Scout movement survived. Not only survived the Great War but the bungling of the post war times. While many elements of life and spirit of nations seemed to be mired in stupor, that one flourished and grew intensely. Its motto takes on new national significance as the years pass on our island. Bring to every heart its message of honour and duty: be ready to defend Law and Truth, whatever the whipping winds are"

(Great Contemporaries, Winston Churchill, 1937)

The history of the Scouts in Spain began in 1912 and went through underground 1940 until the restoration of democracy. At present, it is in our country a voluntary education movement for more than sixty thousand children and young associates, which encourages commitment, freedom, awareness of social issues and helping others, with adapted, continuous an suggestive schemes of activities in areas such as health education, social equality, environmental culture, education for peace and development and promoting quality of life of children and adolescents.

The institution of the Scouts in Spain has gone through all the stages that the Spanish character goes printing along the time on any person or work. It creates it, animates it, rises it up, sinks it or forgets it. A day in Madrid, drumbeats and trumpets blowing crossed the streets by small boys wearing a uniform symmetrically formed. The year of 1912 in Spain saw the Scouts to take presence, under the initiative of its initiator Sir Robert Baden Powell and Don Arturo Cuyás.

Robert Baden, in view of the vicissitudes and hardships of the campaign against the Boers, understood the need and usefulness of educating youth in a positive and fundamental way by making them robust, enhancing their love of their country,

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

preparing future citizens in all virtues and directing them to banish all evil. He thought that forming a strong, moral and educated youth. He would transform his country making it strong, free and independent. And effectively, England responded and still responds to these dictates. That was strong and rich was clear due to his army, the most efficient in the world, and its colonies, forming a grand empire. Freedom was and still is absolute, as citizenship rights are fully guaranteed. For all these reasons Scouts of Spain were a hope for our country, we just simply need to see the objects for which they were made and for which they were organized.



The life of Spain scouts was a school of class equality much more complete than the actual school where students used to be distinguished between those who attended the school for free and those who paid a fee to the teacher. Common and outdoor life matches from the first years of life the different social conditions. It's a little-known historical episode, as it's incredible, but Franco in 1940 banned the institution in Spain. In the late fifties, the regime opened the doors slightly to the scout movement but it was always under control and assigning the direction of the movement to the Church.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

When Franco blocks the life of to the most famous form of nubile socialization that had been established in Europe in the early twentieth century, he does because he perceives in this organization the seed of Freemasonry. Not even the sympathy of Baden-Powell to fascist European thoughts in the 30s in Europe, free him from judging the movement under the anti-Masonic personal phobia which devoured him.

In return for the disappearance of the young "masons" scouts Franco created the Youth Front, a kind of daughter of Falange. Over the time, the Youth Front became the OJE: Spanish Youth Organization. They changed some aesthetics of the scouts such as the salute with his left hand which was replaced by the much more vigorous Roman salute.

Sir Robert Baden Scouts visited Spain, Madrid in October 1918, then Cadiz in 1929, Palma de Mallorca, Tenerife and Gibraltar in 1934, returning to Tenerife in 1935. Spanish Scouts in those days made a gift to His Majesty the King of England of a carved walnut armchair with embossed leather of the Spanish Renaissance style. BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The Irish Seminary in Salamanca

Who are those blond seminarians? Until mid-twentieth century, visitors to the city of Salamanca stopped to look at them wondering who they were, for Salamanca inhabitants they were a daily scene: tall and blond young men with a black cassock and a clover-shaped purple cross on the heart, passed in two rows between the Theological Seminary and the Colegio del Arzobispo Fonseca. The answer: They are the Irish, students of the Royal College of Noble Irish.

This School was founded by Father Thomas White, SJ, and a native of Clonmel, with the approval of Philip II in 1592. The King of Spain provided generous funding and the direction of the school was entrusted by him to the Jesuits, so that Irish Catholics coming to take refuge in Spain could study there. Close commercial relations came out of this and many families of these students get the Spanish nationality and made a great impact in the destiny of Spain.

Wellington himself, who was Irish, at his arrival to Spain, saw that the President of the Irish College of Nobles was a member of a family friend of his. This President, using Wellington's influence got a house (Colegio del Arzobispo Fonseca) to replace that one the French had burned during the War of Independence. Irish returned to Salamanca after the war and since 1838 they occupied the Fonseca College until 1951.

In Spain, Irish colleges were established in Salamanca, Sevilla, Alcala, Santiago de Compostela and Madrid so that Irish could study in a Catholic University. Many of the most distinguished Irish bishops and priests during the seventeenth century were men who had graduated in Salamanca. Schools had this standard "To receive Irish students, perfect grammarists, of well-known skills, sense and virtue; of clean and pure blood, of Catholic parents and ancestors," as evidenced by a statement of 1720. They were tested in Ireland before coming to Spain, by the Superior of the Company, "without

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

whose report and patent could not be admitted into this seminar". They studied Philosophy and Theology.

In the period between 1594 and 1644, Salamanca prepared almost four hundred students, including a Primate of All Ireland, archbishops, bishops, and directors of religious orders, martyrs, priests, distinguished writers and Doctors of Divinity.

Until 1951 around thirty students studied in this College. They entered the College at age of 18 or 19 years old, having previously passed in Ireland the equivalent to High School Spanish and passed an entrance examination. Instruction was all given in Latin. They all came from aristocratic families, mainly, because they alone could cover the vast expenses of studying abroad, most spent the duration of six years of their studies before returning to their land. But...yes, they spent their summers in a farm next to the beach that the College had in Asturias. Each and every one of the priests, who left the Irish College in Salamanca, returned very frequently due to the good memories that kept of those times.

Salamanca is a university town since the Middle Ages, for this reason it has assumed constant contacts with other countries and cultures, always attracting a very important number of foreign students. Irish have always had there a constant and considerable influence. The College is now used as a residence for postgraduates from around the world in which almost always an Irish researcher is housed.

BRITISH IN IBERIA 🔍 🗨

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

Lorca's Birthplace on Wellington's Estate

Amongst the villages of Soto de Roma there is one village called Fuente Vaqueros and another called Asqueroso (now named Valderrubio). In the former was born Federíco García Lorca on the 5th June, 1898. Shortly afterwards, Federíco's family moved the to neighboring village, then called Asqueroso. Here, in the lands of the Duke of Wellington, the poet lived his childhood and adolescent years.



In an attempt to try and put into practice the idea of community land ownership, "land for those who work on the land ", on the 31st July, 2008, around 20 militant trade-unionists made a symbolic gesture of occupying the estate of the Dukes of Wellington in Alomartes (Granada). In the words of one of the leading unionists, "this is one of the last remaining blood-stained bastions of medieval privilege in one of the poorest regions of Granada and the Dukes merely use it as a hunting lodge for their wealthy, aristocratic European friends".

The only incident that occurred was involving the Head of the Estate who warned his workers about hefty fines against the trade union. Previously, whilst the unionists distributed propaganda in the village, he tore down the radical posters and, mop in hand, desperately tried to clean off the graffiti.

Encompassing 4000 acres of land, bordered by the Sierra Elivra, Soto de Roma, 16km from Granada, was granted to the first Duke of Wellington by the Spanish Government

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

as acknowledgement of the services paid to Spain during the "War against the French" (War of Independence).

English people touring Granada continue to visit the Spanish estate of the Duke of Wellington, in almost pilgrim-like fashion as a form of hero-worship.



These lands were part of the personal assets of the Catholic Kings and were originally given to Captain Alarcón as a reward at the end of the Reconquest. Soto de Roma eventually returned into the hands of the Monarchy after periods of ownership by individuals to whom the land was donated for services rendered to the state. Charles III gave the estate as a gift to his minister Richard Wal, an Irishman, for his services to Spain. Wal renovated and restored the estate from the state of ruin in which he received it and eventually died in the grounds of the estate. Charles IV gave it to Godoy. Joseph I, otherwise known as "Pepe Botella" got his hands on Soto de Roma and then, at the end of the War of Independence, the Spanish crown donated it to Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The origins of the name of Soto de Roma date back to the time of Muslim dominance in Spain, during which time there was a tiny hamlet of Christians in this area, called Roma, and presently called Romilla (also known as Romilla la Vieja, belonging to the municipality of Granda called Chauchina). The estate was divided into two parts, one clearly named Soto and the other was the so-called meadow of Illora. The former was made up of irrigated land, lush orchards and large quantities of cattle and wheat crops on the non-irrigated land. There were also vines which produced thousands of gallons of wine every year. This is where the village of Fuente Vaqueros can found, the birthplace of Garcia Lorca. In the middle of this extensive estate there was an area where water collected, occasionally turning it into a swamp due to the waters seeping from the water table from where the village gets its name (fuente meaning fountain or spring). There were also two farmhouses – the Fuente farmhouse and the Vaqueros farmhouse, which eventually led to the name Fuente Vaqueros.

Until 1940 the municipality of Fuente Vaqueros itself belonged to the Duke of Wellington and the land was rented out to tenant farmers, to whom the Duke gradually sold off the land and it is these settlers who formed the current municipality. The history of Fuente Vagueros is linked to Soto de Roma, the extensive estate that, since the Catholic Kings belonged to the Spanish crown, but was then given to Lord Wellington, Duke of Ciuadad Rodrigo by the Courts of Cadiz. In his Geographic, Statistical and Historic Dictionary, 1845-1850, Pascual Madoz states, "these very courts, wanting to recognize and repay the important efforts on Spain's behalf during the War of Independence, made by Lord Wellington, Chief of the British Armed Forces, working as a united front with the Spanish against Napoleon troops, grant to this distinguished soldier and to his successors, the estate of Soto de Roma in the lowlands of Granada, as per the decree of 22nd July, 1913". In the donation was included "the area of Fuente Vaqueros, its annex of La Paz, and the farmhouses named Casa Real and Martinete", although it was never made clear what the boundaries of Soto de Roma were and therefore has been the source of many lawsuits from owners of nearby estates.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The Illora meadow is 10 kms from Soto de Roma and has extensive olive tree plantations.

In addition to land, the "Protector of Spain" was given a collection of paintings which include a work of art by Correggio, "Prayer in the Garden" and "The Water seller of Seville" by Velázquez. These are just three of the hundreds of paintings that Wellington seized from Joseph Bonaparte when he fled after the Battle of Vitoria during the Spanish War of Independence (1808 – 1814). Bonaparte had begun his move to France, taking with him numerous paintings, relics, jewels and other valuable objects from the royal palaces. Wellington wanted to return this loot to Spain, but Fernando VII chose to give them to Wellington to show his gratitude. Thanks to this gesture, Apsley House enjoys three Velázquez originals, "The Water seller of Seville", "Portrait of a Young Man" and "Two Young Men at a Table", and an example of the artist's Sevillian period.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The English Cemetery of Monte Urgull

San Sebastian, 27th September, 1924. A dynamic sculptor from Donostia carves the stone monument, bringing it to life with the figures of soldiers and military insignia. He immerses himself in his work, both great in detail and eulogy, forming part of the restoration of the forgotten cemetery in which could be found the remains of those British soldiers who lost their lives in Spain, fighting for the liberal cause during 1936 and 1937.

From this moment onwards, those previously forgotten tombs were to be remembered by charming gardens and a monument facing towards the sea.

On the 15th July, 1924, work had begun on the project chosen by the Town Hall of San Sebastian. It was carried out by the Artillery Command under the supervision of military engineers, in the cemetery which bore the names of the heroes who died in the fight for the liberal cause.



BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The British Auxiliary Legion was a military body set up in 1835 by volunteers in Great Britain on request from the government of the Queen Regent of Spain, María Cristina de Borbón, to support the liberal troops in the First Carlist War. This was a civil war which took hold in Spain between 1833 and 1840 between the followers of Infante Carlos María Isidro of Borbón(1), known as Carlists and renowned as absolutists, and the followers of Isabel II, known as Cristinos for their support of the Regent Queen María Cristina de Borbón, whose government was originally moderate absolutist, but then became liberal in order to gain popular support.

Miguel Ricardo de Alosa arranged the help from the English. On the 10th June, 1835 the British Government announced the creation of a legion of 10,000 volunteers, under the orders of Lieutenant Colonel George de Lacy Evans. The period of service was two years, with the exception of the 6th and 8th Scottish Regiments who joined up for one year. They were promised a good wage, bread and an English uniform in addition to a pension on their return to Great Britain and troops signed up in London, Liverpool, Dublin and Glasgow. As no previous experience was required, it attracted many unemployed, criminals and helpless people from the major cities of the United Kingdom, who saw a way to resolve their financial problems and put food in their mouth. In addition, and most unheard of, the Irish were allowed to bring their wives and children, around 700 in total, and they were to accompany the troop throughout their mission. The Annual Register of 1835 was quite clear: "All the detachments are made up of the wasters of London, Manchester and Glasgow".

At the end of the summer of 1836, the 10,000 men of this new military group gathered on the outskirts of San Sebastian, under the direct control of George de Lacy Evans who, in turn, took his orders from General Fernández de Córdoba.

The main battles of the First Carlist War took place against the back-drop of the provinces of Catalunya, Aragon and, in particular, the Basque Country. As the Infante Carlos, and his section were based in the Basque Country, it was they who suffered

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

most casualties in the war. After several skirmishes in Hernani and around Vitoria where the battalion based themselves, in 1836 they managed to hold on to the free port and the fort on the Mount of Urgull in San Sebastian, despite the attempts from the Absolutists to encircle the city and the attack on the port of Pasajes. During the siege of Bilbao, they acted on the orders of Baldomero Espartero to liberate the city. The regiment disbanded in 1837, but despite its break-up over one thousand men remained active with the express permission of Espartero to fight on other fronts, amongst which was Andoain.

A reddish-coloured stone in the cemetery on Monte Urgull states the following: "In memory of those courageous British soldiers who gave their life for the flag of their country and for the independence and the freedom of Spain".

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

BRITISH IN IBERIA

The Scottish Ambulance

Sir Daniel Macaulay Stevenson was Chancellor of the University of Glasgow and Grand Cross Knight of the Order of Isabel the Catholic, and the first Scot to be given this title (in April, 1935). He was a liberal, a great Hispanophile, founder of the Chair of Spanish Language and Literature at the same University and established exchange scholarships between universities in Spain and Scotland. But above all he was the pioneer of the Scottish Ambulance which saw action on the frontlines during the Spanish Civil War, from 1st October, 1936 onwards.



The Scottish Ambulance Unit grew out of a strong humanitarian spirit, a large amount of initiative and from the suffering of the Spanish Civil War which was felt by many Scots, ardent fans of the Spanish. From the beginning of

the war onwards, it delivered supplies to the needy and later, brought back the injured and administered assistance. The ambulances were incredibly well equipped. So much so that, when the Francoists (ill-named as the Nationalists) took power, they seized an ambulance, released its drivers and, due to the great value of the ambulances, decided and tried to seize all of them.

The Scottish Ambulance was present at many of the frontlines during the war, such as Olías, Cabañas, Parla, Getafe etc. There were 6 ambulances, 12 lorries, a car and bus, all bought and financed by the democratic and working-class people of Scotland. The human team behind this altruistic movement was made up entirely of Scots, with the exception of one Spaniard, Joaquín Morales. They were John MacKinnon, Izod

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

A.Joseph Carlin, Thomas Peuman and Thomas Walters and led by the only female, Miss Fernanda Jacobsen.

Miss Jacobsen was the driving force of the Scottish Ambulance in Madrid. She was both dynamic and intelligent and her overwhelming actions on the frontline in Madrid were exemplary. She carried out her brilliant mission with rigid and unscrupulous discipline and, with her unusual Scottish attire; she became a well-known figure in war-time Madrid. The people greeted her warmly and regarded her with grateful affection to which she always responded true to character, distributing food with a smile and kind words.

Fernanda Jacobsen's love for Spain began much earlier, when she would often travel through the country as a child with her mother. She never felt as though she was travelling in a foreign country and, despite the many differences which existed, she felt so at home there that many times she would think of the pain she would feel when she would finally have to leave the place for good.

However, for Miss Fernanda, as she was affectionately known, this was not her only mission in Spain. In February, 1938, she personally organized the first visit of a group of Spanish Protestants, fifteen women and seventeen children, to England, as guests of the Committee of Spanish Evangelical Refugee Home. These evacuees were to stay in the magnificent Moorlands House in Merriott, Somerset, which had been donated to the Committee by an English philanthropist. The refugees left Madrid for Barcelona in one of the Scottish Ambulance buses where they then met up with other refugees from Granada and Barcelona. They then left for the French border where representatives from the Refugee Committee met them to drive them to the British Isles.

