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**ACCOUNT OF THE ROYAL VISIT
TO MARINHA GRANDE
Philadelphia Stephens**

Marinha Grande, 25 July 1788

The following constitutes a contemporary account of a royal visit dated July 25th 1788 by Queen D. Maria I (1734-1816) to the Marinha Grande glass factory created and run by the Stephens brothers. The visit had taken place some weeks before during three days. Philadelphia Stephens (1750-1824) was a sister and wrote this account to Thomas White Cogan in England. This record was found in the early 1960's and now belongs to the West Sussex Record Office which has kindly authorized the BHSP to reprint it. We have followed the original spelling.

On Monday the 30th ult^o at four o'clock in the afternoon, Her Majesty and all the Royal Family arrived here accompanied by their *Donas, Açafatas, Confessors, Physician, Secretary of State¹, Camaristas, Guardaroupas, Chaplains, Surgeons, Reposteiros, Moças da Prata, etc.*, with numberless other people belonging to their Suite. The Royal Family drove straight to the church, where they spent a few minutes in prayers, when they got into their carriages again and came to our house. Our *Praça* on this occasion made a very brilliant appearance. On each side of the house, the soldiers were drawn up in form belonging to the Guard and opposite, before the door of the Fabrick, all the artificers belonging to the manufactory in their working dress which does not admit of either coat or waistcoat, their hair

¹ - Viscount de Ponte Lima

dressed and powdered, their shirts clean and ironed with the sleeves tied round the middle of the arm with red ribbons, black breeches and clean white stockings which altogether gave them a very neat uniform appearance.

On the carriages entering the gate, the Royal Family were saluted with three *Vivas* from people of the Fabrick and on alighting at the door of the house were received by the Archbishop (the Queen's confessor),² my brother William, my brothers Lewis and Jedediah, the Visconde de Ponte Lima,³ and *Camaristas*. Your humble servant had the honour of kissing Her Majesty's hand on her entrance and received a gracious smile in return. The same ceremony was repeated with the Princess⁴ and each of the Infantas.⁵ On the arrival of the *Donas* and *Açafatas*, the Archbishop introduced me to them and recommended them to my particular care. Madame Arriaga is a very clever, agreeable, well-bred lady.⁶ She is a favourite and a great favourite of the Queen's. I describe her in particular supposing you have often heard her name mentioned.

The Royal Family immediately went upstairs and, after viewing their own apartment on the principal floor, Her Majesty went up to the attic story to see the accommodations of her female attendants with which she expressed great satisfaction. When she had done looking at the apartments, she intimated a desire of seeing the Fabrick. Accordingly a procession of the Royal Family and attendants walked across the *Praça* from the house to the Fabrick amidst a vast concourse of people. On their entrance into the Fabrick, they were again saluted by the manufacturers with "*Viva a Rainha, Viva toda a Familia Real*" repeated three times. The Royal Family took their seats in a

2 - Inácio de São Caetano, Archbishop of Thessalonica

3 - Secretary of state for home affairs and acting first minister

4 - Benedita, Princess of Brazil, sister of Maria I and wife to Prince José

5 - Mariana (sister of Maria I) and Carlota Joaquina (wife of Prince João)

6 - Madame Arriaga, a senior *açafata* and Maria's favourite female attendant

varanta prepared for the purpose covered with green baize and crimson taffety where they spent about half an hour amusing themselves with seeing the people at work. The Princess, afraid of being so near the glass furnace on account of the heat so soon after finishing her baths at the Caldas, immediately on entering the Fabrick called me to her and desired I would shew her the way upstairs to the packing warehouse. Accordingly I ordered a chair to be placed for her by the window where she amused herself in admiring the prospect and talking to me and to D. José Lobo, her *Camarista*, in a very agreeable familiar style during the time the Queen remained down in the *varanta*. Her Majesty, after satisfying her curiosity of seeing the people at work and applauding them all very much, came upstairs and examined everything very attentively.

After spending a little time here, they took a view of the other departments belonging to the Fabrick. In the cutting and flowering room,⁷ they sat some time admiring the work, the Queen and Princess both asking me a number of questions about our craftsmen etc. After taking a view of everything belonging to the Fabrick, they walked into the garden where Chairs were placed in different situations for them to rest themselves. Here they diverted themselves till Ave Marias, when they retired to the house and drank tea.

