NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

## IN A TROPICAL CITY. Habits and Customs of the People of

Campeche in Yucatan.

INTERIORS OF SPLENDID HOMES.

Novel Methods of Cooking and the Cost of the Staple Foods.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATOR. CAMPECHE, YUCATAN, Feb. 22.



Consul, Mr. Gasper Trueba, who sent his message of invitation to the ship. The small steamer which brought me in could only come within two miles of the land because of shatlow water, so, at midnight we got in a cance and came ashore. The dip of the oars in the water as we glided along in the darkness, and the cries of "The Senora!

porcelain, the sala or parlor and the corri-ders with brown and white and black and white marble, arranged like the patterns of They Sleep in Hammocks.

sisting of fish, ment and vegetables in var-ious styles, all kinds of fruit and an abund-ance of claret. The fish which is boiled, baked and fried, is very delicious. One of the varieties is a species of shark. The pen fish is delicious and a curiosity from the fact that a perfect pen point, resembling a point made from a quill, is found in its side. When fitted into a pen holder it

serves very nicely as a pen.
I was rather startled when told at breakfast that the beautiful white fish to which I was helped was shark. This, with a preparation made from the black bean ground, is of various kinds, oysters, fish and fowl are

Where Chewing Gum Comes From Among the fruits are oranges, bananas, sweet lemons, a truit that grows on a very

high tree called Pa-palle, which looks like a muskmellon, and the fruit of the Zapote tree, closely resembling a large pear or russet apple. From the milky sub-stance which runs from this last tree when cut chewing gum is made.

Campeche is a city of 12,000 inhabitants. It was founded about 400 years ago. The

streets are very nar-18 feet, including the pavements, which are 3 feet wide and 18 inches higher than the rest of the street. Costume of the Natives.

During the day the shutters are closed at the front of the

closed at the front of the houses or a large, heavy canvas dropped down, so that in passing all one sees of the inmates is an occasional face peeping around the side of the curtain or through an opening in the sbutter. About 5 o'clock the windows are opened and pedestrians see the ladies of the house, smiling and bowing through the bars to their male friends, and soon they begin to go out to drive. The heat makes it absolutely necessary to remain indoors during midday. I can hardly realize as I write this that the friends at realize as I write this that the friends at home are shivering in their wraps, while I, with door and window open, feel as if it were a day in July or August in Pennsyl-

The city is surrounded by an immense stone wall, with fortresses on each corner. Passing through one of the gateways during a drive, we visited a fine residence on the outskirts of the town, passing by many picturesque cottages thatched with guano or palm leaf. The house, from sala to kitchen, palm leaf. The house, from sala to kitchen, is a wonder of elegant workmanship and typical of the homes of the wealthy. The altar room, for the occupants are devoted Catholics, is beautifully furnished; rare pictures adorn the walls and in a large glass case is a figure of the infant Jesus asleep, the beautiful eyes seen through the half-closed lids, the face illumined with a smile. A robe of silk, a lace cap and many jewels adorn the babe, while Mary and Joseph stand by with hands clasped in adoration.

The Bath of a Rich Dwelling. At the end of the house is the bath. A roof covers a stairway. Descending this for 30 feet we come to a pool of clean water, about seven feet deep, fed by a spring. Inside the house is a bathroom with taled bathtub and all arrangements for those who do not care for the swimming bath outside. The garden is quite a wonder with everything to please the fancy and charm the eye. In it are rows of coccanut, mango and red pear trees, with oranges and sweet lemons in sbundance, while near the house is a number of flower-beds, a Greek cross in the center with triangles on each side. These beds raised about a foot from the ground around, are bordered with beautiful shells bedded in mortar, and are filled with roses, narcissus, tuberoses and aweet violets, beside many flowers found only in this climate. At the end of the house is the bath. only in this climate.



ity, as well as in the elegant surroundings, fine furniture, rare old paintings and family treasures, a glimpse of their former life. But they never refer to the former times as "better than these," and only through friends do we know anything of their past

We had a procession the other evening of soldiers and private citizens as part of the campaign for President. The torches were held in front by handles about a foot long. First came the band and military, next the "black coats" or gentlemen, followed by a number of men who sent up a constant stream of "coetas" or rockets, the report of held in the nearest streat with its high which in the narrow street with its high buildings had a very peculiar effect.

buildings had a very peculiar effect.

