

PUBLISHER'S ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE DAILY JOURNAL is a 16 column paper, published daily, except Sunday, at \$1.00 per year, \$1.50 for six months, delivered to city subscribers at 50 cents per month.

THE WEEKLY JOURNAL, a 16 column paper, is published every Thursday at \$2.00 per annum.

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Advertisements under head of "Business Locals," 10 cents per line for first, and 5 cents for every subsequent insertion.

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Notices of Marriage or Deaths, not to exceed ten lines will be inserted free. All additional matter will be charged 5 cents per line.

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Communications containing news or a discussion of local matters are solicited. No communication must be expected to be published that contains obnoxious personal invective, or withdraws the name of the author; or that will make more than one column of this paper.

Any person feeling aggrieved at any anonymous communication can obtain the name of the author by application at this office and showing wherein the grievance exists.

THE JOURNAL.

M. S. WOODS, Editor.

NEW BERNE, N. C., JUNE 27, 1865.

Editorial at the Post-office in New Berne, N. C., as second-class matter.

BREVITIES OF ECUADOR.

The members of a Foreign Land.

The landlord at the hotel here says a letter from Quito, the capital of Ecuador, to the New York Sun, requires you to pay your board in advance, because he has no money to buy food and no credit with the market men; the muleteers ask for their fees before starting, because experience teaches them wisdom; and there is scarcely a building in the whole republic in process of construction, or even undergoing repair; death seems to have settled upon everything artificial, but nature in her grandest glory.

The population of Ecuador is about a million, and the nation owes twenty gold dollars per capita for every one of the inhabitants. The president is compelled to live at Guayaquil so as to see that the customs duties, the only source of revenue, reach the government, and to quell the revolutions that are constantly rising. Three hundred thousand of the population are of Spanish descent, 100,000 are foreigners, and 600,000 native Indians or persons of mixed blood. The commerce is in the hands of the foreigners entirely, and they have a monopoly of it in the entire country. The Indians are the only people who work. Over the doors of the residences or the business houses, and both, are usually under the same roof, are signs reading, "This is the property of an Englishman," "This is the property of a citizen of Germany," and so on, a necessary warning to revolutionists, who are thus notified to keep their hands off.

The Spaniards are the aristocracy, poor but proud, very proud. The mixed race furnishes the mechanics and artisans, while the Indians till the soil and do the drudgery. A cook gets two dollars a month in a depreciated currency, but the employer is expected to board his entire family. A laborer gets four or six dollars a month and boards himself, except when he is fortunate enough to have a wife out at service. The Indians never marry, because they cannot afford to. The law compels him to pay the priest a fee of six dollars, more than most of them can ever accumulate. When a Spaniard marries, the fee is paid by contributions from his relatives.

It is a peculiarity of the Indian that he will sell nothing at wholesale, nor will he trade with you anywhere but in the market place, on the spot where he and his forefathers have sold garden truck for three centuries. Although travelers on the highways meet whole armies of Indians, bearing upon their backs heavy burdens of vegetables and other supplies, they can purchase nothing of them, as the native will not sell his goods until he gets to the place where he is in the habit of selling them. He will carry them ten miles and dispose of them for less than he was offered for them at home.

The same rule exists in Guatemala. A gentleman who lives some distance from town said that for the last four years he had been trying to get the Indians, who passed every morning with packs of officials (the tropical clover), to sell him some tobacco, but they invariably refused to do so; consequently he was compelled to go into town to buy what was carried by his own door.

Nor will the natives sell at wholesale. They will give you a gourd full of potatoes for a penny as often as you like, but will not sell their stock in a lump. They will give you fifteen eggs for a real (ten cents), but will not sell you five dozen for a dollar. This dogged adherence to custom cannot be accounted for, except on the suppo-

sition that their superiors are excited by an attempt to depart from it.

In Ecuador there are no smaller coins than the quartillo, change is therefore made by the use of bread. On his way to market the purchaser stops at the bakery and gets a dozen or twenty breakfast rolls, which cost about one cent each, and the market woman receives them and gives them in change for small purchases. If you buy a cent's worth of anything and offer a quartillo in payment you get a breakfast roll for the balance due you.

