

frontier States, Coahuila has suffered from the deprivations of the Camanches, Lipans and Apaches, to the ruin even of this, her great interest. At present no mines are worked in the State. The capital and principal town of the State is Saltillo, which contains 20,248 inhabitants. This place affords quite a market for *serapes*, noted for their fineness of texture and beautiful colors, and which are made principally by the women of the neighboring country.

There is also located in Saltillo, a cotton factory called the *Ibernia*. It has 1,300 spindles, 40 looms, uses 1,300 quintals of cotton annually, from which are turned out 11,520 pieces of common brown sheetings called *manta*, valued at \$4.50 per piece. The raw cotton costs at the factory 21 cents per lb. The employees of the factory number 180; the annual wages amount to \$19,200. The total cost of the building and machinery was \$91,500.

Parras is a town of some importance. It contains 8,730 inhabitants. The place is celebrated for its grapes and wine. Monclova, Fernando de Rosas, and Buena Vista are the other principal places of note in the State.

NUEVO LEON.

This state, which joins Coahuila on the south-east, is by the present constitution of the republic united to that state. It is less mountainous than Coahuila, and more available for agricultural, mining and trading purposes than that state. The proximity of Nuevo Leon to Brownsville in Texas, and Tampico on the Gulf, gives

it some advantages in trade and commerce. The mines of silver, iron, copper and lead, of which it is supposed there is an abundance, are in a virgin state, having been but little worked. Nitrate of potash, alabaster and muriate of soda are also found in considerable quantities.

DURANGO.

Durango is bounded north by Chihuahua, east by Coahuila and Zacatecas, south by Zacatecas and Jalisco, west by Sinaloa. The main range of the great Cordilleras passes directly through the centre of the state, and to the west the country is thoroughly broken up by the chains and spurs of the Sierra Madre. The eastern slopes are less rugged, and more available land for agricultural purposes is found.

The climate is quite healthy. In the mountainous districts the temperature is cool, while in the valleys great heat prevails during a part of the year.

The productions of the lands are principally corn, wheat and frijoles: sugar-cane, cotton and coffee are produced in small quantities. Durango has one great source of wealth in horses, mules, sheep and horned cattle, large quantities of which are raised annually. But the mines of this state must be its chief source of wealth. The iron ores of *Cerro del Mercado* are remarkable; they are of two distinct classes—crystallized and magnetic—and both contain from sixty to seventy-five per cent. of pure metal. Silver mines are abundant, but they have been improperly worked, and many districts

remain entirely unexplored. The principal districts in which silver mines have been profitably worked, are Gavalines, Guavisamey and San Dimas.

There are five cotton factories in this state, which turn out in the aggregate 60,208 pieces of *manta*, or common brown cotton cloth, per annum, and give employment to 648 operatives.

The city of Durango is the capital, and contains 14,000 inhabitants.

The state of Durango stands among the first of the Mexican states, in the industry and intelligence of her people. More than usual attention is given to education; there are 16 public and 40 private schools, besides the college in the city of Durango.

This state, like those on the north of it, is partially impoverished by the hordes of savages who roam throughout all this region, making war upon life, property and civilization.

There are important and interesting relics of antiquity in this state. In 1838, Don Juan Flores, proprietor of the estate San Juan de Costa, in the region of the *Bolson de Mapimi*, discovered an immense cavern in the mountain, around the walls of which were sitting more than a thousand Indian corpses in a state of perfect preservation, and clad in mantles woven of the fibres of the bastard aloe, which is indigenous in this region.

GUANAJUATO.

The small State of Guanajuato, situated in the heart of the Republic, is bounded north by San Luis Potosi, east by Queretero, south by Michoacan, west by Jalisco.

Two unbroken chains of mountains run through the State; the one on the north is known as the *Sierra Gordo*, and that of the south as the *Sierra de Guanajuato*. The fertile valleys among the cordilleras help to give an agreeable and picturesque appearance to the country. The climate is healthy and the temperature agreeable. The agricultural productions of this State are considerable; they consist of corn, wheat, barley, frijoles, Chili sugar-cane, maguey, which, with lumber for building, fruits, vegetables, medicinal herbs, &c., are estimated at the value of \$10,000,000 per annum.

Horses, mules and horned cattle are raised in considerable numbers.

The mines of this State, principally silver, are celebrated for their antiquity, extent and richness. The principal mining districts are Guanajuato, La Luz, Monte de San Nicolas, Santa Rosa, and Santa Anna, San Jose de Iturbide, San Luis de la Paz, Xichu and Atargea. For working the ores there are 32 haciendas, all of which work 1,030 *arastras*.