Immediately on finishing tea, they went to the theatre where the gallery was elegantly prepared for their reception, the whole being hung round with crimson damask and the front ornamented with crimson damask curtains trimmed with gold lace and hung in festoons, the rails covered with crimson velvet ornamented with a deep gold fringe. On the right hand of the Royal Gallery was a side gallery for the Archbishop and, opposite on the left hand side, a similar gallery for the *Donas* and *Açafatas*, behind which was sufficient room for all the rest

7 - The workshop where glass was cut, engraved and painted with flowers

of the female attendants to see the play. The pit was allotted for such people belonging to the suite as were not Camaristas or in immediate waiting, as also for the gentlemen of this neighbourhood and the *Ministros* of the city of Leiria. There was also a private box under the Royal Gallery for the principal ladies of Leiria who were here to see the entertainments.

Immediately on Her Majesty's entrance in the gallery, the orchestra, which consisted of four violins, two French horns and two violoncellos, began the overture, during the performance of which the Royal Family admired the design and painting of the curtain. It represents a lady sitting upon a large tree with the Arms of Portugal by her side and a youth in a light gardener's dress emptying a cornucopia in her lap as the emblem of Plebty and Industry. The expulsion of Indolence is represented by a beggar who is a healthy, stout, hearty-looking fellow covered with rags, his pockets stuffed with bread, and a staff in his hand pointed with iron serves as an offensive or defensive weapon as best suits his purpose. He is going off with a look of contempt on Industry. The explanation at the bottom is in the following words: "*Lusitania pelas Artes recebe da Industria Abundancia e desterra a Mendicidade*"⁸. Over the front of the stage, two female figures representing Tragedy and Comedy are supporting a target with the following label, "*Vinde e descansai porque trabalhistas*",⁹ alluding to the motives for which was built.

On finishing the overture, the curtain was drawn up and the Tragedy of *Sésostris* commenced.¹⁰ This play was by particular desire of Her Majesty and I must do our young people the justice to say that, although they had not a fortnight to study it, they performed their parts exceedingly well. Between the acts, there were different dances and pantomimes, during which

8 - "Portugal receives Abundance from Industry and Indigence is exiled"

9 - "Come and rest from your labours"

10 - *Sésostris* (1695) by Hilaire Bernar de Longpierre (translated into Portuguese in 1785)

the Royal Family were served with ice of different sorts¹¹ and other refreshments. After the play, the farce of *Esganarello* was performed with great applause.

As soon as the theatrical amusements finished, the Royal Family returned to the house where they found supper on the table and the *Praça* illuminated with about two thousand lights, disposed on frames hung in the following manner [diagram], which covered all the walls of the buildings between the windows, an obelisk in the middle of the *Praça* crowned with a sphere at the top. Two triumphal cars with musick were drawn round the square and played under the windows during the time of supper and, as soon as the Royal Family got up from table, some pretty fireworks were displayed off which amused them about a quarter of an hour, when they all retired to their apartments and a total silence commenced for the night.

The Royal Family supped together in our large room at a table twenty-two *palmas* long and eleven wide. The Queen sat in the centre on one side of the table, with the Princess on her right hand side and the Infanta Dona Carlota on the left, the Infanta Dona Mariana at the left hand of Dona Carlota. On the opposite side of the table fronting the Princess sat Prince¹² with his brother Dom João as his right hand opposite Dona Carlota. Their usual custom at Lisbon and the Caldas is to sup and dine each in their different apartments; in travelling they in general eat together and, on this occasion, they seemed to be very happy in each other's company.

The table and sideboards were hung round with pink-coloured *nobreza*; in the centre of the large table was a very elegant glass ornament made here, representing a temple. The design was a given by the Marquis of Marailva's *Copeiro* who had the direction of all the confectionery with the assistance of the

11 - Ice creams and sorbets

12 - José, Prince of Brazil, elder son of Maria I

Queen's Confectioner who undertook mostly the management of the ice, of which there was a great variety and exceeding good. The custom is to put everything on the table at once, meat, fruit, sweetmeats etc. All the dishes from the kitchen is served up by the direction of Her Majesty's Chief Cook, who had three and twenty cooks to work under him.

When the Royal Family arose from table, the *Donas* and *Açafatas* and your humble servant sat down. It is the usual custom in journeys for the *Camaristas* and noblemen to sit down at the table after the Royal Family. It is then called *Mesa de Estado*, but on this occasion it was judged most expedient for the ladies to remain upstairs and the *Mesa de Estado* for the *Camaristas* and Secretary of state was placed in our dining room on the ground floor. This table was a little smaller than the Royal one. It had a pyramid of glass salvers in the middle decorated with sweetmeats and the table hung round with blue *nobreza*. The Archbishop had a separate table in his apartment for himself and companion Padre Rocha, the late Provincial of the Order of St. Domingos,¹³ as had also some others belonging to different departments.

