

HOTEL LIFE IN MEXICO.

JOAQUIN MILLER'S OBSERVATIONS IN THE MEXICAN CAPITAL.

Strange and Contradictory Signs—Tragedy and Comedy—Picturesque Water-Carriers—Children Going to School—A Dirty Den—How Butter Was Brought.

The best of good order and good nature meet us here at the depot. Not even a loud word. The same sense of Sunday and the rest over all things revealed in the city as we entered, which was constantly encountered in the long ride throughout the length of the country. The carriages come up in line, two hansom cabs and carriages, perhaps, precisely as if we were at the door of the opera-house or on our way home from the entertainment.

Outside of the railway station, waiting for you, here you find many brown men in sandals and white clothes, with little ropes in hand. They wear a tag also, the neck of which is attached to a brass number. These are "carrozarros," and will gladly carry to any part of the city almost any burden you please. My traveling companion gave one of them his trunk, then his tool chest, and then his grip-sack, all of which the patient little Mexican took at once on his back.

And the sight, the strange and contradictory sights one encounters in the streets! In the first place the people that is the men, seem to live entirely on horse-back. Color of dress! Grace of movement! Perfection of manner! It would take a book to tell you what I saw in a single block. And yet right down under the hoofs of these horses, close up against the massive walls of some Spanish castle, some little old leather-colored woman would be sitting with a lot of clover, a flat full of dough, like puffy, a few peppers, a thimbleful of green-cooking "mortitas." To see a cavalier in gold and silver and silk all the best years' rainbows blowing about his shoulders' from his prancing and plunging steed, take from the withered old witch one of her cukes and one of her red peppers, toss her a copper coin and then gallop away!

I am sure this perpetual tragedy and comedy would make you want to laugh and weep at the same breath. And then the little bits of brown babies selling lottery tickets as we walked on: the cripples selling lottery tickets; the blind people selling lottery tickets; the priest with handfuls of lottery tickets to sell for the benefit of the church.

The picturesque water carriers. Sanals and silver! They have leather coats. They are very graceful. They are popular, too. There is not a man in New York dressed as gall as costily, if you count the silver that is on him, as one of these "carrozarros" who sell with two leather bowls about his head, a leather pocket, and leather knee-breeches. He would drive my friend Oscar Wilde to despair with his superior dress and grace. I am told he earns at least 15 cents a day, and may, on rare occasions, aspire even to 20 cents.

The policeman, the postman, the people with things to sell in the country, all things, in fact, seem to be somehow upside down; or so different from what I have seen in nearly all other countries that I constantly stop and recall a quarter of century ago, before I had seen other cities. And I like this all here above all other places of the world, because it is so fresh. And I am very glad to see it all again.

Children are going to school, carrying their books and slates, in great numbers. They keep close together, hug the huge old walls, and walk mostly in the sun. They seem very affectionate, and hold each other's hands as they trudge away to school. May be it is the soft, sweet air and the sun that makes them kinder than Saxon children. Anyhow they are very quiet and very kind.

AMERICANS Huddled in a heap. I found the dark and dirty little hotel crowded—only one room to be had, and that one so dark that I could not see to dress. And yet so much sun, and so warm, and so outside. The air was fresh and sweet. I was in a room with Americans. Why the American people will persist in sticking like wax together when they travel to see and to learn, I do not know. But here were these Americans all huddled together in a heap. And all roundly abusing Mexico and the Mexicans. Yet they saw little of either. I paid \$2 each here, but had to go into the plaza to do my work, my room was so dark. The food was fairly good, but very dirty; the attendance vile. Yet I am told that this is the best hotel Americans can find here.

But even this dismal flat and dirty two-story den was not without color and incident. I asked for some butter, and some bread and coffee one morning. I was told that I was too early and must wait till the butter came in from the country. I waited half an hour; for this is a land you can wait in. At last a bare-foot and almost entirely naked Indian came running in, making enormous tracks with his muddy feet over the dirty floor. He brought from a dirty bag three rolls of cabbage leaves, tied up tightly with grass. The proprietor of the hotel, behind his marble desk, pulled one of the rolls, took off the cabbage leaves, which he threw on the floor at his feet and then began to turn and twist and smell of the little ball, almost as big as your two fists.

