

**Daring Course of Villainy—Eppes, the Murderer of Mrs. Masser, supposed to be killed.**  
We have given a short account of the affair described in the following letter, but the details are so remarkable and disclose such a daring course of villainy that the full history is worth producing:—

FRANKLIN HENRY CO. (A. S.)  
July 31, 1846.

To the Editors of the Charleston Courier.

GENTLEMEN:—On the 29th instant, the postmaster at Fort Gaines, (Geo.) received a letter from Hancock County, (Geo.), requesting him to look out for a band of robbers, describing them, &c.—that they had just robbed Mr. Billingslea, of Harris, of eight thousand dollars of American gold, and four thousand in state bonds—that the same band had robbed Mr. Watts, of Hancock County, (Geo.) of four thousand dollars, principally American gold—that they had given the families where they obtained the money, morphine, supposed by putting it in the vessel containing the drinking water. Billingslea was robbed on the 1st of July, pursuit was immediately made, and they were followed to Augusta—they there lost track of them. Watts was robbed on the 18th, and a short time after they were heard of in Macon, where they traded off two of the bonds.

In about two hours after the letter was received at Fort Gaines, and the news made public over the place, two men were seen passing through the street on horseback, who appeared to fill the description precisely; they passed on, making but little stop, across the river into this State; before they crossed the river, they met a negro man, and made inquiries of Gen. Irwin, who is a very respectable and wealthy planter, if he still lived at the same place, and how far it was. &c.; they were informed that he did, and the distance was three miles; they passed on through this place without stopping, and called at Gen. Irwin's, requesting to stay all night; he refused for some time, said he did not take in any except acquaintances, they made many begging excuses, till he consented to let them stay.

Soon after this, a company of men from Fort Gaines came in pursuit of the robbers; as soon as they came into the house and ordered them to surrender, one of them, Dr. E. A. Roberts, asked why they pursued him—the other, who called himself John Jacobs, (but whose name we suppose is Wm. Eppes,) commenced backing, drew a six-barrelled revolver and threatened death if any one advanced toward him; a Mr. Wilson, though unarmed, continued to advance on him, Eppes continuing to back till he got some thirty yards outside of the house, when Gen Irwin requested Wilson to stop, that his dogs would fetch him (Eppes) in. He immediately ordered his negroes to loose two very large dogs that he has kept chained on account of their ferocity. As soon as the dogs were loosed, Eppes came in, gave up his pistol, and surrendered. In a few moments after a second company from Fort Gaines arrived in pursuit, in consequence of a reward of \$3000 for their detection.

Gen Irwin ordered the prisoners' horses to be brought out, delivering at the same time the prisoners' saddle bags to the company who had taken them; the prisoners not yet searched, or fastened in any way, they all started to their horses to leave for Fort Gaines, it then being about ten o'clock at night. The prisoners being put on their own horses, and the company disputing about fastening them, Eppes thought it a good time to make his escape, as he had a very fine and spirited horse, Wilson holding on to the reins; Eppes thinking he could get his horse loose from Wilson and make his escape, commenced whipping him unmercifully, and was on the verge of succeeding, when a man named Butler rode up to Eppes and shot him in the head at least seven buckshot taking effect in the ear and back part of the head; he fell from his horse and never spoke again; he lived near two hours after he was shot.

During the excitement after Eppes was shot, Dr. E. A. Roberts got off his horse, went up to Eppes, pulled off his finger ring, took out his gold watch, and his collar and collar buttons, purse, and a roll of money, (on the Bank of Darien,) and put them in his pocket; the ring, collar and collar buttons have not since been seen, the watch was recovered from Roberts when he was searched after arriving at Fort Gaines. On examining Roberts, after they got to Fort Gaines they found on him and in Eppes' saddle bags near five thousand dollars, principally American gold—26 skeleton keys, 2 lock pickers, several pieces of sperm candles which had been lit, several boxes of matches, a black mask for the face and head, 1 bowie knife, with the name of William Eppes, written on the scabbard, 2 phials of morphine, 2 or 3 phials of strychnine, and one phial supposed to be the extract of morphine.