The Indians live in villages and communities which are presided over by an alcalde, or governor. The native women all wear black. One never finds glimpse of color upon a descendant of the ancient race. They are in perpetual mourning for Atahualpa, the last of the Incas, who was cruelly murdered by Pizarro. Their costume is a short black skirt and a square robe or mantle of black, which they wear over their heads and hold in place by a large pin or thorn between the shoulders. They look like nuns, and walk the streets with burdens upon their backs or heads in processions as solemn as a funeral. They never laugh, and scarcely ever smile; they have no songs and no amusements. Their only semblance to music is a mournful chant which they give in unison at the feasts which are intended to keep alive the memories of the Incas. They cling to their traditions and the customs of their ancestors. They remember the ancient glory of their race, and look to its restoration as the Aztecs of Mexico look for the coming of Montezuma. They have reliques which they guard with the most sacred care, and two great secrets, no amount of torture at the hands of the Spaniards has been able to wring from them. These are the art of tempering copper so as to give it as keen and enduring an edge as steel, and the burial place of the Inca treasures.

It will be remembered that Pizarro offered to release Atahualpa if the Indians would fill with gold the room in which he was kept a prisoner. They did it. Pizarro thought there must be more where this came from, and demanded that the ransom be doubled. Runners were sent over the country to collect the treasure of the kingdom, and were on their way to Caxamarca, where the Inca was a prisoner, loaded down with gold to buy his freedom, when they heard that Pizarro had strangled him. This treasure was buried somewhere in the mountains of Llanquahue, northwest of Quito, and has been searched for ever since.

A Spaniard named Valverde married an Inca girl, and from poverty became suddenly rich. To escape persecution from those who wished to know the secret of his sudden accumulation of gold he fled to Spain, and upon his deathbed made a confession to the priest that through his wife he had discovered the Inca treasures, and left a guide to the place of their deposit as a legacy to his king. This guide has been followed by the government and by private individuals; fortunes have been wasted in the search, hundreds of men have perished in the mountains while engaged in it, and, while the gold of the Incas will never cease to haunt the memories of the avaricious, no man has been able to reach the spot designated by the confession of Valverde.

The last to attempt it was an English botanist, who wrote a pamphlet giving his experience. He says that no one who was not familiar with every inch of the Llanquahue mountains could have written the Valverde document for the land marks are all minutely described; but the path indicated leads to a ravine which is impassable, and in attempting to cross which so many people have lost their lives. It is his opinion that the condition of this gorge has been so changed by volcanic eruptions and earthquakes as to obliterate the landmarks which Valverde describes, and permanently obstruct a path which he is said to have followed.

The capital and productive regions of Ecuador are 180 miles from its only sea port, Guayaquil, and are accessible only by a mule path, which is impassable for six months in the year, during the rainy season, and in the dry season it requires eight or nine days to traverse it, with no resting places where a man can find a decent bed or food fit for human consumption. This is the only means of communication between Quito and the outside world, except along the mountains southward into Bolivia and Peru, where the Incas constructed beautiful highways, which the Spaniards have permitted to decay, until they are now practically useless. They were so well built, however, as to stand the wear and tear of three centuries, and the slightest attempt at repair would have kept them in order.

Although the journey from Guayaquil to Quito takes nine days, Garcia Moreno, the former president of Ecuador, once made it in

thirty-six hours. He heard of a revolution, and springing upon his horse, west of the capital, had twenty-two conspirators shot, and was back at Guayaquil in less than a week. Moreno was president for twelve years, and was one of the greatest and most cruel rulers South America has ever seen. He shot men who would not take off their hats to him in the streets, and had a drunken priest impaled in the principal plaza of Quito as a warning to the clergy to observe habits of sobriety or conceal their intemperance. There was nothing too brutal for this man to do, and nothing too sacred to escape his grasp. He died in 1875 by assassination, and the country has been in a state of political eruption ever since.

Although the road to Quito is over an almost interminable wilderness, it presents the grandest scenic panorama in the world. Directly beneath the equator, surrounding the city whose origin is lost in the mist of centuries, rise twenty volcanoes, presided over by the princely Chimborazo, the lowest being 15,922 feet in height, and the highest reaching an altitude of 22,500 feet. Three of these volcanoes are active, five are dormant, and twelve extinct. Nowhere else on the earth's surface is such a cluster of peaks, such a grand assemblage of giants. Eighteen of the twenty are covered with perpetual snow, and the summits of eleven have never been reached by a living creature except the condor, whose flight surpasses that of any other bird. At noon the vertical sun throws a profusion of light upon the snow-crowned summits, where they appear like a group of pyramids cast in snowdrifts.

Otopoxi is the hottest of active volcanoes, but it is number now.

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