

further back from the river might, and probably soon will be, utilized for residence purposes.

As we journeyed back to San Luis Potosi we chatted with our fellow-passengers—American railroad officials and employes, with their wives. After the manner of our sex, we women discussed together the subject of housekeeping, particularly the comparative advantages of housekeeping in Mexico and in the United States. I found that they were all homesick, and they gave but a sorry account of the domestic outlook for Americans in Mexico. It is difficult to find schools for the children, as it is dangerous to send a child to the municipal schools where contagious diseases are not quarantined. Then, too, household supplies are poor and high-priced. One cannot exist on drawn-work, silver filagree, leather belts or card cases, and these staples are almost the only cheap thing in Mexico. Fruit in tin cans costs \$1.75 a can, bacon from 60 to 80 cents a pound, butter from 80 cents to \$1. It is impossible to find shoes for American feet in the country, most of the clothing must come from the United States, and as the tariff is high, dry goods are expensive. In short, a family can live better in the United States on a given salary than it can in Mexico on more than twice the amount. It was the same old story; my

countrywomen, like all good Americans in a foreign land, felt themselves to be exiles in the midst of hardships.