The Spanish Civil War was a cruel blow for the newly-emerging Spanish evangelists. Its slow but steady growth was cut short by both the Republican Government and the

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Francoist rebels and its ranks were reduced through murders and the emigration of many believers. Day to day functioning ground to a halt and minority faiths were destroyed by a deathly despondency.

Miss Jacobsen always had a great Spanish friend and ally in Tomás Bordallo y Cañizal, the Spanish consul in Liverpool and from 1936 in Marseille. During his postings as Consul, he played a great part in assisting the student exchange programme and was the first Spaniard to receive an Honorary Doctorate in Law from the University of Glasgow.

Fernanda Jacobsen was decorated with an OBE for her services to humanity and for her assistance during the war in Spain.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

Julian Pitt-Rivers, the pheasants and the Sierra de Cadiz.

When female pheasants no longer lay eggs, their plumage changes and they start to resemble the male of the species, even growing spurs. A similar change happens to the widows in Andalucia. In general, they married men older than themselves, therefore, when the men naturally die before their wives, the role of the female in relation to her children changes fundamentally and, once widowed, she takes on the role of the husband. Andalucian widows gradually change into males, believes Pitt-Rivers in his short essay on the Andalucian woman.



Drawn by the anarchism of Andalucia, Julian Pitt-Rivers, the great English anthropologist (London 1919 – Fons par Figeac 2001) went to Grazalema, a village chosen after a recent visit to see Ramon Carande in Seville. This village in the Sierra de Cadiz was chosen as the focal point of his study where he completed his thesis on the people of

the Andalucian hills. Under the tutelage of Meyer Fortes, Evans Pritchard and Peristiany and recommended Evans Pritchard himself, the study was part of his PhD and was the result of applying social anthropology to Mediterranean societies.

After publishing his book, "The People of the Sierra", he did not receive good reviews from within Britain, with the exception of from his Oxford colleagues. The opposite happened with his American anthropologist counterparts. George M. Foster did a magnificent review of Pitt-Rivers' book and invited him to a meeting of Spanish scholars in 1957 and from this point onwards, Robert Redfiled not only referred to him in his lectures and wrote significant positive reviews on him, but also included his book amongst the 10 best anthropological studies of the post-war period. He was an avid follower of Simmel and admirer of his work "Sociology" which, whilst in Grazelema,

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

became his bible. This was the only study at that time which was published in English and he kept in mind the book's observations on the struggle, the submission, selfcondemnation, secrecy, women, and the scope and interweaving of social circles. Simmel's book was recommended to him by Julio Caro during his stay in Grazelema in a small house in La Ribera de Gaidovar. What made the most impression on him from the work of Simmel



were his observations on dishonesty. He discovered that the peasants of Andalucia were the world's greatest liars, "masters of knowing when to tell the truth and when to hold it back, and experts in deciding to whom and in which situations it was necessary to lie".

The book on Grazalema is dedicated to Julian Caro, being not only his friend, but also the person who most influenced Pitt-Rivers, instigating the connection between the interpretation of history and anthropology. "The People of the Sierra" was published in 1954 (London, Weidenfeld and Nicholson) and years later Caro revealed that this dedication was "one of the greatest rewards in my professional career". The book (first translated with the title of "The Men of the Sierra", Grijalbo, 1971 and later "Grazalema, people of the Sierra", Alianza, 1989) has been used in many universities as an example of an anthropological dissertation and also represents the beginning of modern anthropology in Spain.

In his work, Pitt-Rivers highlights the study of social segregation and the use and value of nicknames and developed anthropological thought on issues such as honour, coparenting, fictitious relationships, grace, hospitality, marriage through abduction, and the concept of the "people".

As member of a long-standing and illustrious English family, his great-grandfather, L.F. Pitt-Rivers, together with E.B. Taylor, was the founder of all anthropological study at

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Oxford. As an army official, he was named as warden of the young King Faisal of Baghdad. "The People of the Sierra" was published in 1954 (London, Weidenfeld and Nicholson). He began his educational career at the University of California at Berkeley and later was invited by Robert Redfield to make up part of the Anthropology Department at the University of Chicago. From there he participated in and codirected the Chiapas Project. He returned to Europe in 1964 and was named as Head of Studies at the ESHE in Paris. He became friends with Claude Levi-Strauss, Louis Dumont and others during his stay in Paris and at the London School of Economics.

For 50 years he was a regular visitor to Spain. In addition to his work in the field in Grazalema he also undertook various studies on anarchism, fiestas, local identity, bull fighting, and the numerous bull-related rituals in the villages throughout Spain. He is the author of other works for a report for the European Parliament on bulls. In 1996 the Spanish Government awarded him the Commendation of Isabel the Catholic.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Kilts in Cadiz

The unusual mixture of Andalucian genius and British patience and perseverance can produce something extraordinary, or in this case a family – the MacPhersons of Cadiz. At the beginning of the 19th Century Cadiz and its people were scarred by the French invasion and the War of Independence. The interference of the English in this war set the tone of the commercial maritime relationships in the Atlantic which in turn affected the companies already established in the Spanish ports such as Cadiz.

Many of the Cadiz traders were of English, Irish and Scottish ancestry and were an educated mixture, with progressive liberal tendencies. They would meet up together in secret societies and Masonic lodges, forming part of the most significant forces within the bourgeois revolution. Cadiz therefore was culturally very advanced and without a doubt was the birthplace of Spanish liberalism.

Amongst the wealthiest traders established in Cadiz was the Aguirre family, a Basque family related to the Oruetas from Onate. These events were the historical beginning of a friendship which developed years later between Domingo Orueta y Aguirre (junior) and Jose Macpherson, and which undoubtedly influenced the geological vocation of the latter.

The Macphersons established themselves in Cadiz in 1820, led by the Scottish immigrant Daniel Macpherson, previously known as Donald MacPherson Grant, and born in Inverness, Scotland. He moved to Cadiz to take pursue his import and export business in what, at the time, was one of the biggest ports in Spain. Daniel had changed his name due to religious reasons due to his Catholic marriage with Josepha Hemas Marti, daughter of a Valencian trader and a woman from Cadiz.

With its liberal ideology, the family took part in the Riego rebellion and as a result had to flee to Gibraltar to hide from the bullying of the autocratic Fernando VII after the

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

invasion of the Hundred Thousand Sons of San Luis. Daniel Macpherson's children therefore began their education in Gibraltar where some of them were born and they returned permanently to Cadiz in 1835.

Donald's children distanced themselves from the influences of the pleasures of a life a leisure which their family fortune afforded them. They concentrated all their energies to intellectual and science-related pursuits which each sibling enjoyed and was keen to develop yet further.

Jose Macpherson never studied a university degree which "contributed greatly to the strengthening of the native independence of his spirit" (Calderon, 1902). Aided by his economically-fortunate family, he built up a career as he pleased. Jose Macpherson dedicated his early studies to mathematics, physics and chemistry, vigorously pursuing the latter subject in Paris where he threw himself into the study of mineralogy, spending considerable time with Pisani, Daubree and Stanislas-Meunier. He concentrated his attention to the study of the geological transformations of the earth. He made detailed visits to all the mountains and glaciers of Switzerland and carried out microscopic studies on the rocks, personally carrying out and investigating many studies and publishing the results in such extraordinary times. With regard to his studies of stones, he studied the rocks of Seville (1879), Cadiz (1876), Galicia (1881) and the mountainous region around Ronda (1879). He investigated the relationships between different types of rocks. In the field of stratigraphy he produced new data and his study entitled "Molecular movements in rock solids" (1890) was well respected. His leaning towards geology in this last study was influenced by Domingo Orueta y Aguirre (junior). The Aguirre family was one of the wealthiest established traders in Cadiz in the 19th Century, of Basque origin and related to the Orueta family from Onate.

Guillermo Macpherson together with Adolfo de Castro created the Academia de Buenas Letras de Adolfo el Sabio in Cadiz in 1854 and also worked simultaneously as a

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

civil servant in the British Consulate in Cadiz and Seville between 1865 and 1877. In 1878 he was named as Vice-Consul in Madrid and then Consul in 1885. His earlier interests focused on geology and pre-history and he published various studies. Between 1873 and 1897 he translated 23 Shakespeare plays with a translation style that was both concise and effective. According to Alfonso Parr, if they had collaborated on their works, they could have produced the greatest literary criticism of Shakespeare of their time. The first was Hamlet, Prince of Denmark (Cadiz, 1873). Between 1879 and 1882 in Madrid seven more were published, amongst them a review of his Hamlet in 1879 and a third in 1882, two editions of Romeo and Juliet (1880 and 1882), Macbeth (1880), Othelo (1881) and Richard III (1882).

In 1864, the son of Daniel, also called Daniel MacPherson y Hembras was chosen as the Lloyds agent for the province of Cadiz, an illustrious title which his descendants still proudly hold today, representing Lloyds of London in the ports and bays of Cadiz and Algeciras.

From the first of the Macpherson clan to the last, this family has never lost contact with its roots in Scotland. "Twelve years ago we came here to a town called Newtonmore, near Loch Ness to take part in a gathering of all the Macphersons", says Maria Jose Macpherson Grosso. Fully kitted out in kilts of the colours of all the lineages, they rediscovered their ancestral links.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Algeciras & Gibraltar Railway Company Ltd. Hotels and Trains

Algerciras, early 20th Century:

The most well-known, if not the most popular character in Algeciras and its' surroundings is John Morrison, a successful English businessman. Without a doubt his greatest role is that of General Manager of the train company between Bobadilla and Algeciras and in order to carry out this role, he contracted the employment of two English consultants, an English auditor, an English head of operations and an English management secretary. This railway line is the only one in the region which terminates in a harbour and this is also the home to the only crane in the region which loads and unloads goods and which the Spanish government uses to transport goods to Ceuta.

The crossing to Gibraltar is made regularly by English steamers under the Spanish flag which belong to Mr. Morrison. He is also the owner of the "Mister Inglés", the small steamer which takes the Spanish workers who live in La Roca, to and from Gibraltar. Travelling across on this ferry from Bobadilla to Algeciras are many Spanish workers and many English passengers, many of whom flock to Andalusia both as tourists and as both owners and engineers in the many British businesses in the area. In many of such businesses the Spanish only get secondary positions within the companies.

The compartments of the train are decorated with posters extolling the virtues of a new hotel – an English hotel, of course. Every time the ticket inspector enters each compartment he questioningly makes reference to the wonders of this new English hotel in Algeciras and when the train finally reaches the city, the porters seize upon the luggage and ask convincingly, "I assume you're going to the Reina Cristina?"

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

The English would arrive at the Reina Cristina Hotel of Algeciras in small steam launches, without requesting any permission from the maritime authorities or without



undergoing any customs inspections. Those who did not have use of a small dinghy to bring them across the bay could make use of the small dinghy which was of sole use of the hotel, called none-other than the "Cristina", which was established by the everenterprising Mr. Morrison.

In the present day, "Juan Morrison" and "Alexander Henderson" are two streets in Algeciras (Cadiz) whose names have immortalized two British men who, during the 19th century, provided the city with their extensive services. With management and design skills developed in the building of railway lines in South America, John Morrison was the British engineer who implemented the Bobadilla – Algeciras rail project and oversaw its early stages. The second name is that of a well-known millionaire who invested in the former-mentioned South American railways and who promoted the "Great Central Railway", the British Trade Corporation and the international Henderson Administration. In 1916, in recognition of the valuable services rendered, the English monarch awarded him the title of Baron Faringdon.

Alex Henderson was the economic founder for the construction of this railway. The company which undertook the drafting of the train, "The Algeciras (Gibraltar) Rail-way Company Ltd" was formed following numerous procedures carried out in the UK by Luis Lombard, a merchant seaman from Gibraltar. The plan of the railway, which

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

eventually pushed aside many others drawn up over the course of the century, was finally approved by the Spanish government in 1888.

In 1889 an article was written and published in the Scientific American Supplement in New York by a Horatio Jones Sprague, American Consul in Gibraltar between 1848 and 1901 and also well known for his involvement in attempting to solve the mystery of The article claimed that an English company had the ship, the Mary Celeste. successfully started the construction of a railway line between Algeciras, Ronda and Bobadilla, "through the picturesque countryside of such a verdant mountain range". At the same time it drew attention to the economic advantages that such a railway line would bring. The Algeciras (Gibraltar) Rail-way Company completed the design of the railway in three phases: the first, between Algeciras and Jimena de la Frontera was in operation by the 13th November, 1890; the second between Bobadilla and Ronda was opened on the 6th September, 1891; the third and final stretch between Jimena and Ronda saw its first service on the 27th November, 1892 and therefore was the date when all 22 stations on the line were open for business. In Bobadilla (Malaga) the train connected both with the Madrid train and with the local services between Seville and Malaga and also with the Cordoba – Malaga trains of the Andalucia Railway Company, which, in 1913 took over the Algeciras – Bobadilla line.

The Algeciras & Gibraltar Railway Company Limited was built up with an initial capital of 45 million pesetas. The headquarters of the company were in Algeciras, with John Morrison as its managing director. However, it was managed by a committee in London, at the head of which was the President of the company, J.W. Todd and the representative in Madrid was Enrique Borell. The company had two hotels – the Reina Cristina in Algeciras and the Reina Victoria in Ronda. The wooden jetty in Algeciras was brought into use in 1894 for company's steam boats which had daily links between Gibraltar and Algeciras. It was originally built both as a jetty for the passengers and as a coal storage for the company's locomotive engines. The line was sold to the



Andalucian company in 1913, as was the shipping company whose name then changed to Compañia de Vapores de Sur de España.
BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

English Anecdotes in Spanish newspapers

This is the first in a series of anecdotes, originating in Great Britain, and which were published in Spanish newspapers throughout past centuries. An anecdote is a short story which tells an interesting or funny tale, a curious fact. Anecdotes are not jokes as their main function is not just to make a person laugh, but also to recount something



which is more factual than a short story.

An anecdote is always based on real facts - an incident involving real people in real places.

"The Bad Payer" was published on the 8th November, 1794 in the Diario de Madrid, a major Spanish newspaper which was famed for being the first daily paper, not only in Spain, but in continental Europe. This is how the story went:

An Englishman who rented out carriages spent an entire morning trying to get

payment from a London aristocrat who was not well-known for being a prompt payer. What it more, the carriage-owner had the misfortune and coincidence of having the surname of Lloid.

The London nobleman looked at the accounts and saw the entry stating that the debt was 500 guineas (a guinea was a gold coin, worth approximately 21 shillings, which was used as currency in Great Britain before the introduction of the decimal system in 1971). He then asked the coachman earnestly, "Is your name not Lloid?", to which the

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

coachman replied "Yes, Sir, at your Excellency's service". "Do you not write your surname with just the initial letter?" continued to ask the Lord. "That is correct", replied the coachman, "but my real surname is Floid, but when I sign my name I put an L instead of an F to make the pronunciation easier". "So you always write it with an L?" asked the Lord. "Yes", replied the other. "Well, my friend, that's too bad that the first letter of your name has changed but not the cheques. I don't deny that I owe you money, but in case you didn't know already, you should know that for a long time I have been making my payments in alphabetical order of the payee's surname as there are so many to pay. So, if you had signed as Floid, you would have been paid about a year ago, together with all the others with the letter F. But, seeing as you have changed it to L, it looks like you will have to wait your turn as there are still five more letters left to pay before you....G, H, I, J and K.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

John Moore and Spain's Gratitude

In her poem dedicated to Sir John Moore, the English General who died in the Battle of Elviña (La Coruña) and subsequently buried there, Rosalía De Castro agonizes over the fact that his body is buried so far away from his home country. However, she claims that he would not find any greater burial place outside of his homeland.



Set against the background of the Spanish War of Independence, we must not forget the excesses of the English army in their flight through the region of El Bierzo (Leon, Spain). On the 2nd January, 1809, shamed by the conduct of his men, Moore immediately gathered up his troops in Cacabelos to give them a harsh reprimand. "If the enemy has now taken Bembibre, as I believe is the case, they have got themselves an unusual haul: they have taken or

destroyed hundreds of cowardly and drunken Englishmen. No-one other than these wicked drunks would get so inebriated under the very nose of the enemies of the village. So, rather than surviving such vile conduct, I hope that the very first cannonball fired by the enemy strikes me in the head".

