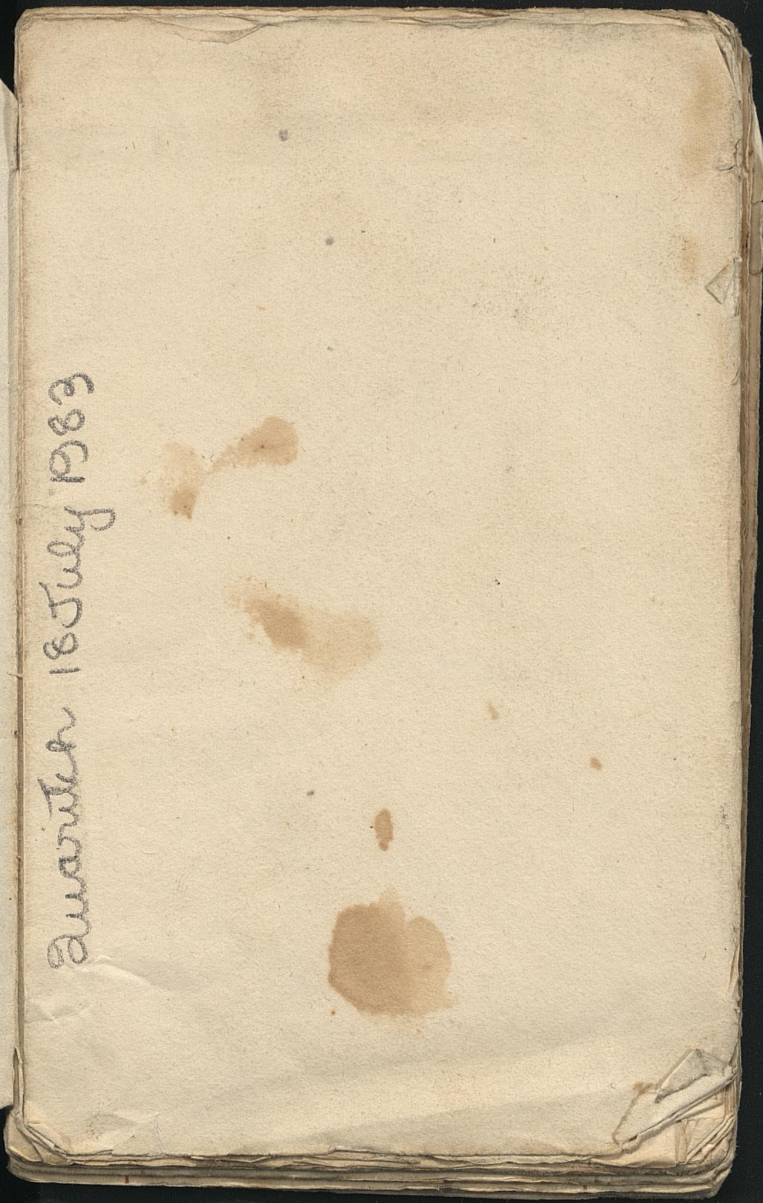
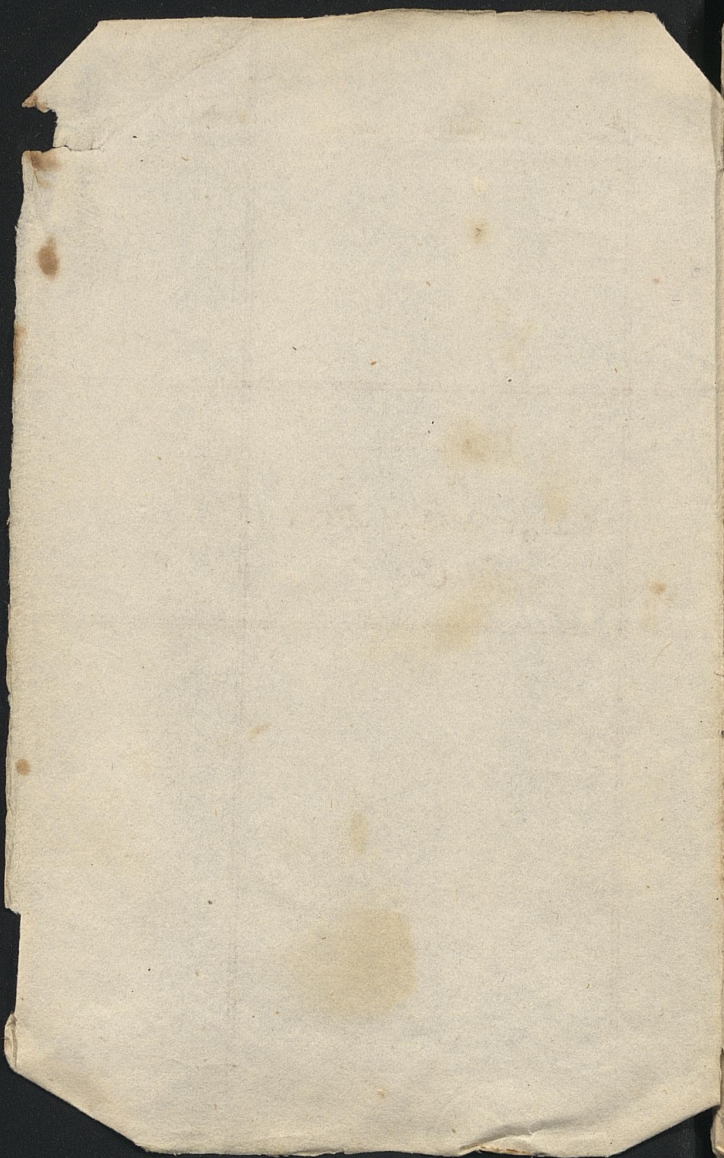


THE LIFE
OF
RODRIGO DIAZ DE BIVAR.
THE 1ST.



Quartern 18 July 1983



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RODRIGO DRAZ DE BIVAR.

Diego Laynez, the father of Rodrigo, was an old man of high family. Count Gomez had insulted him in the presence of the King & struck him in the face; the old warrior was feeble, & could not avenge himself, his son was too young for arms, & he retired to his home, & brooded in solitude over his dishonour. At an early age Rodrigo felt he could maintain his father's cause, Diego gave him his sword & his blessing, & the youth departed. He met Count Gomez, fought with him & slew him, & returned with the head of his enemy. Diego was sitting thoughtfully at table

the untasted food before him, when his son entered. Look! my father, said he, here is the herb that shall restore your appetite! the tongue that insulted you is no longer a tongue;... the hand that wronged you is no longer a hand.

Another success speedily followed, & spread the renown of Rodrigo. Five Moorish Kings united their forces & plundered Castile; they were returning, driving before them their prisoners & the cattle of the country, when the young warrior collected the men of the land & fell upon them in the mountains of Oca. He recovered the whole booty & took the five Kings, whom he treated with respect, & dismissed on a promise of tribute. The spoil was distributed among his followers.

King Fernando was travelling thro the Kingdom of Leon to establish order, when the tidings of

this victory reached him. At the same time there came a damsel, & fell upon her knees before him & said, I am Ximena, the daughter of Count Gomez whom Rodrigo de Bivar slew. & I come to beg a boon of you, that you will give me Rodrigo for my husband, then will I forgive him my fathers death, & shall think myself well & honourably married, for well I know that he will one day be higher in rank than any vassal of your realm. The King willingly proposed to him this marriage, which would extinguish a family feud; Rodrigo accepted the proposal, & they were espoused at Palencia in presence of the court.

There was at this time a dispute between Aragon & Castile, each claiming the city of Calahorra. R. Ramiro offered to decide the claim by combat, considering in the strength of his champion Martin

Gonzalez. Rodrigo fought for Castile. after they had broken their lances the Aragonese addrest him in mockery, sorely do you now repent Rodrigo that you have entered these lists with me! for I will so deal with you that you shall never marry your espoused Xeniana, nor return alive into your country. Knight, replied Rodrigo, do your duty! words are not for this place! this business is to be determined by the hand, not by the tongue. - with that he attacked & slew him; then turned to the Judge & asked if there was aught more to be done for the right of Castile.

Fernando now turned his arms upon the Moors of Portugal, & besieged Vico. The cross-bowmen of the town shot so well that their quarrels went thro shields & armour, & the King to preserve his men, ordered them to fasten boards upon their shields. When the town was taken the Moor who

had slain St. Alonso fell into his power. He had shot him with a cross-bow, & Fernando punished all the parts that had offended. he cut off the foot that had prest down the bow, & the hand that had felted the arrow, & plucked out the eye that had directed it. the living trunk was then made a mark for his archers.