At last, after much haggling and bargaining, he gave the Indian some money. Then he came to me with the roll in his hand, greatly delighted that he could let me have some fresh butter from the country, and proceeded with great ceremony to place it before me. But there were still more strings to cut. He went back to his marble counter, took a knife, came back, cut some grass strings, then taking off the strings and throwing them on the floor he began to take off coat after coat of corn-busks, all of which he threw on the floor. When the last of about a dozen corn busks were removed, minus the neck his knife, with renewed flourish, and cutting off a tough, hard, dry piece, a sort of cross between "sneezed" and lard, he laid some "fresh butter" before me.

And this in the so-called best hotel in a city which has the audacity to sometimes boast of a population of half a million—Joaquin Miller in Chicago Times.

Bob Ingersoll with Cue and Ball. Bob Ingersoll has bought a billiard table for his private residence. A visitor caught him practicing the other night and remarked that he had not hitherto suspected the gentleman of brilliancy in the cue and ball line.

"Well, you needn't suspect me now," said the orator, as the perspiration rolled from his brow. "I've been practicing just about long enough to prove that I'll have to take up some other pursuit for my livelihood. Why, man, I couldn't shoot a pumpkin down a cellarway. For the first time in my life I own up that I'm no good."—Hulton in New York Times.

There are twenty-four chaplains in the United States navy.

TREASURER'S SALE OF UNSEATED LANDS FOR TAXES FOR 1884 AND 1885

Agreeable to the provisions of law relating to the sale of unseated tracts of land for the non-payment of Taxes, notice is hereby given that there will be exposed at public sale or outcry, the following tracts of unseated lands in the County of Centre, for taxes due and unpaid thereon, at the Court House, in the Borough of Bellefonte, on

MONDAY, JUNE 14, A. D., 1886, at 10 o'clock P. M.

CHAS. S. SMITH, Treasurer.

BENNER TWP. Taxes 1884 \$ 4.10 1885 4.10 1886 4.10 1887 4.10 1888 4.10 1889 4.10 1890 4.10 1891 4.10 1892 4.10 1893 4.10 1894 4.10 1895 4.10 1896 4.10 1897 4.10 1898 4.10 1899 4.10 1900 4.10 1901 4.10 1902 4.10 1903 4.10 1904 4.10 1905 4.10 1906 4.10 1907 4.10 1908 4.10 1909 4.10 1910 4.10 1911 4.10 1912 4.10 1913 4.10 1914 4.10 1915 4.10 1916 4.10 1917 4.10 1918 4.10 1919 4.10 1920 4.10 1921 4.10 1922 4.10 1923 4.10 1924 4.10 1925 4.10 1926 4.10 1927 4.10 1928 4.10 1929 4.10 1930 4.10 1931 4.10 1932 4.10 1933 4.10 1934 4.10 1935 4.10 1936 4.10 1937 4.10 1938 4.10 1939 4.10 1940 4.10 1941 4.10 1942 4.10 1943 4.10 1944 4.10 1945 4.10 1946 4.10 1947 4.10 1948 4.10 1949 4.10 1950 4.10 1951 4.10 1952 4.10 1953 4.10 1954 4.10 1955 4.10 1956 4.10 1957 4.10 1958 4.10 1959 4.10 1960 4.10 1961 4.10 1962 4.10 1963 4.10 1964 4.10 1965 4.10 1966 4.10 1967 4.10 1968 4.10 1969 4.10 1970 4.10 1971 4.10 1972 4.10 1973 4.10 1974 4.10 1975 4.10 1976 4.10 1977 4.10 1978 4.10 1979 4.10 1980 4.10 1981 4.10 1982 4.10 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