

ornaments, recording the skill and the refined taste of the old master masons.

About mid-day we moored in the Tagus, off the capital, and all who desired started for a run on shore. Some went to Cintra; while others spent the time in seeing what was most interesting in the city and its immediate neighbourhood, or in resting after the knocking about experienced in our passage from England.

There are many buildings and places of interest to be seen; perhaps the monastery and church of Belem, of Gothic-Moresque architecture, is worth mentioning; no one could pass it without gazing on the beautiful porch, which is rich beyond description in carvings. Up to the very roof of the church, every pinnacle and buttress, and even the flat portions of the wall, are encrusted with ornaments.

On entering, the interior is of a most charming nature. There seems no excess of ornament, and the delicate shafts of pale grey marble support a wonderfully carved and fretted Gothic roof, with all the effective airiness of Moorish architecture. Service happened to be proceeding during my visit. The church was cool and dim, and the clear sweet voices of the choristers rose and fell along the aisle, and seemed to linger in the roof among the sculptured palm-leaves.

The high altar, with its lighted candles and vases of flowers, and the rich robes of the officiating priests,