

RAMBLER
IN
MEXICO

LATROBE

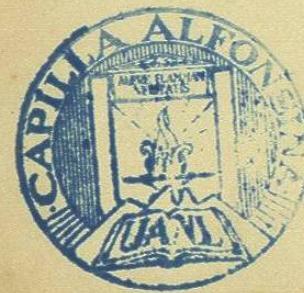
F 1213
L36



1020001182

~~WVa
CD.~~ NS
~~WV~~

w/ map not present - w
New York edition -
1



Hb-1-4

103132
1987



THE RAMBLER
IN MEXICO:

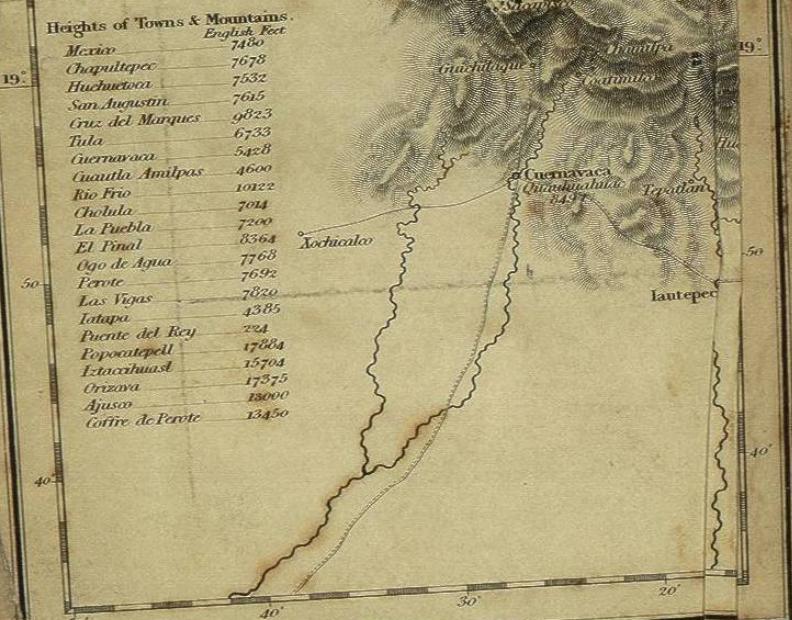
15
MDCCCXXXIV.

BY CHARLES JOSEPH LATROBE,

AUTHOR OF THE 'ALPENSTOCK,' ETC.

CÆLUM, NON ANIMUM MUTANT QUI TRANS MARE CURRUNT.
HOR. EPIST.

PUBLISHED BY R. B. SEELEY AND W. BURNSIDE:
AND SOLD BY L. AND G. SEELEY,
FLEET STREET, LONDON.
MDCCCXXXVI.



F1213
L36

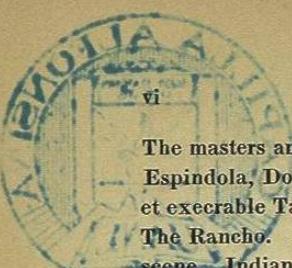


CONTENTS.

LETTER I.—The Gulf of Mexico. The Goelette Halcyon. Her passengers and crew. The Bravo. Sunday on board. A calm. The roadstead of Tampico. Prognostics of coming evil. Morning before a storm. The custom-house boat. The Norte. The Goelette is driven out to sea. The Haleyon returns to her anchoring ground. The Bar. The river Panuco. Arrival at Tampico. A second Norte. Page 1.

LETTER II.—First hours in New Spain. Description of Tampico. Inhabitants. Character of the Mexican. The European. The Indian. Military. The Fonda de la Bolza. Pastimes of the inhabitants. Scenery of the environs. The Bluff and the rivers. Juliano. Insect-hunting. A cure of enthusiasm. The Garapatos. A third Norte. Return of the Haleyon. Vexatious detention. Pueblo Viejo. La Mira. La Fuente. The arriero ant. We quit the coast. Tampico Alta. Page 22.

LETTER III.—Halt at Tampico Alta. Physical geography of New Spain. The Tierras calientes—Tierras templadas and Tierras frias. Description of the party:



The masters and servants, Juliano, Miguel, Don Juan Espindola, Don Gaetano. Scenery. La Messa. 'aimable et execrable Tampico.' Osuhuama, an Indian Village. The Rancho. The Indian cabin. The inmates. Curious scene. Indian guile. Santa Catherina. The Hacienda. Chicontepec. A storm. Miguel, *a borracho*. Vale of the Sierra Madre. The Cura's seat. The River Cañada. Great Defile of the Cañada—features of. Splendid scenery. Tlacolula. The Cura. The Mules. Miguel and Juliano. The Monte Penulco. The Tierras templadas.

Page 44.

