

ness of the condensing clouds and the fresh breeze of the mountains was wise, for Boca del Monte stands at an altitude of 7,922 feet above Veracruz, from which there is a distance of $107\frac{1}{4}$ miles; the same garment will henceforth be useful against the dust, which is very compact in dry weather. As the remainder of the track to Mexico does not present any serious ascent, the Fairlie engine is there replaced by an ordinary one. *San Andrés Chalchicomula* is 126 miles from Veracruz. This village is about four miles from the railway station, but there is a *Diligencia* which meets every train; the Municipality of the village is studying the project of constructing a tramway. *San Andrés* is situated at the foot of the Peak of *Orizaba*.

La Rinconada is 139 miles from the coast. There is also a service of *Diligence* for *San Andrés*. On leaving *San Andrés* the reader has to his left a chain of mountains, known as the *Sierra de Chiconquita*. At 18 miles distance, is *Ixtacihuatl* (the woman in white). The altitude here is only 7,732, therefore we have been coming down the hill from *Boca del Monte*; but henceforth we shall alternatively ascend until we reach Mexico. Eleven and one fourth miles more and we come to the station of.

San Marcos, 113 miles from Mexico and near to *Nopalucan*—a small village situated at the junction of the highway that leads from *Puebla* to *Jalapa*, via *Perote*, as well as of the conceded line of railway from Veracruz to *Puebla*, via *Jalapa* and *Perote*. Between this station and the next the traveller has a full view of Mount *Malinche* (*Malinzin*). By the time the reader has admired *Malinche* and wandered in the supernatural world, the train arrives at

Huamantla, $102\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Mexico. On the line between *Huamantla* and the next station there are several iron bridges thrown over the torrents and water falls, caused by the drainings of *Malinche*.

Apizaco is eighty six and one half miles from Mexico. This is the junction of the branch line to *Puebla*, and to

that fact the village owes its birth. There is a good restaurant, where an excellent meal is served for 75 cents at the arrival of the up and down trains: English, French German and Spanish spoken. The altitude here is 7,910 feet; but at the Hacienda of *Acocotla* which we passed on the road, we were as high as 8,310 feet, the culminating point of the line.

Gnadahupe Hacienda is at a distance of 77 miles from the capital, Mexico.

Soztepec $70\frac{1}{2}$ miles further on, and 8,224 feet above the level of the sea. Hence the track goes down a gentle slope to the capital.

Apam is $57\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Mexico. This borough is the central point for the sale of *pimienta* especially of the *quesadilla* and *chalupa* kinds, which are the basis of all Mexican cooking. In the plains of *Apam* there are many haciendas of *pulque*.

Irolo, $47\frac{3}{4}$ miles from Mexico, is the central market for the sale of *pulque*, the stations of *Apam*, *Irolo*, *Soztepec*, *Ometusco*, and *La Palma* being the most important deposits. This beverage is extracted from the plant called *maguey* (aloes) which the traveller has seen so many of since the train left *Boca del Monte*, and which cover the plains to the gates of the capital, and even the whole valley. This plant is the *manna* of the natives. It gives them fruit, liquid, paper, yarn and needles. When the plant arrives at maturity (in ten years), an incision is made at the foot, in the centre; the heart is cut out to form a reservoir, into which the juice of the leaves collects. This juice is aspired by the breath into a long dried pumpkin called *Acocotl* (water throat) and then emptied into a sheep skin. In this state it is called *Agua miel* (mild pulque). It is taken to the hacienda, poured on a cow hide stretched on a frame, the hair being inside, and left there to ferment; after which it is put again into sheep skins and shipped. The pulque

of temperate regions is far superior to that of the hot climates.

Ometusco, 42 miles from the capital, is the station where travellers alight to take the *diligencia* to the mining country of *Hidalgo*, via *Pachuca*, *Tulancingo*, etc. There is a restaurant for 75 cents, on arrival of train.

La Palma comes next, but is of little importance.

Otumba lies thirty four and one-fourth miles from Mexico.

San Juan Teotihuacan, twenty-seven and one fourth miles from the capital, or one and half hours' ride by the train, is the station where visitors take the *Diligencia* to visit the pyramids of Teotihuacan. *Tepexpan*, twenty and one-fourth miles from Mexico, is the last station but one before reaching the capital. At each train there is in attendance a conveyance for Texcoco, a city situated on the eastern side of the lake of the same name, and on the western borders of which stands Mexico City itself.