The amount of silver and gold coined in the mint of Guanajuato from 1827 to 1855 was \$124,896,504.

The manufacturing industry of the State may be estimated by the following table, published among the national statistics in 1857 :

MANUFACTURES.	ANNUAL PRODUCT.	VALUE.
Oil	6,900 arrobas	\$34 200
Aguadiente	33,320 barrels	503.200
Starch	4,170 arrobas	6.255
Carriages	90	9.000
Tanned Leather	68 500 sides	112.750
Sole Leather	19,500 "	97.500
Artificial Flowers	11,000 dozens	5.502
Blankets	285,500	428 850
Bedsteads	350	1.400
Deer Skins	80,000	50.000
Wheat Flour	315,000 arrobas	157.750
Brown Cotton	48,500 pieces	145.500
Rebosos	57,200	85.800
Pielis Curtidas	50,000	37.500
Hats	35,000	16.875
Saddles	5,450	43.600
Wines	80 barrels	2.400
Serapes	50,050	200.200

The capital of the State is the city of Guanajuato, the locality of which is peculiar and remarkable. It is situated in a deep and narrow valley, closely hemmed in by high and rugged mountains. On the east a stream rises, which in the time of rain swells to a torrent, and courses through the city among the houses, and empties into an arroyo on the west, which has its source among the mountains, in which are located the principal mines. The streets are very irregular and crooked, and there are but few through which carriages can pass. The

plaza is also very irregular, there being scarcely a level spot in it. There are many fine houses, and some notable edifices, such as the *Alhondiga de Granaditas*, the church, the mint, the government palace, and the theatre. There is but one entrance to the city for vehicles, and that is called *La Cañada de Marfil*. The population of the city is 63,398.

GUERRERO.

This State lies on the Pacific Ocean, which bounds it on the south and west, on the north the States of Michoacan and Mexico, and on the east Puebla.

The vegetation of this State is varied and magnificent, numerous hills, ravines, bosques and barrancas at short intervals, display, under a bright sun, a diversified and brilliant landscape unsurpassed in the whole republic. The climate is excessively hot and not very healthy. The productions of the earth are universally tropical.

The great wealth of the State of Guerrero, consists in its inexhaustible mineral resources.

In Copper and Iron this State is peculiarly rich and excels any other State in the Republic.

Recent explorations have demonstrated the existence of a copper district along the valley of the Zacatula River, upward of one hundred and fifty miles in length, and embracing the region contiguous to the river for that distance, which for richness, extent and the desirable character of its ores, is not surpassed by probably any copper district in the world.

The occurrence of the ores and their characteristics are described to be the same as in the copper district of Chili; and the capacity of the Zacatula copper region is said to be fully equal to that of Chili, if equally developed, although from the latter there is now annually exported over \$10,000,000.

Recently, there have been discoveries of placers of gold, and it is thought that if they were fully developed, they would equal in richness those of California.

There are no mining operations going on in this state.

But little can be said in favor of the inhabitants of Guerrero; they are mostly Indians of indolent habits and but very little civilized. Of these there is a peculiar race known as *Pintos*. The peculiarity is that they are spotted all over with dingy, slate-colored spots, the body being of a tawny, yellowish hue. The river Zacatula is the centre of the *Pinto* district.

Acapulco, a fine, safe harbor on the Pacific, and famous in history, is in this state. Tixtla, or Ciudad de Guerrero, as it is sometimes called, is the capital of the state.

JALISCO.

Jalisco, which is a large state, is bounded north by Zacatecas, Durango and Sinaloa, east by Zacatecas, Guanajuato and Michoacan, south by Michoacan and Colima and west by the Pacific Ocean. Jalisco is one of the largest and most important states in the Republic. The configuration of the country is varied, being mountainous in the centre, while on each side are extensive, beautiful and fertile plains. The river Santiago waters an extensive district.

The climate is varied, being cold in Largos, La Barca and Colotlan, temperate in the regions of Guadalajara and Ezatlan, hot in Autlan and Tepic, and variable in Sayula. The natural productions of this state are very numerous and the yield is extensive. They are corn, frijoles, barley, cotton, indigo, coffee, sugar-cane, vanilla, and tobacco. Of fruits there are bananas, plantains, oranges, lemons, figs, chirimoyas, pine-apples, &c. &c. There are forests of the red tree, cedar, pine, ash, mezquite, white wood, Brazil wood, ebony, &c., &c.

