

disappeared as rapidly as his shillings did in England.

52. The numerous shipping in the bay, and the bustle and activity he sees on shore, are sufficiently indicative of great commercial traffic, and in this respect Gibraltar presents a curious anomaly. It is totally without those natural advantages, which in other places have been converted to commercial purposes. The bay is open and exposed, the anchorage not very secure: and with the exception of the old mole (whereon is the Devil's Tongue battery), serving only to shelter small craft, there is nothing to protect the shipping in tempestuous weather; there are neither commodious wharfs, quays, nor public warehouses; the gates are closed at sun-down, and all business suspended till the morrow; and yet in despite of all these disadvantages, Gibraltar has become a place of considerable