

LETTER IV.

MARKETS—CONVENT OF ST. JUAN DE DIOS—FRIAR PREACHING—HIS SERMON
—CATHEDRAL—PICTURES—GOLD AND SILVER ORNAMENTS—UNFINISHED
CATHEDRAL—CONVENT OF CAPUCHINS—ITS EXCELLENT PICTURES—
DRAGON'S BLOOD TREE—SCARCITY OF GOOD WATER.

CADIZ, SEPT. 1809.

YESTERDAY, though Sunday, the market was excessively crowded, especially the fish and vegetable markets; the latter was supplied with a surprising profusion of every thing in season. Garlick in this place is a most important article, and is sold in strings three or four yards long, which are piled in stacks. The market also abounded with onions, grapes, melons, pumpkins, turnips, carrots, and celery of a prodigious thickness. The consumption of meat in this city is very small, and the little consumed is of a very inferior quality. The poorer and middle class of people live principally on fruits and vegetables, with fish which is sold fried in oil, at shops in different parts of the town.

I went to the Convent of St. Juan de Dios, where a friar was preaching in the quadrangle, adjoining the church, to a congregation standing under the shade of the arches; his address was either extempore or from memory, I believe the latter; it was pronounced with