LETTER IV.—Scenery of the Monte Penulco. The Tierras templadas. Juliano's sickness and defection. Zacualtipan, description of. The Arriero's home. A day's rest. Ruins. An awkward adventure. San Bernardo. The Agave Americana. The Cactus. Singular scenery. Rio Oquilcalco. Rio Grande. The Mountain of San Ammonica. Hacienda Zoquital. Circuit to visit Regla. Puebla Grande de Mittan. Hacienda and Barranca of Regla. The amalgamation-works. Real Del Monte Company. The basaltic rocks. The Cascade. Dangerous nocturnal ascent to Real Del Monte. The Town. Scenery in the vicinity of. A visit to the Mines. The various shafts. Mode of working. An Indian tale. Route from the Mines to the Capital. San Mateo Grande. The City of Mexico. Features of the neighbouring plains.

Page 74.

LETTER V.—The City of Mexico. Dispersion of our train, and subsequent arrangements. Pursuits of the trio. Description of the Valley and City. The environs of the city. The Calzadas. The Aquaducts. The route

of San Augustin. Optical deception. Hacienda San Antonio, description of. The Pedrigal. Culture of the Magney. Buildings of the Hacienda. San Augustin, —view from its environs. The scenery of the Valley. Volcanoes and Volcanic phenomena, present and past. Routes from the Valley of Mexico. Tacuba. San Cosmo. Apopotla. The cypressus disticha. Chapultepec. Guadaloupe. The Patron Saint of Mexico. Nuestra Senora de los Remideos. The climate of Mexico. Earthquakes.

Page 103.

LETTER VI.—Civilities to Foreigners in the City of Mexico. The opinions of Foreigners. The French barber. The Belgian host. The German saddler. The Corps d'Opera. The palaces. The canals. The market. The Alguazil. Shops. The upper classes, male and female. The Alameda. The Paseo de las Vigas. Military Mexican habits. State of the country and of parties. The Holy Week. Influx of strangers of all classes to Mexico. The Plaza Mayor. The booths. Holy Thursday. Church Visiting. Popular amusements. The rattles. Judas Iscariot. Processions on Good Friday. Saturday before Easter. The termination of the Holy Week. Christianity in Mexico. Public institutions. The Museum. Antiquities. The ancient Mexican Calendar. Antiquities.

Page 139

LETTER VII.—Excursion in the environs. The Calzada. Peñon Viejo. Lake Tezcuco. Hacienda, Chapingo, Huejutla. The Baño di Montezuma. Tezcosingo. Tezeuco. The Contador. Remains of the Mastodon. Singular fact. San Juan Teotihuacan. The houses of the sun and moon. Description of. History of Anahuac.

Peopling of the continent of America. Origin of the pyramidal monuments. Time and manner in which men and animals reached the American continent. Entry into the House of the Moon. Terra cotta heads and obsidian knives. The fainting stone. Tecam-Zumpango. Huchuetoca. The Desague Real. Guauitlan. Tanepantla. Return to the capital. Page 177.

LETTER VIII.—The Opera at Mexico. Bull fights. The Desierto. Scenery of the valley of Mexico. Departure for the coast. Tlalpan. Route of the Cruz del Marques. Cuernavaca. Visit to the Teocalli of Xochicaleco. The House of Flowers. Yantipe. Cuautla Amilpas. Disagreeable adventure. Zacualpam Amilpas. Base of Popocatepetl. San Mateo. Atlisco. Cholula. Page 224.

LETTER IX.—Cholula. The Great Pyramid. Quetzalcoatl. La Puebla. The English dray horses. Route to Vera Cruz. The Pinal. Ojo de Agua. Orizava. Perote. Las Vigas. The Coffre de Perote and its lavas. The Alps and the Cordillera. Jalapa. The Litter. Puente del Rey. Vera Cruz. The roadstead. Sail from New Spain. The *vomitó prieto*. Conclusion. Page 274.

LETTER I.

To F. B. L.

I RESUME my correspondence with you, and herewith send you a few sheets containing a chronicle of my vernal rambles in New Spain.

The present recital introduces you to the same principal dramatis personæ, and opens, where my last closed,—on board the golette Halcyon, in the Gulf of Mexico; somewhere about latitude 28° north, longitude 92° west, or within a hundred miles, more or less, of the tropic of Cancer. It was the fifteenth of January, 1834; wind from the eastward, light but steady; sky serene, and every prospect of a fair and fortunate voyage. The distance from the Belize lighthouse at the entrance of the Mississippi, to the Bar of Tampico, towards which the head of our little vessel was directed, is about six hundred miles.

From this date, up to the fourth day at noon,—so favourable were the auspices under which our voyage was continued, always excepting the confined position, sea-sickness, and the bad company on board,—we never