Lamego next fell. then he besieged Coimbra. The Monks of Lousaon invited Fernando to this attempt. they had been permitted to remain unmolested in their Monastery, & were accustomed to entertain there the Moors who were hunting among the mountains. Two of the brethren under pretext of pilgrimage went to Fernando at Corion, & spoke to him in council. Sir King, said they, we come to you thro waters & mountains & bad ways, to inform you in what state Coimbra is, if you wish to know, & how the Moors dwell there, what they are & how many, & with what negligence they keep the city. Fernando was encouraged by the representation

station they made. it was then October, & he promised to go up against the city in January. he kept his word. six months he besieged Coimbra, in the seventh provisions began to fail, & proclamation was made in the camp that they should continue the siege four days longer, & at the end of that time every man might return to his own home. Till now the Monke had hoarded their store which had long been heaped up for this purpose they now opened their granaries & gave all to Fernando, with the whole of their flock & herds & fowls & fish, for they well knew that should the siege be raised, they could no longer abide in safety at Loruon. This supply sufficed. within the week Coimbra capitulated. Fernando then with the consent & advice of his chiefs offered the Monke as much of the city as they chose to take in reward of their services. they replied that thank to God & to his predecessors they had enough already; but if it pleased him they would accept

one church & its officer within the walls. Fernando turned to his sons; by the Maker of all things, said he, I swear that there are men of God. I would have given them half the city, & they will only take one church. The great Mosque was consecrated to the Virgin Mary, & there was Rodrigo knighted, the Infante Alaraca fastened on his spur, & it is said he gave him the kiss, but not the blow.

Rodrigo was with Fernando then passing Zamora. when messengers arrived with tribute from the five Kings. he would not suffer them to kiss his hand till they had offered that homage to his Sovereign, to whom he would have given a fifth of the tribute as his due. this Fernando would not accept, & hearing the messengers address Rodrigo by the title of Lord or Lord, he ordered him henceforward to bear that honourable name.

When the King felt his end approaching, he

Divided his kingdom among his children. Castile
to the eldest Sancho; Leon to Alonzo; to Garcia
Galicia & what of Portugal was conquered; the city
Lamora with its district to his daughter Urraca.
he was carried to Leon, & there in the great
church with the crown on his head, he knelt be-
fore the shrine of S. Isidore & exclaimed, O
Lord Jesus Christ, whose the power is & whose the
kingdom is, for thou art King of all kingdoms &
of all kings, I render back to thee the kingdom
which thou gavest me, & beseech thee of thy mer-
cy that my soul may be admitted into the light
that hath no end! He then took off his crown &
laid it upon the altar, divested himself of his
royal garments, clad himself in sackcloth, con-
fessed & was absolved, & then received extreme
unction & cast ashes over himself. Even after
this he would be carried in pilgrimage to Saint
Mory of Almazan, & here after bewailing his of-

ference three days, he expired.

The dying King recommended his daughters to A-
lonzo as their kindred brother. The partition
which he had made was contrary to the advice of his
wisest counsellors, & Sancho at the time expressed
his disapprobation. You are my Lord & Father, said
he, & may now do as you please, but hereafter
when it is time I shall do what ought to be done.
he swore however to observe his fathers will, &
he was not the first transgressor. In the third
year of his reign Garcia seized upon half the
lands of Urraca, which when she heard she cried
ah R. Fernando! in an evil hour didst thou dis-
divide thy kingdom! for now is that which Arrian
Gonzalo forewarned coming to pass, & Spain be-
cause of us will fall to ruin.

Sancho caught at the pretext, & told his Chief
that he would deprive Garcia of his kingdom.
Count Garcia Ordoñez de Cabra had him remem-
ber the injunctions of his dying father, & the

oath which he had sworn. the Co. also advised him to
obtain from this unjust aggression; but finding this
war useless. he then counselled him to ask permission
of Alonso to march his army thro Leon. For this
purpose Sancho had an interview with his brother, &
attempted to persuade him to assist in the war, &
share the conquests. The K. of Leon replied he would
not disobey the commands of his father. but he ob-
-tained for a share of Garcias territories as the
price of the armies passage, & forty knights were
chosen from Castile & Leon to determine what should
be his portion.

Sancho now sent Alvar Fanez the nephew of the
Co. to Garcia, whom he commanded to yield up the
whole of Galicia, unless he would abide the chance
of war. When Garcia received the message his heart
smote him & he said, the Lord Christ remembers the
oath we made to Fernando our father, & how we in-
-voked his wrath & the wrath of God upon him who first
should break it. & I for my sons war the first to
have dishonoured my sister! He then answered Alvar

Fanez, say to my brother Sancho, that as a brother
I beseech him not to violate our fathers will. if he
perishes I will defend myself to the utmost. He then
sent to Alonso requesting that he would join him a-
-gainst Sancho, or at least oppose the march of the
Castilian army thro his kingdom. Alonso replied
that he would neither aid nor oppose his brother,
but should rejoice if Garcia could successfully de-
-fend himself.

The K. of Galicia had a favourite who directed his
councils, a man of talents & valour, whom the King
loved. They took advantage of the danger, & as
they were marching to war demanded that the fa-
-vourite should be dismissed. As this demand was
refused, they fell upon him & cut him to pieces be-
-fore the Kings face, then renaturalized themselves
& forsook Garcia in his utmost need. Thus weak-
-ened he was defeated by his brother. he retired into
Portugal, asked assistance from the Moors & with
their help recovered part of his dominions. Sancho
attacked him in Santarem, & he marched out to give

him battle. Before the armies engaged Alvar Funez went to Sancho & said, Sire I have lost my horse & arms at play, give me either I bereech you, & if I do not this day do you the service of six Knights in battle, hold me for a traitor. the King granted his boon.

The fight began to the advantage of Garcia. his brother was unhorsed & taken prisoner, & left in the custody of six Knights while Garcia pursued his victory. the K. of Castile endeavoured to win his keepers with fair promises of reward for his liberty, but they were faithful to their trust. Alvar Funez came up & attacked them & slew the six. Sancho mounted one of their horses, a few knights rallied round him, they fought their way to a rising ground & there defended themselves till a body of three hundred men came up with the green pennon of the Cd, who had not been in the battle. Welcome Rodrigo, quoth the King. never vassal is succour'd his Lord as you now succour me! this changed the fortune of the day. Garcia was taken

put in irons & imprisoned in the Castle of Leon. Sancho then turned his arms against Alvaro, who defied him to a pitched battle. the field appointed war near Carrion, & the day was of various fortune. at first the Castilians were successful, they were retiring after their victory, when Alvaro rallied his troops & fell so vigorously upon their retreat, that Sancho narrowly escaped. the Cd collected a body of the fugitives, he knew that the Gallegos & Leonese would pass the night in carousals, & he surprized them in their security. Alvaro fled into a church at Carrion & endeavoured to defend it. he was overpowered & taken. meantime a party of Leonese knights fell in with Sancho, took him prisoner & were carrying him away. Rodrigo heard of his capture, without attendants & even without his lance, he galloped after them, & offered to release Alvaro in exchange. the Leonese who were thirteen in number bade him go back unless he wished to

be made prisoner as well as his master. Give me a lance - creed the Cid. & I will fight ye all in succession. They knew not the worth of the young warrior & accepted his defiance. he slew some he others fled & Sancho was left at liberty.

At the intercession of Urraca Alonso was released from prison, on condition that he become a Monk. He did not long endure the confinement of the convent. Count Peranzules aided him to escape by night, & took refuge with him at the court of Toledo.

The flight of his brother served Sancho as a pretext to attack Urraca. he assembled his troops in S. Jago, & the King of the three Kingdoms, as he now styled himself, encamped before Zamora. It was governed by Arias Gonzalo the father of Urraca, & he had well provided it for defence. Sancho rode round the walls, & seeing their strength & the strong situation of the city, where the Duero defended it, he said to his com-

panions, neither Moor nor Christian can force you city. if I could obtain it from my sister, I should think myself Lord of Spain. Upon this he commanded the Cid to go to Urraca, & offer her Medina de Rio Seco with all its dependences, in exchange for Zamora. the which if she accepted, he would swear & to take of his vassals with him, never to disturb her more. if not, he would proceed to win the town by violence. Rodrigo heard his hard & answered, the count Sir should be for another messenger, not for me who was brought up in Zamora at your fathers command in the house of Arias Gonzalo, with his children & with Donna Urraca. whateer I shall do your bidding. He took fifteen knights & rode to the gate, calling to the bowmen not to discharge their arrows at him, for he came in peace. The knights of Zamora assembled with the Governour & Urraca to receive him. the Infanta welcomed him, & bade him remember how they had been brought up together in the house of Arias, & asked him what her brother purposed.

