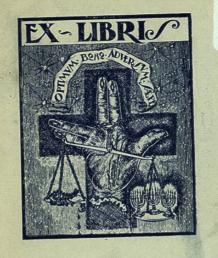


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WITH THE FRENCH IN MEXICO.





IEPETL AND IXTACCIMUATI, FROM NEAR ST. MARTIN

# WITH THE FRENCH

IN

# MEXICO.

BY

### J. F. ELTON,

LATE OF THE 98TH REGIMENT, AND A.D.C. TO H. E. GENERAL SIR HUGH ROSE, G.C.B., K.S.I., COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN INDIA (LORD STRATHNAIRN).

LONDON: CHAPMAN AND HALL, 193, PICCADILLY. 1867.

LIC. IGNACIO HERRERA TEJEDAJ



VIRTUE AND CO., PRINTERS, CITY ROAD, LONDON.

### PREFACE.

THE following pages consist simply of a diary carefully kept in Mexico, and put into the present form, in order to pass away idle time during a stay at the Havana and a journey up the Mississippi.

There is no pretence made to any literary merit, but the Author trusts that some little interest may be attracted by a subject upon which as yet very little is known in Europe.

The Engravings are all from sketches taken upon the spot, some of them by the Count de Montholon, an officer on the staff of General Douay, and the rest by the Author.

St. Louis, Missouri, March 5th, 1867.

"Il y a des sites, des climats, des saisons, des circonstances extérieures tellement en harmonie avec certaines impressions du cœur, que la nature semble faire partie de l'âme, et l'âme de la nature, et que si on sépare la scène du drame, ou le drame de la scène, la scène se décolore et le sentiment s'évanouit.

"On ne peut bien comprendre un sentiment que dans les lieux où il fut conçu."

RAPHAEL.

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Popocatepetl and Ixtaccihuatl, from near St. Martin (Frontispiece.)
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Map of the Expedition of Galeana.
Map of the Road from Vera Cruz to Saltillo.

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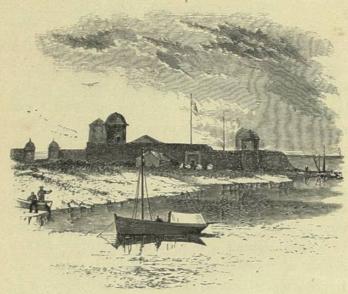
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WATER BATTERY, HAVANA.

### CHAPTER I.

### THE START.

There are few sports more fatiguing than a long day's wildfowl-shooting during severe weather. Cramped up in your punt, cold, tired, and with half-frozen hands and feet, you only bear up, in the hope that a good and lucky shot with the "big gun" may possibly bring you home "le Roi de la Chasse." For at this sport, more than at any other, the shooting is "jealous," and every distant report excites great speculation as to who fired it, and what it may have brought to the bag.