

girls, as soon as they can afford it, purchase, if they have not already inherited, a long, full, blue cloth cloak, coming down to the heels, and terminating in an enormous hood, which projects, when it is pulled forward, a foot at least before the face. The cloak and hood are thus a complete disguise, for if the lower part of the hood be held together by the hand—a very common attitude, while the eyes can be used with perfect freedom—both figure and face are entirely hidden. These cloaks and hoods are very heavy and close, and it seems strange that such a fashion can hold its ground where the conditions are very similar to those in the extreme south of Spain or Italy. The head-dress of the men is singular, but it has a more rational relation to the exigencies of the climate. It is also made of dark-blue cloth—a round cap with a long projecting peak, and a deep curtain falling over the neck and shoulders, an excellent defense whether from rain or sun. The odd thing about it is that where the hat is made in the extreme of a by-gone “mode” which still lingers in the remote parts of the island, the sides of the peak are carried up on each side of the head into long curved points, like horns. The horns are “going out,” however, although a general festa, such as we were fortunate enough to see, still brought many grotesque pairs of them into the city.

We saw the procession from the windows of the principal hotel, which looked across a square to the church from which it took its departure. The square and the streets below us were, for hours before, one sea of carapuças and capotes, male and female, but chiefly the latter, their wearers sitting on the hot pavement, chattering quietly. About five o'clock a large number of acolytes in scarlet tunics left the church, and formed a double row, lining the streets in the path of the procession. Then came a long double row of priests in violet chasubles and stoles, repeating the responses to a portly brother, who led the column, intoning from his breviary. Then a double row of