Lady Donna Urraca, said the Cid, with a messenger & a letter we must not be offended. license me to speak, & I will deliver what the King Don Sancho has commissioned me to say. He referred to Arias for answer. he replied that it was right to hear her brother's design, for peradventure he might be warring against the Moors & had sent to ask her aid, which it would be just to grant. & for that service, said he, I myself would give him fifteen knights & support them if need were for ten years. So the Cid delivered his embassy; which when Urraca heard she lamented aloud & exclaimed many an ill messenger have I received since my father's death! he has deprived my brother Garcia of his kingdom, & thrown him into prison fettered like a thief; & Alonso he has driven away & my sister he has dishonoured, & now he would plunder me also! Would that the earth would open & cover me that I might not suffer these afflictions! Arias

then advised her to call together the townsmen, & repeat to them the proposal of K. Sancho. they professed themselves ready to die in her defence, & with this answer Rodrigo returned. Enraged at the reply Sancho accused the Cid of betraying him & encouraging Urraca to resistance. You have done this, said he, because you were brought up together. & if my father had not so recommended you to my favour, I would hang you as a traitor. & he commanded him to quit the camp & the kingdom. the Cid obeyed, he summoned all the knights of his band, & with more than a thousand followers left the army, designing to join Alonso at Toledo. but the army murmured, & the leaders brought Sancho that he could recall him, for such a vassal was not to be lost. The King's reason had recovered, he sent Diego Ordenez to invite him back with promises of recompence & favour. Rodrigo accepted the apology

& returned to the camp.

During three successive days Sanchis assaulted Zamora in vain, then contented himself with blockading the city. in this he persevered till it was reduced to extreme want. Arias & Urraca resolved to yield it & take refuge at Toledo. they summoned the townsmen & declared their determination. the Zamorans knew they could hold out no longer. & all declared that they would follow their Lady into exile.

There was a vassal of the Infanta in the city, by name Vellido Dolfos who with thirty knights had come to serve her, & he now promised to relieve the town if Urraca would grant him a boon. Vellido said she. I must answer you in the words of the wise man, that a man bargains well with the slothful & with those who are distressed. there is nothing which I would refuse to him who could make my brother leave the siege, so it were done

fairly. but I do not sanction you to commit any ill action. After this had past Vellido ordered the guards to open the gate when he should ride toward it full speed. he then armed himself, mounted his horse & rode to the Governor. Don Arias said he, we all know why we have been brought to this misery. it is you who will not suffer Urraca to accept the exchange her brother proffered because you are her paramour. Arias was enraged at the insult. in an evil day was I born! quoth the old man, that such words as these should be spoken to me, & there should be none to avenge me. his sons caught up their weapons & pursued Vellido. he rode to the gate, it was thrown open to him & he galloped into the besiegers camp. there he was led before the King, whom he told that the sons of Arias had attempted to kill him, because he persuaded the townsmen to submit. & he promised in a few days to put the city into

his power. Sancho believed him, accepted him as a vassal, & admitted him immediately to his favour & confidence.

In the following morning a Gallician cried out aloud from the walls of Zamora, so that the whole host heard him. R. Sancho hear me! I am a knight & a Hidalgo, & he who begot me was a true man. Let the King beware of Vellido Dolfos! he is a traitor & the son of a traitor & the grandson of a traitor. Let the King look to his safety! & if any treason be perpetrated remember that the King was warned, that no shame may be spoken of us hereafter. The townsmen also sent the same honourable information to their enemy. Vellido upon this went to the King, & observed that the old Governor had done this in his craft, knowing that thro him the town would soon be taken. & he called for his horse that he might leave the camp. but Sancho blinded by his treachery detained him.

He now proposed to the King to show him a postern gate which was unguarded, & which he would enter at night with a hundred foot soldiers, & so surprize the town. They went together & surveyed the place. After riding round the walls the King alighted, & gave Vellido his hunting spear to hold while he went aside by the river. Vellido came behind him & thrust the spear between his shoulders so that the iron & a part of the staff went thro, then galloped toward the city. he part the King who was on foot, & who demanded whether he fled. no answer was given. Rodrigo instantly suspected treason, called for his horse, & not waiting for his spur, pursued. he had almost reached him at the gate, so nearly that he wounded the murderers horse, but Vellido escaped. & the King in his anger curst the knight who should ever thereafter ride unpurged.

The Castilians were soon alarmed. they sought the

King & found him upon the bank of the Xero
mortally wounded. the spear could not be extrac-
ted without immediate death. a Master of
Burgos ordered that it should be sawn off on both
sides that the King might lie down, & Garcia de
Cabra advised him to think of his soul. Count
Garcia, he replied, blessed be you for the warning
for I perceive that I am slain for my sins. the
Cid knelt before him & said, I, Sir, am more
perplexed than any other of your vassals, for
when the King your father divided his realm,
he commended me to all his children, & I have
foraken the others to do you service against them,
& now neither can I go among the Moors to
your brother Don Alonso, nor can I remain a-
mong the Christians with Urraca your sister,
for they will impute to my counsel the evil you
have wrought them. therefore I beseech you re-
member me before you depart. But Sancho
thought only of his soul; he begged the Chiefs &

Bishops around his bed to procure forgiveness for
him from his brethren, & requested that they
would all pray for his soul. Then he called for
the candle & expired.

The greater part of the army immediately broke
up, but the Chiefs assembled after the funeral
& consulted how to revenge the murder. Knight
& Hidalgo, said Rodrigo, you know I cannot turn
against Zamora, because of the oath which I have
sworn. but I will give you a knight to combat
for Cartile, & when he is in the field you shall not
regret my loss. At this Diego Bodruez arose,
the flower of those of Lara, & answered angrily,
if the Cid has sworn what he ought not, we have
no want that he should name our champion. We
have enough knights as good as he, good tho
he is, & such I hold him to be. he offered him-
self for the adventure, then rode toward the city
protecting himself with his shield against the
arrows of the townsmen, & called aloud for Don

Arria Gonzales. A squire from the walls went to the governor & told him how a Castilian knight demanded him, & added that if Don Arria pleased he would discharge his arballot at him, & either kill him or his horse. This Arria forbade, he went upon the walls, & cried to the knight, friend what wouldst thou? Diego answered, the Castilians have lost their king. Vellido Dolfos has murdered him; he is your vassal & you have received him into Zamora, & I say that he is a traitor who has a traitor with him, knowing or consenting to the treason. Therefore I attaint the people of Zamora, the great as well as the little, the living & the dead, those who now are & those who are hereafter to be, & the water which they drink & the garments which they wear, & the stones of their wall. If there be one in Zamora who dares gainsay me, I will prove it in fight, & if God give me the victory, the infamy shall remain upon you. Arria replied, if I were what thou hast said, it were better that I had

never been born. but in what thou sayest, thou liest. the children & the dead have no fault: they cannot be condemned for what they saw not & knew not. but leaving out the infants & the dead, & the things which have no understanding, I say to thee thou liest, & I will do combat with thee myself, or produce those who shall. & you are to know that he who challenges a city must fight with five, one after the other. if he conquer all, his charge is proved, but if he yields to any one he must be held a liar. At this was Diego somewhat abashed, but remembering that he answered, Don Arria Gonzales I will bring twelve Castilians, & do you bring twelve of Zamora, & let them all swear upon the holy gospel to judge justly, & if they say the combat must be so, I will perform it. a truce was then made for three times nine days that this might be determined.

The twenty four arbitrators assembled & were

agreed that Diego was bound to combat with five
defenders of Zamora, one after the other, that after
each battle his arms & horse should be changed &
he should have three cups of bread, & a draught of
wine or water at his choice. The lists were marked
in the sand on the river side, & a bar was pla-
-ced in them which he who won the battle should
lay hold on & proclaim himself conqueror. His
son Arias Gonzales assembled the people of Za-
-mora, & spake to them saying, if there be one
among you who took counsel for the murder of
L. Sanchez, now let him tell me, for rather would
I go with my children to the land of the Moor, than
be vanquished in yonder lists & held for a felon trai-
-tor. They all denied the guilt, & Arias with
four of his sons cheerfully prepared for the combat.
The first Sunday in June was the day of trial.
Urraca met them at the gate of the palace, & con-
-sented out to him, Don Arias remember how my father

left me to your care, & you swore that you would
never desert me. now I beseech you enter not into
this danger! here are enough to combat in your
stead. The old man yielded to her intreaties, his
younger son Pedro had earnestly begged that he
also might fight with his brethren. the father
had hitherto, in fear of his youth refused; but
now, unwilling to trust the cause to any other
than his own blood, he armed him himself, &
gave him directions how to manage his arms,
for, said he, you are now to save the Zamoran
even as our Lord Christ came by the Virgin
Mary to save mankind.

Pedro Arias in his fathers stead first entered
the lists with Diego Brdonez. they ran six con-
-sers at each other; in the sixth encounter their
spears broke. After a long close combat Diego
cleft the helmet of the Zamoran, & wounded
him deeply in the head. the blood flowed over

his eyes, he fell upon the neck of his horse, yet neither lost his stirrups nor dropt his sword. Diego thought him dead, & cried out, Don Arias send me another son, for this will never fulfill your bidding. The young Arias, the wounded to death heard him, & wiped away the blood from his forehead, & grasping the sword in both hands, with a last effort struck at Diego, the blow fell upon the horse & cut away his nostrils. the beast ran out of the lists, but Diego flung himself off in time, he saw that his enemy had dropt, & laying hand upon the bar, exclaimed, God be praised! I have conquered one. So three rups were given him, & the vine, & a fresh horse & other arms, & Diego Arias came to encounter him, the Castilian slew his second foe, & called again upon old Arias to send him another son. A more dangerous struggle followed with the third, him also Diego mortally wounded, but his horse carried him out of the lists. Rodrigo

following fell down dead. Diego claimed the victory; it was disputed, & the judge declined deciding, enough blood had been spilt.

