

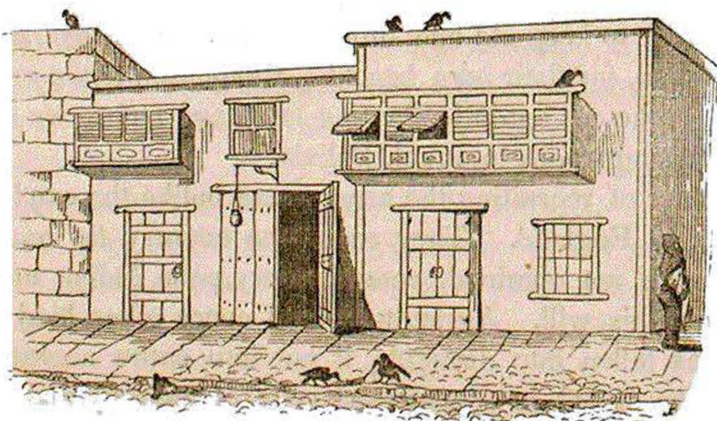
Yet, extraordinary as it may seem, one would never suspect, from the outward appearance of its inhabitants, that the country could be in such a state. All their pastimes go on as usual. Among these, the festivals of the church are most conspicuous; for they yet claim the outward respect of all, both high and low, and constitute the only bond that holds society together. All are subservient to the rites of the church. Even the Chilian general officers dismount and kneel when the procession passes; and all the different guards, with their officers, not only give the military salute, but also drop on their knees.

I was much struck with the sight of a mistress and her slave, who had followed her to the cathedral, kneeling on the same piece of cloth, telling their beads, and saying their prayers together. This I was told was quite common. It seemed a tacit acknowledgment that religion reduced all to the same level. From what I could learn, the slaves are treated with great kindness.

During our stay here, we had the misfortune to lose one of the marines, Benjamin Holden, who had been transferred but a few days from the Relief to the Peacock. He was interred at San Lorenzo. One of the servants on board the Peacock, a boy, was discovered to have the small-pox. He was immediately removed to a tent at San Lorenzo, and every thing provided for him, until he could be sent to Lima, Mr. Bartlett, our consul, having procured permission for his removal there.

Every precaution against this disease had been taken, by vaccinating the crews after leaving the United States.

I felt great uneasiness, lest we might carry it with us to the Islands, where it might spread among the natives, and render our visit ever memorable by the introduction of that dreadful scourge. All the clothing, and every thing that had been in any way connected with the sick boy or his nurses, was destroyed, in the hopes of rendering us exempt from the contagion.



LIMA HOUSE.