General Sir John Moore was killed on the 16th January, 1809 after receiving an injury to the head from a cannonball fired during the Battle of La Coruña as he was fighting alongside the Spanish against the French.

He was born in Glasgow in 1761 and was a natural soldier. He fought on the battle fields of America, he was trained in the battalion sent to Corsica to fight against Napoleon in 1794, fought in Ireland in 1797, took part in the manoeuvres in Abukir in 1800 and later in the seize of Alexandria. He also led a troop of 10,000 soldiers to go to the aid of the Kind of Sweden. Under attack from Denmark, Russia and France and

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

as Napoleon arrived in France and Great Britain chose to come to our aid, Moore requested and was granted permission to come to our country to fight against Napoleon's troops.

Here he was given control over the English troops and he attempted to bring together the various different branches of his army. However, the French drew the battle lines in Elviña and vastly outnumbered the English troops. Faced with the impossibility of standing up to Marshall Soult who was at the head of the enemy troops, Moore ordered their withdrawal. Just as they were leaving and arriving at the port and were about the board the ship, a cannonball took his life, just as he was rallying his platoon who, in view of the misfortunate incident, chose to return home.

The Battle of Elviña (also known as the Battle of Coruña) was one of the battles of the Spanish War of Independence, which in turn were part of the Napoleonic Wars. It took place on the 16th January, 1809, between 14.000 British soldiers under the command of Sir John Moore and 16.000 French soldiers led by Nicolas Jean de Dieu Soult.

The body of General John Moore was buried the following day and in his memory, the chief of the Spanish troops, the Marquis of La Romana, ordered an interim mausoleum to be built upon the remains of this illustrious soldier. In his own hand was inscribed the following, "To the Glory of the most Excellent Sir John Moore, General in Charge of the British Armies and its courageous soldiers, Spain is forever grateful". In 1811 the mausoleum was converted into a permanent commemorative monument and was restored in 1834 to include the inscription in Latin, Spanish and English.

Many memories of this battle still continue in the city of La Coruña. However, the battle field has been partly dismantled, principally to allow the construction of Avenida de Alfonso Molina which is the main access route into the city, although some of it still remains. The village of Elviña is easy to find on the right-hand side on leaving the city.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

The most part of the former battle ground adjoins the village and this has now been taken over by the University of La Coruña.

Towards the top of the village, going up to Zapateira hill, there is a viewpoint where an illustrative map of the battle made from tiles has been erected. There are also some commemorative plaques, one of which was unveiled by the Prince of Wales in 1931.

Every year there is an historic recreation of the Battle of La Coruña and the death of General Sir John Moore (16th January, 1809) and this includes various talks, donations, and exhibitions organized by the Town Hall of La Coruña and the cultural association, the Royal Green Jackets.



BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

The Wreckers of the ship Serpent

"No-one with any common sense can deny that the elements are controlled by witches and, at will, they can send down sleet, rain, storms, thunder and lightning. This simple little old lady tosses a flint towards the West over her left shoulder, or throws some sand into the sea, or dips her broomstick into the water and flicks it into the air around her, or digs a hole in the ground, fills it with water then stirs it up with her finger, or boils pig hairs, or places some sticks across a riverbed where no water ever flows, or buries sage leaves until they rot away. According to the witches and confirmed by writers, all these are methods by which witches can conjure up storms and rain. (Reginal Scott, Discoverie of Witchcraft).

One version of the story of the shipwreck of the Serpent is provided by the writer Ramón Allegue in his book, Mar Tenebroso (The Sinister Sea). According to the author, the English government needed to send a substantial amount of money to its colonial army and to appoint new sub-officials to secure the release of the crews of other boats in South Africa. In this mission, due to its invaluable cargo, the Serpent was to be protected by the Lapwing. Well established in the high society back at home and

seeing the profitability of the job, the British wreckers (those who salvaged the wrecks of boats) advised their Galician counterparts. So the Galicians turned off the light in the Vilán lighthouse so that the Serpent crashed into Boi. The sea was so rough that not even the wreckers could reach the wreck of the ship. When it could no longer see the Serpent, the Lapwing, which was a few kilometres ahead,



turned around. After the disaster occurred, the Mac Mahon stayed in the area around

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

the wreckage of the ship. The Lapwing returned with another ship, the Sunfly, and they managed to salvage a chest full of gold coins. Several days later, on realizing that there was another chest, the Lapwing returned once again to Camariñas. The secretive nature of the British government meant that few people knew about the two chests and, with the second one not having been found, the people of Camariñas felt justified in visiting the shipwreck.

On the 11th February, 1890, onboard the English canonship, Lapwing, a survivor of the Serpent, made his way into La Coruña. He was called Burton and was on his was from Camariñas and he told the following story:

On the night of the shipwreck the Serpent was sailing along, uneventfully, at half speed, or approximately 14 miles per hour. We had left Plymouth at two o'clock on Saturday afternoon and we were making our way to Cape Finisterre. The sea was terrible and the waves were crashing down over the leeward side (the side of the boat which is protected from the wind), which in turn pushed us towards the coast. The disaster took place in an inlet formed by Cape Trece and Cape Villano and just like the middle line of a capital E, at the bottom of the inlet the reefs form a shallow area called Punta Del Boi at about half a mile from land and about three miles from Cape Villano.

It was a terrible night, it was pouring with rain and mist was settling along the coast. The force of the waves was so strong that it turned the ship around, forcing it towards the coast, and towards the place where the disaster came about – Laja de Buey reef was the name given to it in the ship's log. Due to the thick fog, the Serpent could not make out the lighthouse at Cape Villano and on passing close to Cape Trece, this is the place where the ship ran aground. The ship did not sink, but lodged itself on the rocks, where it remained for 45 minutes, during which time the crew managed to climb up on deck which was constantly being battered by the turbulent sea.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The great blow was just terrifying. Because of the storm and as the boat was sailing in such treacherous conditions, due to the strength of the wind, the commanding officer was positioned at the bridge. I was on watch so I was on deck and a further 80 or so crewmembers were close by at various positions on deck.

As soon as we felt the impact, the commanding officer, Commander Harry Leith Ross, official veteran of the Royal Navy after joining in 1862, ordered the lowering of the lifeboats. Thanks to the speed of the Commander, there was also time to fire the "launch cannon". However, it was all in vain as the waves were so great that the projectile never reached land. At this point, with the exception of those in the sick bay, all the crew were on deck. When the lifeboats were lowered, a huge waved crashed over the deck and swept away both men and lifeboats, leaving the deck of the ship virtually empty. At this point I heard the Commander shout "Every man for himself!"

Before these manoeuvres began, some of us had managed to get our lifejackets on. The Serpent remained immobile, lodged on the rocks, the enormous waves crashing over it. Soon, nothing was remaining on deck – no crew, no lifeboats and none of the freeboard (the part of the ship which is above water). Luxton and some of the others who were swept away by the waves managed to grasp hold of some coastal rocks. Luxton was the only one who was able to withstand the force of the water and reached the sandy shore almost lifeless. A wave dragged me to the spot that Lacane had reached just a few moments after him. We crashed and slammed against each other as we tried to save ourselves and one another in the water which swarmed with bodies of men. With difficulty, Luxton and I managed to reach the parish of Javina. Gould remained struggling in the water for longer than us, swimming with an incredible energy and, almost naked, managed to reach land at the beach at Cabo Trece. In the morning we all met up in a police hut with the cargo guard of the English steam ship, Tumbridge, which was shipwrecked in the same spot some months earlier.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The Serpent broke in two. At dawn, with a low tide, you could see the deck, swept clean, just showing the six cannons. None of the freeboard was left. Shortly afterwards, the Serpent sank.

The following day, the corpses of the crew who had been wearing lifejackets appeared floating in the waters. All were horrendously mutilated and some were headless, having lost consciousness after crashing against the rocks which then tore their bodies to pieces.

The three remaining sailors were Frederick Gould (1st Corporal, 26 years old and lifeboat captain), Edwin Burton (First Seaman of the lifeboat crew) and Onesipherous Oney Luxton. The total number of bodies buried two days after the tragedy was forty-eight, amongst which was that of the Commander. The total number of victims rose to one hundred and seventy-six.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Mercedes Gleitze and Tarifa

Who is Mercedes Gleitze?

The first of us all, men and women, to swim across the Strait. It was in 1928. Nobody had done it before. He commented in an interview today to a swimmer ready to cross the Strait of Gibraltar from Tarifa (Cádiz).



Tangier, December 6, 1927: On board the steamer "Slamat" arrived at the port of Tangier Mercedes Gleitze Miss Hudson and Miss Millie it intended to swim the Strait of Gibraltar crossing. Both swimmers had left the same train from Waterloo Station had arrived on the same ship after their stay at the hotel, but did not look, did not speak. Miss Gleitze stubbornly followed him

not to speak to her rival. British swimmers Gleitze Miss and Miss Hudson were irreconcilable opponents to date, only united in their purpose of crossing the Strait of Gibraltar swim.

December ten of 1927 by finally reached an agreement during a luncheon arranged. Miss Gleitze told journalists that his only attempt for pursuing a charitable purpose entertained the project of building in London a shelter for five hundred needy and also for the same purpose, had hired a film company to film the journey, that Miss Gleitze wanted to be very rugged and had much excitement in the sale facility.

At present this test is and is considered one of the most difficult to overcome, due to the many winds, caused by the junction of two seas. The British Mercedes Gleitze

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

(November 1900 Brighton, February 9, 1981 ⁺ London) was the first person who got through our Straits, on 5 April 1928 (Holy Thursday) was his third attempt. He achieved his goal but not before, after a superhuman effort, fighting the elements, reaching the African coast up to Punta Cruces. The woman spent 12 hours and 50 minutes to link the two shores of the Strait, finishing the test in the vicinity of the coast of Ceuta,

Some journalists from the "Mundo Deportivo" Barcelona had the power esuerte interview days before his prowess. This was:

Shortly before leaving Cadiz told us that the way to Tarifa was graceful, so lavish in its landscape as fastidious about the state of the road. Tarifa is one of those people hiding in the curves of the road, once there we showed the residence of Miss Gleitze who was none other than "Villanueva catering cottage facing the sea, whitewashed balnco and withdrawal from the madding crowd."The swimmer" as they called Miss Gleitze there, we are told is resting, while accompanying us to our room a kind cross between "master" and fisherman who talk warmly towards Mercedes does things that men do not."

The filmmakers of sporting prowess unfortunately true that time were "butch" was not the case of Miss Gleitze, who was shy, with eyes dazed and with that air of naïveté with which we see the Spanish to English, healthy and strong; extremely strong, fair and contrary to the fashion of those days hair was not cut but had two long braids gathered over the ears. In our questions we answered simply and bluntly, but with surprise by showing him a copy of the paper where we work, believing that there were no newspapers in Spain specialized in sports, in our conversation it felt loose and happy to speak with a sports journalist swimming without this is surprising. In Tarifa was lonely, nobody advised, no one trained only received massages a guy from the Military Hospital.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

With twenty-seven years had left behind his profession as a typist encouraged by the reward of crossing the Channel for five hundred pounds offered by the News of the World "to cross the Channel in fifteen hours and a quarter, money used not only in his own benefit but in the interest of a foundation for a nursing home. In swimming he found a strong source of income for their old age. He was also editor of a journal of physical education and propaganda in philanthropic Westmisnter Belgrave Road 75. And sporting swimming belonged to Brighton Club.

The jurisdiction of the English press made the "Daily Express" offered another prize money for the swimmer to cross the Strait of Gibraltar which meant the chain of evidence that he took part in the Mercedes and that had become almost a profession; although she was considered an amateur conviction, travel expenses, training and accommodation were funded in Tarifa by the Sports Club of Gibraltar Rock is bursting to help her.

When you tried? Saturday. And, if you cannot cross? I'll stay here and I'll try again and again until it succeeds because if I do have a very important offer from the United States.

The style "crawl" it was very tiring for hiking, so I used the "stroke perst stroke" that could withstand the long hours.

He left the Island of the Doves of Tarifa on Day 5 to 8 hours fifty minutes vessels, escorted by numerous guests and journalists, he managed to play punta leona 21 hours twenty minutes. Miss Gleitze on arrival back to Tarifa was received by the people and authorities taxed such a great welcome. Mercedes taught the cheering that a handful of sand and pebbles on the African soil, while leaving it embraced by everyone who claimed,

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The first crossing was made on men July 22, 1948 being the Peruvian Daniel Carpio Maciotti which links to Tarifa to Punta Cruces (Morocco) and made the journey in 9 hours and 20 minutes, according to official data.



BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The actor, the Jew and Churchill's double

In Cedeira (Galicia, Spain) there is a monument which pays tribute to Leslie Howard, at A Capelada, near San Andrés de Teixido, the very spot where his plane crashed down on route back to the UK after two months in Spain and Portugal.

On the 1st June, 1943, after a short trip to Spain and Portugal, Leslie Howard took a civilian flight from the Lisboan airport of Portela to fly to the English aerodrome at Whitchurch. The actor and his friend, Alfred Chenhalls had changed the date of their return flight to the UK to enable them to attend the premiere of his film, "The First of the Few". Chenhalls, who bore a striking resemblance to Winston Churchill, was a well-known accountant in London who managed the economic interests of various figures in the world of cinema and music, including those of Howard himself. Some days later, they very cautiously boarded a Douglas DC3 twin-engine called "Ibis". The journey was very dangerous as they found themselves in the midst of an area of high activity of the German Luftwaffe fighter planes based in France. When the "Ibis", which was marked as a civilian aircraft, reached the Bay of Biscay, it was approached and destroyed by a squadron of Junkers. The plane, in which Leslie Howard was travelling, accompanied by Kenneth Stonehouse and his wife, who also died, was crewed by Dutch airmen. Stonehouse, 33 years old and from South Africa, was the Reuters correspondent in Washington who was flying back to London. His disappearance was tragic news for his colleagues in Fleet Street. He had left London to go to Washington to work as Chief Editor of Reuters but in the last few days had returned to London in order to become a war correspondent for the same agency. The final passenger travelling in the plane was Wilfred Israel, a Jewish businessman born in London who arranged escape networks for refugees. Many people had blacklisted him with the Nazis and various analysts have suspected that Israel was the Junker's target.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Israel House originated in 1815 when Nathan Israel set up a small second-hand shop in the Molkenmarkt in Berlin. This soon gained worldwide notoriety, not only for wholesale and retail, but also in the field of exports where it held an enviable position in Germany. In 1925, Kaufhaus N. Israel started its own business school whose qualifications were recognized by the State. The business was passed down from father to son until it reached the hands of Wilfred and Herbert.

The company was contracted to supply hospitals, hotels, theatres, military establishments and other public and private organizations. The company worked exclusively with its own capital and did not believe in either loans or mortgages.

On the 1st April, 1933 it was cut off and boycotted along with all other Jewish organizations. In 1938 the business was sold to Emil Köster AG and in 1939 the aryanizing of Israel House came to a head and the business re-opened under the name of Das Haus im Zentrum.

Before and during the Second World War, Wilfred was renowned activist and helped thousands of Jews escape from Nazi tyranny. On the 26th March, 1943 he left London for Lisbon where he spent two months looking into the Jewish situation in the Iberian Peninsula. During the Second World War, the fascist regimes in Spain and Portugal sympathized with Nazi Germany but still refused to hand over its Jews to the Nazis. By the end of his stay, Wilfred Israel had found over 1,500 Jewish refugees living in Spain, for many of which he organized their permission to travel to Palestine. Before board the "Ibis" plane, he had presented a major proposition to the British Government to help Jewish refugees in Spain.

These deaths have always been shrouded in the mysteries of the fog of the Galician coast. In amongst the fog circulated many different surprising rumours, such as that of the German spies having mistaken Howard's friend, Chenhalls, with Churchill, who at

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

BRITISH IN IBERIA

that time, according to some sources, would secretly fly in civilian airplanes to avoid detection.

Another explanation was that in 1943 Britain needed Howard for a special mission in the Iberian Peninsula. He had always been reluctant to make this visit. Perhaps his reticence was due to the fact that, in spite of Portugal's neutrality and the non-aggression of the Spanish, the Germans dominated without any restraint in this area. In addition, Howard was a gloomy man who tended to let himself be led by his instincts and had commented on more than one occasion to his close friends and family that he didn't



have a "good feeling" about this trip. However, he was finally won over on the insistence of the Foreign Secretary, Anthony Eden. We will never know if the objective for the shooting-down of this plane by the Nazis was Churchill, in the body of Chenhalls, Leslie Howard for being a British secret agent, or Wilfred Israel for his contribution to the escape of refugees. Or perhaps it was all three.