At the upper end of our great walk in the garden was erected a wooden *barraca*, eighty, *palmos* long and thirty wide, hung with tapestry and covered with sailcloth. In this room was a table containing about fifty or sixty people, where my brother entertained the *Cavalheiros da Província*, Ministers and Câmara de Leiria and all such company as could not be admitted at the other tables.

The Royal Family and their female attendants were all lodged in our house which, on this occasion, was called the *Paço* or Palace, the Archbishop in the house on the right hand side of the gate, and the *Camaristas* and Secretary of state etc. at best house in the place, where we had very excellent beds made

13 - Father Rocha, Dominican friar, confessor and companion to Inácio de São Caetano

for them. The livery servants, coachmen and soldiers with their beasts were well accommodated under the wood sheds, where they had their kitchen and dining rooms according to their several degrees, with a plentiful supply of the best beef, rice and bread that could be got in this country and as much *Aljubarrota* wine as they chose to drink. Notwithstanding this, for their honour, I must not omit saying that there was not one got drunk, nor the least disturbance happened during the whole time they were here, and as a remarkable proof of their honesty, I can assure you that on this, and the former occasion on their being here, we lost nothing but two desserts spoons which I suppose to be mislaid or thrown out with the dirt of the kitchen, it being not an object to be stolen where there was an opportunity of stealing things of much greater value.

You may guess a little more or less of the number of people belonging to Her Majesty's suite when I tell you that we had stables provided with straw and barley for six hundred beasts exclusive of the troops. Besides the people belonging to the Court, there was a vast concourse from all the country round this neighbourhood which curiosity had brought together to see their Sovereign, with whom they seemed mightily pleased.

On Tuesday morning, the first inst., the infante Dom João got up t four o'clock and took a ride with a few attendants to see his estates at Monte Real, the camp of Leiria, and the works at the Foz da Vieira two leagues distant.¹⁴ He examined the whole very minutely and returned very well pleased with his excursion between eight and nine o'clock. By this time, the Queen and all the Royal Family were up and dressed. They breakfasted in their different apartments on tea and *tosta Inglesa*. Breakfast being over, their travelling altar was erected in the Queen's dressing room, where Mass was celebrated by

14 - Foz da Vieira, mouth of the River Liz, where engineers were removing sandbanks which narrowed the entrance channel

one of Her Majesty's Chaplains in the presence of the Royal Family and a few of their attendants. This being over, they amused themselves in walking about the house and conversing very affable with ant persons who came in their way.

Between one and two o'clock, dinner was served up in the same manner as the preceding supper. During coffee, the carriages were got ready, when they took a ride with a few attendants to see the famous and ancient city of Leiria. After passing under a Triumphant Arch erected by the Câmara or Chamber at the entrance of the city, they drove straight to the Cathedral Church where they were received with the usual ceremonies by the Bishop. On their first going to any church, it is the custom for the Bishop or the Principal Priest belonging to the church to receive the Queen at the door under the canopy which they carry over the Sacrament. In this manner, she walks with the Royal Family up to the High Altar where velvet cushions are placed for them to kneel on. During their private prayers, a short Te Deum is sung, accompanied by such musick as the church affords. This being finished, they retire in the same manner they entered.

After viewing the cathedral, they went in their carriage to the Bishop's Palace, which is very spacious and well furnished. It is situated on an eminence and commands a most beautiful prospect of the city. The ruins of an old Moorish Castle, the river and the country adjacent, they saw the whole with great pleasure and, after partaking of an elegant *merenda*, they left the palace and went to the Convent of nuns of the Dominican order. After seeing the church, they went into the Convent and examined every corner of it with satisfaction. They left the poor nuns highly impressed with gratitude, not only for the honour of the visit, but also for Her Majesty's gracious bounty of twenty *Moydores* which she left for their support. Thirty *Moydores* were also ordered to be given to the poor of the city. At the

Convent door, they got into their carriages vastly delighted with the City of Leiria which, on this occasion, made a great figure, the houses being all whitewashed, the streets covered with sand, and the windows hung with curtains the same as on grand procession days. At Ave Marias, they all arrived here again safe.

