MEXICO AS IT IS.

Vera Cruz in a Norther-The Chief Harbor of the Republic -A Ride in the Interior.

Luxuriance of Vegetation - A Trovical Village The Noble House of Lara

for Minititlan on Tuesday. But as we come into open plain there was something windy in the flight of the buzzards hovering over our heads and in the swift whirl of the ducks and in the swift while swift which the wind piles up, and blows away, and then pigeons, and I asked the guard if there was any wind in Vera Cruz. "Si, Senor. The norther has been blow.

The portal is blazzoned on the coast of the country, where he has resided for nearly t irty years. He was formerly driver of a stage coach by ing for two days, and as it is the tidal The nopal is blazoned on the coast of ing for two days, and as it is the tidal norther, it is probably good for three days more." This settled the question of our leaving Vera Cruz, or while the norther blows, blow it ever so gently, though the ships lie sunk at anchor, noses windward, in the narrow gut they call a harbor, between the city and the castle, they can neither load or unload cargo or passengers, nor even clear nor enter. In last week's norther the City of Nankin, of the Alexandre line, from New York, came in and lay under the New York, came in and lay under the more days as the fabled bush on the step of the seagle with the serpent in its mouth indicated the site of the Alexandre line, from the days of the seagle with the serpent in its mouth indicated the site of the Alexandre line at the site of the Alexandre line, from the papaw, its flavor poorer than the per-New York, came in and lay under the ice of the island of Sacrificios until a lull in the tempest tempted her captain to try and make the harbor. In a half an hour he would have made it, but the storm caught him in a half a minute hummed him on the analysis of the storm caught him in a half a minute hummed him on the analysis of that of the papaw, its flavor poorer than the period would stop every other coach day after day would a low him to go on unmolested. The secret of course, is that he has made his bargain with the brigands like a sensible man and collected the toll from his passengers, minute, bumped him on the reef from sea. from which he got off by leaving half his cargo and three blades of his screw; chapparal and the nopal we gradually when he got to his anchorage his ship was not as pretty as it used to be, but the captain, a veteran of the gulf, knew more than he did an hour be-

harbor improvement is not the least, late! harbor improvement is not the least, and the improvement of this harbor Nevertheless, this were a land not friend was right, and the quarry was a

horseback, and as we can not go and mameys and their richer timber, fustic the north wind blowing on our backs, come in a day, we make two easy days and bergamot, and heaven knows what of it, starting at 10 o'clock, after a late not, but all uncared for; even the one needed improvement before the magbreakfast. Our party consists of four great corn-field which we saw fenced niticent possibilities of the country bepersons, the colonel, who is an expert in was overrun with weeds. The myself, as interpreter, a polite young clerk from one of the business houses So we trot in as escort, and a mozo, or boy, to take care of the horses. The horses are lively and fret and prance until we have crossed the railroad track which ago a half a dozen but something like it was forty years dred nature, the clittle s are invaluable. marks the northern limit of the little ago, a half a dozen nuts grouped around a corner bar-room. Here a city, and are out

ON THE BEACH. where we give them a canter to quiet We are to sleep (after dinner) at a them. The beach is our only road for Panch across the river, and while the half the way, and we cantor in the teeth of the north wind, and amid the old dame is telling us that she don't roar of the sea. As far as the eye can wave rolling over wave, and sening its spray in our faces. Welcome the wind, if it blew twice as hard, for it blows from MCalle and exchange salutations in Spanish. One of them had so beautiful a see the gulf is a mass of tumbling foam, blows from "God's country," and the salt of the sea is sweet in our mouths with the savor of home that lies beyond. Overhead is a leaden sky and off to the north a low bank of dark clouds lines the horizon; out of these comes the norther, and it is good for all day and all night. Buzzards drift and soar in the upper air, as if they lived on wind, while lower down industrious pelicans, with a business air, haunt the brakers in search of more substantial food. Flocks of little sandpipers flit across the beach after e .ch succeeding wave, and goggle-eyeo crabs hurry and skurry betwee 1 our horses' feet in search of their holes. We meet pilgrims going and coming, bare-footed and often bare-legged, but with their heads carefully tied up in red handkerchiefs and their ponchos wrapped about their upper story. They are neither on foot nor in vehicles, but up in the air, perched upon a nondescript load of crates of pottery, or bales of garden produce and gourds and calabashes and paniers, and poultry wrapped around with wither, as if ready for roasting, with the feathers on; while lower down the long ears and small feet of the patient ass indicates the present Mexican solution of the great problem of cheap transportation. This is all the life we see for ten