Sir Samuel Hoare and Barcelona Harbour

Franco is "slow in mind and movement" and Serrano Súñer is "quick as a dagger in both words and actions".



An archetypal English gentleman in his methods, his representation and his sartorial elegance, and with a style that saw him always dressed in perfectly-fitting tailored suits, Samuel Gurney Hoare (1880-1959) was an outstanding politician and exemplary diplomat. He was a shining example of how someone with homely looks could use the way they dressed to make themselves an icon of their time, such as Fred Astaire and Adolphe Menjou. Between 1931 and 1938, this emphatic MP of the Conservative

party held the positions of Minister of Education, Foreign Secretary and Home Secretary. With his strong conservative leanings and beliefs, he held a very accommodating attitude towards the totalitarian regimes of Italy and Germany. So, when the Italian army invaded Ethiopia, his silent response meant that he was removed from his position as Foreign Secretary, a situation which was repeated in the Home Office as a direct result of his consent and resulting support of the Munich Agreement.

During the spring of 1940, Samuel Hoare was chosen by Her Majesty's British Government to take on the role of heading their Embassy in Madrid, as Great Britain

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

and her allies felt the situation in Spain was of pivotal importance. Hoare was not simply a gifted diplomat, but he was also an indisputable and positive politician, one of the heroes of the British Conservative Party and, in some aspects, a rival to Churchill. He had spent 30 years in the House of Commons and many times had been the Secretary of State for Air, First Lord of the Admiralty, Secretary of State for India, Home Secretary, Foreign Secretary, Lord Privy Seal in the War Cabinet and, in reference to his diplomatic activity, he was in charge of a special mission in Russia during the build up to the Revolution.

For these reasons, Churchill chose to elect Hoare as the Ambassador to Madrid during these critical times for Great Britain, when France was defeated and Spain was replacing its neutrality with uprising and deciding to send its Blue Division to fight on the Russian Front. Hoare laboured tirelessly so that Spain, where he was keeping up healthy relations, did not turn against his country. His outstanding work earned him the highest awards, as well as the honorary title of Order of the British Empire.

However, without a doubt, the most memorable of this British hero's actions, was that of organizing the exchange of German and British prisoners in the port of Barcelona.

On the 26th October, 1943, under the auspices of the Spanish Red Cross, the German boat "Aquileia" was moored in Barcelona's harbour. In its hold were 1083 British and Commonwealth prisoners, 410 were sick and injured and of those, 50 in a serious state. The first to disembark were the Australian prisoners from the Ambulance Division, after them the Scottish, English, South Africans, Australians, and Kiwis, most of them captured on the North African Front.

At the same time, the carrier "Cuba" sailing under the British flag began to offload 1061 German prisoners, virtually all of which were from the Afrika Korps. In the harbour, overseeing the operations were Sir Samuel Hoare and his German counterpart, Doctor Dieckhoff. Both were accompanied by their respective

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

entourages and their wives and the German also had the company of a group from the National Socialist Party of Barcelona and pupils from the German schools in the city. The wife of the German ambassador gave the German prisoners a bag with handkerchiefs, wine, oil and dried fruit whilst the British prisoners received cigarettes, alcohol and biscuits from their fellow countrymen in Barcelona. Also witness to the exchange, were the Spanish General Moscardó, Delegate to the International Red Cross, Doctor Arbenz, and various Spanish officials of the period.

After doing a roll-call, the newly-saved prisoners were taken to their respective ships, with shouts of joy, songs and crusade hymns. As a form of restraint, it was organized so that the prisoners did not see each other in the harbour. Everything had been vigorously rehearsed so as to avoid a potentially fatal meeting.

The second trading of prisoners took place on Spanish soil in February of 1944 in Irún, when 36 injured and mutilated British and American were handed over. Later, on the 17th May, 1944, the second part of the trade was completed this time again in Barcelona. The Germans handed over 1021 prisoners in exchange for 833, amongst which was Division General Hans Kramer.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Lord Charles Howard and the Gallego Holy Grail

The Holy Grail was in the Castillo de Corbiere, home of the Fisher King. (The Cry of Merlin the Wise)

"It's so dark all that concerns the well-known legends about the Holy Grail, although the studies done by consecrated persons in Ireland, England, France and Germany to investigate the origins and sources of his history, that have reached deep altered and corrupted in our times, in the transformations that have suffered in the course of centuries, moving from one country to another, in an age of profound ignorance, and especially suffering the Celtic and Germanic civilizations clash of the advanced and overwhelming Roman civilization, imposed with the sword and the extermination of all people who were not resigned to live as slaves. "

The seventeenth century was the century that has perpetuated the name of Spain for two facts: Velázquez painted his pictures and Cervantes published his famous book Don Quixote. Certainly in the spring of that year he met the light the first part of the episodes of the ingenious gentleman of La Mancha. That highlights the inconsistencies that are reproduced in the Spanish soul, unique and vigorous mass of idealism and love of reality, love contradictory misfit almost idealism.

Chapter religious and under treatment, the discrepancies between the two kingdoms created a serious obstacle to any negotiations. Spain was seen in the hand of the papacy. Despite attempts by Philip III, to achieve greater tolerance towards Catholicism in England, the negotiations at this point suffered continuous delays. An offer that, again, was strengthened with the ratification of the Anglo Spanish (Somerset) peace in Valladolid in 1605. It was not easy, however, changes soon a long line of repression against the English Catholics, and contained the large literature of the period. The Gunpowder Plot, or Gunpowder Plot against the English crown, discovered in November 1605, would result in a new crackdown by adopting a series of

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

stringent measures by the Parliament against the English Catholics, also called "recusants. Also declared as he came seeking freedom of conscience with regard to the merchants and businessmen English inhabitants in the Iberian peninsula, which were the subject of relentless hunting Inquisition.

In order to ratify the Treaty of Peace signed at Somerset House, moved from England to Spain a diplomatic delegation led by British ambassador Lord Admiral Charles Howard, first Earl of Nottingham who was to the Spanish Court in late May 1605. The British travelled aboard the ship "The Bear" docked at the port of La Coruna and were received by local authorities. From there they continued their journey through Betanzos, Villalba, Lugo, Triacastela came to O Cebreiro.

In a palloza (hut there) set out to lunch while a civilian Chantada served them wine and gave them a mushroom-shaped cheese while humming a song with a strange letter in the Galician of the time: Oh sacred Caldeiro never deixou, eu I hope that life, oh, so high (Oh holy cauldron that never left, oh so high I hope life). Howard had it translated what he said the villager and immediately had him bring "the kettle", sheltering at that moment to take it with longing, longing to be glimpsed in his manner, but do not spend one second when the Galician peasant told him that had happened to the Catholic Queen with "pot" which would have deterred the English ordering the same thing as the Queen, but first take a huge gulp, like a breath of air, the chalice that held the wine, dripping the thick and crimson liquid on his beard.

... Or Cebreiro facendo stops to view or e doar or sanctuary milagre onde os remains are gardes. Isabella wanted to weigh a relic or Court, but as mules Cebreiro deixe leading padiola rexeitou continue to súa viaxe, indo de volta para os strive two homes. Isabel took as a divine relic vontade permaneceu Cebreiro not, returning...

(In 1486 the Catholic Monarchs pilgrimage to Santiago, making stops in O Cebreiro to see the miracle and donate the shrine where the remains are stored. Isabella wanted to take the relic to the Court, but leave the mules Cebreiro leading the royal litter

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

refused to continue their journey by going back to the efforts of the footmen. The Queen deciphered this as a divine desire that the relic remained in the Cebreiro, returning)

Until a few days OR Cebreiro was a village consisting of thatched huts called "pallozas" where its inhabitants live under the same roof in company stock, there plenty. The cabin is built palloza prehistoric origin and consists of a circular house without a foundation, all straw and supported on a wooden mast that governs from the centre. The religious idea of objects with extraordinary possessions existed long before Christianity. The allegory tells how the Irish Celtic Dagda King, King's successor Lugo, monarchs' predecessors on arrival in Ireland of the children of Breogán, had a cauldron with the property to raise the dead.

This legend was taken by poets British a hundred years later with the Matter of Britain or King Arthur's adventures. The Chimera has the Holy Grail was the cup from which Jesus drank at the Last Supper, and then Joseph of Arimathea collected in this cup the blood of Christ after his torment. Subsequently the Grail was transported by ship and then hidden. According to the stories of the Matter of Britain, King Arthur and his knights would transit through their lives searching for the Holy Grail.



of The miracle Cebreiro especially important is the Galician Arthurian connection with the Matter of Britain. As a pagan symbol, the host that descends to the chalice represents the sun before he

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

died at sea, where the land ends. In the old Atlantic and Indo-European religions, the creator sun succumbs at sea and was taken by boat to the end of the Universe, to return to return from the dead the day after. Sunset at sea is the host who plunges into the cup, Galicia is a historical representation, a form of land end of the world, Costa da Morte (Galicia) The Holy Grail is the historical Galician Flag now National Emblem, and also a symbol of Cornwall.

The Celtic peoples are characterized by the importance of oral tradition, especially living in Ireland, Brittany and Galicia. Direct relationship with the Breton Cycle are the legends of San Amaro, St. Brendan and other seekers of Paradise, Tales from the Imrama, stories composed in Ireland from the VIIth century, reminding us of trips made under such conditions the characters of the epic Celtic Tristan, Galahad ...

The memory of King Arthur is still present in names and legends like Antela Lagoon, under which there lays submerged King, accompanied by his knights, delighted in the form of insects, awaiting the day when Arthur wakes from sleep.

Merlin the druid Galicia remains in its long shadow, three parishes are named Galicia in the Sierra de O Careón, in the mountains of Orre, and Chantada. It retains a significant popular saying "You know more than Merlin." Children of Galicia say he had heard about Merlin and the old from his village reminded them that Merlin was a man who knew a lot." Alvaro Cunqueiro for his part wrote the famous tales and Family Merlin Merlin conjuring tales that he told her an old maid small.

Cebreiro with his miracle Wagner provided the theme for the composition of Parsifal.

Thus the country of Parsifal is Galicia, the indestructible temple situated in the mountain is the sanctuary of the Grail Cebreiro and mysterious: the Goblet of Cebreiro

The church of Santa Maria A Real Cebreiro O is the oldest church in the Camino de Santiago, built in the mid-ninth century by Benedictine monks. Despite the various

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

alterations, still retains some of its detail Romanesque, basilica with three naves covered wooden armature that terminates in rectangular apses. Outside, the tower falls and external walls, all of granite slabs of slate.

Inside the Miracle took place for the Holy Grail, a miracle that was released by the Benedictine P. Yepes in his "Chronicle of San Benito general, this meant that in the early fourteenth century, a neighbour Barxamaior, half a league of Cebreiro, a day of terrible storm, broke through the snow wearing his faith as he could came to the church at the time that the monk was devoting a chunk of bread and some wine. This disbelief at his approach, he exclaims: 'what is this other, with a storm so big and so tired to see a bit of bread and wine'. At that time, bread was holding turned into the flesh of Christ and wine into his blood causing the Miracle of the Holy Grail, which is mentioned in the Bulls of Innocent VIII in the year 1486 and of Alexander VI, 1496.

Today we can look at the chapel of the Holy Miracle with the paten and the chalice, symbol of Galicia and present in his shield, XII century Romanesque art. The mausoleums which are buried the protagonists of the miracle and a Romanesque carving of the Virgen del Siglo XII. BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Sherry English Drunkenness

The history of the wineskin is dissipated in the more mature. We found written evidence of its existence and with Homer's Odyssey, when his hero Ulysses giving the Cyclops Polyphemus drunk wine in the Bible, Noah inebriated by their children, in Cervantes' Don Quixote, the old gentleman and stabbing to death destroys the skins the innkeeper, and throughout the Golden Age of Spanish literature reviews are reproduced.

Lightweight, manageable, resilient, sensitive to nature, easy to use, waterproof, easy, aseptic, seductive, perfect design synthesis, the wineskin is both a legacy of the Spanish past and a free product requirements fashion that fascinates those who know enjoy the pleasures of life.

Francis Drake's enthusiasm for wine legend has it; there was a certain Francis Drake who worked as a loader at Jerez wineskins. He had a terrible row with Jose Melgarejo, who was a county in the city where he slapped her, and when he was cornered by his crew before the flight started to answer, since "the Spanish hatred grew in the person of the English privateer"

It may be a legend or may be true that the famous English pirate Jerez graze in a warehouse, attracted by the rich broth of the earth.

Drake known for his service to his majesty of England, but also was an exporter and marketer of wines from Jerez, wines for which he had a great fondness, so his constant visits to the city.

This was due in large part to the entry into the markets of London of the three thousand boots Drake captured sherry in Cadiz in 1587.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

Elizabeth I commissioned Sir Francis Drake, commanding a fleet that would have the mission to inspect the Spanish military orders, obstructing their supply, attack the fleet and if possible against the Spanish ports.



To this end, the queen became the order of Drake four ships of the Royal Navy: the Elizabeth Bonaventure, with Drake himself in command, the Golden Lyon, captained by William Burroughs, the Rainbow by Captain Bellingham, and the Dreadnought by Captain Thomas Fenner. Another 20 boats, armed merchant ships and pine trees, they joined the expedition. The costs of these ships were paid for by a group of businessmen in London, participating in profits in the same symmetry that have made their contributions to the fleet, the Queen, as owner of the four ships of the Royal Navy would receive half of the profits.

On April 12, 1587 English fleet sailed from Plymouth. Seven days after his departure, the queen sent to Drake repentance of the order that they should not be available to carry out any attack on the fleet and the Spanish ports. This message never reached

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

the Drake because the ship was to deliver, forced by winds and tides, had to return to her dock without being able to reach him.

At the height of Galicia the fleet was scattered by a storm that lasted a week. After regrouping the fleet, they found two ships Netherlands who informed them that Cadiz was preparing a Spanish fleet of war ready to go to Lisbon.

On the evening of April 29 the British fleet entered the bay of Cadiz. At that time there were sixty ships in port (a type of sailing vessel) and several smaller boats. After the sighting, some twenty French ships present in the bay and other small boats sought shelter in Puerto Real and Puerto de Santa Maria, protected by sandbars that large ships could not penetrate.

Juan de Vega, mayor of Cadiz, sent word to Alonso Pérez de Guzmán, Duke of Medina Sidonia, who arrived from Sanlúcar that same night to take over the defense of the place. Spanish galleys, in the absence of the Head of Castile under the command of Pedro de Acuna, came out to meet the English fleet, having to retreat to Cadiz to the English superiority. The posts on shore fired shells from the coast against the British fleet with little success, but managed to reject an attempted landing with boats in Depth, a small fortress, consisting of a tower with five guns gunship, which was the silent witness episode.

During the night of twenty-nine, all day and night following continued fighting in the bay. At dawn the first of May, the British withdrew, having destroyed some thirty] have also captured another 4 ships filled with supplies between these three thousand bottles of wine from Jerez.

William Shakespeare mentions sherry as known in the late sixteenth century, more than fifty times and in eight of his plays, and its flagship character the fondest Falstaff tasting it. In his famous soliloquy, the second part of Henry IV, just uttering: "If a

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

thousand children had first human principle I would teach would be to abjure all insipid drinks and dedicate themselves entirely in sherry.

His passion for sherry was shared by his friends and contemporaries, many famous writers in the court of the Queen Elizabeth I, as John Fletcher, Francis Beaumont, John Donne, Robert Herrick and Michael Drayton, who used to drink at the Mermaid Tavern or the Board's Head, London. Ben Johnson, I called sherry "Sack? You said but now it should be ee'n Sherry"

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Prince Gregor MacGregor, the 19th Century Promoter

"Gregor MacGregor, descendant of the ancient Kings of Scotland, follower of both orthodox and roman catholic faith is in possession of the country of Poyais (Mosquito



Province in the northern region of America) due to a voluntary concession made by the local He requests that His people. Majesty King Fernando VII of Spain and of the Indies acknowledges him as Prince of region said and Gregor MacGregor in turns pledges to acknowledge His Majesty as sovereign protector of the region. In return for said

protection he agrees to pay an annual

tax, conditions of which will be stipulated by common agreement with an envoy of MacGregor who will address His Majesty with full authoritative power and who will be recognized by the French Government."

In recognizing the King of Spain as protector of the territory of Poyais, Gregor MacGregor establishes the origin of sovereignty of the entire continent of America, since this country had never been part of any province which had previously belonged to His Majesty.