The Prince and his brother left Leiria some time before the Queen. They came part of the road in a chaise, then mounted their horses and took a ride to see the Timber Fabrick and the Forest,¹⁵ which is near our house, but arrived here at the same time with the Queen. After drinking tea, they went again to the theatre with the same ceremonies as the preceding night and saw the comedy of *Dom José de Alvarado, Criado de Sigmemo*¹⁶. It's a laughable piece and it was acted with great humour. At the end of the second act, a solo was played on the violoncello by a young man of Leiria who is studying physic at Coimbra, as a *curioso*. He plays very well an the Royal Family applauded much his performance. Between the other acts were different dances and pantomimes, the whole concluded with the farce of the *Letrado Aarento*¹⁷.

The theatre was illuminated with wax and the dresses on each night according to the characters. The performers acquitted themselves with honour and received universal applause, not only from the Royal Family but from all the audience who thought it impossible that a rude country place like this could have produced such good actors. Their surprise was greatly increased on finding that the greatest part of them had never been more than two or three leagues from this parish, and that they all worked in the Fabrick. They perform only for their amusement, which you must allow is very different from the public theatres have no other employment than studying their

15 - The state -owned sawmill and royal pine forest of Leiria

16 - Dom José de Alvarado, Servant of Himself

17 - The Miserly Scholar

parts and their whole subsistence depends upon favourable opinion of the public.

The amusements of the theatre being finish, the Royal Family returned to the house where supper illuminations, triumphal cars and fireworks concluded the diversions in the same manner as on the preceding night.

The next morning, Wednesday de 2nd inst., the Royal Family arose early, dressed, breakfasted and heard Mass in the same manner as before mentioned, during which everything was got ready for their departure eight and nine o'clock. The Prince and the Princess¹⁸ got into their carriage and drove straight through to the Caldas, being afraid to stop and dine at Nazaré on account of the smallpox which raged there, it being doubtful whether the Prince had [had] this disorder or not. On taking leave of Her Royal Highness, I kissed her hand and thanked her for the honour she had done us in this visit and wished her a good journey. In return she gave me an *abraço*, thanked me for the hospitable entertainments she had received, and wished me health and happiness. My brother took leave of the Prince in the same manner and attended him to the door of the carriage.

On driving out of the gate, they were again saluted with three *Vivas*. Her Majesty and the rest of the Royal Family remained near an hour after the Prince and the Princess were gone. On the Queen's leaving her apartment, I kissed her hand when she thanked me for the entertainment we had given her, with a countenance that indicated she was pleased with everything she had seen. I then took leave of the Infantas Dona Mariana and Dona Carlota. The former gave me an *abraço* and repeated her thanks in the same manner as the Queen and Princess.

At the bottom of the stairs, the Administrator of the Fabrick, with the two Book-keepers and Paymaster, were introduced and kissed Her Majesty's hand who received them very

18 - José and Benedita, Prince and Princess of Brazil

graciously and applauded very much the industry of our people, the good order and management of the Fabrick, and the harmony which subsisted between the people belonging to the Manufactory. They then went through the ceremony with the Infante Dom João and the two infantas, who also received them very graciously. In the hall were the bishop of Leiria with his attendants and the *Ministros* and *Câmara* of Leiria who took leave in the same manner.

My brother attended Her Majesty to the door of the carriage where she again repeated her thanks for his hospitality and drove away amidst the acclamations of a great number of people who remained penetrated with love and respect for their Sovereign and all the Royal Family for their pleasing and affable deportment during their stay in this place. From our house they went to the church. After a few minutes in prayer there, they went to the borders of the Forest and, from thence, to Nazaré where they paid their usual devotions to *Nossa Senhora*¹⁹, dined, went to the *praia* to see some nets drawn with fish, and from thence to Caldas where they slept that night and rested the next day, Thursday.

On Friday, 4th inst., they returned to Lisbon where they speak with high encomiums of the entertainment they received here. In short, my brother has attained what nobody else in the kingdom can boast of, which is the honour of entertaining the Royal Family and all the Court for two days, and given universal satisfaction to everybody from the Queen down to the scullions and stable boys. The first time of Her Majesty's coming here was not so surprising, as curiosity to see the Glass Fabrick was supposed to be the motive, but that she should come a second time and sleep two nights in the house of a private person, an Englishman and a Protestant, is a thing that never entered the idea of the Portuguese and has struck all those country people

19 - Nossa Senhora da Nazaré, Chapel of Our Lady of Nazaré

with amazement. Her Majesty liked her situation so well that she regretted leaving it and would have stayed longer had it not been for the unavoidable necessity of returning so soon to Lisbon. The orders were already passed for the change of beasts on the road and everything to be got ready for their reception at the Praça de Comércio²⁰ and it was now too late to recede. She left one hundred *Moydores* to be distributed among the people of the Fabrick and twenty *Moydores* for the poor of the parish.

