

**THE 'SQUIB' OR SEARCHFOOT: AN  
UNEDITED LITTLE WORK WHICH  
MIGUEL DE CERVANTES  
SAAVEDRA WROTE IN DEFENCE OF  
THE FIRST PART OF THE QUIJOTE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649420001

The 'Squib' or Searchfoot: An Unedited Little Work Which Miguel De Cervantes Saavedra Wrote in Defence of the First Part of the Quijote by Adolfo de Castro

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**ADOLFO DE CASTRO**

**THE 'SQUIB' OR SEARCHFOOT: AN  
UNEDITED LITTLE WORK WHICH  
MIGUEL DE CERVANTES  
SAAVEDRA WROTE IN DEFENCE OF  
THE FIRST PART OF THE QUIJOTE**



THE  
'SQUIB'  
OR  
SEARCHFOOT:

AN UNEDITED LITTLE WORK WHICH MIGUEL DE  
CERVANTES SAAVEDRA WROTE IN DEFENCE  
OF THE FIRST PART OF THE QUIJOTE.

PUBLISHED BY  
DON ADOLFO DE CASTRO,  
AT CADIZ, 1847.

---

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL SPANISH  
BY  
A MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

---

CAMBRIDGE:  
J. DEIGHTON.  
LONDON: JOHN W. PARKER.  
LIVERPOOL: DEIGHTON AND LAUGHTON.

1849.



## TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE.

---

THE translation of 'El Buscapié,' here submitted to the public, was executed at Cadiz this spring. Want of leisure and other causes into which it is unnecessary to enter, prevented its going to the press some months ago. A few days since I received a letter from the only person to whom I had as yet shewn my manuscript, informing me that he had seen in *Bentley's Miscellany* for August, 1848, a notice of a version of 'El Buscapié,' executed by Thomasina Ross. This made me think of abandoning my design and leaving the field open to the 'fair' writer. However, on reading the portion of her translation given in *Bentley*, I found it to be a sadly mutilated version of Cervantes's work, and so full of faults, that I at once determined on publishing my own production.

To cite numerous passages from Thomasina Ross's work to prove that the censure I

have passed on it is not undeserved, would be an easy, though by no means an agreeable task: I shall merely give one specimen, in order that the Spanish scholar may see that there is just ground of complaint:

‘Siempre en todas las mas bravas armas y escavamuzas que se daban á los enemigos, era de los que mas tarde embestian y de los que mas presto se retiraban.’—(Cervantes.)

‘He served in the war in Flanders, *where* he fought in all the hottest battles and skirmishes.’—(Thomasina Ross.)

That my translation has numerous faults I am fully conscious; nevertheless, I trust that the reader will excuse many of them, when he considers the antiquated style in which ‘El Buscapié’ is written, and the difficulty which *Spaniards* of the present day find in the works of their immortal Cervantes.

MARINE TERRACE, PENZANCE,

Sept. 27, 1848.

---



## SPANISH EDITOR'S PREFACE.

---

**T**HE manuscript of the Squib or Searchfoot (*El Buscapié*), which chance has placed in my hands, is of the handwriting of the end of the sixteenth or beginning of the seventeenth century, and bears this title :

'The very witty little book called Squib or Searchfoot, wherein, besides its great and excellent learning, are declared all those latent matters not declared in the clever gentleman Don Quijote de la Mancha, which one de Cervantes Saavedra composed.'

And these words appear immediately after, written in his own hand :

'Copied from another copy in the year 1606, at Madrid, on the 27th of February of the said year. For Señor Agustin de Argote, son of the most noble Lord (may he be in holy glory!) Gonzalo Zatieco de Molina, a gentleman of Seville.'

Afterwards we read the following, appa-

rently in the handwriting of the beginning of the eighteenth century :

‘Of the books of the Lord Duke of Lafões,’—a Portuguese title. How the manuscript passed out of this gentleman’s library, and how it came to Spain, I know not. The way in which it has come to my possession is as follows. Within the last three months there were brought from the city of San Fernando to Cadiz many books for public sale, which had belonged to a barrister named Don Pascual de Gándava, a man of research, (*hombre curioso*), though not of very fine literary taste, as his library proved, in which, among very old editions of the holy Fathers, and of the authors of Greek and Latin antiquity, and of those who wrote in the golden age of literature in Spain, there was a large number of Jesuitical works, lives of saints, treatises on theology, and other books, all written in the seventeenth century, and in which there is a compendium of all that the extravagance of some men, who seemed to be abandoned by the sciences, and even by reason, could invent. Among these, then,

I found the manuscript of Cervantes's 'Squib.'

D. Vicente de los Rios, in the life of this writer, says as follows :

'Knowing that the "Quijote" was read by those who understood it not, and that they who could understand did not read it, he endeavoured to excite the attention of all, by publishing 'the Squib.' In this little work, which was printed anonymously, and is extremely scarce, he made an evident and clever criticism on the "Quijote," insinuating that it was a fine and gentle (*paliada*) satire on various well-known persons, and those of high rank too; but without discovering or even pointing out any one of them by the slightest indications—a criticism very discreetly managed, whereby he gave so much credit and reputation to the "Quijote," and stirred up the credulity of the public to such a degree, that all emulously sought and read it, in hopes of clearly discovering by its perusal the objects of the satire at whom 'the Squib' glanced.'

It is likewise said that in this little book Cervantes ridiculed the emperor Charles the