The case of Gregor MacGregor benefits the Royalist movement throughout America, giving encouragement to the Royalist leaders, attracting undecided voters and asserting themselves in the face of insurgents.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

When Poyais manages to enjoy peace and security and its Government is fully recognized, its population will doubtless rise, thanks to the rich resources provided by the fertile land for both agriculture and industry.

The country of Poyais as it stands at present has the sea as its border in the north, in the south it borders with the river San Juan and the lake of Nicaragua. To the east it borders the sea and to the west, the river Aguarra, near Trujillo.

If His Majesty were to relinquish entirely the city and district of Trujillo, currently in dispute, tax would be increased.

If His Majesty were to add to this the province of Honduras, the tax could be increased to

It is clear that His Majesty the King of Spain has a significant interest in increasing the amount of land owned by the Prince of Poyais (Paris, 4th December, 1824. DeBray Valfresne)."

In our day-to-day life, it's clear to us that when it comes to investing, it makes no difference at all if what we are investing in is, in fact, real or not. We invest in shares, bonds, mutual funds and in other similar ways. We are not frivolous in this area of the economy and we often cannot even work out exactly what these finances are.

If they really are something more than just an abstract concept, we don't even know if the money we are earning really exists. They are merely numbers which change on the computer screen. At other times we invest in things equally tangible and real as others are conceptual. We know that these things can exist and we are certain that we are surrounded by these very kinds of objects and goods. However, this does not mean that the exact item in which we have invested really exists and if it does exist, nothing guarantees us that it is exactly as we have been told. Even if it is, we probably don't even care because the small details of what we are actually investing in are not

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

important. What matters is that we give money to someone and in exchange he gives us more money back. All the rest is unimportant.

With his impressive imagination and the knowledge of how to make the most of other's ambition, mixed in with some naivety, Gregor MacGregor, His Royal Highness Gregorio, arrived in London in 1821 with the intention of selling land, nobility titles and military commissions to British subjects in order to promote emigration to his "kingdom" and to stimulate movement, in his direction, within the uncontrolled finance sector of the time. As political leader of Poyais, he raised a loan of 600,000 pounds with interest at 6% through the office of Sir John Perry, ex Mayor of London. The issue was a success and the price of bonds rose. In early 1823 around 200 colonists travelled to Poyais and instead of discovering the opulent, glamorous city offered by its leader, they found a pile of shacks surrounded by swamps and vicious natives, as well as suffering, heat, hunger and fever. Some of the settlers drowned trying to reach neighboring Belize. Following these events, MacGregor fled to France with his earnings from the bonds. As hope always springs eternal in the finance markets and in major investments, half a century later the land concessions and the debt certificates of Poyais could still be found in the bulging wallets of the businessmen who always swarm around the stock market, together with the bonds and shares of failed businesses. Even today, the Poyais loan continues to be the only working capital loan to a fictitious country released onto the London stock exchange.

Poyais even had its own embassy in London and positions were held by well-known people who had never once even set foot in the country but who had full faith in its existence and status as a developing country, even after discovering the true story.

This "show" set up by MacGregor had a great script, great actors and was sold at a time that was ripe with ambition and speculation. In addition, the scriptwriter, who was also the director, had the best producers of the time who were the governmental authorities of various countries. He even managed to produce an "Official Guide to

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Poyais" written by Captain Thomas Strangeways who was none other than MacGregor himself in which he gave a detailed description of the history, geography, culture, natural resources and the economic plans of the country. This was made available in his offices as a source of information for interested parties, just like the misleading promotional publicity of failed real estate promotions of the current day in which they stress the vast potential of the development and describe amazing leisure and social facilities. These luxuries are the equivalent of those offered in the 19th century in Poyais, of mines and untapped deposits of gold and silver, extensive stretches of fertile soil ready to be developed.

The English Bull of Osborne

"You won't find him at home. The Count is constantly in his office. Only at lunch time will he take a car and drive home to spend an hour with his family, after which he returns immediately to his wineries. He is a tireless worker and is so scrupulous in his business that every single delivery that is dispatched from his work is meticulously inspected by either himself or his brother, Juan. Maybe it's due to this virtue and excellence, maybe it's due to the superiority of the products that the house of Osborne has achieved its current status".

The Count of Osborne, Tomás Osborne y Guezla, managed the fortunes of his home winery since 1890, the year of the death of his father, the fine, upstanding gentleman, the Count of Osborne who, from the exterior, appeared to be a quintessential Englishman impeccably dressed, serious



and correct. No doubt the fifteen years he spent in England and his English roots influenced his character, his personality and his behaviour. Tomás was the grandson of a young English trader, Thomas Osborne Mann, born in Exeter and who settled in the port of Santa María where he joined up with a large firm of wine dealers, Lonergan & White. He made contact with Sir James Duff, the man who helped General San Martin leave Spain, thanks to the friendship they developed in the Spanish struggle against Napoleon as well as being "brothers" in the Masonic Lodge in Cádiz. Together they founded the wine-producing company Osborne, in his name, and which until 1890 traded abroad under the name of Duff-Gordon.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

In 1956, at the height of General Franco's dictatorship, the publicity agency Azor, under instruction from the Osborne Group, designed a logo which would be used to represent Veterano brandy on roadside publicity hoardings. In the new Spanish democracy, the Government of Felipe Gonzalez never looked kindly on the Osborne bull. In reality, some Socialists obsessed with the idea of "progress" were never fans of bull-fighting, nor of the "National Day" and of course, not of Francoism (the dictatorship of General Franco). It was therefore inevitable that they distrusted a sign which alluded to all of this. However, what they forgot was the Republican origin of the Osborne bull, as its creator (in 1956) was the artist Manuel Prieto who was a well-known militant of the Spanish Communist Party who, during the Spanish Second Republic collaborated as an artist in the group, Milicia Popular. He inspired his friend, Josep Renau, a sign-maker of the Spanish Second Republic who drew almost identical bulls in his propaganda signs.

In July, 1988, the General Highway Law forced the removal of all types of publicity visible from any state road. All billboards were removed but the bulls remained in place. The General Highway Rule of September, 1994 ordered for the Osborne bulls to be removed. Many autonomous communities, various municipalities, cultural associations, artists, politicians and journalists spoke out in favour of keeping the bulls. The Andalucian Autonomous Government requested it to be approved as "cultural heritage" and the Chartered Community of Navarre made use of a chartered law to keep their local Osborne bull. In December 1997 the Supreme Court made a ruling in favour of keeping the Osborne bulls due to their "aesthetic or cultural interest" and from this point onwards, the Osborne bull was no longer just a purely commercial logo. Although not a symbol of Spanish identity, Catalan nationalists boycotted and tore down the only bull located in Catalunia, in El Bruc. Some Catalan nationalists adopted their own symbol of the ruc, the Catalan donkey.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

At present there are 90 Osborne bulls located throughout Spain. The largest concentrations are around Jerez, both in the provinces of Seville and of Cadiz. The rest are spread out across Spain.

In September 2005 a criminal court judge acquitted several businessmen of the illegal use of the image on souvenirs for "people who see the figure of the bull as a national symbol and not as the specific logo of a business". However, following this, the Provincial Court of Seville revoked the first ruling and found the businessmen guilty, stating that "the cultural and symbolic reference that the Osborne Bull undoubtedly has, does not imply a the total freedom of Osborne's rights over the Osborne Bull brand". Many rulings, before and after the aforementioned confirm the depth of the reference of the branding rights of the Osborne Group regarding their Bull.

The English Osborne Bull, communist and born at the height of Franco's dictatorship, has transcended its character as just a sales logo and has become something that needs no explanation. Perhaps the reasons behind its continued presence along the roadsides and horizons in Spain are this brotherly union and the concentration of the various ideas and nationalities. The case of the Osborne Bull is a perfect example of how something that occupies the public space is integrated into the identifying culture of a community. It becomes the sentimental and intellectual property of everyone, from a communist to a conservative, from an Englishman to a Spaniard. The origin of this image belongs with all of them, probably without them even knowing it.

The Coin of Gibraltar and Nelson's right arm



There is an English coin which was minted by the colony of Gibraltar in 2005. It is a crown coin with Her Majesty Elisabeth II, the year and Gibraltar embossed on one side. On the reverse side is a small detail of the oil painting by Richard Westal which hangs in the National Maritime Museum in London which depicts Admiral Nelson, injured during an attack on Tenerife in 1797.

Only two figures appear on the coin: a seriously injured Nelson and supporting him from behind, his step-son, Lieutenant Josiah Nisbet. The minting of this coin was in commemoration of an English military victory, the bi-centenary of the Battle of Trafalgar (1805-2005) when the British hero, Sir Horatio Nelson lost his life. For unknown reasons, an image of the Admiral injured in battle was chosen for this occasion. He lost his right arm as a result of a well-aimed shot from a tiger cannon in his first and only defeat in 1797, in an attack on Santa Cruz de Santiago de Tenerife..

On the 25th July, the city celebrates this heroic deed – the battle which liberated the city from the siege of the English, led by Admiral Horatio Nelson, and which was the cause of the area being nominated as a "free town", with its own Town Hall, Coat of Arms and with the titles of Most Loyal, Noble, Undefeated, Most Benevolent City, Port and Square of Santa Cruz de Santiago de Tenerife.

The unshakeable appetite for perfection of the English Admiral, Sir Horatio Nelson, the most powerful figure on the high seas, helped him to create the idea of controlling the Canarian archipelago and, with this intention, he set sail with his armada from the Bay
BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

of Cádiz on the 15th July, 1797 and arrived in the Canary Islands on the night of the 21st July.



Following two unsuccessful offensives on the garrison of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, on the night of the 24th/25th he managed to off-load his troops in various different zones, himself and a large team of troops arriving on land via the harbour of the main square.

Courageously assisted by the people of Tenerife, and under the command of General Juan Antonio Gutiérrez, the troops put up such a strong defence that the English were forced to surrender after suffering over 200 fatalities and hundreds of casualties, amongst which was the Admiral who lost his right arm.

In a quest for peace, the local people dedicated themselves to the benevolent task of looking after the enemy casualties. A local peasant, who had spent the entire night tirelessly fighting the invaders, came across an English officer who was dying. He politely tended to him, removed his doublet and tore it into strips to bandage the 73

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

man's wounds, then with great mercy and decorum, and with tears in his eyes he said, "Look, Sir, at what has happened here. Why did his lordship not stay back in his own land?"

There are various pieces of memorabilia remaining from this historic event – the tiger cannon which was responsible for the injuries suffered by Nelson, the two flags taken from the English which are kept as priceless items of treasure in the Church of the Conception in the Canarian capital, and the city's insignia with the coat of arms which King Charles IV awarded by Royal Decree on the 28th August, 1803 in recognition of the outstanding military action.

The English traders of Seville in the 15th Century

In 1304, a Seville merchant ship reached England.



However, at this time in the 14th Century, the majority of trade between England and Andalucia was transported by Basque ships and, from the second half of the century onwards, also by ships from Bristol. In Andalucia, the merchandise most sought-after by the English traders was olive oil, for use in cooking and also in the textile factories and also in the making of Seville soap. They

also exported leathers and honey. However, during the 15th Century, the merchandise of choice was Andalucian wine. In turn, the English exported wools and cloth. The English were in constant trading wars with Genoese and Florentine traders in Seville.

The result of this intense business activity was the rise in the number of English traders in Seville, particularly after the discovery of America, making them the second largest group of foreign traders in the city, after the Genoese. The largest concentration of English traders was in Sanlúcar de Barrameda, attracted by the special privileges provided by the Dukes of Medina Sidonia. In Seville, following the discovery of America in 1492, the Kings of Spain set up a trading monopoly with the newly discovered lands of America, the Canaries and the Barbary Coast, forming the House of Trade (Casa de Contractión) in 1503. This meant the closing off of colonial trading traffic from the ports of the Andalucian coast which then led to a quick economic decline. Thanks to a lawsuit against the Kings of Spain allowing it freedom to trade and the Duke keeping his own independent Customs, Sanlúcar was the only exception to

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

this economic down- turn. In addition, a branch of the House of Trade was established in Sanlúcar which meant large vessels could avoid the difficult trip up the Guadalquivir River to Seville.

The groups of traders - the Flemish, the English and the Italians remained settled there in the town. The community of English traders had a particularly strong influence in the town, where, in 1517, they began building the English Catholic Church of St. George. There is a strong history of English in neighbouring Seville between 1480 and 1515, the most notable of whom was Thomas Malliard, who worked for the London rag-and-bone man, Henry Palmer.

Trading disputes and arguments were common between the English and their Genovese and Florentine counterparts, with their inevitable lawsuits in the legal framework of the period. The following are some examples, with the names and surnames in the Spanish version, as would have been the case:

On the 26th April, 1492, the Law calls Guillén Esterlin, English trader, on request of Juanoto Berardi, Florentine trader, both parties resident of Seville, for the pending lawsuit regarding trading disputes regarding Irish leathers.

On the 15th September, 1499, a Seville judge makes some enquiries into whether an English trader, Jorge Bolestrud, had tried to bribe another judge who was overseeing the lawsuit between said trader and Francisco de Riberol, a Genovese trader.

28th April, 1497. A Seville judge, Juan de Silva, dealt out justice to Jorge Bolestrud, an English trader resident in the same city, who had lawsuits with Francisco Relirol, a Genovese trader, over merchandise that he had sent from London.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

21st November, 1494. Recourse to the committee of Juan de Porras, a Seville collection attorney, on the request of Guillén Asteley, an English trader who wanted to recover the money given as guarantor to the Irish trader, Juan Linche.

On the 18th March, 1492, the Seville courts passed sentence in the request of the English trader Juan Bisnes, who was owed an amount of maravedis (an old Spanish coin) by the Genoves trader Francisco de Riberol.

The 3rd May, 1492. Sentences passed from the judicial courts of Seville and Cádiz, and also from their Archbishop and Bishops, so that, on request from Juan Tristán, city judge, obliging the English trader, Jacome Fruiges to honour the quantity of merchandise that he had sold.

8th February, 1497, a petition is made on behalf of an English trader in Seville, Jorge Bolesques, who had served in the Spanish Flemish fleet with two of his ships, both of which were embargoed for a period in the port of Deva, Guipuzcua which prevented him from continuing with his business. One of his servants, Diego Gonzalez from Sanlúcar de Barremeda, absconded with one of the ships and twice, in order to cover his tracks, he faked the sale of the ship.



BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

When Goya tried to kill Lord Wellington

In August, 1812, immediately after victory in the Battle of the Arapiles and after Jose I fled the Court, the allies entered Madrid. The anglo-hispano-portugese army, led by General Álava and Lord Wellington were warmly welcomed by the people of Madrid with rousing ovations. Rowdy and lively by nature, the Madrileños went crazy over the English and in particular, over the Highlanders, for their unusual clothing and their fervent Catholicism.



Wellington, however, was stand-offish, disagreeable and with a permanent frown and in his few dealings with the Spanish authorities who showered him with gifts to try to make him smile, he was notably cold. Once he knew the French had been driven out, there was only one thought behind his furrowed brow that gave him any pleasure, and that was the idea of having his portrait painted by Goya.

He knew that Goya, that magical painter, lived in Madrid. Although not from the city, he was a Madrileño in his heart. Wellington knew that his accomplice, General Álava, was a great friend of the painter and so suggested to him that he do the necessary introductions and requests. Álava made hints to Wellington about Goya's personality, that he wasn't a particularly pleasant character with people he didn't know. Despite the fact that the painter would of course know about Wellington's talents and know that he was no social climber, he also advised him that the painter tended to charge exorbitant fees for painting portraits. Despite all this, Wellington, Álava and their escorts headed over to see Don Francisco de Goya.

Goya lived in a house with gardens and farm land on the other side of the Manzanares River (Estación de Villa del Prado). Given the personalities of those involved, the greetings on arrival were somewhat frosty. Both equally brusque and surly, and Goya

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

being unsociable and half deaf, it was quite a sight. Due to the dexterity of his hands, compared with the lack of it in his hearing, an hour was enough for Goya to do the rough outline of a portrait. Without wasting any time and wanting the Englishman to leave as soon as possible, Goya got straight on with the painting. When he had placed Wellington's face on the canvas, he decided to show it to him so that the Islander could see how it was coming along. In showing it to him, he used tremendous skill and trust and with his finger, beckoned to the Irishman to come closer as he turned the easel around. Unaccustomed to people gesturing to him, in particular with their hands, Wellington very reluctantly complied. On laying his eyes on the painting, the General could do nothing else but show a gesture of his disgust.

