

(Continued from last week)

THE LAND OF THE NOONDAY SUN--MEXICO IN MIDWINTER.

(From Arena for June.)

BY JUSTICE WALTER CLARK, LL. D.

President Diaz, who was for awhile a widower, in recent has married a most charming and popular young lady, the daughter of Senor Rubio, now lately dead, who had formerly been a political opponent, but who after this alliance took a seat in his son in law's cabinet. Senora Diaz is exceedingly popular all over Mexico.

The Spanish pronunciation in detail would require a grammar, but in general it may be said that a is ah, e is a, i is ee, o is broad o, and u is oo. Hu is w, ju is wh, j is h, h is silent, double l is y, and g before e and i is h. Unlike French, in which no syllable is accented and in which, according to the French Academy, on an average two fifths of the letters on a page are silent, in Spanish, every syllable is pronounced, and there is an accent on some syllable, generally the next to the last, and this stress is more decided than in English, being in many cases almost a drawl on the accented syllable. As a curiosity the pronunciation of the names of several of the towns is here given, the accented syllable being in italics: Mexico is Meh eeo; Aguascalientes is Ah-was Cal i-en-tas; Catorce is Kay-tor see; Guanajuato is Wah nah-wah-to; Guadalajara is Wardly ly-har-er; Guaymas is Wye mas; Jalapa is Ha lay per; Lagos is Lah gos; Leon is Lay-own; Morelia is Mo raylya; Queretaro is Kay ret aro; Oaxaca is O-ah-hack-er; Orizaba is Oree-zab bah; San Luis Potosi is San Lu ees Poto see; San Miguel de Allende is San Me gil day A yen dy; Tampico is Tam pee co; Torreon is Torry oen; Tula is Too la; Zacatecas is Kaky tay-cas. Sometimes the meaning of a word depends on which syllable is accented, as pa pa means a potato, while pa pa, with the accent on the last syllable, means father.

While the Mexican leaders were wise enough and patriotic enough to save their country from the tortures and depression of the gold standard and falling prices which we have had to endure, many years ago they found their foreign debt (\$180,000,000) gold and silver were at a par, and not anticipating any attempt to demonetize the latter in order to double the value of the former, they unwisely consented that the interest on this foreign debt—as a matter of convenience—should be made payable in London and in gold. They did not know there was any in convenience in it then, but they have found it out now, as, like our own debtors and taxpayers, they are paying double what should be justly paid. It is just like contracting for ten thousand bushels of wheat and then doubling the size of the bushels. Mexico has about \$100,000,000 of other debt created more recently, but, taught by experience, this is payable, like our debt, in coin, and their Secretary of the Treasury, unlike ours, pays the government creditors in coin of the same value as that in which the debt was created, and interest on this debt is paid in the same money in which taxpayers have just received \$1 25 per bushel for their corn or wheat and fifteen to eighteen cents per pound for their cotton.

The railroads reflect the prosperity of the country and show steady increase in receipts, though their rates (owing to the enhancement of the value our currency) are practically half what ours are. To take one railroad as an example. The receipts of the Mexican Central, which were \$3,550,000 in 1885, were nearly doubled five years later, being in 1890 \$6,425,000. This rose to \$8,450,000 in 1894, and last year added over a million to that, the receipts for 1895 of this one railway being \$9,496,000. The railroad station houses throughout Mexico are in the best style and many are very handsome, and plants ornamented with flowers and tropical plants are frequent.

These random observations have been thrown together, as they may possibly serve to amuse or interest some of your readers. Before giving some idea of the parts of the country I visited on my return, as will now be done, I may add that Americans will find it agreeable and very pleasant, if they can find friends to introduce them, to visit the American Club, just opposite the Iturbide Hotel. Our countrymen who frequent there, and especially those who maintain the club are a fine type of men. The two dailies printed in English, the Mexican Herald and the Two Republics, are abreast in every respect with the dailies in our large cities, and are edited by gentlemen of the first order of ability. It is a sure sign of the numbers and wealth of the American population in the country that two dailies of the highest grade can be maintained. The United States Consul General is ex Governor T. T. Crittenden of Missouri, who is exceedingly popular with Americans, visiting

whether residing in Mexico or merely the country. Judge Spulvedo, our Secretary of Legation and President of the American Club, was formerly a judge of the Superior Court in California, though he has now resided many years in the Mexican capital. He also is very courteous and much liked. Our country is fortunate, far more fortunate than some European capitals which might be readily named, in having such representatives as these gentlemen. Minister Ransom was absent in the United States on leave during the period of my visit, so I did not meet him.