They were both well dressed and had fine horses, but not a paper about them that would give the least instruction of their names or business. Dr. E. A. Roberts was identified by three or four individuals; he was a witness in a case in this county against one George W. Moore, who was indicted for killing a young man for his money; Moore was found guilty, but made his escape, and afterwards was caught near Glenville, in this State, and hung to a tree without any court. Dr. E. A. Roberts has once stood high as a citizen and an eminent physician. I learned he married into a very respectable family, either a daughter or a near relative of Gen. Mitchell, who resides near Fort Mitchell, in this State; it is said he has spent all his property and turned a regular black-leg.

I suppose Eppes was the man advertised as the murderer of F. Adolphus Muir of Dinwiddie County, Va. Roberts said he did not know his name, if it was not John Jacobs; that he had told him his name was John Jacobs; that he was from Virginia. The hat he wore when shot was made in Louisville, Ky. Wilson and

two other men left with Roberts, well ironed, for Harris County, Geo., this morning.

Aug. 4.—Since writing the foregoing, I learn from undoubted authority that since the parties left Fort Gaines with Roberts, one of the second company that left pretending to take the robbers, has produced a pocket-book placed in his hands by one of the robbers containing seven State bonds, payable in 1848, and between one and two thousand dollars in money. I regret I am so situated that I cannot give you the name of the individual who kept this pocket-book, bond and money in his possession secretly till this late day. I learn two men have been sent off privately with the bonds and money to Billingslea, the supposed owner. In a few days the whole affair will be made public.

**DOGS IN THE BATTLE.**—Very many of the officers attached to the army of occupation, own remarkably fine dogs, principally of the pointer and setter species. After the battle of the 8th began and the firing became very intense, two dogs, remarkable for their intelligence, appeared to listen to the confusion for a while with great astonishment, and then evidently holding a consultation, they started off at great speed for Point Isabel, being the first arrivals at that place from the battle field. There was a brave dog, however, to redeem the character of the species. He posted himself in front of one of the batteries and watching with the intensest gravity, the appearance of the discharged ball, would start after it at full speed, exposing great surprise that it was out of his sight so suddenly. He would then wheel round, and watch the appearance of another ball, and then again commence the chase. He thus employed himself through the action, and escaped unharmed.

**A LUDICROUS MISTAKE.**—A story is going the rounds of the press, of a man losing his life by a mis-take of the apothecary in putting up a prescription written in Latin. A mistake, not so fatal, but from which as good a moral is deducible, is related in a western paper. A Cincinnati grocery house, finding out that cranberries commanded six dollars per bushel, and under the impression that the article could be bought to advantage at St. Mary's, wrote out to a customer acquainting him with the fact, and requesting him to send "one hundred bushels per Simmons," (the waggon usually sent.) The correspondent, a plain, uneducated man, had considerable difficulty in deciphering the fashionable scrawl common with merchants' clerks of late years, and the most important word, "Cranberries," he failed to make out, but he did plainly and clearly read—*one hundred bushels per Simmons*. As the article was growing all around him, all the boys in the neighborhood were set to gathering it and the waggon made his appearance in due time in Cincinnati, with eighty bushels, all that the wagon bed would hold, and a line from the country merchant that the remainder would follow the next trip. An explanation soon ensued, but the customers insisted that the Cincinnati house should have written by Simmons and not per Simmons.

**A WIT BLANKET ON ELOQUENCE.**—Queer scenes occur sometimes in the gravest legislative assemblies. One of our ex-changes tells of a laughable incident that transpired during the late session of the N. H. Legislature. A new fledged orator rose to make his maiden speech in the House of Representatives. A bill had been brought in to tax bank dividends, and watching his opportunity, the deputant addressed the members—"Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Dover, who introduced this bill, does not seem to be aware of its inevitable results. He would strip the widow—" (roars of laughter, and cries of—*the widow!—widow who!*—not in this public hall, I hope, &c.)