Immediately on the death of Sancho, Moraca had dispatched messengers to Alonso, Almaymon King of Toledo had generously received him, & the three brethren Anurez who accompanied his flight, he assigned them a palace without the walls, lest any insult should be offered by the townsmen to them or their households, & they served him in war against the other Moorish Kings; a service willingly performed by Alonso, who seeing the strength & beauty of Toledo, the royal city of the Goths, hated the Infidels with a stronger hatred because it was in their possession.

Perancurez had a custom daily to ride out toward Castile, in the hope of meeting some tidings there, from. he met two spies hastening with the news

to Almaymon, & collecting from them their er-
rand, led them both apart from the road & slew
them. Urracas advices arrived speedily after, &
Alonso was counselled by his companions to con-
ceal the news from the Moorish king, lest disho-
nourable terms should be extorted from him as
the price of his liberty. He replied that he had
sought protection from Almaymon in the hour of
danger, & had received from him fatherly kind-
ness. he therefore communicated to him the
death of Sancho. this frank course was the wisest.
The Moor had received the news, & would have u-
sured ungenerous secrecy. he requested an oath
from his guest never to attack Toledo in his
days nor his childrens, then accompanied him
out of the city & dismissed him with gifts.

The Zamorano & Leonese & Gallegos joyfully
received Alonso as their king. the Castilians re-
quired from him an oath that he was not concerned

in the murder of Sancho, but none came forward to
receive it. They did homage to him & kissed his hand
all except only the Cid. Alonso asked why he delay-
ed? that I may do something for him, he added,
as I promised to L. Fernando my father. Hearing
this Rodrigo arose & said, all these whom you
behold sire, respect that for your sake my lord
Don Sancho was slain, & therefore I will never kiss
your hand till you have cleared yourself. the Cid
proffered himself pleased with what the Cid had
said, & swore by God & S. Mary that he neither
knew of, nor approved the thing: & he asked how
he should acquit himself. the Chiefs & Prelates
present replied that he & twelve of his vassals
should swear to his innocence in the great church
at Burgos. Thither they went, & Rodrigo laid
the Gospels upon the altar, & said to Alonso as he
king took the book, K. Don Alonso you are come
here to swear that you had no part in the death

of my master Lanchos. now, call upon God if you swear falsely, to destroy you by the hand of a traitor whom you shall trust, even as your brother perished. Alonso said Amen to the imprecation, but his colour changed. The Cid remarked it, & administered a second time the oath, which Alonso again took, & again his countenance changed. The King then refused to let Rodrigo kiss his hand.

The merits & success of the Cid made those who only equalled him in wealth or in rank, his enemies. he had been detained by sickness while the King entered Andalusia. meantime the Moors plundered Castile. Rodrigo who was recovering, attacked them, & in his turn ravaged the country around Toledo & brought away seven thousand prisoners. his envious enemies accused him to the King for this hostility committed on the territories of an ally, they concealed the provocation, & Alonso caught at a pretext which enabled him to indulge his resentment. He commanded

Rodrigo to quit the kingdom within nine days. the Chieftain called together his friends & kindred, & telling them he was a banished man, asked who would share his fortunes? Alvar Fanez replied, all. here towns & deserts we will follow you. tho we spend our possessions & horses & mules & garments, we will serve you while we live as loyal friends & vassals. They prepared to leave Bivar. Rodrigo looked back at his house, & when he saw it utterly deserted, no seats in the porch, no hawk upon the perch, he turned to the East & knelt down, & said, holy Mary Mother & all saints, pray to God for me that I may destroy all the pagans & gain enough from them to recompense my friends! then rising he said to Alvar Fanez, Courin the poor had no part in the wrong the King has done us. see that no waste be committed as we pass along! An old woman she was standing at her door cried go in a lucky minute & plunder whatever you wish. he accepted her words as a good omen & departed.

They proceeded to Burgos; there Rodrigo went to the porada wherein he had been accustomed to lodge, the host refused to admit him by the King's express command, nor could he in that city procure food for himself or his company. Martin Antolinez received them at Glers in the neighbourhood. After they had ate, he called Antolinez apart & told him his poverty. We must make, said he, two chests covered with leather, & fill them with sand. You shall in my name borrow money from Rachel & Bidas the two rich Jews of Burgos, which I will repay within a year, with what interest they shall choose to demand. Tell them that I leave them for security these chests of jewels & gold, which are to be taken with me, & request them not to open the chests till the year be expired. God knows that it is for want I do this thing & not for will, & that by his good blessing I shall redeem them & discharge all. The Jews received the pledge, & lent him three hundred marks of silver & three hundred of gold.

When he left Glers he plundered the suburbs of

Burgos, & ordered his company to proceed slowly & doive the gear before them. This insult was designed to provoke Alonso, but when Rodrigo found that he durst not venture out to recover the spoil, he went & restored it to the owners. He found Jimena & his daughter at S. Pedro de Cardena, & left them there under the Abbot's protection. That same day there came an hundred & fifteen Knights of Calatrava to join him in his banishment. he numbered his force, & found three hundred horsemen, & a number of infantry.

They cross the Sierra de Mevier, the boundary of the Span territories. the Cd lay in ambush near the Castle of Cartrejon & sent Alvar Fanez to scour the country. Alvar returned with cattle & prisoners, & the Cd came out from the Castle which he had surprized to meet him. they divided the spoil, & the fifth which was the leaders share, was sold to the Moors of Foba & Guadalfajara for three thousand marks of silver. It was impossible to keep the Castle; Alonso who was at peace with the Moors, would have united with them to crush his vessel.

Rodrigo sent him word that he would get to him good service upon the Infidels, & advanced rapidly into the Moorish country. By stratagem he won the town of Alcegar, the alarm then became general, & the King of Valencia with two other petty Sovereigns collected their forces & there besieged him. They cut off the water & the King was compelled to rally: the horse of Moor Fance Menaya was killed under him. Rodrigo slew a Moorish horseman & gave the horse to his nephew, & cried, mount Menaya! for you are my right hand, & by Gods blessing is you shall be to-day. The Moors were totally defeated. From his share of the spoil Rodrigo selected thirty horses, richly caparisoned with scymetars hanging from the saddle bows, & sent them by Moor Fance as a present to Alonso. he gave him beside thereunto to purchase two thousand mares at Burgos, & money for his wife & daughters. tell them, said he to pray daily for me, & if I live I will make them rich women. He then sold Alcegar to the Moors, & distributed its price among his followers. but the inhabitants regretted the departure of a mild &

equitable master. thence he advanced triumphantly to Zaragoza, exacting tribute as he went. the King of Zaragoza became his friend & entertained him in the city. there Alvar Fancez found him. he brought tidings that Alonso permitted the Castilians to join the King, & that two hundred Knights & Esquires of birth had immediately accepted the permission.

The Zaragozaan died, & his dominions were divided between his two sons. they soon became open enemies. Zulema who held Zaragoza was the friend of the King, Abelnafage his brother, King of Denia was allied with the King of Aragon, & with Ramon Berenguel, Count of Barcelona. The Count V. Abelnafage overtook Rodrigo on his return from a hostile inroad. Rodrigo sent to assure the Count that what he had won had not been from his territories, & desired that he might pass in peace. the answer was a threat. the King rejected & took him. he made a feast for his prisoner, but Count Ramon refused to eat. Cheer up Count! said he this is the chance of war; the next time it may be

better. Remon shook his head. fear you whom for
none favour: for me I shall take no food. May
said Rodrigo. come eat, & I will set you at li-
berly & any two prisoners beside whom you chuse
the spoil we must keep. we have to live by booty
being banished men, but you shall be free. Then
Remon heard that, he called for water & washed &
rode at the board. As he took leave of him the
Cid said, go with good fortune - & I thank you
for what you have given us. if you wish to play
for it again send us word, & you shall either
recover it, or lose what you bring. A safe part,
Cid said the Count. I have paid your costs & you
whole army for the year, & have no mind to
seek you again so soon.

Alonso's hatred to the Cid had gradually abated,
he now needed his assistance, & this produced a
reconciliation. Rodrigo however first demanded a
promise that whatever hidalgo thereafter should be
banished, should be allowed the thirty days to quit the
country; & that no man should be proceeded against
as guilty before he had been fairly heard. He then

avenged Alonso upon the Governor of Quada who
had attempted to murder him, & accompanied him
to the siege of Toledo. The conduct of the siege he
directed, & he was the first Christian hero that
entered the city. the service performed he return-
ed to Zaragoza, a wider field of action for a
subject.