One of the pleasantest short excursions from the city of Mexico is due south to Cuernavaca. The railroad which is in process of construction to Oapulco, on the Pacific, is only completed as yet to Tres Marias, just below the mountain range, where the journey to Cuernavaca is made by stage. This might be called the "battleground route," as the railroad passes out by Chapultepec, through the fields of Casa Mata, Molino del Rey Padierna, and Contreras, and within a short distance of Cherbucob, which is in full view. After leaving Contreras the track constantly climbs the mountains, giving at every turn a magnificent view of the valley of Mexico with its seven lakes, the castle crowned hill of Chapultepec, the great city itself with its steeples and domes, and the scores of villages dotting the plain. At La Cima we have attained a height of nearly ten thousand feet, and begin to descend the Pacific slope. At Tres Marias we leave the cars and take a stage for Cuernavaca. A glorious view it is in this cloudless climate to see the valley spread for miles and miles before you and thousands of feet below, dotted with villages and haciendas, and the capital of the State in the centre foreground. We went down with four horses, we came back drawn by ten, and we saw some railway construction wagons which were being drawn by eighteen horses. This will be a great railway when it is completed through to Acpulco. The Inter-oceanic, already completed from Vera Cruz by way of the City of Mexico to Yauztepec, is also stretching out to Acpulco, so there will soon be two lines from the capital to that port. The Guadalajara branch of the Central is also under process of construction to another port on the Pacific. Cuernavaca is a quaint old town as yet untouched by railroads. It has its grand old churches, and the castle in which Cortez lived in the midst of his princely land grant, and commanding a lovely view of mountains and valley. He lived here when no longer permitted to reside near the capital. Cortez was a good business man, as well as conqueror; for he not only picked out and had the choicest lands granted to him, but he owned many of the most eligible corner lots in the capital, including that on which the government building now stands. But it is impossible not to recall that his name is unhonored by any memorial in the country of his triumphs, while in the Paseo the grand statue of his victim, the last Aztec emperor, Guatemoczin, proudly lifts his hands and head to heaven. So true is it that "the victor has his day, but the victim has all eternity." And if some one shall say, What good shall it do him? it may be replied, Did not the victor fight that he might be remembered after death, and did he not struggle for fame,

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ruft from the capital and is much visited. At Acambaro we turn off from the main line for a run to Patzcuaro, over the western division, which will some day be completed to the Pacific at Manzanillo. We pass through the city of Morelia, one of the prettiest cities in all Mexico. Its beautiful plaza, magnificent cathedral, grand Paseo, aqueduct and the Causeway of Guadalupe would be attractions enough even if it did not have the most perfect of climates. Patzcuaro station is the terminus of the railway, and it is on the lake of that name, the town being two miles away. On the lake is a steamer visiting port after port on its shores, like a humming bird passing from flower to flower. In one of these villages, in the old church at Tzintzun, is a famous painting by Titian, "The Entombment," which was presented by Phillip II. of Spain. Fifty thousand dollars has been recently offered for this picture and was refused. Not far off is Uruapan, famous as producing the best coffee in Mexico. This State (Michoacan) and Jalisco just north of it (whose capital is Guadajara) have the most perfect climates to be found in Mexico, or indeed probably in the world. The combination of lake and mountains, always beautiful, is nowhere more so than here.

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WHO WILL IT HURT.

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer. It is amusing to read the frantic appeal of the Republicans in their platform to the Populists to save them or they perish.

Who will be hurt by the Democrats disfranchising the illiterate element? Not the Populists; their voters are composed of the best and most intelligent element in the country and it is this class that is coming to us from the two old political parties. There is no doubt but the Republican party would be hurt by the disfranchisement of the illiterate voters.

The Democratic party poll their large majorities in negro counties, and to disfranchise this element would reduce the number of their votes. The Democrats in Western North Carolina bought this class of voters in 1894, and in this county they bought hundreds of voters of this class. The Populists have no money to buy with. They must draw their recruits from the intelligent and patriotic element of the two old political parties. There is no danger of the Democrats disfranchising the ignorant voters as they must rely on this element for success. If this class in North Carolina who sell their votes were disfranchised, the Populists would have a walk over.

It is this large element we have to fear and to overcome then we must appeal to the patriotic element in the two old parties. If the electoral vote of North Carolina is necessary to secure the election of the Republican candidate, millions of money will be spent to secure the votes. If the fight was between the Republicans and Democratic parties for supremacy there would be some reason for the Democrats to disfranchise the large element of illiterate voters in the Republican party. As the fight in the future is between the Populist and Democratic parties, and the Democratic party are not such fools as to disfranchise the only element they could purchase and thereby rely on for success. It is now evident that there cannot long be three parties in the State. The Republican party is doomed. Its machine, as Amis says, has to secure the spoils whenever the Republican party elects a President. Whenever the Populist party engages in the task of saving the Republican party for the sake of a few offices, it has sealed its fate. As long as there was talk of fusion all was chaos. Now that it is decided to fight for principle, straight the Populists take on new life and the patriotic element in the two old parties are coming to us.