Mining was formerly a great industrial pursuit in this State, but at the present time the greater portion of the mines are abandoned, and others are only worked on a small scale. The metals produced are gold, silver, copper and iron. The most important mining districts are Bolanos, Comanja and Copala.

The total coinage of this State at the mint in Guadalajara, from 1848 to 1854, was \$4,027,490.

San Juan de los Lagos, a town of 6,000 inhabitants, is celebrated for the great annual fair held here from the 6th to the 13th of December. Visitors are attracted even from the most distant parts of the republic, and the general gathering is very large.

Guadalajara is the capital of the State. It contains 68,000 inhabitants, and it is one of the most important cities in the republic. The people are generally active and industrious. A large business in tanning hides is carried on here, and the manufacture of the best kind of saddles is extensive. Large quantities of rebosas are made in this city and sold throughout the republic.

Tepic, containing 9,000 inhabitants, is situated in the north-west corner of the State, and has a pretty large trade.

San Blas, the only port, is on the Pacific, 17 leagues west of Tepic.

MICHOACAN.

This State is bounded on the north by Jalisco and Guanajuato, east by Mexico, south by Guerrero and the Pacific, west by Jalisco and Colima. It is one of the richest, most beautiful, and important States in the Mexican Republic. Formerly the State of Guerrero, which lies on the Pacific, was included within the limits of Michoacan, the signification of which word, according to some interpretations, is "country of fishermen." The physical configuration of Michoacan is much diversified by mountains and plains. The main chain of the Cordilleras passes through the centre of the State, and yet there are gentle slopes, and beautiful, fertile plains, so numerous and extensive as to give the State great agricultural resources. This is, in fact, the leading branch of industry among the inhabitants. The temperature is varied, but the climate is quite healthy.

The agricultural productions are very numerous. In the district of Ario, the annual production of corn is estimated at 188,000 fanegas; frijoles, 1,420 do.; wheat, 270,300 lbs.; rice, 1,740,000 lbs.; Chili, 3,000 arrobas; besides a large quantity of sugar and panocha. The indigo plant is extensively cultivated in this district, and the annual product is estimated at 1,200 arrobas. In the

district of Patzcuaro the annual production of corn is estimated at 139,260 fanegas; frijoles, 723 do.; wheat, 4,087,500 lbs.; rice, 336,000 lbs.; chile, 780 arrobas; sugar, 23,000 do.; panocha, 5,600 cargas.

In the State of Michoacan are several sections noted for their fruitfulness. Among these is the valley of "Los Reyes," which is devoted exclusively to the cultivation of sugar-cane and the Chinese mulberry-tree.

The raising of horses, mules and horned cattle is a great source of wealth in the districts of Ario, Patzcuaro and Jiquilpan.

In Morelia and Cuitzeo, coarse cotton and woolen fabrics are manufactured, but not in large quantities. In Zamora silk rebosos are made.

There are four flouring mills in the puebla of Jacona, and large quantities of aguadiente of maguey are distilled at Cotija and Sahuayo.

There are numerous and rich mining districts, but the inhabitants being mostly devoted to agriculture, the mining interest has, at the present time, but little attention. The principal metals are silver mixed with gold, silver mixed with copper, cinnabar, iron, lead, antimony, sulphur, &c.

Morelia is the capital of the State. It was founded in 1541, under the name of Valladolid, in honor of its founder, the Viceroy D. Antonio de Mendoza, who was born in Valladolid, Spain. In 1828, by a decree of the State, the name was changed to Morelia, in honor of the patriot chief Morelos. This city contains 25,000 inhabitants.

MEXICO.

The State of Mexico, considered, from its industry, population and wealth, the first in the Republic, is bounded north by Vera Cruz and San Luis Potosi, east by Puebla, south by Guerrero, west by Queretaro and Michoacan. It is divided into nine districts as follows: Huehulta, Tula, Tulancingo, Texcoco, Tlahnepantla, Toluca, Cuernavaca, Cuautla and Sultepec.