Yesterday was the annual celebration of the signing of the second constitution in 1857. The barracks and officers dwellings were beautfully decorated with the Mexican flags and wreaths. In the evening there was an illumination, the "Plaza de Armia," and the Government builings were very brilliant with Chinese lanterns. Thousands of peculiar constitution of the second constitution of the second control of the second constitution of the second constitutio of people occupied the great space encircling the fountain in the center of the plaza, which is paved with marble. There were rows of tiled seats (no wood any where). shaded by beautiful trees, and outside of When the band played hundreds of young ladies by twos and threes began marching around the circle, and from the opposite direction as great a number of young men took up the march. They passed and repassed each other without notice or an atpassed each other without notice or an atpa tempt to speak, although each couple en-joyed conversation with each other. -There

was no noticeable flirting. Some Bather Warm Weather. The thermometer is up to 1450 in the sun, and I am told that the heat is nothing to what it will be in May and June when there

There is no good water. While each family has a well, the water coming from thite a depth is cool enough, but unfit to drink because of the salt in it. The drinking water is minwater. It is put in porous jars which cool it by evaporation. It be-comes, in half a day, cool but never really cold. In the garden connected with every good house there is a well from which water is drawn for the plants during the dry season; the rainwater is too precious to be used for anything but drinking and be used for anything but drinking and cooking. While to those who care for it coffee is served after dinner. Claret generally takes the place of tea and coffee, but I find the best substitute is the delicious juice of oranges. The national brend, "tortelio," is made of cornmeal, which is now selling at \$24 a barrel. The butter brought from New York is 60 cents a pound, fresh beef 37 cents, cheese 50 cents. Fish and fruits are, of course, very cheap.

course, very cheap.

There is not such a thing as a fireplace i any room. The ranges for cooking are very odd. They are built of brick 15 feet long (extending the width of the kitchen), four feet wide and four feet high, with five openings on the top. Two of these openings are for wood. The other three resemble deep hards.



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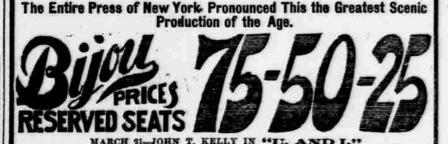


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THE PROCESSIONS AND CELEBRATIONS

HE visitors to this tropical city must cast anchor 16 miles from the harbor, on account of the sandbars. A small steamer met the vessel on which I arrived, and ere long I was made comfortable in the

home of our Vice

the darkness, and the cries of "The Senoral The Senoral" as I was carefully lifted up the steps, left bare by the ebbing tide, constituted a weird experience. The Vice Consul's home is a type of the better class of dwellings here. The entrance is like tint of a castle. Its large windows are protected by iron bars, and have no glass. It has wide arched corridors and rooms 22 feet in height; and a beautiful court opening from the corridor, in which are pomegranate, tamarind and other tropical trees, with beautiful palms in vases, arranged between peculiar shared in vases, arranged between peculiar shaped beds bordered with tile, such as paves the walks between. The floors of the bedrooms are paved with blocks of blue and white

The hammocks in which the family sleep, instead of beds, are very pretty. A piece of beautiful fine white linen, three yards square, forms the center, which with pillows, blankets, etc., makes a very comfortable resting place. The first meal of the day, served at 7 o'clock, is an informal one, consisting of cake, chocolate and coffee eaten in the corridor which opens into the garden, and reminds one of an afternoon to at home. The branchest at 12 o'clock ten at home. The breakfast, at 12 o'clock, usually consists of six or seven courses, con-

the national dish, and I was urged to eat it. It really tasted very well. At dinner, soups served with a variety of vegetables and fruit. The other day something was brought to the table resembling a large dumpling. It proved to be an immense head of cabbage, with the center chopped fine, mixed with beef, eggs and olives and replaced in the outer leaves and then stewed the outer leaves and then stewed.

millions. While there is no remarka

is not a breath of air and the atmosphere stifling. A gentleman who has spent eight months here, after traveling in almost every quarter of the globe, says the heat reflected from the burning sands of Egypt was not worse than the heat here.



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