Immediately on Her Majesty's leaving us, our house was open for every person who choose to see it. We had a large company from Leiria and the neighbourhood who dined with us at the Royal Tabel and, at night, the same illuminations were repeated. The Tragedy of *Sesóstris*, with the same new dresses, dances and pantomimes as on the first night, were performed with universal applause to a numerous audience, free admittance being granted (as is our usual custom every person of all ranks and denominations). After the play, our company supped with us at the Royal Table, drank Her Majesty's health, and concluded our three days festival with no small satisfaction to our selves an all our neighbours, it being altogether such a sight as they had never seen before.

A few days previous to Her Majesty's arrival here, the Chief Director of the Household came with the *Armador* who brought five beds for the Royal Family and curtains for the doors and windows of the principal rooms. They were of crimson damask trimmed with gold lace and valance of crimson velvet with a deep gold fringe. The Prince and Princess's bed was very large and elegant. The stands were iron gilt, the boards painted white. Over them was a crimson buckram covering with crimson damask valance fastened to it. The headboard was covered with crimson damask, over which was a case of a most beautiful fine muslin worked with small spots of silver,

²⁰ - A reception to welcome the Queen when her barge returned to the city

the edges trimmed with an elegant silver blond lace plaited on pretty thick. The first mattress was of a very fine new *pano de linho* which they brought empty and filled here with rye straw. Over this was two mattresses of very fine Irish linen stuffed with wool. These were covered with a very good *pano de linho* sheet which four men pulled with all their strength and tucked in under the straw mattress. Next was a fine Irish linen sheet tucked in the same manner. Two flat bolsters were then laid on each other, stuffed with wool and quilted in the same manner as the mattresses. The bolster cases were plain but of finer linen than the sheets. The upper sheet of fine Irish linen was then put on with a crimson damask coverlid, the part of the sheet which turns down being tucked to the coverlid. Over this, instead of a blanked, was an orange-colour broadcloth covering bound with ribbon of the same colour. This covering was to be taken off, or put on, at pleasure. Upon this was another crimson damask coverlid which was also trucked in very tight under the straw mattress and the whole was covered with the same elegant silver-spotted muslin as the headboard, with a deep full flounce that reached from the upper mattress to the floor, the whole trimmed with silver blond lace. The state round bolster was then laid on the bed in a case of the same muslin trimmed in the same manner as the coverlid and the ends tied with large knots of the best English white ribbon. A crimson taffety covering was then thrown lightly over the whole to keep off the dust.

The Queen's bedstead was the same as the Princess's but smaller and the mattresses, flat bolsters and sheets the same as has been already described. Instead of an orange-colour broadcloth covering, hers was white, the headboard was covered with crimson damask, the same as the coverlid and valance, without any other ornament than being bound with silk lace of the same colour.

The Infantas Dona Mariana, Dona Carlota and the Infante

Dom João's bedsteads were all three of brazilwood, the mattresses, bolsters and covering the same as the Queen's, except the Infanta Dona Carlota, whose bed was made in the English style. The sheets which she brought from Spain were remarkably fine but plain, the bolster was round with a cambric case bordered at each end with a fine flowered muslin. The coverlid was white satin quilted à Inglesa, over which was thrown a crimson taffety covering to preserve it from dust. The bedstead had posts and mosquito nets. The Queen's and Princess's had testers and curtains belonging to them but Her Majesty, most graciously recollecting that our rooms being elegantly that our rooms being elegantly furnished with stucco, the testers could not be fastened without driving hooks into the ceiling, for which reason she gave positive orders for the beds to be made without curtains as she would not consent by any means for the most trifling thing to be done to injure the house which she often admired for its neatness. She very politely took every opportunity of praising everything. After dinner, she told me she had eaten very hearty, everything being exceeding good.

The Marquis de Pombal²¹ was the only person who brought his bed, except the five of the Royal Family. All the rest were provided by us, which altogether amounted to some hundreds which we got from Leiria and its neighbourhood, it being impossible to collect so great a number in this place. The livery servants and soldiers were delighted to find they had got decent beds to sleep in. It was a luxury they enjoyed for the first time since leaving Lisbon on the 3rd of May. During the whole time of their being at the Caldas, they were obliged to sleep on loose straw in the stables, on the ground, or wheresoever they could find a place to lay themselves down, such is the hardship these poor fellows endure when traveling with the Court and is probably the reason of their committing many outrages, but I

21 - 2nd Marquis of Pombal, gentleman of the bedchamber

must again repeat that their good behaviour here entitled them to every indulgence.