As soon as the tumult subsided in some degree, and the orator could make himself heard, he indignantly proceeded—"Gentlemen need not think to put me down by clamor. Is there no sympathy here for the widow and the orphan? I say, sir, that this is worse than stripping. Put on this tax and I say you drive the widow to her last shift."

Here the clamor became so great, that the speaker, despairing of a hearing, resumed his seat. It was almost ten minutes before the house could transact its regular business.

**A CURIOUS ITEM IN A TRAVELLER'S BILL.**—A Yankee pedler put up at the house of a tavern-keeper in one of the towns of this county a few days since, and after staying a day or two called for his bill. On looking over the items he found the following curious charges: To frigh-tening chambermaid, \$1.25; yesterday's lodging in bar-room, 25 cents.

**TO CLEAN SILK.**—The Boston Star says that any lady having a rusty silk dress, whose "old man" is hard up and can't start her on a shopping expedition, had better try the following, which is said to be first rate. Never having worn silk gowns, we cannot testify personally to its worth: Quarter of a pound of soft soap, a tea-spoonful of brandy, a pint of gin, all well mixed together. With a sponge or flannel, spread the mixture on each side of the silk, without greasing it; wash it in two or three waters, and iron it on the wrong side—it will look as good as new.

**SLAVERY IN RUSSIA.**—Letters from Warsaw announced that the Emperor of Russia, on his last visit to that city, promulgated his determination to proclaim the abolition of slavery in all the provinces where it still exists.

**THE AMERICAN.**  
Saturday, August 22, 1846.

**V. B. PALMER, Esq., at his Real Estate and Coal Office, corner of 3rd and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, is authorized to act as Agent, and receipt for all monies due this office, for subscription or advertising.**

**PRINTING INK.**—A fresh supply of superior summer ink just received, and for sale at Philadelphia prices.

**GEN. HUGH BRADY.**—This distinguished veteran arrived in this place, formerly his residence, on Thursday last, on a visit to his friends and relatives.

We publish the conclusion of Gen. Cameron's speech in this week's paper. We do not often take up the room of our paper with long articles, but the subject of protection is of such vast importance to Pennsylvania, and the principle is so well discussed in this speech, that we thought we could not do our readers a greater service than give them the speech entire. It embodies a mass of facts in favor of a tariff for the protection of home industry that cannot be refuted, and it proves also that the protective policy has always been a democratic measure.

In another column, our readers will find an interesting letter, from our young friend, Dr. R. B. McCoy, of Northumberland, from Matamoras, the seat of war. Mr. McCoy's letter contains some items of information, in regard to the character and habits of the Mexicans, that we have not before seen referred to in other letters. Our young friend has not been an inattentive observer of things and events, especially in matters relating to the fair sex, if we may be allowed to use that term, when speaking of the dark eyed, and rather dark skinned *amorales* of our sister republic.

Having announced that the committee appointed to draft an address, in relation to the Sunbury, Erie and Pittsburg rail road, would cease to say any thing more on the subject, on account of the passage of McKay's bill, the last Sunbury Gazette pronounces it a humbug, and accuses us of endeavoring to raise a panic. It is not an uncommon thing now-a-days for those who wish to get rid of a subject which they cannot or will not comprehend, to cry out "humbug" as the easiest way of disposing of the matter. How much more applicable would be the term "humbug" to such editors who, while they profess to be opposed to McKay's free trade bill, fill almost every column of their paper with articles in its favor, we leave for the readers of the Gazette to determine. In regard to the Sunbury and Erie rail road, the people here felt most anxious for the speedy completion of the link between this and Pottsville. Now we happen to know, which the Gazette does not, that ample arrangements had been made by those who were able and willing to complete this road, to push it through as soon as possible, but who have, since the passage of McKay's bill, refused to proceed in the matter. Yet the Gazette would call it a humbug, and thereby add insult to injury—an injury which the people of this county will not easily forget.

**NEXT CONGRESSMAN.**—The Democrats of Union county have nominated Isaac Slenker, Esq. as their candidate. We presume each county in the district will nominate its man. The great object of the party, at present, should be to heal up any divisions, and hereafter act in union and harmony. Unless this is done, defeat is inevitable. The claims of this or that county should not now be an object of contention. We should endeavor to select some man upon whom the whole Democracy will unite. With this view we would respectfully suggest to our democratic friends of this district the propriety of selecting some good man from Northumberland county.

