

like countenance, black hair, moustache, and beard. He was dressed in a stiff crimson velvet cape, worked with gold lace, crimson trunk hose, and flesh tights over very thin and shaky legs, and had a curious sort of plume or cockade of feathers and tinsel sticking up at the back of his head.

In front of the saint, skipped along two little girls, one of them with a dark yellow complexion, the other jet black. They were dressed as angels, with wings of feathers and tinsel. Around the saint marched a guard of soldiers with fixed bayonets, and immediately behind came a military brass band in full bray, but playing well. Another body of soldiers followed with fixed bayonets and led by their officers with drawn swords.

Behind the procession followed a crowd of negro women, crushing through the street. The negro women of Bahia are strapping females, and apt to become very stout. The balconies in the narrow street were crowded with the wives and daughters of the townspeople, who pelted the saint as he passed with bouquets of flowers.

Vespers were going on at the churches. I entered one, an oblong building with a small apse for a chancel, and a row of rectangular pillars on either side, shutting off the aisles. There were three or four clerestory windows, but no others. The interior was profusely ornamented with bright colour and gilt tracery in relief. The chancel and altar, which had an elaborate gilt reredos, were brilliantly lighted up by candles, whilst the body of the church was comparatively dark, having no light but that which reached it from the chancel. The air was full of incense, and the whole effect was fine and impressive.

The floor of the church was crowded with negro women, kneeling and singing at intervals a simple chant in response to a choir which could not be distinguished in the gloom. There were a few white women in the church, but they appeared to go into the aisles and not to mix with the blacks.

After the procession was over, fireworks, rockets full of crackers and blue lights, were let off, and the soldiers marched to their barracks. They were small dark-skinned, dwarfed-looking men. Fireworks are as invariable concomitants of religious ceremonies in Bahia as in China, and as they are let off before as well as after the ceremonies, occasionally wake one up at 4 A.M.

There are tramways in Bahia leading to the railway station, the Campo Grande, and out into the country. The Campo Grande is a large open space, turfed and surrounded by trees. It is here that the best residences are, and there are several