Not far off, the traveller perceives *Guadalupe Hidalgo* on the other side of the track, to his right. This town merits a special visit, on account of its religious importance.

Arrival. Now let the traveller strap up his rug and rehearse the words he has learned, by the time the train reaches the station. Those who have taken through tickets will be met at the station by the agency's correspondent, and everything will be provided for them, conveyance and apartments; but those *qui ne sont pas ainsi favorisés*, must take a carriage, for the cars which meet the train stop on the grand square. After having been jolted about on the uneven pavement of the city, they will arrive at the hotel, which they have chosen out of our list. The fare of the carriage, for any drive, is two reales or twenty-five cents, and double that amount for one hour or part of an hour. It is customary to give the driver a gratification, but not obligatory. In Mexico, although there are restaurants

under the same roofs as the hotels, they do not belong to the same proprietors; therefore, if travellers have not made preliminary arrangements on taking their tickets, they will need to make terms with each one.

There is a service of horse cars from the depot to the Plaza Mayor and *vice versa*. It leaves the square at 5 P. M. to meet the train from Veracruz, and at 9 P. M. to take passengers for the 9:30 o'clock train for Veracruz.

Passengers' baggage for conveyance in the passenger trains is received and booked in Buenavista station every day, from 9 A. M. to 12 M. and from 2 to 4 P. M. The luggage office is also open, as well as the ticket office, one hour before the departure of the trains.

The *Express Mexicano* and another *de Tiburcio*, takes charge of travellers and luggage for the station and abroad.

MEXICO CITY.

THE CAPITAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF MEXICO IS
SITUATED.

Astronomical Observatory (Mexico) by 19° 36' 26" 1 of latitude N. and 99° 6' 39" longitude W. according to the meridian of Greenwich. The difference of time between Mexico and Greenwich is 6h 36' 26" 6.

Meteorological Observatory (Mexico) Latitude N. 19° 26' —Longitude W. of Greenwich 6° 36' 27" Altitude 2282.5 metres. It stands in the middle of the Valley of Mexico, which measures forty-five miles by thirty-one miles and contains about 200 000 inhabitants. Its climate is temperate, never being over 70°, nor under 50° Fahrenheit. This low temperature is due to two causes, viz: its altitude being 2282.5 metres above the level of the sea; and the vicinity

of the cordilleras, which encircle the Valley, and of which two of the highest points, Popocatepetl and Ixtacihuatl, are covered with perpetual snow. The barometer stands at twenty-two and one half inches, and water at boiling point marks 190°. The longest day is of thirteen hours and ten minutes, and the shortest, ten hours and fifty minutes.

Fruits and flowers grow in profusion; but the European fruits have not the savor of their original country; neither have the flowers the vivid colors or odor which they possess in lower regions.

The streets are at right angles, from north to south and east to west. Their names change at each block. At the extremity of each line of streets, in the distance, are plainly seen the mountains which surround the valley.

Mexico stands on part of the old bed of Lake Texcoco, out of which it sprung, but the borders of which are now embanked at a certain distance from the capital.

The Valley contains, also, the lakes of Chalco, San Cristobal Zumpango, Xaltocan and Xochimilco: the six lakes cover fifty square miles.

The Lake of Texcoco, into which run the waters coming from the town, and brought there by the viaducts and the canal of Chalco, far from having an outlet, is also the deposit of the waters running down the rivers on its eastern side, and produced by the drainings of neighboring mountains. The necessity of draining the valley of Mexico was the first attention of the *Ministerio* of public works.

The soil of the valley is generally detrital and of modern alluvium. It contains a large proportion of carbonate of soda. In many parts, where volcanic lava supersedes, there is no vegetation whatever. In several other parts, mineral waters and naphtha are to be found. The earth pulverizes into a very fine dust, so that in the dry season the town is dusty and consequently muddy in the rainy months of June, July, August and September, during

which the rain falls in the afternoon or night, thus flooding the streets for several hours; because, as we said above, the current through the sewerage is insufficient.

The big commerce and industry of the Mexican Republic is mostly carried on by foreigners, for the Mexican capitalist places money in real estate, mines town-houses, etc., etc.

BANKS.