Javier Goya, the educated and English-speaking son of the painter at this point stepped in, anticipating the reaction of his father on seeing Wellington's look of complete displeasure. He spoke to him in Wellington's native language and tried to convince him of the compassion and the skill of the drawing. The Briton replied to this, moving his head stiffly and saying in a slow, low voice, "no, no". Goya, who understood nothing, or who pretended not to understand, angrily cleaned his brushes, with a false smile whilst he waited for the praise, the usual postscript to his work. On realizing what was happening and that the praise was not forthcoming, he looked questioningly at General Wellington, meanwhile General Álava didn't know quite where to put himself.

The show played out as follows:

Wellington with a face as sour as vinegar, Goya with a face like a bull about to charge, Javier Goya looking at both of them, talking in English and Spanish at the same time until the arrogant aristocrat picked up his hat and prepared to leave without a word.

Goya had the unusual habit, as many habits tend to be, of keeping a couple of pistols close to hand whilst he painted. Javier Goya shuddered when he saw his father's gaze

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

moving between Wellington's face and his pistols. Suddenly Francisco de Goya reached for his pistols and anticipating his father's move, his son threw himself onto his father to stop him whilst General Álava bundled out the victor of Arapiles, telling him that the artist was crazy. The great hero almost lost his life in the home of the deaf artist, without even reaching Waterloo. Goya went on to do three portraits of Wellington; two oil paintings and one in red chalk.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

Praise to Wellington

The three most important values of Wellington were: foresight, zeal and courage. He was a staunch supporter, was his role model; Agelisao, king of Sparta, which he copied,

which imitated. It was like him, well versed in every stratagem of war and cheated on his enemies, without ever discovering their true these purposes. He knew also distort reality to his soldiers. Projects forged are easily and implementation "? Wellington spot on both, theory and practice. In Spain broke up the legions of the invincible French with ease. Never shook, shook or struck. I never saw Vimierio fluctuate (the defeat of the French was in the battle of Vimieiro, on 21 August 1808 to cause the



Sir Arthur Wellesley 1st Duke of Wellington (1769 – 1852)

result was signed between the French and English the Convention of Cintra). I never saw him back in Arroyomolinos (October 28, 1811). I never saw fear in Talavera (took place near Talavera de la Reina (Toledo, Spain) on July 28, 1809). In Arapiles (the Battle of Salamanca British historiography known as the Battle of Salamanca is one in the duels most important Spanish War of Independence and was redeemed in the vicinity of the hills and Arapiles Arapiles Chico Grande in the municipality of Arapiles, south of the city Salamanca, 22 July 1812), or Albuera (on May 16, 1811 was fought around the village of Albuera one of the closest battles in open field). Never in the Espinal, in store in White or Frexedal Castello.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.



The military power of prophecy is what most distinguished our duke said: "Badajoz surrender at two in the morning." The French governor of the General Armand Philippon square, had also said arrogantly "There are English or Spanish, those who defend this place." (Between 16 March and 6 April 1812, the city was besieged Badajoz by the Anglo-Portuguese army under the command of Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, the site was one of the bloodiest of the Napoleonic Wars.

Thirteen months before the general had begun to fortify it. With cunning and tenacity made to surround with a ditch around the wall with battlements and bastions, the mission of these structures was the passive defence and protecting the inhabitants of the square of the assailants or counter guarantees some protection, they had put the same traps near the pit so placing bombs, these helmets, helmets of wood, axles of carriages so that when the British raided, fall to less momentum in these traps. The main strength of the French was the defence of the gaps by ditches, wells and frieze and briers horses that made the place impregnable. The pond water in the moat was another obstacle that would overcome the attackers. Yet despite so many entrenchments of ravelins, moats, walls and bayonets, the city was taken by assault at one thirty in the morning.

What ancient or modern conqueror, who has known warrior ever see the precise time of the conquest of a place? Of a square also strengthened by the art of war and fiercely defended by a ferocious and desperate enemy.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

It was a great master of Brigadier Victor Fané (Sixth Brigade) and Robert Long, generals Posomby and Hill (the very popular "Papa") and Colonel Grant and Major O'Callagan Gardiner. Is the great general who fights and overcomes great generals. Filled with shame Junot (defeated in Vimeiro, signed the Convention of Sintra, Portugal with which the British left), was the one who ruined Massena, one of Napoleon's most competent officers in Santana, who destroyed Marmont (Viesse Auguste Frédéric Louis, Duke of Ragusa) in the Arapiles, which humbled Aal Count Jean Baptiste Jourdan at Vitoria. That General! Junot, Marmont Massena and Jourdan famous for the Battle of Marengo (took place near the city of Alessandria, in Piedmont, north east of Italy on 14 June 1800, concluded with a French victory and the withdrawal of Austrian troops Most of the Italian territory) and The Battle of Austerlitz (also known as the Battle of Three Emperors, took place on December 2, 1805, near the city of Brno in the present Czech Republic was one of the major battles of the Napoleonic Wars and is the greatest military triumph of Napoleon), famous for Vsitula and Odder and winners in the defiles of Franconia (Bavaria, Germany) and Eymar.

Wellington gave freedom in Sintra Portugal, in Arapiles shook off embarrassing the capital of Castile and Vitoria Spain crowned with the laurel of independence.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The near-drowning of the Duchess of Fife



Tangiers, 1911: It had been over five years since English battleships had sailed into Tangiers. For this reason, the majority of the local people went down to the port in spite of the heavy rain and storms. No-one spoke of anything else other than the shipwreck and speculated regarding its rescue.

The Delhi was a transatlantic ship and docked every Tuesday in Gibraltar. The wreck was caused by fog and storms which made the Captain mistake Cape Espartel

with Cape Trafalgar, forcing him to search for the mouth of the Straits of Gibraltar further down in the wrong area. The ship was also being swept along by the strong storms. On board the ship were the Duke and Duchess of Fife and their daughters, Maud and Alexandra. The Princess Louise, Princess Royal and Duchess of Fife (Louise Victoria Alexandra Dagmar) (Marlborough House, London, England) member of the British royal family, eldest daughter of King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra, was the fifth person to be styled Princess Royal and upon marriage, she took the title of Duchess of Fife.

First news of the disaster which struck the Delhi reached Tangier by telegram from the ship itself, in which they requested urgent assistance. At the same time the English battleships in Gibraltar received the very same desperate message. A seaman from Tangiers who went out to the accident zone in the steamship Muza, belonging to the company Bland of Gibraltar, managed to get within a couple of hundred metres from the Delhi and could see that all the passengers were out on the deck. The ship had run aground on a sandbank and was at a distance from the rocks, but the prow was sinking further and further into the water. The authorities were already studying how, once the storm calmed down, to best rescue the passengers and crew. They had two

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

options: one was to approach the ship by sea and the other was by land using cables launched by canyons then passing large baskets along the cables with the crew and passengers inside.

The decision was made to use the first option and all the ships (Spanish, English and French) that had steam launches released them into the water to use prow, stern, leeward and windward sides of their vessels to protect the hull of the ship from the breaking waves. After several attempts, the commander of the British squadron stated that it was an impossible task to carry out and, by means of flag signals, ordered all the launches to return to their ships. The order was obeyed by every launch, with the exception of that of the French cruise ship Friant which managed to recklessly sail beyond the breaker, miraculously avoiding being swallowed up by the crashing waves. Once protected from the currents by the immense bulk of the grounded ship, the French launch of the Friant, based in Tangiers, began to ferry groups of thirty passengers and crew between the Delhi and the nearby shore, leaving the vast ship as a wreck in the breakwater.

Curiously, after rescuing the final passenger, in an absurd display of bravery, the launch chose to return to the French cruise ship, rather than staying at shore. Whilst remaining protected by the large mass of the Delhi, the launch calmly moved forward but, as soon as it emerged from the shelter of the larger boat, a massive wave struck it sideways, overturning it and smashing it into smithereens. The captain, helmsman and the engineer (José Remond, Gregorio Lagarde y Florencio Carel) all drowned whilst the remaining crew remarkably made it to shore.

The Delhi remained there, not far from another ship, the Italian Nuova America, wrecked months previously due to storms.

The survivors of the Delhi were taken to Gibraltar and Delhi where they were looked after and given everything they needed.

Robert Boyd – the passionate conspirator

As was the case of Lord Byron and his passion for Greek freedom and independence, a longing for Spanish liberty was what made Englishman, Robert Boyd get involved with and fight for such issues in a Spain which enjoyed very few liberties (ruled by Fernando VII). This burning passion for all things Hispanic ultimately led to his death after he dedicated his life to the Spanish exiled in London in the latter years of the reign of King Fernando VII.

The Spanish General Torrijos, with his studies, his passion for reading and a great ability for learning languages, combined with his eloquence, his courtesy and aristocratic poise was of great interest to the English. In order to make some money during very difficult economic times whilst exiled in London, he translated various works of literature to which his intellect came to the fore in many of the prologues he wrote. Torrijos became closely involved with a group of English intellectuals who, since studying at Cambridge University, were known as the Cambridge Apostles. The group, which centred on the poet John Sterling, had created a student debating society characterised politically by fierce international liberalism. Amongst others in the group, including Sterling, were Maurice, Alfred Tennyson, Arthur Hallam, John Kemble



Torrijos' Shooting Execution by Antonio Gisbert

and Richard C. Trench.

Torrijos, who valued the freedom of his homeland above anything else, was exactly the archetypal hero who made a large impression in the minds of these enthusiastic, liberal and

romantic youngsters. They were equally impressed by his powerful intellect as by his physical presence, his exquisite skills, his manners, his impressive education, being a learned man who also spoke fluent French and English.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

In early 1830 in London was held the Supreme Junta for the Spanish uprising, set up in January of the previous year and amongst which were the militants General Torrijos, Don Manuel Flores Calderon and Don Evaristo San Miguel who were looking for support for the Spanish revolutionary movement. Through the friendship he had struck up with John Sterling, Torrijos was introduced to Robert Boyd, a former officer in the British army in India and who had fought in the Greek war of independence. Boyd was as passionate in his actions as was Torrijos and committed himself, both physically and financially, to help the Spaniard win back liberty for Spain. Supported by the so-called "Cambridge Apostles", and on hearing of the Irishman's pledge to help, Torrijo immediately went with a committee to see Robert Boyd to accept his offer, "Your offer is accepted and we give you our most heart-felt thanks for your generosity and heroic decision, in the hope that one day a free Spain will be able to thank you in the way fitting for a great nation".

From that day onwards, Boyd never left the side of either Torrijos or of Flores Calderón. First from London and then from Gibraltar, together they coordinated the conspiracy and on the night of the 30th November, 1830, they left Gibraltar to begin their revolution in Spain. Robert Boyd under order from the King was shot alongside Torrijos and Flores Calderón on the beaches of San Andrés in the city of Malaga.

His grave can be found in the protestant cementary in Malaga, otherwise known as the English cementary. It is a gothic obelisk surrounded by railings and upon which is engraved, "In the memory of Robert Boyd Esquire, of Londonderry, Ireland. Friend and fellow martyr of Torrijos, Calderón etc... who died in Malaga in the sacred cause of freedom on the 11th December, 1831 at 26 years of age".

In 2004, the Torrijos 1831 Association established an annual tribute to Robert Boyd in the English cementary in Malaga and to which the group invited three members of



Boyd's family who travelled from France and England to attend the ceremony. A street in Malaga has also been named after him.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

Gibraltar, 1920

The most easterly point of the world is Gibraltar, and from there the nations of the Americas took the symbol which is displayed on their coins. The Spanish coat of arms has two columns which symbolise the columns of Hercules and wrapped around them is a ribbon, originally with the motto "Non Plus Ultra", then later "Plus Ultra"



GIBRALTAR

This symbol was adopted in particular by Charles V and became part of his coat of arms and as a symbol of his territories in the Americas. When the Spanish conquistadors discovered gold and silver in the New World, the symbol of Charles V was stamped onto the coins minted in these metals. These coins with the columns of Hercules on two worlds were distributed throughout Europe and the Americas and the symbol was adopted by many of the independent nations of the Americas.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The Straits of Gibraltar were the southern gateway to the ocean, later becoming the gateway to the East when Fernando de Lesseps created the Suez Canal.

However, the most peculiar and rigid part of the history of the Rock is not its geography or the various stories and events occurring on or around it (the Straits and Campo), but its people.



The people of Gibraltar loyally represent all the different nationalities that have at one time been owners of the Rock of Gibraltar. It is a cosmopolitan The experienced population. meat trader from Tarso can be seen, with Phoenician blood in his veins despite his English suit, also the slim, arrogant young Italian whose predecessors aided the colonization of Carteia (in

Roman times the Colonia Libertinorum Carteia was the first Latin colony established on non-Italian soil), alongside the Muslim who supplies provisions in his red cloak, his yellow slippers, bare legs and purple turban, the Spaniard with his pale face and his haughty look and the English solider, the then-owner of the rock with his red cape and neck burnt by the Andalucian sun to which he is not accostomed but which he loves all the same, the sun reflected in his military boots. There is also the Yanito (native of Gibraltar), as proud and zealous about his country as all of the others put together. In Gibraltar there is also the Moroccan Jew with his kaftan and skullcap and the Spanish Jew with his air of shrewdness. Also the tourists – the well-dressed and affected American tourist, the fugitive from Tangiers and the small, ostentatiously dressed, wide awake Japanese.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Such are the different characters that can be found there every day and such is the movement of life that flows into the Rock of Gibraltar, not just now, but ever since medieval times. In the early years of the last century not only was it a stopping place for the large steam ships leaving England en route to India and Australia, but also for the ships heading for the various ports of the Mediterranean from the Atlantic.

The first impression on seeing Gibraltar for the first time is that of a totally English city. Its tall houses with numerous windows which close vertically with a guillotine system, the perfectly paved, clean streets that look like the pathways of a grand house. Almost all the food is driven in daily in hundreds of trucks from the neighbouring villages (Campo de Gibraltar) and is sold cheaply. In the city, Spanish is spoken much more than English. Spanish currency is in circulation in Gibraltar and when given change in a shop, it will be either English or Spanish currency. The names of the majority of the shops are in Spanish, Spanish newspapers are sold, such as el Impartial and el Liberal and inside Gibraltar there are other newspapers published, such as el Calpense and Gibraltar Chronicle which the Yanitos call in Spanish "la crónica".

Close by to each other are the synagogue, the Protestant cathedral and the Catholic Church, and example of the fantastic tolerance which exists in England. There is also an Arab mosque and numerous Masonic lodges. All beliefs and religions are guaranteed freedom of Creed.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

British Havana, 1762

Following a 64-day siege, Havana was taken in 1762. It was the main post captured by the British Army in Hispanic America.

The age-old, endless desires of the English to continue with their conquests in Spanish America were once again stirred up during one of the many rifts between Spain and England during the 18th Century. The British government was busy with a project to purposefully start another war between the two nations which involved the taking of Havana, considered to be the military port of New Spain. The aim of this was threefold: firstly, the closing off of access to the Atlantic Ocean to the fortunes leaving America, secondly the opening of free trade for English shipping in the local seas, and thirdly, to threaten the other Antilles islands and further territories that did not belong to them. To turn attention away from the real aim of the project, word was spread that the forces were to be stationed in Santa Domingo, using the excuse that this island was closer to Martinique than to Cuba.

On the 6th of June, a powerful fleet made up of 70 battleships and 20,000 men and led by Admiral Pocock appeared outside of Havana. The General in charge of the land forces, appointed by George III, was Lieutenant General George Keppel, Earl of Albermarle and the island was defended under the command of General Juan de Prado Portocarrero.

The taking of Morro Castle (Castillo del Morro), the main bastion of the city's defences, was the key objective of the English. On the 29th of July, Albemarle's troops, who were set up in Guanabacoa and in the hills around La Cabaña, descended on and took Morro Castle. The defence of the fort by the 4,000 men led by Luis de Velasco was significant and de Velasco, who died during the siege, was considered a great hero.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The Spanish authorities made no efforts to remove the Crown's or the people's wealth from the city. The loot gained from the city was several million minted silver pesos and eleven unscathed battleships as well as considerable amounts of merchandise. "The leaders of the operation, the Earl of Albermarle and Admiral Pocock, both received over half a million pesos for their efforts, whilst each soldier was given little more than twenty pesos and slightly less to each sailor".

