

The interior of the mosque is a succession of arches supported by nearly a thousand pillars and these pillars, the traveler is told, were brought from Carthage, France and Italy. Workmen were secured in Constantinople by one of the Caliphs and it is possible to find almost every variety of architecture in the columns themselves or in their capitals and bases.

When Cordova was recaptured by the Christians in the thirteenth century a part of this building was converted into a cathedral and today it presents a curious combination of chapel, altar, shrine and mosque. The most attractive decorations in the mosque are the mosaics and the superb wood carving in the principal choir are of rare merit. One series of these pictures in wood illustrate Old Testament history, while another portrays the principal events in the life of Christ.

The road from Cordova—Cordova, once the center of art, Arabic learning and religion, but now a prosaic town of less than sixty thousand—to Granada, the last stronghold of the Moors north of the Mediterranean, leads through a succession of olive groves. Nowhere, not even in Palestine or about the mount that bears the olive's name, have we seen such an abundance of these trees. From the importance of this industry one would suppose that southern Europe could supply olive oil enough without importing cotton seed from the United States and yet we have been assured by shippers that a great deal of the olive oil which we buy from Europe is really cotton seed oil which has twice crossed the Atlantic.

The city of Granada is situated at the foot of the Sierra Nevada, upon whose summit some snow still lingered when two-thirds of the month of August had passed. The city stretches back toward the mountains and derives its food supply from a splendid valley which extends toward the west to the Atlantic. At one time Granada had a population of two hundred and fifty thousand, but today less than a third of that number can be counted in the city. In the height of its glory Granada's kings held court in oriental fashion and surrounded themselves with a luxury which the colder countries of the north did not attempt to imitate. When the Indians roamed over the prairies and hunted through the forests of the western hemisphere the Arab ruler had his palace on the height of Alhambra and turning his face toward Mecca prayed for the extermination of the infidel; his warriors went out from this fortress to ravage the surrounding country and, returning laden with spoil, held high carnival on the banks of the Darro. The fairest of the women of his race were gathered into the harem and flowers and fountains gave perfume and freshness to his habitation.

Washington Irving has contributed so much to literature on the Alhambra and its legends that it is not necessary to undertake a description of

this fascinating palace of the Moorish kings. It crowns a hill much as the Parthenon crowns the Acropolis or as the summer residence of Mexico's president crowns Chapultepec. Irving found the palace neglected and occupied by wandering families whose members felt no interest in its preservation. He helped to arouse an interest in the place which has led the government not only to protect it from further vandalism, but to restore many of its parts. Its rooms, halls, audience chambers, courts and baths are all finished in most elaborate style. As in other Mohammedan buildings the ornamentation is in geometrical figures and flowers, as the followers of this religion carry their aversion to idolatry so far that they do not use human figures or even figures of animals in decoration. The material employed in the Alhambra is stucco and it is surprising what delicacy and grace characterize the works. One finds here a reminder of the screens which play so important a part in the tombs built by the Mohammedan conquerors in India, except that in India marble is used.

To the American the room known as the Hall of the Ambassadors is especially interesting because in this room, if the word of the guide can be relied upon, Ferdinand and Isabella received Columbus just before he embarked upon his voyage of discovery.

A part of the Alhambra was torn down by order of Charles the Fifth, who early in the sixteenth century conceived the idea of building himself a palace of modern design. The structure was never finished, however, and stands today a ruin, more substantial but less beautiful than the palace which it was intended to outshine. The Moors built a great cistern within the outer walls of Alhambra and brought water from the mountains to supply it. It is so far below the surface that the water is always cool and the water is so perfectly filtered that even now it is greatly sought for drinking. This far-sighted provision not only for present wants, but for possible siege seems to have been characteristic of the Moors, for the city of Constantinople was likewise protected by immense underground reservoirs.

Granada has a considerable gypsy population. From the Alhambra one can see their dwellings on an opposite hillside. The rooms are hewn out of the stone, with only the door visible. All in all, Granada offers as much of variety as one can find anywhere in Europe and more glimpses of the oriental life of the past than can be seen anywhere else west of the Bosphorus.

The rock of Gibraltar has no advertising matter on it. In this respect only does it differ from the photographs with which every reader is familiar. It is, however, larger than the pictures indicate. It is an immense limestone formation rising abruptly from the water to a height of fourteen hundred feet. It is about three miles long and at the widest point three-quarters of a mile across. It is evident that it was once

an island for the low, flat strip of ground which connects it with the main land seems to have been formed by the washing in of the sand. The triangular face of the rock which is usually photographed looks toward the land instead of toward the sea, the water front being much less imposing. A town of twenty-six thousand inhabitants has grown up around the base of the rock, fully twenty per cent of the population being made up of the English garrison. It is strictly a military town and the government does not encourage the settlement of civilians there. The rock is full of concealed cannon and is supposed to be impregnable. It seems to be perforated with galleries and one sees the nose of a cannon poked out at every commanding point. When the wind is from the east a cloud hovers over the rock, sometimes concealing its summit. While the harbor at Gibraltar is not an especially good one, it is one of the most frequented in the world, and the dry docks will accommodate the largest ships. Just beyond the rock of Gibraltar there is a strip of neutral ground, one side sentinelled by the British, the other by the Spanish. Several thousand Spaniards enter the city every morning, for all the manual labor is done by them, and return to their homes at night. Just across the bay or harbor is the Spanish city of Algeciras and from both Algeciras and Gibraltar boats cross the strait to Tangiers, the Morocco capital.

