

two hundred boys from the poorer classes of Guadalupe and Zacatecas, who are being taught the trades of wool-working and weaving, printing, bookbinding, carpentry, carriage- and car-building, blacksmithing, and shoemaking, as well as other trades. The blankets and wraps made in this school are equal in manufacture to any that may be bought either in the States or in Europe, and compare very favorably in price with them. This school was awarded medals in the Paris Exposition of 1887 and the Exposition at Chicago in 1893 for woollen and silk goods made on the premises.



THE CHURCH OF GUADALUPE, ZACATECAS.

There is a band of well-trained musicians connected with the school. The establishment is self-supporting, and certainly is well worth visiting. This is the pet institution of the governor, who manifests the deepest interest in the progress of the pupils.

Near Guadalupe is the establishment of Señor Don Serapio Galvan, Fábrica de Providencia. This factory is in the shape of the letter L, and occupies thirty thousand square yards. The street front is a handsome façade, with square tower and large entrance; inside is a handsome court, with offices for the various departments. The owner's private house is also here, and has a large court with covered galleries from which opens a suite of handsome rooms gorgeously furnished. Carriages and all sorts of vehicles are manufactured in this factory, to compete with the best American or European products.

The governor of Zacatecas is General Jesus Arechiga, under whose wise administration many improvements have been made in public and private enterprises. Among the achievements of his terms are the new theatre, costing nearly two hundred and fifty thousand dollars; a magnificent hospital, of rose-colored stone, fitted with all the requirements of modern science; an elaborate system of lighting; a beautiful school for girls with ample grounds and all the latest appliances known to educators, a scientific institute, a normal school for boys, and other public buildings and improvements of importance to the capital city. His efforts have not been confined to the seat of local government, however, as many useful public improvements have been made throughout the state, including new schools, city halls, public gardens, and markets. A word should be added in praise of the fine system of public schools in Zacatecas. The state spends nearly three million dollars in primary and higher public instruction. There are about twenty-five thousand students in these schools, with two thousand more in private schools maintained by the clergy and other individuals. With her vast resources, her educational system, and her public spirit, the state of Zacatecas has already become a power in the republic of Mexico.

## CHAPTER XXVIII

### AGUAS CALIENTES



ONE of the smallest states in Mexico is Aguas Calientes, having an area of only two thousand two hundred and sixteen square miles. It is almost entirely enclosed within the state of Zacatecas. According to the last census, the state of Aguas Calientes has four cities, four villages, forty-nine haciendas, three hundred and fifty-five ranches, eighteen thousand five hundred and two houses, besides three hundred

and eighty-one that are being constructed, sixty-eight Catholic churches, and two Protestant. The eastern districts consist of elevated table-lands, some five thousand to six thousand feet above the level of the sea. The western portion includes the sierras of Laurel and Pinal, spurs of the Sierra Madre or Cordillera. The table-lands produce abundant crops of cereals and a variety of fruits, including olives, figs, grapes, and pears. It is divided into four districts,—Aguas Calientes, Rincon de Romos, Asientos, and Calvillo.

The capital is Aguas Calientes, which means hot waters. It is a very attractive city of about forty thousand inhabitants, noted for its hot springs, well-appointed bath-houses, and healthy climate. At this point there is now being erected what will be one of the largest silver-copper smelting plants in the world. One of the most celebrated and largely attended fairs of the republic (the Feast of San Marcos) is held at Aguas Calientes in the month of April in each year, when thousands of people from all parts of the country throng the streets and plazas of this old and beautiful city. Aguas Calientes has especial attractions for lady tourists because of the beautiful needle-work (drawn-work) which is brought to all trains by the vendors, for sale at very low prices.

The city takes its name from the warm mineral springs in its neighborhood. The old roads



SEÑOR DON RAFAEL ARELLANO,  
GOVERNOR OF AGUAS CALIENTES.





