

may be said to be the operation of laws. Law in its most comprehensive sense according to Mr. Blackstone, "signifies a rule of action and is applied indiscriminately to all kinds of action, whether animate or inanimate, rational or irrational. Thus we have the laws of motion, of mechanics as well as the laws of nations and nature." In just as general a sense, we speak of the government of the mind, the church, or state, as well as the government of a nation.

In each case it is the operation of those laws by which their action is controlled. In this it is only intended to treat of government and laws as applied to the government of men in their intercourse, conduct and relations to each other as exists in organized society. Society cannot exist in any form without some form of government to regulate and protect its interests. Then government in this sense means the exercise of that power which exists in every separate organization of that kind, and exists by nature from their own social forces. The only just combination of individuals for a purpose of organization is to protect and aid in improving their own conditions without interfering or conflicting with like privileges of other individuals or organizations.

This combining of interests may be known as a community, a state or a nation, and is subject not only to its own laws, but to moral laws, to which all human action is subject, and which limit natural justice. The operation of these laws adopted by an organization is known then as the government of that body. The object of every government should be to benefit every part of the community or country that obeys the principles of justice, which should be at

the foundation of their law. To secure a central power or governing body, the people must surrender such natural rights as will well establish their form of government.

The different forms of government will deprive the people of different rights according to the principles upon which it is founded. Different forms have always existed and seem by nature to be necessary to meet different wants and conditions of the people. As to form, all governments are either representative or non representative, or some modification of these. Examples of the first can be found in the government of Athens and Rome and in all our republics of modern times; the second form will include the laws of kings and emperors, czars and sultans. All governments derive their power from the consent of the people governed. Every well regulated government founded on the principles of justice, consists of three chief powers, viz: the law making, the law interpreting and the law executing. In republican forms these are vested respectively in the legislative, judicial and executive departments. But where the power of a ruler is unlimited the powers of these three departments may be controlled by one person. Some form of the laws of the country is necessary for any government where the choice of the people is the ruling power. For this reason we find a constitution adopted embodying the principles of their government and which is a standard to which all the laws are referred to decide whether they are constitutional or unconstitutional. M.

#### Castles in Spain.

Of all the early imaginations in life, nothing remains so fastened upon the