

A VIEW OF THE PORT, BARCELONA.

THE SPANISH INSURRECTION

The Struggle in Barcelona—New Aspects of a Decadent Empire

(Specially Written for the "New Zealand Graphic," by ERNEST W. MUNTON.)

READERS of cable news, who have ever travelled in the country, which, in conjunction with Holland for a century or more was able to effectively challenge England's supremacy at sea, will have had plenty of food for thought in the revolutionary developments in Catalonia during the last few weeks. A few notes on Spain and its people, its past, and its possibilities, may, therefore, be of interest at the present moment.

When one considers that Algeciras (opposite to Gibraltar, and the southernmost Spanish point in Europe) can be reached in less than sixty hours from London, one can but wonder that



THE ALHAMBRA—A FAMOUS SPANISH PALACE.

Decorated Arch in the Mosque.

so few Englishmen have travelled through Spain—the more so when the marvellous examples of the Golden Age of Art and Architecture to be found there are remembered. There is perhaps no country in Europe to-day which can show so much in the way of medieval buildings, or so many ancient ruins; and the old Roman bridge across the Tagus at Toledo, or the famous Court of Lions at the "Alhambra" in Granada, are widely divergent examples of different styles—while the Madrid Gal-

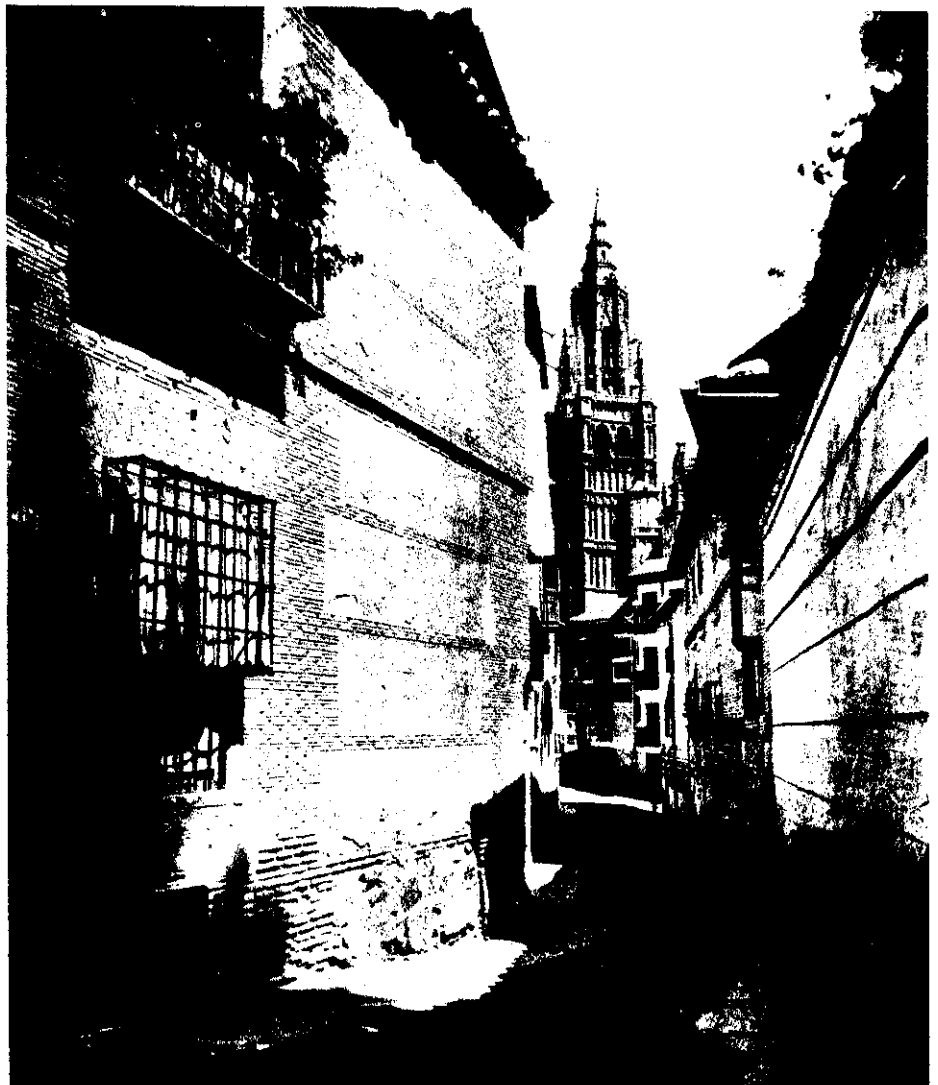
lery, badly housed and lighted as it is, contains, after all, so many masterpieces that one could not hope to enumerate them—but one can never forget the glories of any gallery sheltering



THE LINDARAJA GARDEN IN THE ALHAMBRA.

such pictures as Velasquez's "Forge of Vulcan," Titian's "Venus," or the splendid collection of "Murillos."

The principal difficulties in the way of an Englishman travelling in Spain are: (1) The language, it being almost impossible to get along in comfort without some knowledge of it; (2) the defective railway system, all long-distance travelling being performed by night only involving continuous breaks in one's



AN UGLY PLACE FOR STREET FIGHTING.

A typical narrow street in Toledo, showing the high-walled houses on each side, with their heavily barred windows.