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begun. A number of these were caught after they had stung people ill of the fever, and volunteers were called upon to suffer these mosquitoes, to sting them. Those bitten by the female mosquito were all seized with the fever, one female nurse and one doctor died of the fever and the others were fearfully ill. At the same time other volunteers slept in bedding which yellow fever patients had used, but no harm came from that. It was believed then that could fever patients be covered with netting to keep the insects away the disease would begin to abate, and this was found to be the case. In the meantime all stagnant water in and about the city was drained or covered with oil and in a few days the mosquitoes disappeared and with them the fever. Then the city was thoroughly cleansed and now it is healthier than most of our coast cities. The same experiments were tried in Panama, and another species of mosquito was found to be the assassin there; it was exterminated and the Isthmus was put under thorough sanitation and now the canal zone is as healthy as any place north of the tropic of cancer. Similar experiments have been tried by England, France and Germany in their tropical possessions and the result is the same everywhere.

And the lesson it teaches is that after all filth is man's worst enemy and that perfect sanitation is the one thing most needed all around the earth.

If nothing is left of the substances out of which these insects emerge; there will be health everywhere and the race will retain its vigor and the worst diseases will be banished.

### The River's Miracle

W C MENDENHALL of the United States geological survey, gives a vivid description of the Colorado desert in the current Geographical magazine. The Colorado desert is not in Colorado, but is that desert which stretches northeast from the mouth of the Colorado river for hundreds of miles and includes a portion of the Sierra and Death Valley. Mount Whitney is 14,501 feet above sea level, Death Valley is 276 feet lower than sea level. The mountain and the valley are so near each other that the difference in altitude of the two is accentuated by their near proximity. The chief interest in the article is the geological description of how the desert was formed by the Colorado river carrying down silt from the mountains of Utah and Arizona, for the time was, not remote in a geological sense, when the Gulf of California filled all that great depression which is now the desert. The amount of silt carried down the river is estimated to be sufficient annually to cover one mile square 5.3 feet deep. With that in mind it is easy to imagine what the effect must be in a flow of a thousand years. This silt piles up until the river channel is higher than the surrounding country. Then a freshet comes and the river is changed, and forms a new channel and in that way, after driving back the waters of the gulf and making a desert, the

river kept at work and has deposited over a mighty area what makes, when irrigated, about the richest soil in the world. The men of the Netherlands built embankments where the waters of the surrounding ocean were shallow, then pumped the water within the embankment out and thus added a large amount to the area of their country that can be cultivated. But the Colorado river has done better than that. It has not only driven the waters of the gulf back and made new boundaries for it, but it has covered the desert which was left with soil surpassingly rich. And now a great development company is extending the canals and bringing tens of hundreds of thousands of acres of this land under cultivation, and it is found capable of producing everything that grows in such wonderful profusion, that all who see it are astonished. The great Imperial valley of California is within this area, and the Colorado river though full of eccentricities is giving up its waters to make this possible.

In graphic hands "the work of the Colorado" would make a most fascinating story. The ancients had gods and goddesses presiding over the rivers and oblations were poured into the streams to propitiate the deities. A thousand years ago, long before this continent was discovered and peopled by enlightened men, the Colorado, its gods and goddesses, knowing what was to be, began the work of driving back the gulf by loading the river with silt which was deposited at its mouth, gradually causing the gulf waters to recede. In the same way it invaded the gulf and moved the mouth down a hundred miles from where it formerly was. And this went on until the land was dry and so desolate that man asked why it was created. But the river continued to flow on and on, changing its channel when one was sufficiently filled until millions of acres were covered. Then a new race of men came and one of these made his camp on the verge of this unsightly waste. He saw grass and weeds and low shrubs, springing upon the rim of the mighty waste, and this gave him the thought that soon the unsightly expanse might be made habitable, if the gorhs within it could be touched with life by water. He rigged a rude ditch or flume to irrigate the soil and planted a little garden. The result was astounding. Never had he seen plants grow with such profusion. He died not knowing that it had all been planned long before by the gods and goddesses of the great river. And how the miracle is being extended year by year over acres and acres of land, so that now where once the tides of the gulf ebbed and flowed, where late there was but a repellant desert. Now roses bloom and harvests smile; the most wonderful of transformations.

### Wonderful Mexico

IN HIS late visit here General Agramonte had much to say of Mexico, where he has resided for more than twenty years.

He thinks the government is as firmly fixed as is our own and spoke with enthusiasm of the progress the country is making.

All that is a reminder of what a superb country Mexico is by nature and the place it occupies on the map. It has an area of 787,605 miles, or more than California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Utah and Nevada combined. The Tropic of Cancer cuts it nearly in half, and that, with its varying topography, makes it possible for her people to raise every product of the temperate and torrid zone. It is wonderfully rich in minerals, especially in silver, gold and lead. It has convenient ports on both oceans and these generally have railroad connections with the interior.

We do not know a country on earth which

should be such an inspiration for her children to go out and do and dare, as is Mexico.

Her only present trouble is that of her thirteen or fourteen millions of people, quite ten millions of them have no ambition to get rich if it requires labor, no pride in seeing their country occupy the place it should occupy.

She has a greater area than the United Kingdom, France and Germany. What if her people were such toilers as are the men of those three countries!

She might lay almost the entire world under tribute with her products. Fruit lands in the United States are held at high prices. In tropical fruits there is no comparison between the best of ours and the best in Mexico. She might supply the world with sugar and coffee, and a multitude of other tropical products. Her tobacco might rival Cuba's. Her gold and silver mines have been the concernment of the financial world for almost four hundred years and are still being worked on an extensive scale.

There is no other land with such possibilities.

But it will all be made right after awhile. School houses are being erected all over the Republic and every year tens of millions of dollars are being invested by foreigners. The land has really been transformed in the last twenty-five years, by the end of twenty-five years more of peace, the work problem will be solved. In fifty years more Mexico ought to have more rich men and fewer poor men than any other country on earth.

### Peace Hath Her Victories

THIS country of ours has had five wars, the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the War of the Rebellion, the war with Spain, and many Indian wars. They were all successful, and today the whole world acknowledges our rightful place among the nations.

But those wars do not give us half the prestige that do the victories of Peace that we have now. And behind those victories is the majestic fact that what has been done has been possible because every man in this land has been free to do any legitimate thing without hindrance; and the fact that all the honors of the land have always been open alike to every citizen, has been the spur that has always incited the people to do and to dare. The result is that in a century a region as great as all Europe, outside of Russia, has been changed from a wilderness to smiling fields; from barbarism to civilization, and on such a scale of magnitude that now half the world leans upon the United States for bread and meat and textiles, and counts as an annual great asset the patronage of American travelers in their respective countries.

Of course much of this would have been impossible except for the invention of the steam engine, but had that never been invented, mighty progress would have been made, and today the ships of our country would have dominated every ocean. The wars of our country, except the one to create and the other to save us a nation, have been but incidents, not comparable in any way with the victories of Peace.

Today were any nation of Western Europe to be overwhelmed, the world would look on with more or less calmness, but could any combine destroy the Great Republic, the world would pretty nearly go into mourning. It would be justly looked upon as the greatest calamity that the world ever suffered since the flood, so necessary has our country become to the world, so great is the hope that it has awakened in the souls of the children of men.

So while it is needful to always keep our country in a condition to defend itself, and to main-