At the taking of Toledo Alonso stipulated to es-
tablish Yahia the de throne King in Valencia.
Alvar Fanez was sent to perform the stipulation,
& the Valencians received Yahia for their sove-
reign. To support these Christian troops, the only
ones on whom he could rely, he oppressed the peo-
ple; he provoked the Chiefs to rebellion by or-
rogant pretensions which he was unable to en-
force, & after many struggles he was at length
besieged in Valencia by the King of Denis &
Portora. Yahia in his distress sent to the King
of Zaragoza, & offered to give him the city if he
could save it from the besieger. the Zaragozaan ac-
cepted the offer & marched thither with the Cid.

the besieger knowing their approach, sent to Yahiá, & offered to raise the siege if he would pledge himself not to give up the city to the King of Lérida, & he engaged to supply him with means & men for its defence. These terms were agreed & he withdrew his army. In every dispute the Christians increased their own power, & the Cid became effectually master of the city. At length during his absence Abenzaf the Alcaide called in the Almoravides who were powerful in Murcia. they entered Valencia, the people were ready to join them. Yahiá fled in disguise, strict search was made for him, because he had taken away the most valuable jewels of the crown, & he was discovered & slain. To revenge him the Cid laid siege to Valencia. Abenzaf soon became fearful of his African allies; the Christians discovered their diversion, & secretly proposed to establish him upon the throne, as they had done Yahiá, if he would assist them. he accepted the proffer, & with little difficulty sent away the aux-

iliaries, themselves willing to go, & willingly deserted from a city wherein famine began to be felt. but Abenzaf had little influence over the people; he had neither talents nor courage; his resolutions were precipitately taken & as suddenly abandoned, because he acted only from the impulse of fear. Sometimes plotting with the Cid, sometimes treating with the Africans, he protracted the distress of Valencia, till at length after many delays & rumours, an army of the Almoravides appeared in sight of the city. the Cid had broken down the bridges & was waiting their attack, the Moors congratulated each other that relief was so nigh, all night they stood upon the walls, the night was tempestuous, & in the morning when they looked the Africans were gone; they had retreated for want of food, & because of the floods.

The famine daily became more severe, meantime the camp of the Cid assumed the appearance of a town, & the Moors who had submitted enriched themselves by trafficking with his army. Cattle after Cattle in the

Valencian territory was ceded to him. At the mis-
ery of the townsmen increased their opinions be-
wavered; they began to regard Abenjaf with more
favour & hope, ready to believe that any counsel
was better than that which they had followed with
such unhappy fortune. He & his partizans profi-
ted by this disposition; they seized & imprison-
ed the leaders of the opposite party, & private-
ly delivered them at night to the Cid, whom
Abenjaf, now the acknowledged master, went out
to meet.

Rodrigo met him with all formalities of respect
he would have held his stirrup, & the first thing
he said, was to request him to lay aside the
common head-dress that he wore, & put on king-
ly garments, for King he was. But the con-
versation was soon at a stand. the Cid did not
expect that Abenjaf would come with empty hands,
& he waited to see him produce some of the gold
& jewels of the slain Yafia. When he found nothing
was forthcoming, he began to stipulate. he deman-

ded that the revenues of Valencia should be equal-
ly divided between them. Abenjaf agreed to every
demand, & appointed the following day to ratify
the engagement. he returned into the city dis-
appointed & disgusted, & broke off all commu-
nication. The Cid then clothed richly & honoura-
bly treated the enemies of Abenjaf who had been
delivered to him, & prosecuted the siege. The sa-
vage war was now dreadful. daily multitudes peris-
hed. as many as could escape fled into the be-
siegers camp. there some were slain others sold.
at the humour of the soldiers who seized them a
loaf & a draught of wine was the price of a Moor.
wherever he could find provisions Abenjaf took them
for himself & his guards. his content only to the
people was that aid was coming from Zaragoza, he
had indeed sent to implore it, but the reply was an
evasive denial. meantime he indulged his avarice
& cruelty, & tyrannized without a rival. The suf-
ferings of the people were extreme. they sung thro

the street a melancholy verse, if I go to the right
the water will destroy me, to the left there is a lion,
& if I turn back there is the Fire. An attempt was
made by Aboged the rival of Abenjal to surprise
the city, he was taken in the enterprise, the C^d him-
self narrowly escaped in an unsuccessful assault.
This exasperated him & he resolved to let famine
do his work. With this design he proclaimed that
all who fled into his camp should be slain, the threat
was followed by the most detestable cruelty, in one
day he burnt eighteen of these wretched fugitives
before the walls, & threw others alive to the dogs.
Those prisoners whose relations were rich were tor-
tured in sight of the town till their lives were ran-
coured.

At last Abenjal yielded, it was agreed that he
should send to inform the King of Zaragoza, &
the Almoravides at Murcia; if within fifteen days
they did not relieve it, the town should be surren-
dered, the messengers were to take with them only

fifty maravedis each for the journey; they were rear-
ched by the Christians & the most valuable jewels of
the town were found upon them. the time elapsed, &
no succour. Abenjal would have waited three days
longer, but to this the Valencians would not consent,
& Rodrigo threatened to break off all terms if the
city were not immediately surrendered. still one
day more past, on the second at noon the Gate of
Valencia was opened. When the Christians saw the
citizens they appeared to them like men risen from
their graves to be gathered before the throne of God
for judgement. the wretches hurried out, those who
had money to purchase food in the camp, the poor
to devour the herbs of the field, both indulging a
revenge & fatal hunger.

Abenjal had taken all the wealth he could find from
those who sold provisions during the siege, & this he
presented to the C^d. Rodrigo called together the
chief citizens & spoke to them saying I am a man
who have never reigned myself, nor have any of

any lineage been Kings. the day in which I first beheld
this town, it pleased me, & I coveted it, & brought the
Lord our God that he would give it me. behold now
the power of God! when I encamped before Juballah
had only four leaves, & now am I master of Valencia
Go to your possessions! said he. let him who shall
find his lands waste take them again, & he who may
find his cultivated by another, let him pay the hold-
-er for his labour, & re-possess them, according to
the law of the Moors. If disputes arise, come to us
when you will for justice, for I shall not like your
own Lords retire to drink & sing among women. We
then told them of the money which Abenaf had offered
him. if I wanted your wealth, said he, I should ask
it neither of him, nor of any one; but it would not be
pleasing in the sight of God, did I take your wealth
away wrongfully. So he restored that money, & also
the jewels & gold that had been taken from the mes-
-sengers.

These measures & his declaration that all three win-
-dows of the Christian house which overlooked the city

should be closed, delighted the Moors. but when they
were next called before him he assumed a severer
tone, & bade them consult how to deliver Aben-
-af into his power. for they knew the treason that
he had committed against his King. They seized
the Alcayde, & the Cō forced him by torture to
deliver an account of all his possessions. His
statement he showed to the Moors, & asked
if any jewels or gold which had belonged to the
late King were omitted. Every thing was there.
then Rodrigo made Abenaf be brought before him,
& demanded of the Moors by what death accor-
-ding to their law he ought to die, for the mur-
-der of Yahia. They replied that by their law
he should be stoned, & in this manner he & the
chief of his party were executed.

Still Rodrigo was dissatisfied. the lust of power had
polluted him. he had perpetrated cruelty upon the
prisoners which it is painful to record; with
Abenaf he had dealt dishonourably, for it was

dishonourable to treat with him upon equal terms after the death of Yahia, & yet to execute him as a traitor for Yahia's death. The Moors still inhabited the city; the Christians had only the suburb, but it was the city wherein Rodrigo desired to reign, & one more act of oppression was to be performed to gratify that desire. He called the chiefs of the conquered people before him & ordered that no Moor should keep more than one mule & one man servant, & that no arms should be allowed them. he prefaced this order by expatiating on his own power, their possessions & their wives & their daughters, he said, were at his mercy, but it was not his disposition to abuse the power which God had given him. he concluded by granting permission to all who did not chuse to submit to his government, to quit Valencia. Go ye who like to depart! & good fortune go with ye. I will secure your safe passage, but ye shall take nothing. After this declaration not a Moor would remain except those whom he com-

manded to stay. So great a multitude departed that they were two days in going thro the gates of Valencia.

The new possession of the Christians was soon attacked by the King of Seville, who was defeated, but Rodrigo felt the danger of his situation & decreed that whatsoever Christian left the city without his permission, should forfeit all that he held in it. That this decree might be maintained he numbered his people, & found a thousand Knights of lineage, five hundred horsemen & four thousand soldiers. He then dispatched a magnificent present to Alonso, praying that his wife & children might be permitted to join him at Valencia. at the same time he sent by Martin Antolinez the sum which he had borrowed from the Jews, & intreated their forgiveness for the receipt which he had unwillingly practised. Ximena & her daughters had rejoined three

months in Valencia, when tidings came that the Miramamolín was preparing to attack the city. Rodrigo made ready to receive him. one day at sun rise he took his wife & daughters to the highest tower of the Alcazar, & looking to the sea they saw the mighty power of the Moors approaching. The Africans landed, & with the sound of drum & trumpet pitched their tents before the city. the women who had never before beheld a sight like that, were greatly afraid. fear not Jimena! said the Cid, nor you my daughters while I am alive. I trust in God to give you more honourably in marriage with the spoil of yonder Moors. but do you remain here & these drums shall be brought you, & these trumpets sent to honour the church. Then he turned to Alvar Salvadores, & told him with two hundred horsemen to attack the Moors who were plundering the gardens. that Donna Jimena, said he, & these damself may see the

god will you have to serve them. The bell was immediately rung for two hundred horsemen, for the Cid had long practised them to know all rigour when need should be. they sallied out & slaughtered the stragglers; but the women were shocked at the sight, & Rodrigo therefore led them away. Salvador believed that they still saw him, & he pursued the fugitives to their tents. his companions returned victoriously but he himself ventured too far, & was taken. On the following day Rodrigo attacked the Miramamolín with his whole force to rescue Salvador. he gained a complete victory. two hundred horses, & the royal tent were sent to Alvaro.