Since before the middle of the 18th Century, the British government had tried to take control of the island of Cuba. From around this period, discontent towards the Spanish was clear and was even expressed in documents written during this period. The sworn declaration by a man named Toler, onboard the ship "Boyle" in Guantanamo bay stated that they wanted the English to conquer the island to free them from the tyranny of the Spanish. Previously, the peasants had rebelled and had laid siege to Havana, putting in a difficult situation the authorities who finally reached an agreement with the popular masses, using Bishop Agustín Morell of Santa Cruz as mediator.

Prior to the British attempt of 1762, a more significant attempt took place on the 18th of July, 1741, when the English landed on the island and carried a geographical survey, based on which they believed that the island was undefended. After landing, General Wentworth and his troops reached Santa Catalina (Guantánamo) and began organizing his troops, planning to march towards and conquer Santiago de Cuba, around 150 km away. However, he was not expecting the tropical diseases which struck his troops, including fever and dysentery and therefore aborted his mission. During the eleven months of occupation, Cuba enjoyed sharp economic growth, stimulated by certain measures imposed by the English, such as the opening of trading ports, and the importation of slaves that the badly-hit economy desperately needed. However, despite all of this, relations between the people of Havana and the English were never good as the Cubans considered them to be an occupying force.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

In July, 1763, England and Spain reached an agreement in which part of Florida would remain in English hands in exchange for Havana. The English erected a monument to Velasco in Westminster Abbey and during many decades, on sailing past Noja (Velasco's birthplace), the British naval ships would fire their cannons as homage to the Spanish hero. BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

Charles Pickman, Christopher Columbus and Seville

The remains of Columbus and other members of his family are buried at the ancient monastery of La Cartuja. Family members of Don Carlos Serra Pickman (1881-1951), grandson of the founder of the Cartuja factory, still have the documents from research carried out which describe in detail the backgrounds of the various "Columbus's" buried in the monastery. This document was published in 1992.

In the book, the Marquis of Serra claims, and corroborates with evidence, that

Columbus's remains were never removed from their provisional tomb in La Cartuja in Seville. To prove this, in May 1952, a group of academics, historians, forensic experts, journalists and representatives from the church began to dig up the ground of the Columbus' chapel and exactly in the spot indicated by the Marquis; they



found the bones of a man which he assured them were the genuine remains of Christopher Colombus.

Charles Pittman Jones Alnutt, born in London in 1808, arrived in Cadiz in 1822 from Liverpool to continue with the business started by his step-brother, William Pickman Hicks. Charles Pickman continued with the same business activities as those of his step-brother, the commercialization of English-made products that were successful in the Spanish market of the time. Taking advantage of the ecclesiastical confiscation's of Mendizabal, the trader Carlos Pickman who was now set up in Seville, in 1838, rented the monastery that was previously abandoned and in ruins and then in 1840 he bought the premises, transforming it in 1841to become a ceramic factory and hence linking the names of Pickman and La Cartuja de Sevilla right up to the present day.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

During this time, in the 19th Century, the location of the Cartuja monastery was excellent due to its isolated position facing Seville, on the right bank of the Guadalquivir river, in the Triana lowlands. It stood out from the surrounding area with its grand elevations and raised kilns, tall chimneys, chapel, clock tower and elegant windowed balconies, creating a beautiful sight which was eye-catching even at great distance and the Cordoba and Huelva train lines passed by the buildings only eight hundred metres away. From the building you could see Seville with her cathedral and slender Giralda tower, the Torre del Oro, iron bridges and the great Portilla White foundries, the gas works and the neighborhood of Triana. Along the train line to Huelva, the Pickmans had set up a Decanville railway line which terminated inside the factory, passing through all the workshops and it was by this means that thousands of tons of coal reached the factory from Belmez, Espiel and Villanueva.



Production during the first years was simply the reproduction of English designs, and later they started with Spanish-style works. For many years they supplied Spain and America with ceramics, replacing the ordinary ceramics of Talavera and Valencia which

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

were usually seen on tables during the first years of the 19th Century. The quality of the products made in La Cartuja was recognized both in the national and international press, in addition to the well-deserved awards earned in all the shows and exhibitions in which they participated. Their successes in London in 1862, in Paris in 1867 and in 1878 in Vienna were much talked-about, where, amongst all the most outstanding products of the civilized world, Pickman was awarded first-class medals, having also earned the privilege of having the La Cartuja products displayed in the most prestigious museums of Europe. During the Centennial Exposition of Philadelphia in 1876, the Pickmans were rewarded with considerable accolades and awards, as well as the gold medal in the Barcelona World Exposition of 1888.

This explains the tendency of the public to purchase the ceramics of La Cartuja that not only were on sale in Spain but which also were exported to the Americas and other remote countries where, like here, it is sought after for its durability, delicate shapes, cleanliness, evenness, image detail, brilliance of colour and exquisite finishing touches. The manufacturing programme followed in the factory was the same as that of the factory in England, having replaced almost all the original English workers with Andalucians.

In the luxurious salon of the factory were displayed elegantly-decorated items of artistic crockery, glassware and vases, reflecting the style of the Arabic embossed tiles such as those of the Alhambra and other styles, decorated in brilliant colours on chinaware and metallic reproductions of those found on the tiling of magnificent Seville buildings, the Gran Casino in San Sebastian, the Palacio de Ciencias in Zaragoza amongst others.

When Charles Pickman arrived in Seville he was a modest un-trained worker with little money who, with constant effort, hard work and ingenuity, managed to create and bring to life one of the most famous manufacturers in Spain. He adopted Seville as his hometown and attempted to employ everyone who asked for work in his factory, in

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

particular the potters from the neighbourhood of Triana. He was awarded the Order of Isabel the Catholic, the Knighthood of the Order of Carlos III, Order of Christ (Portugal), San Mauricio and San Lorenzo of Italy and was Royal Commissioner for Agriculture. The title was then inherited by his eldest son who married one of the factory workers.

Amongst Pickman's family successors were José María Piñar who was Mayor of Seville between 1947 and 1952 and for four years was rector of the technical college; Guillermo Serra Pickman who was a senior member of the Sagrada Mortaja (Holy Week Brotherhood of Seville) for forty years; Antonio Serra Pickman who was a senior member of the Santa Caridad (Seville Holy Week); Ricardo Serra who is the current president of the agrarian organization, Asaja-Andalucia; Guillermo Pickman Albandea who was captain of the Spanish rugby team and senior member of the Montserrat Brotherhood, just as his father was, Guillermo Pickman y Pickman. The city shows its gratitude to this family by naming a street Primer Marqués de Pickman.

The man in the tartan jacket

On the 21st of March, 1970 at home in Alicante, in the city where, through his cunning and bravery he helped hundreds of Spaniards flee whilst fighting for freedom during the Spanish Civil War, a man died of a heart attack. Christopher Edwin Lance was an Englishman, well-known in Republican areas during this ill-fate period. Captain Lance, or "the Scarlet Pimpernel of the Spanish War" as he was known by many Spanish fugitives who sought refuge in foreign embassies, was also known as "the man in the tartan jacket" and was considered by the Republican Army to be their public enemy number one.



Edwin C. Lance

Edwin C. Lance was a civil engineer, born in Wells in 1893. In 1914 he signed up in the First World War and rose to the rank of Captain. In 1926 he came to Spain to take part in the construction of the Santander-Mediterranean railway and returned again in 1931 to help protect English interests in a Spanish company.

At the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War the English ambassador, Sir Henry Chilton, left Spain and

consequently, as agreed by the Chief Consul John H. Milanes, the embassy was reopened by Captain Lance and it was then used as a refuge for the six hundred or so English, or those who called themselves English, that lived in Madrid. All of a sudden, despite not knowing their birth date, hundreds of people remembered that they had been born on-board an English ship or in Gibraltar; many of them not knowing a word of English and some were even known to be opponents of the English.

Lance took control of his businesses and was handed the responsibility for the Embassy vault by Ogilvie-Forbes, which was then used to protect the jewellery, cash and documents of many wanted people, such as the Duke of Alba. Forbes arrived at

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

the beginning of August, sent by the British Diplomatic Service and nominated Lance honorary attaché. They were artificially protected by the British flag which was displayed on all their vehicles and they all wore red, white and blue wristbands. He and the other British subjects could travel around with a certain degree of safety as the Republicans had great respect for foreigners, so long as they weren't Germans or Italians. With the help of other members of the British embassy such as Marger Hill, Eric Glaisher and Bobby Papworth, he organized trips travelling by road to Alicante to board them on ships destined for foreign ports and out of Franco's Spain. Nobody knew how Captain Lance managed to arrange these trips to reach Alicante, usually with him leading the expeditions and travelling during the night time.

At the end of 1936 he was taken prisoner by the state troops in the university area of the city. After being registered he was then taken to meet Franco. In Burgos, General Merry del Val gave him the names of some people who he had to rescue from the republican zones. He returned to Madrid and continued organizing trips to Alicante and obtaining the documents of those who he rescued. Amongst the many were Domingo de las Bárcenas who then went on to be ambassador in London, Pedro Muguruza who later conceived the Valle de los Caídos project, one of Don Pedro Muñoz Seca's daughters and one of the sons of General Martin Moreno, head of General Franco's headquarters.

The man in the tartan jacket was arrested in Valencia in October of 1937. First he was in jail in Valencia and then taken to Segorbe and later was transferred to the ship "Uruguay", anchored in the waters outside Gerona. His name figured on the list of those condemned to the death penalty. However, early one morning at the end of January, when Franco's troops had already reached Barcelona, he was rescued. Captain Lance thought he was living his last few days and was going to be executed but instead he was taken to a house where a member of the British consul, and ultimately his freedom, awaited him. He had spent fifteen months in jail.

He remained an anonymous figure until 1960 when the British version of the book by C.E. Lucas Phillips was published, in which his achievements in Spain were revealed. Editorial Juventud published the book in Spain in 1965 under the title, "The Pimpernel of the Spanish Civil War".

In November of 1961, Edwin C. Lance returned again to Spain, as guest of the city of Madrid who awarded him an official recognition for the humanitarian work which he had carried out during the war. "I never dreamed of receiving such an award", he told the various journalists who attended the press conference. He had lived for twenty years in total anonymity until an English writer published a book about his achievements.

Messages in bottles

The coastline of the Straits of Gibraltar, 8th July, 1868. The Englishman, Mr. Garlick, grandson of one of the English who remained in Spain following the war of liberation against France, is the owner of one of the most unusual marine collections along this rough stretch of coastline. He has dedicated over half of his life to his obsession with collecting all the warnings, requests for help and the final wishes that the sea regularly throws up, creating one of the most unique collections in the world.



Every one of the thoughts which are written down in these documents is a story which sheds a gloomy light on us mysterious humans, our virtues and our miseries. Some messages show the final desperate cry of a man who is slipping away into the waves and others paint an image of a poor shipwrecked man who sees the hook of death taking its hold.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Three years ago Garlick found a tin can with a note inside signed by someone named Browning, claiming that his ship had been wrecked on purpose as it was insured for the amount of two million pesetas, the new Spanish currency. The captain, pilots and two sailors had escaped in rowing boats, but the remainder of the crew, including the writer of the message, drowned. Two days after the disaster, the tin receptacle was picked up by a boat heading for Gibraltar y sold to Garlick without being opened. Garlick opened it, read the contents and made the information known to the insurers, first making sure that they would give him back the tin container and also a small amount of money as a gesture for his honourable and prompt actions. The delivery of the message was so opportune that the insurance company managed not to lose the two million pesetas and the captain and the owners of the wrecked boat received a prison sentence.

As you can see, Mr. Garlick's collection was not simply the satisfying of an innocent and childlike desire to hoard objects of interest, but he also strove to meet the final wishes of the unfortunate shipwreck victims.

One of his bottles tells a tale worthy of telling, written by James Gibson, captain of a coal ship which sailed the Lisbon-Gibraltar route – a sailor who had saved an enormous amount of money and who had decided to retire from merchant sailing and was making the final journey of his career. During this final crossing his ship collided with another and several hours later was completely destroyed. In haste, Gibson wrote his Will and before the ship finally sank, he found a bottle, put his message inside and threw it into the sea. The bottle was found by a tuna fisherman in Barbate who, informed of Mr. Garlick's interest in the coastline, hurried to take it to his house in Punta del Camarinal in Zahara de los Atunes. Thanks to this message, Garlick discovered that the unfortunate captain had a son who he tracked down with the satisfaction of knowing that he was meeting the final wishes of the boy's father.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

In order to obtain the largest of these types of objects in Spain, Garlick cooperates with over 300 fishermen and sea lovers along the coast of Spain and Portugal, so that they advise him of their finds, and bring him the messages tossed up by the sea. In January, 1869, Garlick received an unusual bottle which had been found along the coast of La Coruña and in the mouth of the bottle was a small vial containing a small amount of phosphorous, designed so that when the sea shook up the bottle, it set alight. The glass bottle contained the following message: "My darling wife, in the hope that it reaches you, I am writing you these few lines. Our boat has sunk after colliding with another. I am letting you know that David Hill has the share of capital which is owed to me from the sale of the mine. David will give you this money. Pray for me".

Garlick sent the note to its destination and several months later he was informed that this final wish had been met.

Garlick's unusual hobby means that he is always close to the coast and always watching it closely, especially in the rough and stormy days. He once found a can tied to a piece of cork used in fishermen's nets, and the note which was found inside the can said, "If God doesn't help us, no-one will. Tell Rachael MacLeod that I love her."

It took Garlick one year to find the young Rachael referred to in the note, but in the end he didn't want to deliver the note to her. As Rachael MacLeod had recovered from the loss of the shipwrecked sailor and was about to marry another sailor, Garlick felt it was not the right thing to do to bring up such a tragic event.

Mr. Garlick has paid up to two thousand pesetas in Spain for some of the objects found by the sailors, although the majority of them are handed over purely to ensure that those final written requests reach their required destination.

Salvochea and the doctrines of Owen

Firstly, Salvochea was a "child from a good family", driven crazy by the epic, generous and unselfish struggle. Next he was an internationalist with a first-class passionate support for the militants and later on, a communist. This was Salvochea when he fuelled the uprising in Cadiz. His republic represented communism and a universal brotherhood..... Later on, the Republic itself and its republican counterparts proved him wrong. Later still, a study showed him that it was anarchism that he dreamed about, or rather fantasized about. From that moment onwards, he became an anarchist.

Fermín Salvochea was born in Cadiz in March, 1842 and died there in 1907. He was educated in England where he stayed until the age of 20, dedicating all his free time to the study of radical English literature. Firstly he studied the work of Thomas Paine which had a powerful influence on the young Later on he got to know man. personally Charles Bredlow and his friends. Atheist propaganda in England encountered many problems during this period, but Bredlow and his friends put all their energies into standing up for their convictions,



attempting to destroy the medieval idea of theism which permeated all echelons of English society.

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

He began his political operations in 1866, committed to the plot to free the military prisoners of Madrid who were incarcerated in the castle of San Sebastian who had taken part in the events at San Gil barracks, awaiting deportation to Manila (Philippines).

During this time there were anarchists in London, theosophists and Christian anarchists, and throughout the islands there were also various groups of "tolstoyan" communists. However, in contrary to the spiritual communism on the continent, the English never renounced their church in favour of the common good. They were deeply religious but not deeply catholic or protestant and they didn't pin their passions to any positive cults or to the communist rules that demand a rigid and gloomy lifestyle. Theirs was a different type of anarchism, a psychological anarchism. There were anarchist-communists who sacrificed absolutely everything, including themselves, to the common good. Just like religious legends who converted everything into the love of God, these anarchists turned it all to love of humankind. Their passion for others and for humankind made them pay so little attention to their own wellbeing that they often fell ill. The perfect example of this type of anarchist was Luisa Michel. From this type of sentimentalism and deep sensitivity was born the socalled action anarchists.

The psychology of the Spanish anarchist was, and still is, a lot more complex. In Spain, even the communists were individuals in both their own lives and their activities. However, the Spanish anarchist who was most similar to those in central Europe was Fermín Salvochea, whose morals were characterized by Luisa Michel.

If Fermín Salvochea wasn't the first Spanish anarchist, then he was definitely amongst the first communists. In this unusual case of a Spaniard who was a communist before becoming an anarchist, we need to remember that Fermín Salvochea was born in Andalucia and was educated in England. The republican communist phenomenon was nothing new in Spain; many republican activists believed that the Republic represented

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

communism and in Andalucia they not only believed it, but some were even waiting for the success of the Republic to be able to distribute the land amongst the rural folk. This was Salvochea's belief.