This State, including the district of Mexico, which will have separate mention, in its peculiar topography and physical features generally; its mountains and volcanos, its lakes, plains and valleys, its charming views, varied and healthful climate, with its fertile soil, and abounding productions of every clime, presents, perhaps, the most interesting region of country in the world. At Cuernavaca, where a tropical sun brings forth tropical fruits, we see the peaks of Popocatepetl, and Ixtaccuatl, not more than 60 miles distant, covered with snow as eternal as the heavens above them. There is every variety of temperature in this State the year round, from frigid cold to torrid heat, and the productions of the earth correspond with this variety of temperature. In the high mountains we have the forest trees of Canada, while at the base, the banana, the broad-leaf palm, the orange, fig, lemon, cocoa-nut and pine-apple abound. Corn and wheat grow on the hills and elevated plains, while sugar-cane, cotton, indigo, &c., &c., are produced in the lower valleys.

In this inviting region the conquering Spaniards first located in great numbers, and here commenced that

system of plunder which has never ceased for more than three centuries, and which has sacrificed the blood and toil of millions of the aborigines of Mexico, and crushed out of their souls the last lingering spark of independence and hope of freedom.

The mines in this state are numerous and rich. The principal metals produced are gold, silver, lead, iron, and copper; also alum, magistral, cinnabar, &c. The most important mining localities are as follows: in the districts of Tula, Zimapan, Moro, Pachuca, Cardonal, San Nicolás and Jacal. In the districts of Tulancingo, Pachuca, Real del Monte, Santa Rosa, Capula and Atonilco. In the districts of Sultepec, Temascaltepec and Zacualpan. Of all the places named, Pachuca is the most famous for its mines, principally that known by the name of *la Rosario*.

The industry of the inhabitants is employed in the mines, agriculture, cutting wood, and working in the same, weaving blankets, rebosas, handkerchiefs, cotton and woolen cloths; manufacturing aguadiente, sugar, panocha, lime, salt, hats, &c., &c.

Toluca is the capital of the state. It contains 12,000 inhabitants.

OAJACA.

The state of Oajaca is bounded north by Puebla and Vera Cruz, east by Vera Cruz and Chiapas, south by the Pacific Ocean, west by Puebla. This state has a sea-coast on the Pacific of over three hundred miles, but throughout this entire extent of ocean boundary, there is no port open to foreign commerce except Ventosa, the western terminus of the Tehuantepec route.

In its geological features, Oajaca is one of the most beautiful Mexican states, while the salubrity of its climate and the fertility of its soil render it one of the most inviting portions of the world. The great valley of Oajaca lies between the *arms* of the great Cordilleras, and here Cortez located his vast estate, conferred upon him, with the title of marquis, by his royal master in Spain. A portion of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec is within the limits of this state. There are extensive regions which appear to have been populated in ages past by a numerous people considerably advanced in civilization. But these regions are now deserted and desolate. Such of the aborigines as remain at various points are well disposed, and under judicious management they could be made very serviceable in reclaiming the country.

Some of the most interesting antiquities of the western continent are to be found at Oajaca.

The palace, or ancient tombs, at Mitla, are the most notable. These ancient ruins are situated near the village of Miguitle, and their sad and sombre surroundings are of the most impressive order.

Like other favored portions of Mexico, the yield of agricultural productions of Oajaca, such as wheat and corn, with coffee, sugar-cane, cotton, indigo, tropical fruits, cocoa, vanilla, tobacco, cochineal, wax, honey, &c., is most abundant. The forests of rare and valuable woods are also extensive.

Statement showing the aggregate quantity of Cochineal exported from the State of Oajaca from the year 1758 to 1855, and the Value thereof; also, for the years 1856, 1857, and 1858.

YEARS.	LBS.	VALUE.
1758 to 1855	58,519,145	\$117,028,623
1856	395,200	418,205
1857	569,072	427,019
1858	514,537	288,338
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		\$118,162,185

This table has been prepared from statistics existing in the office of the secretary of the State of Oajaca, and may be relied upon as authentic.

The indigo crop of the department of Tehuantepec is estimated at 500 ceroons of 175 lbs. each, and that in the valley of Tonalá at 600 ceroons of 175 lbs. each, making the whole indigo crop equal to 192,500 lbs. The price paid to planters is 62½c. to \$1.00 per lb.

The State of Oajaca is said to possess rich mines of gold and silver, but at present they form no source of wealth to the state.

The city of Oajaca, capital of the state, contains 25,000 inhabitants.

PUEBLA.

The State of Puebla formerly extended entirely across the continent, the eastern boundary being the Gulf of Mexico, and the western the Pacific Ocean. But recently the limits of the state have been reduced, and its present outlines are extremely irregular. It is bounded on the north by Mexico, Tlaxcala, and Vera Cruz, east by Vera Cruz, south by Oajaca, Tlaxcala and Mexico.