Banco de Lóndres, México and Sud America, *Capuchinas* street, 3. Capital (£ 2,000,000) Limited. Barron, Forbes & C. 1st. San Francisco N. 9. Benecke & C. Calle de Capuchinas núm. 7. Martin Daran & C., Cadena núm. 16.

CARRIAGES.

Carriages without numbers outside, may be obtained by applying to owners. The numbered ones are to be found in the streets: and those with (negroes) coachmen speaking English at doors of hotels.

The fares are as follows:

From 10 A. M. to 10 P. M.

For less than half an hour, without stopping.	\$ 0 25
For one hour, or over half an hour	0 50

From 10 P. M. to 6 A. M.

For half an hour	\$ 0 50
For one hour	1 00

Gratifications to the coachmen are not obligatory.

PALACES.

THE NACIONAL PALACE. — *El Palacio Nacional*, occupies the whole of the Eastern side of the *Plaza Mayor*; it measures two thousand, one hundred and sixty seven feet, and is of a monotonous architecture.

The actual palace contains the president's official apartments and offices, those of the ministers, the military commanders' head-quarters, the treasury and the archives of the nation: *El Senado*.

THE PALACE OF CONGRESS. — *El Palacio del Congreso* is in *Calle del Factor*.

THE PALACE OF JUSTICE. — *El Palacio de Justicia*, in *Cordobanes Street*.

THE MUNICIPAL PALACE. — *El Palacio Municipal*, or the Consistorial Building is in front of the Cathedral. It now contains the municipality offices, and those of the district government. There is the assembly room, called *La Sala de Cabildo*.

POST-OFFICE. — *El Correo*. — Letters must not be stamped by persons sending them; but taken to the post office, *Calle de la Moneda*, from 8 A. M. to 9 P. M. Letters addressed to "post office" are advertised in the yard of the post-office.

Letters for the United States, Havana and Europe must be posted two days before the steamer leaves Veracruz. The charge for a letter is according to its weight and place of destination. The tariff is:

From Mexico to Veracruz and the United States of America under $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.	\$ 0 25
From Mexico to Veracruz from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	0 38
From Mexico to Veracruz from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 oz.	0 50
Do, do, do, from 1 to $1\frac{1}{4}$ oz.	0 63
Add \$0 13 for every $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce.	
From Mexico via England	via France

To Europe $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.	\$ 0 35	\$ 0 25
Do, do, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	0 53	0 38
Do, do, from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 oz.	0 70	0 50
Do, do, from 1 to $1\frac{1}{4}$ oz.	0 88	0 63

From Mexico to the United States of America, same tariff as for Veracruz, but the American post-office fee is to be paid on delivery.

TRANWAYS.

From.	To
Mexico, Plaza Mayor in front of the Municipal Palace on the south side of the Cathedral.	Chapultepec, Tacubaya, Mixcoac, San Angel, Tlalpam, Belem, Buenavista, San Cosme, La Tlaxpana, Popotla, Tacuba, Peralvillo, Guadalupe Hidalgo, La Viga, Soledad de Santa Cruz and Naucalpan.
Mexico. <i>Calle de Balvanera</i> . Balvanera Street.	Colonias de los Arquitectos y San Cosme, Tacuba, Azcapotzalco, Tlalnepantla and Cuautitlan.

VILLAGES AROUND MEXICO.

CHAPULTEPEC. — *Cerro del Chapulin*. — Grasshopper mountain stands at a short drive from the city, and at the extremity of the *Calzada de la Reforma*. (The Reform. Road). The building which was erected in the year 1785, on a summit of porphyry, was once the site of the palace of Moctezuma; then of presidents, and the Military College; and now is the Nacional Astronomical Observatory. It is one of the best points from which one may overlook the Valley of Mexico; but what charms visitors the most, is the exuberance of the vegetation, the purity of its sources, and the magnitude of the avenues of ahuehetes (*cipresus*

distica), from the lofty branches of which hang innumerable fringes of long grey Spanish moss, called *heno* or *barba española*. The trees on each side of the alley meet at the top and form a dome, through which the rays of the sun never penetrate.

GUADALUPE HIDALGO.—The name of the father of Mexican Independence was added to that of this borough, his first flag having born the image of the Virgin of Guadalupe. The Aztec name is Tepeyac.