The Royal Family are waited upon at table by their *Camaristas* and *Reposteiros*. On the Queen's entering the dining room, she is presented by the Camarista on his knee with water and a towel to wash her hands, which being done she takes her seat and the *Camarista* stands behind her chair. The same ceremony is observed with all the rest of the Royal Family. The *Camarista* then carves such dishes as they choose to eat of and, when anything is required from the sideboards, the *Reposteiros* reach it to the *Camarista* who puts it on the table. When water or wine is required, the *Reposteiro* draws the cork and brings the bottle and glass on a salver to the *Camarista* who, on his knee, pours our liquor and presents it to the Queen, remaining in the same attitude to receive the glass when she has done drinking.

When dinner is over, they again wash their hands and retire to drink coffee. They are very particular with respect to the water they drink which is all brought in flasks from Lisbon, some from the *Chafariz da Praia*²² and some from the Ajuda. One of the *Reposteiros*, who was *Provedor de Aguas*, I observed had nothing else to do but to keep the key of the water chests and take care that there was always a bottle full of water ready on the sideboard and on a table in each of the apartments. Her Majesty's bottle was distinguished by having a bit of narrow white ribbon tied round the neck. Claret is the wine chiefly made use of, and that only a very small quantity.

Her Majesty I found greatly improved in her looks since she was here in 1786, being now fatter, of a better colour and more cheerful countenance. The Princess is something thinner but still retains a pleasant agreeable aspect. The Infanta Dona Mariana is fatter and, although not handsome, has something agreeable and majestic in her appearance. The Infanta Dona

22 - One of the highly-decorated fountains in Lisbon which supplied water to the people

Carlota appears just the same as when she was here last, lively but very short, nor does her countenance indicate the she will ever grow much taller. I have seen children as lusty at nine years of age; she is now in her fourteenth.

The Queen, Princess and Infantas were dressed in silk riding habits, every day a different one. Her Majesty wears her hair twined up before in a plain tight toupee, behind in a bag like the gentlemen or in a queue. She makes use of a little old-fashioned cocked hat which she generally carries in her hand or under her arm. It is seldom she puts it on her head but when she rides on horseback. The Princess had her hair frizzed before and tied in a club behind. She wore a large hat in the English fashion, round the crown of which was a ribbon with a knot on one side ornamented with steel bows. The two Infantas were also nearly in the same style with the Princess. They all wore broad black velvet girdles round the waist, fastened before with two monstrous large medallions, set and ornamented with steel, which I believe were English.

The *Donas* and *Açafatas* are not allowed to wear either riding dresses or hats, let the journey be ever so long and the wind, sun and dust ever so troublesome. They were obliged to travel through it in chaises dressed in the same manner as we English people commonly do on Friday nights when we go to the Long Room.²³ No person is allowed to sit in the presence of any of the Royal Family, except the Archbishop who is the Queen's Confessor. The *Camaristas*, when tired of standing, may rest themselves by kneeling on one knee whilst talking or playing at cards. The *Donas* and *Açafatas* have sometimes leave to sit on the floor.

The expense of this entertainment was about a fifth part of what is computed by people in general, notwithstanding my brother amply rewarded the Cooks and *Copeiros* for their

trouble. Previous to their coming, everything was provide for them so that, on their arrival, they had nothing to do begin their work. We required nothing from Her Majesty's Household but the damask hangings for the doors and windows and the large coopers for the use of the kitchen. China, Damask, Table and Plate we have sufficient for the service of all the different tables. Having had some reason to expect this visit last year, we got a large supply of silver-hafted knives and forks and spoons from England, of the best quality and newest fashion, all which is carefully preserved for the next occasion, which probably will be next year as the Royal Family have some thought of going to Coimbra.

A little anecdote happened which is scarcely worth mention only as a proof of her Majesty's determined resolution to be pleased with everything she met with. The Queen and Princess have each a particular teapot and cup and saucer which they always make use of. The Princess brought hers. The female servant who packed it up enquired of the Queen if she would have hers packed up also, to which Her Majesty said "No", that she knew very well Stephens had provided everything that was requisite and she was determined to make use of nothing but what belong to his house.

²³ - Ballroom of the British Assembly Rooms in Lisbon