Salvochea outlined his Andalucian origins and the development of his ideas in England:

<<p><<Like Ravachol, the first thing I read was "The Errant Jew",.....later on, in England, Thomas Paine made me see things on an international level. "My homeland is the whole world, my religion is to do things right, and my family is all of humanity" – these words of my master remained etched in my brain and helped me to change my behavior. Then, Robert Owen taught me the virtues of communism and Bradlangh converted me to a being a dedicated atheist. The rest all happened on its own.

Salvochea's teachers were the following: Paine, English but also a French MP and one of the driving forces behind the independence of the USA, Robert Owen y Bradlaugh, an Anglican preacher who ended up questioning the doctrines of the church. However, the real masters in the true sense of the word were the rural folk of Andalucia. It was in one of these men, in the details of his everyday life that he saw reflections of nobility and generosity at an almost exaggerated level despite the fact that social injustice made them permanent victims of the environment which surrounded them.

At the outset of the movement in 1868, he was part in the revolutionary junta in Cádiz and when, under orders from the provisional government, General Caballero de Rodas and his vast number of troops entered Cadiz, Salvochea was imprisoned in the Castillo de Santa Catalina until 1869. Subsequently, he emigrated once again to London and Paris until 1870. On his return to Spain he was one of the first to enrol with International, not because he stopped being a republican, but because he was a man

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

of progress who supported everything that represented progress. He was always a enthusiastic follower of Owen's doctrines.

In 1873, whilst Mayor of Cadiz, he started a cantonal movement and, due to his selflessness and nobility, the Republic rewarded him with a life sentence in the prisons of Africa. Granted amnesty although not wanting to accept it, he finally returned to mainland Spain only to receive other prison sentence when, in 1892, an insurrection broke out amongst the rural folk in Jerez. Following this he was sentenced to twelve years in prison for being an anarchist.
King Edward in Cartagena

At the time when Her Majesty Queen Cristina was visiting the city's hospitals, King Edward of England and King Alfonso XIII of Spain were sailing around in the English navy battleships "Queen" and "Venerable".

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

On board the "Queen", the Lord Admiral treated them to a lunch, attended by Queen Cristina. The banquet was held in the royal dining room which was permanently decorated with sporting trophies and pieces of artwork seized over a long period of time by the captain and crew. As soon as the lunch was over, the monarchs returned to their respective ships which were moored alongside the "Queen". In the evening, the King of Spain paid a visit to the batteries and the arsenal of weapons before attending a banquet with the King of England on his ship, the regal "Victoria and Albert", with the cutlery and vases, heavily decorated with carnations and roses, rolling left to right due to the heavy swell of the sea. Queen Cristina was dressed in purple with sparking jewellery and the English sovereign was wearing dark grey and also heavily adorned with jewellery and with pretty flowers at her chest. Accompanied by Kings Alfonso and Edward, the Spanish General Captain and the English Admiral respectively, the English monarch was wearing for the first time the high rank uniform which he had been given just the day previous. Princess Victoria was wearing a black dress with jewellery. English music played throughout the mea, starting with the march entitled "Long Live King Alfonso and Queen Victoria", based on the "Royal March", and followed by various regional pieces from Great Britain played on instruments unknown in Spain.

On making a toast, King Edward improvised in English, congratulating himself on his visit to Cartagena and announced his intention to visit Madrid. He made a tender dedication to Queen Victoria, giving his congratulations on the birth of the heir to the crown, claiming that this would be a new link bonding together the English and Spanish royal families. He paid a warm tribute to the talent and the virtues of the

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Queen Mother and ended by toasting to the health of the King and Queen and the people of Spain. Alfonso XIII responded by congratulating himself on having welcomed the English monarchs into Spanish waters and he assured them of the deepest support from his nation. He then made a toast to the prosperity of the royal family and the English people. The Kings spoke to each other alone, but only for a brief time. The departure was very friendly, the Kings shaking hands, kissing each other on the cheek and saying, "So long, until we meet again". The King of Spain also kissed Queen Alexandra. The Queens also said their goodbyes the same way. The following day the King and Queen of Spain left for Madrid by train and the English monarchs set sail in their ship, heading for Malta. The members of the English entourage were all given a gift of a Spanish crucifix and the Spanish crew received English medals. The meeting in Cartagena was described in glowing terms by all the English newspapers and was considered as a great sign of understanding with England.

The Standard said, "England and Spain have common interests which we all have no objection in recognizing. Although they don't yet think this way in many other European capital cities, in the interests of Europe and maybe even other continents, they are strengthening the ties which bind these two western countries".

The Times: "It is not simply the royal wedding which contributes towards bringing together Great Britain and Spain, but the common interests of both nations which, albeit not as essential as during the period of Lord Wellington, put great value on the understanding between both countries".

King Edwards headed to Italy to repeat the actions of Cartagena with the King of Italy. The political goal of the journey could not have been clearer.

A few days after the royal visit to Cartagena, "La Epoca" published the following official notice from the Government:

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

"Before the meeting between the King and Queen of Spain and of England, we explained the reasons and the importance of such success in a way that highlighted the fact that this was an act of courtesy between the two sovereigns, without the presence of the Spanish Ministers of State and of the Navy, validated by the official nature of the visit and without the assistance of the President of Council changing in any way the nature of things."

However, behind all of these events were the consequences and the developments from meetings which had taken place many years earlier; the Conferences of The Hague and Algeciras were both high on everyone's agenda, including the parallel conversations between the Spanish ministers and Sir Charles Harding and Sir John A. Fischer. BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Sidney Franklin, "the boy from the synagogue"

Born in Brooklyn, New York in 1903, he was the son of Russian Jewish immigrants which, in some circles, gave rise to the tongue-in-cheek name of The Bullfighter of the Torah. His original surname was Frumkin.



do you blag in English?"

In 1929 Sidney Franklin was a tall, blonde young man with blue eyes who had that exceptional physical quality that made it impossible to tell his age. He could have been 20 or 30 years old. With an inexpressive, childlike face, when he spoke he moved his arms a lot, just like a Spaniard or an Italian, as if he were born in Malaga or Naples. This made him quite an ungainly, lively bullfighter, with an incomparable charm. When anyone asked him, "Do you speak Spanish, Mr. Franklin?" he always replied asking, "and you,

The whole of Spain was amazed that there was a North American bullfighter as everything was missing there for such a thing to exist – interest and the right atmosphere, but if the USA allowed it, bullfighting would have had just as much success as in Mexico.

Sidney Franklin's interest started when he was working in Mexico and he attended "tientas" (trials where young bulls' strength is tested with lances) where he began to take part, realizing that "bullfighter's blood" was in his veins. One day he took up a cape and discovered that it wasn't as difficult as he had imagined. He learned the art of bullfighting officially in Mexico and Peru before coming to Spain where he fought as

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

an apprentice matador in the main bullrings of Seville, Madrid and San Sebastian. His favourite bullfighter was Cagancho.

As is the case with all celebrities, Franklin was surrounded by a cloud of freeloaders: the friend who would give up his life for him, his contacts in the press, his manager, instant "close" friends. However, with regard to these others, he displayed another great quality: he knew how to smile at them all and knew how to step away from them when he needed to be alone. In this respect he was very much a New Yorker.

In his autobiography, A Bullfighter from Brooklyn, Franklin stated that he learnt the art of bullfighting on the cattle ranch at Xajay and his mentor was none other than El Califa de León, Rodolfo Gaona.

Later on Franklin came to Spain where a media campaign began and thus, from the end of 1928 brief announcements appeared in the press informing that the New York bullfighter would be appearing in the bullrings of Spain.

Sidney Franklin was the first North American to take the rites of initiation to become a matador and during this they sent two bulls into the ring as he was not capable of killing them. He was a close friend of Lorca and Hemingway.

Franklin was essentially an adventurer, belonging to a certain group of North Americans at the beginning of the last century. He was Hemingway's assistant during his correspondence in Spain during the civil way and abandoned an enviable position and his studies in his home country and began to travel the world. He was a bullfighter, journalist, television presenter and wrote one autobiography, The Bullfighter of Brooklyn. He travelled and lived out adventures in Mexico, Spain and Cuba with Hemingway until a misunderstanding came between them. He died in anonymity in an institution in New York in 1976. To the whole of that generation lost



through wars and adventures he left the Aristotelian and laconic quote with which he began his book, "living honourably is worth more than just living".

The Lord and the Dancer - The grandparents of Vita Sackville-West - (part 1)

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

BRITISH IN IBERIA

"I don't know of any true account of this type of relationship, not one which has been written without the intention of titillating the reader. I am convinced that as we get older, and genders mix according to our increasing similarity, these types of relationships will stop being regarded as simply unnatural and we will understand them much better, not just on an intellectual level but also a physical level. The psychology of people like me will be of interest, and we will have to recognize that there are many more people of my kind than we care to recognize in today's hypocritical system." From the autobiography of Vita Sackville-West.

"There is nothing more ideal, dreamier and more chivalrous than the love between a lord and a dancer."



Pepita Durán: Biography by her Granddaughter Vita Sackville-West

In 1912 Virginia Woolf was married to Leonard Woolf, a recognized intellectual who, like herself and Vita, was part of the Bloomsbury group. Leonard knew about Virginia's lesbian tendencies and both of them agreed to a marriage based on sexual freedom.

It was against this backdrop that the unusual honeymoon took place, "when Virginia was

seeing Vita Sackville-West, a writer and aristocratic, militant lesbian who supported the authoress of 'Orlando' in her entry to the exclusive Penn Club".

Vita Sackville-West is a great expert on Spain, a country which was to figure constantly in the conversations with her lover. Vita was the granddaughter of the dancer from Malaga, Pepita Durán, and of Lord Sackville-West, who kept his marriage to the

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Spaniard secret right up to his death. Virginia's lover, Vita, retold the story of her grandfather in her book entitled, 'Pepita'.

Woolf soon discovered the bitter taste of romantic betrayal, and whilst in Spain received a letter from Vita: "I have a huge problem as I have become involved with Mary Campbell and the beastly Roy is prowling around London with a gun in his hand to try and kill me." In disgust, Virginia replied, "That's what happens for being promiscuous."

Vita's grandmother, the famous dancer Josefa Dominga Duran Ortega (Malaga, 1830-1871), better known as Pepita de Oliva, was a true character of this era, and embodied flamenco in the widest sense of the word. Her personality and fervent life, her artistic successes and performances abroad, an impossible romance and illegitimate children all help to shape her biography, a story to which it is difficult to be indifferent considering the era in which this woman lived.

Born in Malaga in 1830, an attractive Josefa Durán left for Madrid to make her fortune in the world of flamenco dancing where she was pupil of the great teacher Juan Antonio Oliva. She adopted the stage name of "Pepita de Oliva" and building on the friendship and the generosity of her teacher, in 1851 they got married.

It appears that Peptia and Lord Sackville met in Berlin and when the aristocratic diplomat came to Spain as secretary to the English embassy, he was already romantically involved with Pepita. It is said that in 1855, the Lord bought an elegant hotel in Arcachón which he named Villa Pepa and gave it as a gift to Pepita and it was in this hotel that the long love affair between the two developed. This was also where their two children were born and where Pepa died in 1871. Here, in the romantic gardens, he buried the body of the woman whom he had loved so deeply, having her tombstone engraved with the following, "Here lies Josefina, Countess Sackville".

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

When Pepita died, the Lord went to the registry offices in Bordeaux and declared the assets left by his wife and the children he had had legitimately with her and requested an obituary to published in the French press saying, "Lionel Sackville-West, first secretary to the English embassy in Paris and interim Minister Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, requests the assistance of his friends and colleagues at one of the masses which will be held in the Church of Our Lady, on the 21st March, for the resting of the soul of his wife, Josefina, Countess Sackville-West".

During this period in Granada a boy was born and baptized in the name of Maximiliano, the legitimate son, according to some, of Pepita and the bolero singer, Oliva, and according to others, of Pepita and the Lord. Amongst the children named by Lord Sackville in the Bordeaux offices was a Maximiliano. The birth of this child which is registered as Maximiliano Oliva Duran is the one which is linked with the marriage certificate of the singer and Pepita in Madrid. On this certificate the name of Oliva is not scratched off but the name of Pepita has been scratched away (to remove it) and is dated 10th January, 1851. One of Pepita Durán's nieces confessed something very interesting, after confirming that the child was Sackville's. According to this witness, some years after his birth, the boy introduced himself in Spain as Sir William Sackville, brother to Lord Sackville, saying that the Lord who was a member of the highest echelons of English society, was committed to diplomatic affairs and it was necessary to eliminate traces of his marriage to Pepita Durán. Doña Catalina added: Pepita got married to Lord Sackville in the Church of San Millán in Madrid. In order for evidence of this marriage not to appear anywhere, the mother of Doña Catalina looked for the dance teacher, Juan Antonio Gabriel de la Oliva who allowed himself to be passed off as her husband and the certificate was "altered" in the house of the parish priest.

Later, the Granada register of baptisms was taken to England where a huge fortune was paid to have the surnames of Maximiliano changed from Sackville to Oliva.

What would be interesting would be to find out if the marriage between Oliva and Pepita was legitimate, before she got together with Lord Sackville. Another conflicting

118

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

fact is that in the death certificate of Oliva in 1888, it states that the famous dancer was married to Mercedes Gómez.

"Going back to what I told you at the beginning don't try and remember the love affair of Arcachon. It was a love story, an ode in tune with nature, for two hearts, not for one day but for a whole existence." BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

The Lord and the Dancer - The fight for Knole castle - (part 2)

On the first of March, 1909 in the courts of Madrid, a trial began which caused deep expectations both in Spain and in England of the early twentieth century, in particular in London. The trial was to dispute the inheritance of the multi-titled aristocrat Lord Lionel Sackville-West, Count of Warr, Baron of Buckhurst, previous ambassador to Madrid, Paris, Washington and heir to the family estate of Knole, Kent.

Two Englishmen disputed the family estate including all its assets, titles and honors – one of the Lord's nephews and one the Lord's sons to the Spanish dancer, Pepita Durán with whom he lived in Arcachón. Several children were born to this relationship, one of which was Henry Sackville who today contests the inheritance. Lord Sackville had registered all of his children as legitimately born from his relationship with Pepita Durán in the civil registry in France. The successor named in the estate, in case of there being no descendants, was the Lord's nephew who claimed that these children could not possibly be legitimate as Pepita Durán, at the time of the births, was married to a Spanish bolero singer called Juan Antonio Gabriel de la Oliva. The certificate of this supposed marriage appeared in the relevant parish archives, but exhibited some scratched-out changes, as a result of which a relation of Henry Sackville, with the surname Rophon and born and raised in Algeciras and José Sánchez, a local shopkeeper, were held accused. The outcome of the trial which was taking place in London during this period depended on the validity or the invalidity of this certificate.

Lord Sackville lived in Knole castle until 1908. Towards the end of 1896 an illness took hold of him which was to lead him to his grave, meanwhile his relatives began to worry about what would happen to his assets when the fateful outcome would eventually happen. Lionel Edward, blood nephew of Lord Sackville had married the eldest daughter of Pepita Durán and also lived in Knole Castle. He was aware that his wife, possible daughter of the Lord, was listed as being of unknown parentage, and he was

BRITISH, IRISH AND AMERICAN HISTORY AND STORIES IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

also aware that the dancer was married to Gabriel de la Oliva and, consequently, Henry, the only one that could contest the inheritance, was illegitimate. However, he needed to prove this and therefore sent two English lawyers, Brain and Harrison to Spain to obtain an authentication of the marriage certificate and proof from the file in the vicarage.

The file never appeared but they discovered a note in the book of entries and the license granted by the vicarage to hold the wedding. Having partly completed their task, the lawyers returned to England but Lord Sackville's nephew, infuriated by the disappearance of the document, ordered a witness testimony in Gibraltar but this didn't produce the desired results either.

On hearing about this unfortunate matter, Pepita's nephew Enrique Rophon began making investigations of his own. Aware of the enormous fortunes at stake, together with the lawyer Francisco Lastres, he went to check out the archives of the Church of San Millan and confirmed that the wedding certificate had been interfered with. As a result, Enrique de Sackville reported the facts to the courts on the 30th October, 1901 and consequently the church assistant, Ricardo Dorremoces was prosecuted but, due to not being able to prove that he was the perpetrator of the falsification, the court dismissed the case.