**THE CALIFORNIA ARRIVED AT NEW YORK** Wednesday, bringing nine days later news from Europe. The value of corn has risen in consequence of the demand abroad. The cotton market is firm. The price of grain has declined, and the harvests promise abundance. Mexico is claiming the mediation of France and England. Louis Napoleon, Buonaparte, ex king of Holland, died at Lehigh, on the 23th ult., of apoplexy, aged 67. Another attempt has been made on the life of Louis Philippe.

**COINAGE OF THE UNITED STATES.**—In 1845, the coinage at the principal mint at Philadelphia, amounted to \$3,416,800, comprising \$2,574,652 in gold, and \$842,200 in silver, and \$39,948 in copper coins, and composed of 9,283,607 pieces. The deposits of gold within the year amounted to \$2,577,494, and those of silver to \$815,415.

At the New Orleans branch mint, the coinage amounted to \$1,750,000, comprising \$680,000 in gold, and \$1,070,000 in silver coins, and composed of 3,412,500 pieces. The deposits for coinage amounted to \$646,981 in gold and \$1,058,071 in silver.

The branch mint at Dahlonega received during the year deposits of gold to the value of \$498,632, and its coinage amounted to \$501,795, composed of 90,729 half eagles and 19,460 quarter eagles.

The whole coinage for the year, at the three mints in operation, amounted to \$5,668,595, comprising \$3,756,447 in gold, \$1,873,200 in silver, and \$38,948 in copper coins.

**The Tariff on Iron.**

There are those who know but little and care less about the operations of the tariff, who ask whether 30 per cent is not enough on pig iron. Thirty per cent, on the present price, it is true, would be sufficient to enable our iron men to carry on their operations successfully. The present price of pig iron at Liverpool is about \$20 per ton. Thirty per cent duty would be \$6, Freight, commissions, &c. would bring the price up to about \$30 per ton. It is the fluctuating, uncertain *ad valorem* principle we complain of. It diminishes the duty when it is necessary it should increase. For instance, 30 per cent on the present price of iron in Liverpool is \$6. But suppose the price should fall by some revolution in the markets, (which has frequently been the case,) to \$10 per ton, then 30 per cent on the price would be \$3—add, say \$4 for freight, commissions, &c., would make it worth, at New York or Philadelphia \$17 per ton. These prices would stop every furnace in Pennsylvania. But make the duty \$0 specific, it would then remain permanent, and not be affected by the fall of prices in England.

In relation to this subject, we copy the following sensible remarks from the New York Tribune:

"The *ad valorem* principle of levying duties diminishes the protection exactly in the ratio in which it would seem to be necessary that it should be increased. A Pennsylvanian, we will suppose, ascertains that he can make Pig Iron for just \$5 per ton more than the lowest cost of making it in England. Now make the duty \$5 or \$6 per ton, and you assure him that he can live in spite of any Foreign competition. But make the duty 30 per cent, and you render it certain that whenever his need of Protection shall be greatest, just then the Protection afforded will be least. It may be \$10 per ton when he don't need any; it may be less than \$4 when his necessity of more is most imminent.

That some Pig Iron will be made in this country under a thirty per cent duty is quite certain; so there would (though a less quantity) under no duty at all. Of course, the men who so make it would realize a profit on it, else they would abandon the business. But in our view of the case, their profit is quite an incidental and secondary consideration; what we deem a matter of National concern is the diversification of our industry so as substantially to supply our own wants from our own resources, so far as Nature has interposed no insuperable obstacle. This is the doctrine of that school on this subject which was called Democratic when led by GEORGE CLINTON and D. D. TOMPKINS, but now stigmatized as Federal. It is now sixty years since Governor Clinton, before we had a Federal Constitution, and when Free Trade was a disastrous necessity of our un-Naval condition, called the attention of the Legislature of New-York to the necessity of governmental action on the subject in the following words: "The dangers which we so lately experienced by a dependence on Foreign supplies of Iron and Gunpowder ought to awaken our prudence, and put us on our guard against events, however distant and unforeseen. Our country abounds with materials for carrying on these manufactures to the utmost extent, and we must discover a want of policy and of vigilance highly inexcusable if we neglect the obvious advantages which Providence hath so kindly placed within our reach."