The Infantes of Carrion were with Alvaro when the presents arrived. At the wealth of the Cid was now so great, they brought the King to acquiesce that Rodrigo would give them his daughters in marriage. Alvaro sent for the Cid & proposed it. it was against the inclination of Rodrigo, for he knew that the Infantes were proud themselves.

& of an arrogant race. hee best he consented to the Kings request. they did homage to him as their father in law, returned with him to Valencia, & married Elvira & Sol his daughters. They had dwelt there peaceably two years, when a fleet from Morocco was seen coming against the city. Rodrigo summoned his chiefs to council. he lay down afterwards to sleep, & while he slept a lion which he kept in the Alcázar broke loose. All were alarmed, but the Infantes betrayed most cowardice. the King awoke at the uproar, he called to the lion with a commanding voice, & seized him by the mane, & led him back to his cage. When his sons in-law made their appearance, the one came all fullth from the place where he had hidden himself, the other crawled from under the couch whereon the King had been sleeping. Rodrigo reproved them for their fears, & they did not forgive the mortification. he present was not a time to resent it. King Bucar of Morocco, brother to the late Miramamolín who had been defeated, surrounded the town, & sent his

herald to the Christian Chief. the men hesitated to deliver his embassy, for there was never Moor who beheld the face of the King without fear, such grace had the Lord given him. Rodrigo bade him speak freely. no herald, said he, need fear to fulfill the bidding of his Master. The herald then in Bucars name desired him peaceably to yield Valencia, so should he be permitted to depart with all his treasures. "Woe be to thee if thou repent! for thirty Kings are come against thee with King Bucar, he will take thee & thy wife & thy children, & torment thee with such torments that I shall be the talk of all Christendom. I will meet him in battle replied Rodrigo, & instead of only thirty Kings I would he had brought against me the whole Moorish Paganism, for by the mercy of Christ I would conquer them all. The vaunt was justified by victory. The Infantes shared a thousand marks of gold from the spoil. they now prepared to return into their own

country. We have long been here, said they to Rodrigo, & during that time we have heard nothing of our parents, if it be well with them, nor thing of us. Now then let us return, & our wives with us, that our father & mother may see them, & see the riches which they have brought us. Lemena who never liked them, & Alvar Parez who knew their covarice & respected their wickedness, warned Rodrigo, & brought him that he would not suffer his daughters to depart. Rodrigo reproved their mischief, he rewarded his sons in law with princely gifts, cloths of gold, & of silk & of wool, an hundred horses & an hundred mules with all their trappings, ten cups of gold, an hundred silver vessels, & six hundred marks of wrought silver. But when he took leave of his daughters, his heart misgave him, the Infanter manner struck him, & he sent his nephew Ordono secretly to follow & observe their conduct.

When the Infantes were several days journey distant from Valencia, they sent on all their retinue,

& remained with none but their wives in a thick grove of oak. they led them apart from the road, tore off their cloaths to the last garment, & held them by the hair while they beat them with the birch, till with the stripes & the wounds of the whip wherewith they kicked them, they lay waltering in their own blood, as if they were dead. Alas these daughters of the God of Bivar! said the Infantes as they rode away. ye are fitter to be thus, than to be our wives! & now we shall see how your father & your family will revenge you.

The knights of their company seeing them come up without the women, enquired where they had left them. safe in the wood, they replied, where the ladies might seek them if they pleased, but they would take them no farther. The whole company turned back for their purpose, meantime the Infanter fled full speed, they discovered the spot where the cruelty had been perpetrated, & see the blood, but the ladies were not there, & their shouts were unanswered. they return

mind to pursue the Infantes & slay them, but the wretches had fled too fast to be overtaken. They then went to Palencia & made their complaint to Alonso. the King heard it with menly indignation, we must soon, he said, be informed of this by the Cid himself, & then we will do what becomes us.

Ordoña had found his kinwomen, he carried them as far as his strength enabled him from the fountain by which they lay, lest their hands should return & murder them, he made them a bed of leaves & moss, & covered them with his cloak. They heard the voices of the Knights who were in their search, but were silent for fear. He did not venture to remove them into a village that was near, he procured food there, & they remained seven days in the forest. Then Ordoña discovered a peasant who had sometimes lodged the Cid in his cottage. In this man he confided. the women were removed there by night & left there while he went to Valencia. On the way he met Pero Bermudez & Alvar Fanez going with a present from Rodrigo

to the King, he told them his tidings, & they when they had performed their bidding, complained of the crime & demanded justice in the name of their liege Lord. Alonso replied that he would make the Infantes appear at the Cortes in Toledo, & desired Rodrigo would be there. The knights of the Cid then proceeded to the cottage where his daughters were concealed; they were not enough recovered to bear the journey, & returned with their guards to Valencia.

The Infantes obeyed the summons. they were of a powerful family, & the old enemies of the Cid supported them. Rodrigo came resolved to revenge his daughters wrongs, & to maintain the high character & rank which he had fairly won in arms. The palace at Toledo had been prepared for the occasion. the walls were hung with cloth of gold, the benches covered with tapestry for the Chiefs; for Alonso there was the throne which he had conquered in Toledo. The Cid was acquainted

with these ceremonies, he sent the woory seat of the King of Valencia to be placed immediately below Alonsos throne, & appointed Fernan Alons one of the noble Squires whom he had bred up, with an hundred of his companions, to guard it lest it should be disputed. The faction of the Infanter first entered the hall with Alons. Count Garcia Brdoñez, never ceasing to hate & envy Rodrigo who had so often humbled him in battle, ventured now to insult him in his absence. the woory seat was exquisitely wrought, & its cushion & cloth of gold were of anverable magnificence. is this some Ladys couch? said the Count, for her robes of silk & her white head-dress? order it to be removed, or take it for yourself, for it is only fit for you. Fernan Alons answered, he who shall sit here is a better man than you or any of your kin. is it for a Lady you ask, & you know that his enemies have ever found him a man. I could make you confess this with only

half my armour, here before King Alons! Count Garcia gathered up his cloak, & would have struck the Squire, & he was ready with his sword in his masters cause. Alons interposed. the seat shall remain, said he. the Lord won it like a good Knight & no King in the world better deserves it. You who are calumniating him, which of you have ever done for me what Rodrigo has done? you envy him, go & perform such actions as he has achieved, & then you shall be seated next me.

Nine hundred Knights were with Rodrigo when he entered the assembly. the King bade him come sit beside him, for he who had conquered Kings was worthy to sit with Kings. that, said Rodrigo, could not be seemly. I am the creature of your father Ferrnando, & of the King Don Sencho your brother. if it please you let me sit at your feet, on the seat which I have won.

this being adjusted, six judges were chosen to decide between the parties. the Cid then rose. first he demanded that the Infanter should restore to him his two good swords which had lent them, Colada & Tizona. the demand was pronounced just, & as the Infanter refused to comply with it, Alonso himself took the weapons from them & returned them to Rodrigo. The old warrior looked at them - my good swords, quoth he, I trusted ye to these Infantes for my daughters honour & defence. they were not men for you! they kept ye hungry, & did not feed ye with flesh as ye were wont to be fed. I bless God that ye have escaped from that thraldom into my hands! then Alvar Fanez rose & requested that Colada might be given into his keeping while this process continued. Pero Bermudez in like manner asked for Tizona. & these good knights had the keeping of the swords.

Rodrigo next demanded back all that he had given

in dowry to the Infanter. the horses & mules, & vessels of gold & silver & all the wealth. I gave it them, said he, as the husbands of my daughters. they have cast my children away. now therefore let them restore all that they received with them. This demand also was pronounced just, but Count Garcia Ordóñez rose for the Infanter & said, they had indeed received that dowry from the Cid, but they had spent it in the Kings service. Rodrigo rightly answered that did not discharge their debt to him. Alonso made himself responsible for all they had expended in his service. it was found to be two hundred marks of silver. there remained nineteen hundred to restore. they were allowed fifteen days to make the restitution, & not permitted to leave Toledo till the sum was paid.