TACUBAYA.—Its proximity to Mexico and its elevated situation has caused it to be chosen for the site of summer residences, where the inhabitants of the capital retire after business hours; not that the outside appearance of the houses is pleasing to the eye, but the grounds are spacious and several are kept in good order; two of them especially, those of Messrs. Barron and Escandon, which tourists may visit on applying to their *administradores* in the Capital.

The military school has been transferred from the palace of Chultepec to the once archbishop's palace of Tacubaya. The Tlalpam train, and others, stop there.

MIXCOAC is a small village, where the inhabitants of the capital retire in summer. The Tlalpam trains stop there.

SAN ANGEL is the rival of Tacubaya during what Mexicans call the hot season of the year, from May until September.

San Agustin de las Cuevas (Tlalpam) was once the rendezvous of Mexican gamblers. This small borough is situated twelve miles from the capital. The beauty of its climate and the exuberance of its vegetation make it a charming residence during the summer, and several rich merchants of Mexico have there built country seats as well as paper and spinning-mills.

Then comes *Santa Anita* and further on *Ixtacalco* where are grown all those flowers that serve to make the splendid bouquets which the Indians spread out for sale

every morning at the corners of the central streets of Mexico.

There existed in the Mexican Republic 13,426 kil. 566 m, of Telegrafic line: *Del gobierno federal* 7,927 kil. 640 m; *de particulares* 5,498 k. 926.

* The government line, Street or *calle del Coliseo 16*. From Mexico to Matamoros,—Galveston,—New Orleans,—New York, etc.

Railway company's telegraph line: Square or Plazuela de Guardiola.

From Mexico to Veracruz, Guadalajara Company, *calle de la Monterilla number 8*.

The telegraph office (between Mexico and Veracruz) is situated in the building of the National Museum, next door to the post-office.

THEATRES.

National Theatre, *Teatro Nacional*, first class. Vergara street. *Teatro Principal*, Coliseo Street. Arbu theatre. Theatres for the working class, viz: American Democratic, Hidalgo, Jordan, New Mexico, Oriental, etc.

Conservatory Theatre (private) music and declamation.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

ACADEMY OF SAINT CHARLES or Fine Arts School: Architecture, Painting and Sculpture, *Amor de Dios* Street.

MINING SCHOOL. *San Andres* Street. Civil Engineers.

SAN ILDEFONSO PREPARATORY SCHOOL, in street of same name.

COLLEGE OF JURISPRUDENCE *Encarnacion* Street.

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE. Inquisition. *Perpetua* Street.

MILITARY COLLEGE. City of Tacubaya.

COLLEGE FOR YOUNG GIRLS *Colegio de Niñas de la Paz*. Plaza de las *Viccinas*.

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE. *Hacienda de San Jacinto Tlaaxpana.*

CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC AND DECLAMATION. (University Street.) *Cosmopolita* schools. Lyceum Hidalgo.

Municipal schools. *Escuelas municipales.* Their number in Mexico is 53, for boys and girls.

SCHOOL OF COMMERCE.

SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB, (*Escuela de Sordomudos*), School of the Tecpam. This is a school for vagabonds; they are taught a trade.

SEMINARY SCHOOL: supported by the clergy.

Societies. The Mexican society of geography and statistics, Architects Society, *Artística industrial.*

National Museum. Open to the public on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.

FRENCH CLUB, *Círculo Frances:* Near *Palacio Municipal.*

GERMAN CLUB, *Círculo Aleman:* *Colegio de las Niñas* Street.

LAWYERS' SOCIETY, *Colegio de Abogados, Cinco de Mayo* Street.

CASINO ESPAÑOL, *Círculo Español,* Espiritu Santo Street. And several others, with different names.

THE ARCHBISHOPAL PALACE, *El Palacio Arzobispal.* This building was erected in 1533, and served as a residence for the Archbishops belonging to the church, until the confiscation of church property by the government. The palace is occupied by different governmental departments, and the Archbishop inhabits a private residence in the rear of the once Inquisitorial building, *calle de la Perpetua.*

THE MINT, *La Casa de Moneda, calle del Apartado,* was established in the National Palace by the side of the National Museum, Apartado Street. It remained there until 1844 and was then transferred to where it now stands.

PAWNING ESTABLISHMENT. *El Monte de Piedad* is situated in front of the western side of the Cathedral.

The pawning privilege opened on the 11th February 1775, belongs to private individuals, the rate of interest, including expenses, is 1 p^s per month. Tickets have to be renewed every eight months.

