In the eighteenth year of his reign Count Tancred began building himself a palace in the mountain of the city-patriotism in the county, and on the shores of the great river which opens out into the sea opposite to his city. The building of this palace, and the laying out of its gardens, are important in the history of the man, not merely as displaying the generosity and magnificence of his character, but likewise because this palace became one of the came to be considered as matter for offence in later days, when the city of heresy and infidelity began to be raised against Count Tancred and his family and people.

For it pleased Count Tancred to choose as site for his building a place called the five palms, on account of certain trees brought to the city by the Saracens and planted in recollection of the city of Damascus, at the time when they held the country before the coming of the men from the North, and the Germans and others who restored it to Christ, a spot where the Saracens had held great esteem, laying it out in itagora-like manner and conserving it by the presence of one of their mosques. And this circumstance, of little weight by itself, was brought into notice by the fact of Count Tancred employing not only Christian architects,
for his purposes, but Moorish likewise, whom he begged of his allies the kings of Granada and Seville.

down the river from 
from Cadiz to Algeciras
Jan., 1809.