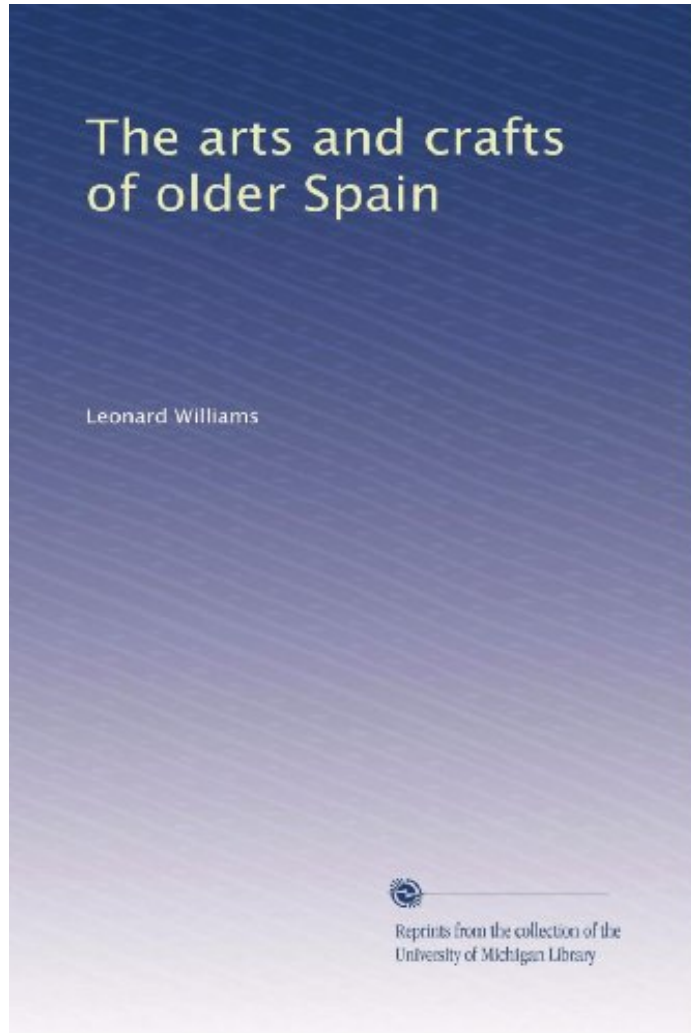


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The arts and crafts of older Spain (Volume 3)

Leonard Williams

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This historic book may have numerous typos, missing text or index. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. 1907. Not illustrated. Excerpt: ... Appendices vol. iii. 177 12 appendix A the legend of san miguel in excelsis Towards the year A.D. 707, when Witiza was king of Spain, there dwelt at the castle of Gorii, not far from the city of Pamplona in Navarre, a cavalier named Don Theodosio, whose wife, Dona Constanza de Viandra, was a lady of remarkable beauty. On one occasion Don Theodosio found himself obliged to quit his native country for a time, in order to command a military expedition against the Berbers, and before

his departure he begged his father and mother to cheer his wife's loneliness while he should be away, by taking up their residence at his castle. They came accordingly, and as a special mark of honour to the parents of her lord, Dona Constanza gave up to them her own chamber, together with the nuptial couch. After a time, when Theodosio's enterprise was concluded, and the warrior, safe and sound, was returning to Navarre, the Devil, disguised as a hermit, one evening lay in wait for him at a spot called Errotavidea, situated at a few miles' distance from Gofii castle, in the wooded and romantic valley of the Olio. Stepping up to the cavalier's side, Satan assured him, in a tone of smooth hypocrisy, that during his absence the lady Constanza had been seduced by one of Theodosio's own servants. Upon the knight's demanding proof, "proceed," replied the Devil, "to your castle, enter your nuptial chamber, and there you will find your consort in the very arms of her paramour." Frantic with apprehension, the warrior spurred home, broke into his chamber at the dead of night, and, passing his hand over the bed, encountered, as Satan had malignantly foretold, two bodies; whereupon he drew his sword and, in this moment of fatal and irreflective h...