divinity, to exchange eye, head, or handkerchief conversation. Round and round the broad way walk these family sets, bowing and saluting with grand eloquent nothings, which, if endowed with Saxon truth, would impoverish the entire island.

The shops are entirely devoid of windows, for which they make up with doors; and as it is only the lower class that shop,—the upper and wealthy having everything sent to the house to select from,—the want is not so greatly felt except by visitors, who feel like crying out as they strain their eyes, or find themselves under the necessity of asking the clerk to accompany them into the street, that they may get a view of their intended purchase. Society is divided into an infinite number of cliques, between which the line of demarkation is drawn with exact sharpness, and over the barriers of which a lifetime is too short to gain admittance. Family feuds, politics and pride of birth serve to maintain this exclusiveness, so that a foreigner, although a resident for many years, and perhaps having a street or café acquaintance with what we should call society men, rarely knows more about its workings than what he chances to pick up as he sips his chocolate. It is to the peasantry that we have to look for information as to the general condition of the people, and where we find that tenacity for stepping in the footsteps of their forefathers that has made any advancement an impossibility.

The farmer breaks his ground with a sharp stick, tipped with iron, from which projects a pole, by means of which it is connected with whatever propelling power the good man may be able to lay hold of; sometimes it is a yoke of cattle—this seldom—oftener a solitary "burro," or donkey, and not unfrequently the better-half and Jack attached side by side—partners in toil and in the misery of the long pole, with which the owner and husband prods without partiality both wife and beast.

Every instrument of toil seems a resurrected one; even the hoe, with its broad blade, massive weight, and tiny handle, that compels the laborer to bend double, and exert as much strength to cut a weed as to chop a stick, shows all the crudeness of workmanship that a first effort at manufacture would lead to expect. Harvest arrived, the grain is reaped, and the ancient method of thrashing by means of treading, employed.

The vehicle by which the grain is transported to market deserves attention, as it not only embodies carriage, but also a sort of spirituality, that to the owner is worth thrice its value.

It is a massive affair—a box mounted on two immense wheels, made of solid wood, spokeless, with a shaft firmly attached to each, which revolves with the wheels. The box has a groove in which the shaft turns, and, as it does so, emits a most heart-rending and piercing shriek, that delights the farmer's soul. So dear is this music to him, that he composes ditties to its honor, and watches its volume of sound with all the eagerness of a lover. Witches and demons, with which the island is filled, are rendered harmless during its powerful squeaks, and thus the belated driver is protected from the unseen evil that presses close around, ready to lure him on to disaster.

The dress of the peasantry is white linen; for the masculine portion, trousers, a long, white gown, and a head-dress called a *carrapucha*—a cap with a vizor of tremendous extent, usually made of blue cloth. This, with wooden shoes, constitutes their summer and winter attire. The feminine portion generally manage to set off their white dresses with some bit of coloring, and robe their heads with fancifully arranged handkerchiefs of bright colors, from which their dark, Moorish faces peep out, giving the passer a glimpse of large, lustrous eyes, capable of all the intensity and softness born of emotion.

The one great object of a girl, and for which she hoards every penny, is to be able to enter the matrimonial estate with a *capote*. The *capote* is a garment that combines a cloak with a head-dress; the first of such length as to completely envelope the person, and is made out of thick, heavy cloth, so substantially put together as to last a lifetime. It costs forty dollars; and when one remembers that twenty-four cents a