After this the Cortes again assembled, & the Cid made his last & severest demand, justice for the outrage committed upon his daughters. You

strip them, said he, to their last garments, & rode away with their wealth, & abandoned them as if they had been bad women, & the children of a bad father. praised be God I have no hope that there ever not a King in Christendom who would not think himself honoured by the marriage of my daughter. King Alonso they neither remembered God, nor you, nor me, nor their own good fortune. It was you Sir who gave them in marriage; you also are dishonoured, & if you will not avenge our common wrong, I beseech you permit that I & these who are with me may take the justice which is our due, that I may right myself by the help of God & a true cause. I will follow them to Carrion if which they are so proud, & take them by the throat, & carry them to Valencia, & make them there do penance for their wickedness, & feed them with the food that they deserve. Alonso answered remand your traitor Co, & let them acquit themselves how they can. Rodrigo turned to them,

Infanter of Carrion I say that you are traitor for the cruelty which you committed upon your wives. & I will produce your equal: who shall prove it upon you in battle, & either slay you or make you confess yourselves infamous with your own lips. The Infanter did not answer the defiance: they justified their conduct to their wives, the marriage was unequal, & to our dishonourment; we did forsake them in the forest, it became our rank so to do, & we are accountable for it to none. Alonso was incensed at this reply, you should have weighed that, said he, before you asked them of me in marriage, & even that is false. look to your defence now, for you have to deal with those who will make all your strength needful. With that Count Garcia did once call upon the Infanter to quit the palace & leave the Co sitting there like a bridegroom on his wily couch & thinking to terrify us with his long beard, he is not your equal that you should

deal with him! The knights of Rodrigo looked angrily at their lord - & he called upon Pero Bermudez asking if he were dumb that he repli-
ed not? Pero immediately smote down Count Gon-
zalez, a tumult ensued, one party shouted out
Cabra the cry of the Count, the other Bizar &
Valencia. When the disturbance was quelled the
combat was appointed. The Infanter & their Uncle
& abetter Luero Gonzalez were to do battle against
Pero Bermudez, Martin Antolinez, & Nuno Gus-
-tier. One of the Judges of the field was Alonso
son in law Count Henrique, the father of the
Kings of Portugal. The combat was fought in
Carrax, Alonso went there to witness it, for had
it been fixed elsewhere he suspected that the
Infanter would not have appeared. His Uncle,
tho a brave knight was mortally wounded, both
the Infanter were conquered, they confessed their
guilt & were pronounced infamous.
Rodrigo was not present at the combat. the conque-

stors brought him the tidings to Valencia. he led
them immediately to his daughters. praised be
God, said he, you are now avenged, & my children
may honourably wed the sons of the Kings of Ar-
ragon & Navarra who have demanded them in
marriage. So the second state of these Dames was
greater than the first.

At this time there arrived Embassadors to the Q^d
from the great Soldan of Perria & of the parts
beyond sea. he had heard Rodrigos fame, & sent
him a present of jewels & gold & cloth of gold, &
strange animals, & myrror & baliam to embalm
him after death. The real motive of the embassy
was a fear lest the Q^d should join in the Crusade.
Rodrigo embraced the messengers, & told him that
if he had been a Christian he would have given
him the kiss of peace. & he asked if among the
presents there was anything that had belonged to
the person of the Soldan, that he might kiss it, in
token that if he were before the Soldan he would

him his shoulder according to the custom of the Moors. for he well knew that the Soldan was one of the noblest men of Paganism. & that there was none greater than he. The Warrior, replied the Embassador, if you were before my Lord the Soldan he would do you a greater honour, for he would give you the head of his horse to eat after the manner of our country. but as I know this is not your manner I give you for my Masters sake my living horse which will profit you more than his boiled head. & I kiss your hand being noble, & therefore shall hold myself more fortunate than ever before till now.

Five years Rodrigo possessed Valencia in peace. then King Bucar collected forces to avenge his defeat, & himself preached to the Africans exhorting them to a religious war. The King who was now an old man made ready for defence. He summoned the Mohammedans who still remained in the city, before him. You said he, the good men

of the Aljama of Valencia, well know that from the day wherein I became master here, ye have dwelt peaceably & unmolested. but King Bucar is coming with a mighty power of the Moor to take from me the city which with so much toil I won. you therefore with your wives & children must quit the place. go to the suburb of Alcaudia till we shall see how the business will end.

The Moor accordingly departed. that night St. Peter appeared to Rodrigo & told him that in thirty days he should die, but that even after death he should be victorious. On the morrow the King called together his Chiefs, & told them that his end drew nigh. For these seven nights, said he, visions have persecuted me. I have seen Diego Laynez my father, & my son Diego Rodriguez, & whenever they appear they tell me that I have carried long here, & that now it is time to go among the immortals. I know that we are not to credit dreams, but I feel that this is true. Within thirty days

I shall depart. but I will so counsel you that
you shall be victorious in the fair field, & remove
with Ximena in safety.

He sickened, & he convoked all the clergy &
chief & noble ladies of the city to the great church
of St. Pedro, & there addressed them upon the in-
evitable fate of man. & he brought his compa-
nions that as he never yet had been dishonoured
or put to the worse in battle, they would not refuse
for that shame to befall him at the end. he
then publicly confessed & was forgiven, & return-
ing took to his bed to rise no more. The day
before his death he gave his last directions.
When I am dead, said he, see that my corpse be
well washed & made clean, as blessed be God it
is clean & pure within to receive his holy body.
& anoint it well with the balsam, & fill it with
the myrror that the Selden sent me. & you
Ximena, my sister, (for by that name he now ad-
dressed his wife) you & your women, see I charge

you, that none among you make outcry or lamen-
tation when I have finished, that the Moors
may not know my death. And when King Bu-
car shall come up against the city, let the wall
be manned, & sound the trumpets with all cheer
of joy. And make every thing ready secretly
for your departure. Load sumpter mules with all
the wealth of Valencia that nothing be left. Then
saddle me my horse Baveica, & apparel & arm
my body, & place it upon the horse, & fasten
it lest I fall. & fix my sword Pedona in my
hand, & let the Bishop Don Hieronymo go on
the one side, & my friend Gil Diaz on the other
to lead the horse. Pero Bermudez bear you my
banner as you have been wont to do. you Moor
Fanez collect your force & attack King Ducez,
for be ye assured & doubt not that God will
give me this victory after I am departed. On
the morrow he received the sacrament & ex-
-red.

They washed his body twice with warm water & then

with rose water, they anointed it with the balsom
& filled it with the myrrh. these offices were per-
formed by the most honourable or most favoured
of his adherents, Alvar Fanez, & Pero Bermudez,
the Bishop, & Gil Diaz, a converted Moor, who
was the dearest of his household. the due ma-
ries & vigils were performed over him in the church,
the corpse was then delivered to Gil Diaz, he
fixed the saddle upon a small scaffold made for
the purpose, & placed the body on it, it was cloath'd
in fine linen over which two boards were fitted to
the shape of the body, they met under the arm-
pits, the front one closing under the beard, the
one behind rising to the nape of the neck, these
were fixed to the saddle & kept the corpse up-
right, what he wore as grieves was painted so
that it could only be distinguished from armour
by the touch, his doublet was of purple to re-
semble his quilted mail, the helmet of hard-
meat painted with his colour, he wore his green
surcoat, his right arm was fastened in a raised

posture & the swordizona tied in his hand.
Meanwhile King Bucar surrounded the city, &
his hopes were raised seeing that no rally was
made, tho' the garrison cheerfully & with mu-
sic & shouts repelled his assaults. but in
twelve days all was ready, at midnight the
gate was opened, Pero Bermudez with four hun-
dred knights led the way, he bore the banner,
the baggage mules followed bearing the whole
wealth of Valencia, & then an equal force, next
came the dead Rodrigo on his war-horse Ba-
soreic, between the Bishop & Gil Diaz, an hun-
dred chosen knights around him, close behind
him Jimeno & six hundred knights as her
guard. Alvar Fanez & Pero Bermudez attack-
ed the Moors, the body & treasure & Jim-
ena proceeded & awaited their coming in a place
appointed, the assault was so vigorous & unex-
pected that it completely succeeded, a second
time King Bucar suffered utter rout & fled

to his ships with shame: the Christians spoiled
their camp as they past thro, & proceeded with
the body toward Castile.