We had planned to make this trip, but were deterred partly because a revolution in Tangiers made it uncertain that we would be able to land and partly because unfavorable weather threatened to delay our return.

I found at Gibraltar an instance of hereditary officeholding which is not often paralleled among our people. The position of American consul has been in one family for eighty-four years consecutively. The present occupant, Mr. Sprague, is the third of his line to represent our government, his father, who held the office for over fifty years, in turn succeeding his father. The present consul, Sprague, is intensely American, notwithstanding the long residence of his family outside the country.

As the traveler leaves Gibraltar for the west he bids farewell to Africa and to Europe at the same time—Gibraltar and a somewhat similar rock on the opposite side of the channel, the two, anciently known as the Pillars of Hercules, stand out in bold relief against the sky. These rocks are not the last land, however, although the most striking features. There is a point a few miles farther west known as Tarifa which, according to tradition, was once occupied by bold robbers who exacted tribute from all who passed by. It is even said that our word tariff traces its origin to this Tarifa; if it be true that the two words are related it is fitting that Tarifa should be the last thing seen by the traveler on his departure for the tariff is the first thing which he encounters upon his arrival in America.

Copyright.

SAM JONES

Sam Jones, the famous evangelist, died last week, and his death removes from the scene of action a man whose life work resulted in great and permanent good to the world. His earnestness, his evident sincerity and his plain, commonsense way of putting things, made him a favorite with the people. No one ever was in doubt as to where Sam Jones stood on any question confronting the people, and many of his quaint and blunt sayings have passed into proverbs. Many years ago Sam Jones was engaged in a great union revival meeting at Plattsburg, Mo. One of the visiting ministers asked him one day why he did not use better language and refrain from so many "slang" expressions. "My dear brother," replied Mr. Jones, "I am a fisher of men. I judge the efficacy of my bait by the results I get. When one of your soft-spoken, namby-pamby little preachers can show a bigger string of fish than I can I'll try his kind of bait." For a quarter of a century Sam Jones was a prominent figure in the pulpit and on the lecture platform, and if life is measured by what men put into it, instead of what men get out of it, then Sam Jones' life was a success.

THE NEBRASKA CAMPAIGN

The democratic campaign in Nebraska is being prosecuted with vigor and most encouraging reports come from all parts of the state. Mr. Shallenberger, the democratic candidate for governor, is making a winning campaign, and his masterly presentation of the issues at stake in the state is winning support every day. Mr.

Thompson, the convention nominee for the United States senate, is also prosecuting a strong campaign and is being greeted by large and enthusiastic audiences wherever he goes. The congressional campaign is especially interesting and the outlook is unusually good from the democratic standpoint. In the First district T. J. Doyle is facing great odds, but the weakness of the republican candidate and the apathy of those who are usually most active in the republican campaign encourage the belief that Mr. Doyle will win. In the Second district G. M. Hitchcock is making a vigorous fight. He has served in one congress, but was defeated in the landslide two years ago. His record while in the house was such that he can confidently expect to be elected this year. Judge Guy T. Graves in the Third district is being met with such generous receptions everywhere he goes that he is confident of taking the district out of the republican column. In the Fourth district J. J. Thomas is especially active and has bright prospects. In the Fifth district R. D. Sutherland, ex-member of congress, is once more the democratic candidate. He is an experienced and able campaigner and although the district is heavily republican he is making great inroads on the enemy's lines. In the Sixth district G. L. Shumway is making a fine impression and in view of the opposition the republican candidate finds within his own party Mr. Shumway's chances for election are fair. The democratic state ticket is strong and the candidates are well known as men who will stand firmly upon the platform adopted by the state convention. The state ticket is as follows: For governor, Ashton C. Shallenberger; for lieutenant governor, William

H. Green; for secretary of state, Carl R. Goucher; for treasurer, Frank Babcock; for auditor, J. S. Canady; for land commissioner, Jacob V. Wolfe; for attorney general, Lysle I. Abbott; for state superintendent, R. H. Watson; for railway commissioners, George Horst, J. W. Davis, A. P. Fitzsimmons. The voters who are in earnest about their desire to achieve needed reforms can make sure of them by giving their support to the above ticket.

VOTE FOR MR BELL

Commoner readers in California should remember that the gubernatorial contest in that state is between Theodore A. Bell, the democratic nominee, and James Gillett, the republican nominee. William H. Langdon is the Independence League candidate for governor. The Commoner believes that it will be a mistake for California voters, who are opposed to monopoly, to cast their votes for Mr. Langdon, because that would serve to divide the anti-monopoly forces and thus make possible the election of the republican candidate. Mr. Bell, as a citizen and public official, has made a good record. While this may also be said for Mr. Langdon, it is reasonable to believe that the California contest will be between Gillett and Bell, with Langdon third in the race; and, therefore, a vote cast for Langdon is a contribution toward Gillett's election.

The superintendent of the Washington public library says there is less fiction read in that city than in any other city of similar size in the world. But he may be deceived by the notion that the rest of us read the Congressional Record.