**PEACE WITH MEXICO.**—Efforts are now making to conclude a treaty of peace with Mexico, and there is no doubt that in a few weeks we shall find Mexico offering terms for the cessation of hostilities. The result will no doubt be, that Mexico will cede to us California, to indemnify us for the expenses of the war. The United States will, in return, relinquish her claims against Mexico for spoliation on our commerce, as settled by treaty, and probably pay her several millions of dollars to pay the troops of President Paredes, and keep the Republic from another revolt, which is daily looked for. It was for this purpose that the President asked for the two millions, which failed in the Senate for want of time, on the last day of the session.

The President has already offered terms to the Mexican Republic, as will be seen by the following message of the President, addressed confidentially to the Senate:

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4, 1846.

To the Senate of the United States:  
I herewith communicate to the Senate the copy of a letter, under date of the 27th ultimo, from the Secretary of State of the United States to the Minister of Foreign Relations of the Mexican Republic, again proposing to open negotiations and conclude a treaty of peace, which shall adjust all the questions in dispute between the two Republics. Considering the relative power of the two countries, the glorious events which have signalized our arms, and the distracted condition of Mexico, I did not conceive that any point of national honor could exist which ought to prevent me from making this overture. Equally anxious to terminate, by a peace honorable for both parties, as I was originally to avoid the existing war, I have deemed it my duty again to extend the olive branch to Mexico. Should the Government of that Republic accept the offer in the same friendly spirit by which it was dictated, negotiations will speedily commence for the conclusion of a treaty.

The rest of the message is substantially the same as that submitted to the House on the same subject, and published in the American last week.

The following letter, in addition to the above, explains the part taken in the proposed negotiations by our government.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, July 27th, 1846.

Sir: The President of the United States, no less anxious to terminate than he was to avoid the present unhappy war with the Mexican Republic, has determined to make an effort to accomplish this purpose. He has accordingly instructed the undersigned Secretary of State, to propose through your Excellency to the Mexican Government, that negotiations shall forthwith commence for the conclusion of a peace just and honorable for both parties. Should this offer be received and responded to by the Mexi-

can Government in the same frank and friendly spirit by which it has been dictated, he will immediately dispatch an Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the city of Mexico, with instructions and full powers to conclude a treaty of peace which shall adjust all the questions in dispute between the two Republics. If the Mexican Government should prefer to send a Minister to Washington to conclude the negotiation here he shall be received with kindness and respect, and every effort shall be made to accomplish the object of his mission with the least possible delay.

In the present communication it is deemed useless, and might prove injurious, to discuss the causes of the existing war. This might tend to delay or defeat the restoration of peace. The past is already consigned to history: the future under Providence, is within our power.

The occasion may, however, be embraced to state that the President has ever cherished the kindest feeling for Mexico, and that one of the first wishes of his heart is, that she may be a powerful and prosperous Republic, in perpetual amity with the United States.

Commodore Conner will transmit this despatch for you Excellency to the Governor of Vera Cruz, under a flag of truce; and you are respectfully invited to adopt the same channel for communicating your answer.

I avail myself of this occasion to offer your Excellency the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

JAMES BUCHANAN.

**All Europe fed on Corn Meal.**  
The estimate of the Commissioner of Patents of the crop of wheat and corn for 1845. We are informed by a letter from our consul at Glasgow, lately read before the Farmer's Club, that the quantity of corn meal which would be consumed in Great Britain in a few years, was incalculable. It is only a few months that corn meal has been admitted at one shilling duty, yet it has grown into favor with all classes. There is no article of provision produced in Europe that can come into competition with it for cheapness or abundance. Nor is there any article of food that ever met with such a welcome from man on its first introduction, as this has received in Great Britain.

