

CHAP.
XII.

Dominick. There is preserved in Oviedo, a Spanish historian, who resided here about thirty years after its first establishment, an account of its state and population at that period, which being equally authentick and curious, I shall present to the reader at length.

“ BUT nowe (says the Historian) to speake sumwhat of the
 “ principall and chiefe place of the islande, whiche is the citie
 “ of *San Domenico*: I saye, that as touchynge the buildynges,
 “ there is no citie in Spaine, so muche for so-muche (no not
 “ *Barsalona*, whiche I have oftentimes seene) that is to bee
 “ preferred before this generallye. For the houses of San Do-
 “ menico are for the mooste parte of stone, as are they of
 “ *Barsalona*. The situation is muche better thā that of *Bar-*
 “ *salona*, by reason that the streates are much larger and playner,
 “ and without comparyson more directe and strayght furth.
 “ For beinge buylded nowe in our tyme, besyde the commo-
 “ ditie of the place of the foundation, the streates were also
 “ directed with corde compase and measure; wherein it excelleth
 “ al the cities that I have seene. It hath the sea so nere, that
 “ of one syde there is no more space betwen the sea and the
 “ citie, then the waules. On the other parte, hard by the
 “ syde and at the foote of the houses, passeth the ryver *Ozama*,
 “ whiche is a marveyulous porte; wherein laden shyppes ryfe
 “ very nere to the lande, and in manner under the house wyn-
 “ dows. In the myddeft of the citie is the fortresse and
 “ castle; the port or haven also, is so fayre and commodious
 “ to defraight or unlade shyppes, as the lyke is founde but in
 “ fewe places of the worlde. The chymineis that are in this citie
 “ are about syxe hundreth in number, and such houses as I have
 “ spoken