

The general dress of the Spanish ladies is black ; when walking, *al paseo*, their head is covered with a black, or occasionally a white veil, the *mantilla*, tastefully tied under the chin ; this and their shoes are the only articles often varying in colour. This costume has certainly a *sombre* appearance, yet it is not unbecoming to the darkness of their complexions. These *senoritas* are upon a small scale, but their figures possess exact symmetry. They have good teeth, although they take no care of them ; beautiful black eyes, piercing, and full of spirit ; with remarkably small feet and ankles, which they take great pride in setting off to the best advantage ; and indeed, their whole dress, though not wanting in modesty, is admirably contrived to exhibit the beautiful symmetry which reigns beneath its folds. This is an art which might improve the costume of some other nations, where the ladies should remember that the imagination is a busy power :

“ Let not each beauty every where be spied,

“ Where half the skill is decently to hide.”