

ends, as at Lisbon, and usually an open plateau or square in front. The architecture is thoroughly Portuguese.

The bright green tropical vegetation, the palms and banana plants, interspersed between the buildings, give the town in reality a different look from that of a home Portuguese town. A small strip of flat land, intervening between the foot of the ridge occupied by the main town and the harbour, affords space for wharves and warehouses for the mail steamers and general shipping. There were a large number of small trading vessels at anchor in the harbour, and two Brazilian vessels of war, a gun brig, and a small iron ram, which had conspicuous shot marks on its hull, received in the Paraguayan war.

The usual mode of ascent from the lower shipping district to the higher town is by means of sedan chairs of the old European pattern, which are painted black, with yellow beading, and are carried up the hill, each by a pair of negroes. A mechanical lift was being constructed to take the place of this primitive arrangement.

I preferred walking, and made my way through steep narrow stinking streets, where slops were being constantly emptied from upper stories without any warning or "Gare à l'eau." After a stiff climb, I reached the main street of the town, which runs all along the top of the ridge, and was just in time to see a religious procession, held in commemoration of the day of the saint of one of the churches.

The bells of the church were clanging and tinkling, sounding something like Swiss cow-bells, a regular jangle, "tinkle, tinkle, tinkle, cling, cling, clang," and the procession was pouring itself from the church door. First came men in blue cassocks with white surplices over them, carrying lighted paper lanterns on poles. They marched on and then formed line on each side of the street for the rest of the procession to pass.

Then came men with white cassocks and black surplice-like vestments, also bearing lanterns, and at intervals amongst them were borne silver crosses with bunches of artificial flowers on silver-mounted poles, carried on either side of each of them. Amongst these also walked here and there a priest, in the usual cassock and alb, and one or two old monks with hooded robes and double chins, with a well-nourished appearance.

A crowd of acolytes succeeded, dressed nearly like the priests, and, like them, mostly white-skinned or but slightly yellow. All the remainder of the procession had deep yellow-brown or almost black faces. A body of priests came next, and then the saint, carried on a silvered platform on the shoulders of eight bearers.

The saint was a wooden figure, of life-size, with a Vandyck-