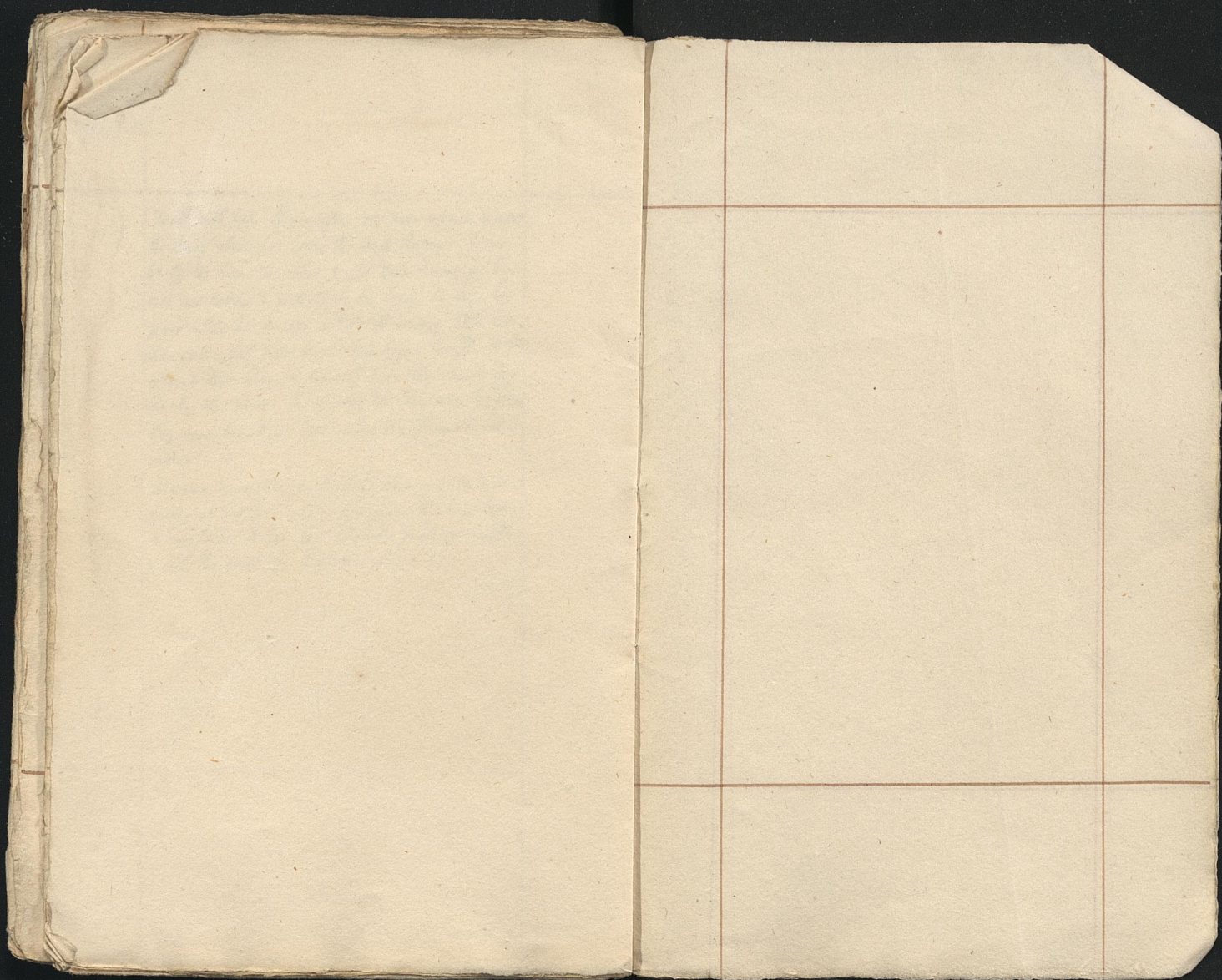
The danger that over Moor James asked Simons
if they should place the body in a coffin & cover
it with purple & nails of gold. He answered no,
while the countenance & the eyes had that life
look it should never be coffined. she would have
her children see their fathers face. the moor
armor was not taken off, & the corpse richly
garmented. Every night when they took it from the
horse, they placed it with the saddle as it rode,
upon the frame that it might retain its posture
in this manner they proceeded. the Infante
of Aragon first joined them with his wife. an
hundred knights were in their company, their
shields reversed & hanging from the saddle, they
were in grey cloaks with the hoods rent. & Don
-na Sol & her women came in verge, for they
knew not that no mourning was to be made for
Rodrigo. When they met the dead, she tore off her

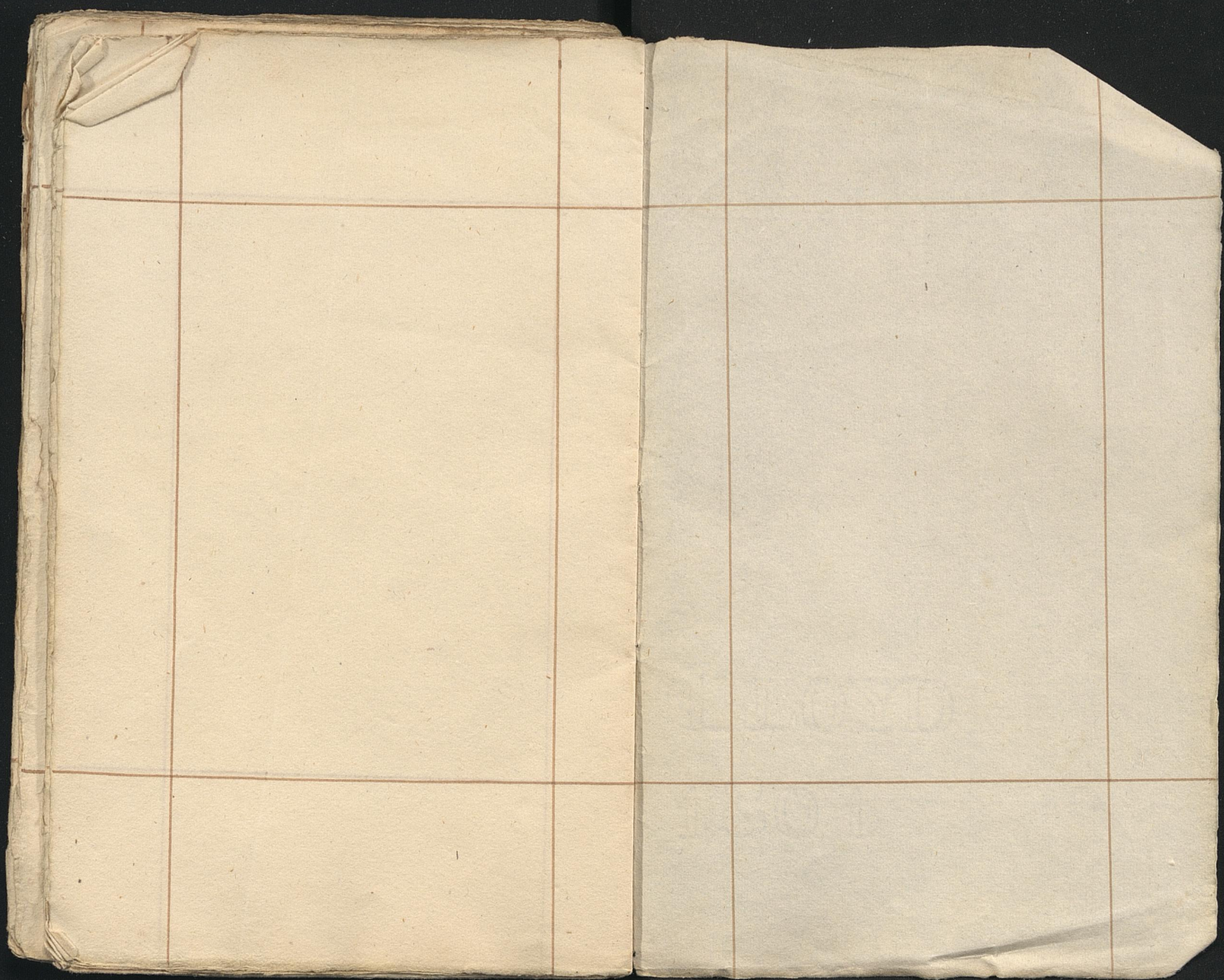
head-dress & rent her yellow hair & began to cry
aloud, but Simons rebuked her laughter. he said
she is against your fathers command! he charged me
that none should make outcry or lamentation for him.
The rent hoods were therefore amended & the shields
placed aright, & they went on, weeping indeed, but
with no voice of grief. Elvira & her husband joined
them with their train. they were apprized of Rodrigos
-fors will, & they kissed his hand & rode on not
like mourners, till they reached the Church of S. P.
-dro de Laredoña, where he was to rest.

Alonso came to be present at the funeral, but the
myrrh & the balsam had preserved the body so fresh
& apparently incorruptible, that instead of burying
it they placed it upright upon his ivory seat in
the Church at the right of the altar. Simons wept
in the Church. he never left the body of her hus-
band but for her meals & when night came, for
they would not permit her to pass the night there, ex-
cept when vigils were kept for his soul. Gil Diaz

Dwell with her. Never after was man allowed to mount
the Horse which had borne the dead Rodrigo. he was
led by the reins to water. & Gil Diaz himself fed him.
care was taken to perpetuate his breed. he lived two
years after his master, & died at an age little less
than forty. Gil Diaz buried him before the Church, &
ordered that when he himself died they should lay
him by the Horse. he planted two Elms upon his grave
they were beautiful trees when the Chronicle was
written.

Limena survived her husband four year, & was
buried at his feet. After ten years the body began
to moulder, it was then interred in its garments
& with the sword by Limenas side.





~~1052~~

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