The estimate of the Commissioner for the last year was as follows:

	Wheat.	Corn.
Ohio	136,573,000	57,600,000
Pennsylvania	12,580,000	17,136,000
Indiana	17,044,000	30,625,000
Illinois	4,563,000	25,584,000
New York	16,200,000	10,250,000
Virginia	11,885,000	27,272,000
Tennessee	8,340,000	70,625,000
Kentucky	4,788,000	54,525,000
Michigan	8,061,000	4,945,000
Maryland	4,884,000	3,272,000
N. Carolina	1,959,000	14,487,000
S. Carolina	1,169,000	8,184,000
Maine	502,000	1,912,000
N. Hampshire	647,000	1,828,000
Massachusetts	341,000	3,098,000
Rhode Island	5,000	731,000
Connecticut	115,000	2,649,000
Vermont	854,000	1,728,000
N. Jersey	1,050,000	7,314,000
Delaware	440,000	516,000
Georgia	1,571,000	2,712,000
Alabama	980,000	16,650,000
Mississippi	378,000	2,167,000
Missouri	1,525,000	15,525,000
Arkansas	2,427,000	8,250,000
Florida	—	733,000
Wisconsin	971,000	672,000
Iowa	793,000	2,028,000
Dis. of Columbia	15,000	35,000
	106,548,000	417,880,000

**SPEECH OF SENATOR CAMERON.**—Just before the final vote was taken in the Senate, Gen. C. made the following remarks, which will find a general response throughout the Commonwealth. We take the report from the Washington Union:

"Mr. Cameron said he rose only to repeat his opposition to this bill, to enter his solemn protest against its passage, and to give notice that the word 'repeal' will this day go forth, and continue until the loud voice of the laborers of the north shall compel their oppressors to respect them. This he said was no bank question, in which the rich capitalists only were concerned. Here will be found the laborers and the mechanics roused to indignation against those who care not how much they rob them of their comforts in the pursuit of a wild abstraction. If the bill had been made by a British statesman, it could not have discriminated more in favor of the English workmen, or have done more wrong to our mechanics and manufacturers. He repeated that, from henceforth repeal would be the word among the democracy of the north, and that it would not cease until it triumphed."

**NEW KIND OF GUNPOWDER.**—We read in a Swiss paper, "Professor Schonbein recently presented to the Society of Natural History of Basle a specimen of cotton prepared by him more inflammable than gunpowder, and exploding with a capsule. Several trials were made with it. A small quantity, equal to the sixteenth part of an ounce, placed in a gun, carried the ball with such force that it perforated two planks at a distance of 68 paces; and at another time with the same charge, and at the same distance, drove a ball into a wall to the depth of 3 1/2 inches. In some other experiments a drachm of cotton sent a ball of three quarters of an ounce in weight to a distance of 200 paces, where it penetrated a deal plank to the depth of two inches. A portion of this cotton, when placed on an anvil and struck with a hammer, caused a loud detonation, without, however, the cotton taking fire. The cotton is of a very superior quality, and what is most extraordinary, its inflammable property is not destroyed by its being thrown into water and afterwards dried."

**Correspondence of the American.**

CALCUTTA, MATAMORAS, July 12, 1846.

H. B. MASSER, Esq.—It being Sunday evening, I cannot find it in my heart to so utterly dispise the Sabbath as to go out, as all the world here does, and partake of the usual Mexican amusements of cock-fighting and fandango. I am not a professing Christian, but here the want of Christianity in its pure forms is so painfully evident, that a sigh often escapes me on contemplating the wretchedness of this deluded and degraded population. The commonality, and the lower orders of the Mexican race are, in this part of the country, (and I presume it is not unlike the rest of the republic,) though nominally free, the vilest slaves on earth: worse off, and more completely brutified, by many degrees, than the lowest of our Southern negroes. They are rarely half dressed, mostly possessing but a single garment, made of coarse white muslin, in the shape of a pair of Pennsylvania flour bags joined together, a la Siamese, and representing the distorted gobs of a pair of pantaloons. This article of dress is universally worn without suspenders; and in case of rain, muddy roads, or anything of that kind, the owner rolls them from both extremities, until the most rigid follower of Baron Swedenborg could no longer discover the slightest resemblance of a pair of pants about him. On these occasions he is once more a savage, as far as dress and the color of his skin can make him. But their customs are even more remarkable than their dress. You can really buy a Mexican for his whole lifetime, for about thirty dollars Parents sell their children for a term of years, to individuals who treat them as they do their horses; and often prize them less highly than the dog or ordinary specimen of the latter animal.