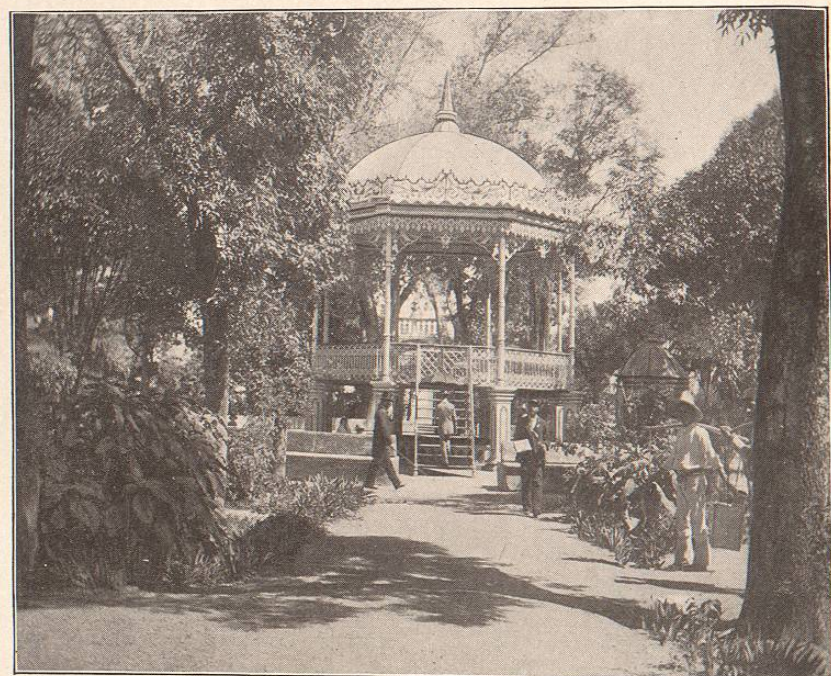
STREET SCENE IN AGUAS CALIENTES.

cultivated. The climate is delightful, the air being warm and the changes in temperature between November and April varying less than twenty degrees.

From Aguas Calientes a branch of the Mexican Central Railway extends to Tampico, on the Gulf of Mexico, passing *en route* through Salinas, noted for its extensive salt deposits, probably the greatest on the American continent, and San Luis Potosí, the capital of the state of the same name.

In the tropical altitudes of Mexico, and in the hot springs sections, as at Aguas Calientes, without regard to altitude, there is a sort of Egyptian disregard of the conventionalities in attire and a disposition to take a daily fashion hint from the Garden of Eden instead of from Paris, the children discarding even the fig-leaf. The water-carrier of Cairo is much like his brother of Guanajuato, where a long earthen jar is used. The groups about the fountains all over the republic, with jars of pottery borne on the women's heads on protecting turban-like rings, or balanced on the men's shoulders, are also Oriental.

Aguas Calientes, although small, is one of the important states in Mexico. It is half-way between the city of Mexico and the northern border, with a



KIOSK IN THE PARK OF SAN MARCOS, AGUAS CALIENTES.

from Mexico to Sonora and Durango and that from San Luis Potosí to Guadalajara meet here. The baths are reached by a long avenue of superb cottonwood-trees, and are well built of a soft red stone. The baths are very cheap and much frequented. On one side, through a canal, flows the surplus water from the springs, which is used gratis for bathing by those unable to pay the small charge of the bath establishment and by the washer-women. There is a handsome alameda (or park) and a paseo, as the grand avenue of these towns is called. The country around is very fertile and highly



TEMPLE OF SAN MARCOS, AGUAS CALIENTES.

branch line to San Luis Potosí. It is noted for its warm, healthy climate and its constant sunshine. Many invalids from the southern portions go there, and it is destined to become an important health resort. No tour of Mexico is complete without a visit to this beautiful state. The drawn-work manufactured by the Indians excels in beauty the celebrated Fayal work, which is so much better known.

The governor of Aguas Calientes is Señor Don Rafael Arellano, and to his wise administration the state owes its present peaceful condition and its marked progress in all the arts and sciences.



CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, AGUAS CALIENTES.