Fusion means confusion and in the end dissolution. It destroyed the greenback and labor parties and in the end will destroy any party however however valuable its principles. Let us stand by principles and these chrysalized into law will bring permanent prosperity to every class. Let us appeal to the patriotic element of all parties and trust in God for the result. Bro Amis comes over to the help of the Lord against the mighty. The Alliance principles furnish the only complete protective system ever promulgated. The Republican protective system leaves the farmers to sell on the free trade market of the world in competition with farmers employing labor that works for one fourth the wages paid the same class in this country. The labor, since 1890, is assisted with the best of labor saving machinery and thus armed can accomplish as much more per man as American labor. This sharp competition is forcing the price of farm produce down and reducing the net proceeds of the farm. The Republican party forces the farmers to compete on the free-

trade markets of the world for gold. It is this sharp competition for this metal, with cheaper labor that is forcing the price of farm produce down. In the future we will show how the Alliance principles chrysalized into law will give us a complete protective system.

This done, there is no excuse for any Republican not voting the Alliance principles. As for parties they are a curse. Men become attached to the name and are partisans. We should study principles and stand by them. The Populists have the Alliance principles. As long as they stand by them I will do all within my power to make it a success. When they throw aside principle for office I have no further use for them.

Very truly yours, JAMES MURDOCK (OFFICIAL)

NATIONAL ALLIANCE DEMANDS.

Adopted at Washington, D. C., February 6, 1896.

WHEREAS, The Declaration of Independence, as a basis for a Republican form of Government that might be progressive and perpetual, states:

"That all men are created equal; that they are endowed with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the governed."

We hold, therefore, that to restore and preserve these rights under a Republican form of government, private monopolies of public necessities for speculative purposes, whether of the means of production, distribution or exchange, should be prohibited, and whenever any such public necessity or utility becomes a monopoly in private hands, the people of the municipality, state or union, as the case may be, shall appropriate the same by right of eminent domain, paying a just value therefor, and operate them for, and in the interest of, the whole people.

FINANCE. We demand a national currency, safe, sound and flexible; issued by the general government only; a full legal tender for all debts and receivable for all dues, and an equitable and efficient means of distribution of this currency, directly to the people, at the minimum of expense and without the intervention of banking corporations and in sufficient volume to transact the business of the country on a cash basis.

(a) We demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the legal ratio of 16 to 1.

(b) We demand a graduated income tax.

(c) That our national legislation shall be so framed in the future as not to build up one industry at the expense of another.

(d) We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand that all National and State revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government economically and honestly administered.

(e) We demand that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit of savings of the people, and to facilitate exchange.

(f) We are unalterably opposed to the issue by the United States, of interest bearing bonds, and demand the payment of all coin obligations of the United States, as provided by existing laws, in either gold or silver coin, at the option of the government and not at the option of the creditor.

TRANSPORTATION. (a) The government shall purchase or construct and operate a sufficient mileage of railroads to effectually control all rates of transportation on a just and equitable basis.

(b) The telegraph and telephone, like the postoffice system, being a necessity for the transmission of intelligence, should be owned and operated by the government in the interest of the people.

LAND. We demand that no land shall be held by corporations for speculative purposes or by railroads in excess of their needs as carriers, and all lands now owned by aliens should be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

EXECUTION OF UNITED STATES SENATORS. We demand the election of United States Senators by a direct vote of the people. That each State shall be divided into two districts of nearly equal voting population, and that Senators from each shall be elected by the people of the district.

DISTRICT LEGISLATION. Relying upon the good, common sense of the American people, and believing that a majority of them, when uninfluenced by party prejudice, will vote right on all questions submitted to them on their merit; and, further, to effectually annihilate the pernicious lobby in legislation, we demand direct legislation by means of the initiative and referendum.

R. A. SOUTHWORTH, Sec'y-Treas. N. F. A. and I. U. IN COURT FOR FAILING TO PROVIDE HIS WIFE WITH SNUFF AND TOBACCO. One Dave Morris was up before C. V. Voils, J. P., on last Tuesday for abandoning his wife. From what the court could gather from the State's witnesses there was no abandonment, neither had Morris failed to provide for her wants, save as to the luxuries of tobacco and snuff. On examination of Mrs. Morris, she stated that her husband had, on several occasions, gone off and stayed some two or three days, and not a chew of tobacco or a dip of snuff in the house.—Mooresville Record.

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