I had no idea, before coming to this country that the Mexicans are so dark as I have found them. It always seemed to me that they were merely Spaniards, born in this country, and differing from the inhabitants of old Spain only in their manners and customs. But instead of resembling the latter they are dark as Indians, nay negroes. With very few exceptions, they are a dark coffee color, with high cheek bones, thin lips, very slight beard, and straight black hair which is very abundant, and coarse as the mane of a horse. And the manner of wearing their hair is sadly to their disadvantage; being allowed to grow down to their eye-brows, and totally of course the forehead, it gives them the most villainous appearance you can possibly imagine.

Their extraordinary passion for silver ornaments, I dare say, well known to you; but they utterly useless, and Indian-like application of the metal, for the sake of show alone, has indeed, in no small degree surprised me. You will see pair of brass walking in the Plaza, with the brown body of a man extending from their upper extremity to a vast superstructure of straw, serving in the treble capacity of hat, sun-shade or umbrella. Near the rim of this covering, you will perceive three or four turns of a half iron rope made of silver tinsel, at the ends of which are appended long silver wires with a bulb knob of the same metal on the end of each, often finely chased, and, "for all the world," like our ladies call hair-pins. Half way up the bow of this hat, and on each side, is a piece of silver plate about three inches in length, and general cut into the shape of a widely spreading eagle; a from the extremity of each wing extends a silver knob, about the size of a filbert, upon a silver pedestal of an inch and a half in length. These and others of the same character have, in the eyes of a Mexican, a charm far above gold or emeralds. They glitter in the sun; and that the height of Mexican glory.

You must recollect that thus far, I have not been speaking of the Seniors: now let me say a word concerning the Seniors and Senioritas. The ladies of this part of Mexico, after arriving at the age of about thirty years, almost without exception become very fat and lubberly; and they have hitherto possessed any charms in a way of beauty, they are all apt to take them leave save one, and that remains faithful to the last. All Mexican women, of whatever age have teeth of the most admirable whiteness; regularly. I have not seen a single exception to this rule since I came to Mexico. The *embellishment* of these donnas would, at first sight satisfy you of their lively, laughing disposition. You never enter their houses without being received with smiles, and many compliments wishes concern: your health; and are universally presented with a cigarrito just taken from a pair of lips that still possess just claim upon your admiration. This, whether you are smoker or not, you must consume before you leave the house; and sometimes even I have found them much too short. But between cigarritos and the dark eyed daughters, I have several times felt my head reel, and my ideas the utmost confusion. However, I must appropriate a special paragraph to the Senioritas.

I believe it is generally admitted that the most potent weapon of the Mexican ladies is their eyes. That they are very brilliant and expressive I admit, without hesitation; but that they excel this particular feature, I most positively do not believe. I have seen dark eyes in old Pennsylvania, as far as eclipsed in lustre and intelligence all that I have seen in Mexico, as sunshine does in brightness the shades of midnight. The features of the face are seldom strikingly handsome, or regular; and the savages of the small pox contributed, in no small degree, to obliterate traits of beauty that in many instances were have been universally acknowledged. But figures, I at once yield the palm to Mexico. I have never seen ladies, in any of the twelve states I have yet visited, who could successfully compare with the Senioritas of Matamoras, in important particulars. They are, absolutely perfection itself. Bustles, I feel confident, never find favor in the eyes of the Mexican; since they can only act as a means of distortion. Though not particularly happy in their style of dress, they have that picturesque and novel appearance which at once rivets the attention