CUSTOM HOUSE. *La Aduana, Plaza de Santo Domingo.*

HOUSES OF CORRECTION. *Casa de Correccion.* The one for children is situated in the suburb called *Tecpam de Santiago.*

GENERAL PRISON. At Betlem another suburb, there is a general prison called *Cárcel de Belem.* Adjoining it is a building in which are the criminal courts of the district. Finally, there is a provisional prison in the eastern part of the municipal palace.

ABANDONED INFANTS' HOUSE. *Casa de niños expósitos, (La cuna).* This philanthropic establishment is situated in *calle de la Merced,* in front of the *Mercado de la Merced,* formerly a church.

ASYLUM FOR CHILD-BIRTHS, *Casa de Maternidad, calle Ancha.*

GENERAL HOSPITAL OF ST. ANDREW. *Calle* or *Street de San Andrés.*

THE DIVINE SAVIOUR, *El Divino Salvador.* For insane women, *Calle de la Canoa.*

SAINT HIPOLITO INSANE HOSPITAL. *Hospital de locos, calle de San Hipólito.*

Saint John of God. *San Juan de Dios,* only for syphilitic women.

Hospital of Morelos or San Pablo, for the wounded and criminals.

Asylum for the Blind, *calle de San Andrés.*

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS.

The following prices of hotels include service and light.

They are arranged in alphabetical order, not by class; but especialities are noted.

BAZAR, *Calle del Espíritu Santo*, a central family hotel. French spoken. Rooms from \$1 to \$2 per day. French restaurant with private saloons and garden; terms 75 cents per meal, and special terms per week, fortnight or month. Wines and liquors; table wine \$1 per bottle.

BELLA UNION, Corner of *Calle de la Palma*.

RESTAURANT AND BOARDING HOUSE on the American system, kept by Miss Hube, *calle del Espíritu Santo número 4*; English, French and Spanish spoken.

BOARDING HOUSE, *calle del Seminario número 7*, fronting the eastern side of the Sagrario, kept by Mrs. Gaddsen: English, French and Spanish spoken. Here people are extra well attended.

EUROPA, *Calle del Coliseo Viejo*, a Mexican hotel.

GILLOW HOTEL AND RESTAURANT. *Calle de San José el Real*. A commendable family hotel in an eligible and central situation: English, French and Spanish spoken.

GRAN SOCIEDAD, *Calle del Espíritu Santo*: Mexican hotel and restaurant kept by Frenchmen.

GUAL, *calle del Puente del Espíritu Santo*: Mexican hotel.

ITURBIDE. Second *calle de San Francisco*, for single ladies and gentlemen: English, French and Spanish spoken; rooms from \$3 per day; special terms for permanent boarders.

FRENCH RESTAURANT, in the Iturbide Hotel, and superintended by its owner, Mons. C. Recamier.

There is not a better restaurant than this one in any part of the country. A breakfast or dinner here costs in the main saloon at private tables, from \$1 upwards; and in the garden or private saloons from \$1 50 cts. upwards. A first class ordinary French table wine can here be had for \$1 per bottle, and any other quality at moderate prices, as well as first rate liquors and beer of every descrip-

tion. As visitors are carefully attended to by first class waiters, and meals are so extra-good, nobody will abandon this restaurant who has once tried it, and had a sumptuous meal so cheap.

NACIONAL, *calle de la Profesa* or *3^a de San Francisco*.

REFUGIO, *calle del Refugio*: Mexican hotel and restaurant (*fonda*).

SAN AGUSTIN, hotel and restaurant (*fonda*) Mexican: *Calle de San Agustín*.

SAN CARLOS, Mexican hotel and restaurant, *Calle del Coliseo*.

COLISEO VIEJO, *fonda y hotel del Turco*.

GERMAN FONDA, *Callejon de Santa Clara*.

LA CONCORDIA, great *café* and restaurant: A. Omarini, proprietor: pastry and ice creams: corner of second *calle de Plateros* and *San José el Real*: French cooking: *déjeuners à la fourchette*, *diners à la carte* and parties: saloon and private cabinets: English, French, Italian and Spanish spoken.

TIVOLIS: *de Bucareli, del Eliseo, del Ferrocarril, de San Cosme* kept by Porras; Petit Versailles, from \$1 to 10 *déjeuner à la fourchette* or *dîner* and superior wines.