

skirts are seen groups of the better classes, sitting down to their pic-nics.

The acting President and Governor of Lima, Lafuente and staff, honoured the place with their presence, to please the people. He did not, however, appear to receive any honours, nor was his arrival greeted with marks of approbation or enthusiasm. Towards evening, when the inebriated mass is returning, the great sport of the day occurs. The cholo women, who ride astride, are remarkably good horsewomen, and extremely expert in managing their horses. Their dress is peculiar: a large broad-brimmed hat, with flowing ribands of gay colours, short spencer or jacket of silk, a gaudy calico or painted muslin skirt, silk stockings, blue, pink, or white satin shoes, and over the whole is sometimes worn a white poncho. Large wooden stirrups, ornamented with silver, numerous pillions, a saddle-cloth, and richly ornamented bridle, all decked with amancaes, form the caparison of the steeds.

Nothing can exceed the confusion of the return of this great throng, moving over a dusty road, shouting and racing. The cholo women are always on the lead, and actively engaged in taking care of their drunken partners, who are frequently seen mounted behind them, with their faces flushed from the effects of pisco, forming an odd contrast to the beautiful yellow flowers that adorn their hats. The great feat of the women who ride single, is to unhorse their companions, which they frequently succeed in doing, to the great amusement and sport of the pedestrians, and the discomfiture of their male associates. They are seen while at full gallop to stop suddenly, whirl round two or three times, and go off again at full speed, covering themselves and the bystanders with dust. Just before reaching the city, the road is lined with vehicles, not unlike our cabs, in which are seated ladies in full costume.

The Alameda, as well as the streets leading into it, is crowded on this occasion with all the fashion of the city. Though the crowd would lead to the belief that every body was abroad, yet the doors and windows are filled with heads, more or less decorated with amancaes. This is a festival nowhere surpassed in drunkenness and uproar.

Most of the buildings in Lima have suffered more or less from earthquakes. It was the season of earthquakes during our stay, and three were felt. Some of our gentlemen complained of a sickening sensation during the first. It did not, however, do much damage. The second took place on the 5th of June, and was sensibly felt; a third was experienced on the 10th of June, with a continued shaking