miles, as we pick our way amid the driftwood on the bench, between the salt wayes on our right and the sand hills on our left. The driftwood was salt waves on our right and the sand hills on our left. The driftwood was all swept down to sea by tropical rivers before it was washed on the beach, all but the spars and cabin doors of a clumar white schooner from Maine, that came ashore last year, and that weeps copious brine through the seams and ports of her melancholy hull.

We ride in silence, for the noise drowns speech until we come to a

THE BAR OF ANTIGUA. Outside of it is a swilder waste of

men in the air. A huge pelican, almost over our heads, shuts his wings nothing more." special Correspondence of the Globe-Democrat.

VERA CRUR, November 29, 1881.—
We are in the city of Vera Cruz.—H.

Vera Cruz, or the heroic Vera Cruz, as it styles itself—and we have come down direct from Mexico by special train on Sunday, to reach the heroic city on Monday and take the steamer city on Monday and take the steamer.

Important the heads, shuts his wings and to he had been fired out of a gun, beak foremost, into the water. He is up again in two seconds, and the contrast between the suddenness of his fall and the lazy, contented flap of his wings as he soars away tells us that he has made as quare meal and there is one fish less in the morning.

Tepetate is the inside filling of a young volcano, the stuff it produces before it gets old enough to crupt and when cut is no use for filling or for anything else. This not encouraging as the reward of our ride, but we propose to look for ourselves in the morning.

enter the

Such is

THE CHIEF HARBOR

of the republic, and while our baggage is going to the hotel at New
York prices, we walk down to the
custom house mole to in-pect the harbor. We inspect it at a distance, for the mole, an absurd little sea-work of stone sticking out a hundred yards into the gulf, where it has gathered a shoal all around it, is washed by the breakers that come in across the path of commerce. Not much use for the mole to-day; no lighter would dare to figure out that the whole outfit would making our way to our sleeping quartempt that sea for love or money, and no row-boat has any business out there. Yet it is only an ordinary gale ride on much impressed with the which is blowing; the open sea is not boundless weath of the tropics. At Lara, ocr ss the river. dangerous-only the harbor. All told, one but where we stop for a glass of there are some thirty craft, steamers water, a colored gentleman speaks to and barks and smaller vessels, lying us in English, and I ask I im if he is at anchor before us, every one of not from the States. Yes, he came them fit to face the 700 miles between here and the jetties at Fort Eads, but not one which can send a message across the 700 yards of soapsuds, churning and dashing between us and them. Decidedly, among the improvements which Mexico needs, a harbor improvement is not the least of the States. Yes, he came the light the norther cane mind and the from New York, has been here five whistled northern airs through the churks and crevices until I wondered how soon the old house would go. Its imbers, however, were fastened by lariats, which refused to give way, and the house lasted until dawn, when we harbor improvement is not the least of the wisdom that comes too late.

of Vera Cruz is one of the enter- to be laughed at, if we would only find myth, and so far we had had our ride prises which are to occupy our atten-tion. To build a sea wall or dike mere sand, but warmth and sunshine Not all gether for nothing, though. along the two open sides, will take a are the great fertilizers, and the matter of a couple of hundred thou-sand cubic yards of stone, and it is a the coccanut and sugar-cane, and cure, and we had seen something of question where the stone can be banana, which cultivate themselves, Mexico. We had seer the richness of found. As we can neither have the there are rubber trees, which are not nature and the poverty of man, the harbor nor study it while the norther blows, we will take two days to examine a quarry which is said to exist some twenty miles up the coast.

The only way to reach it is by horseback and as we can not go and their richer timber fustion. in stone quarries, but not in Spanish; tropics need improvement, and they

So we trot into

skinny dame smokes cigarettes and seils aguardiente and Anheuser's beer. know how one can cross the river, the ford being fully 200 yards from her Corkonian mug under his battered sombrera that I talk to him in English and ask him if he is the chief engineer of the new parrow-gauge CORNICE WORKS road which is coming up that way with a subsidy. There is no change in his expression as he sits down on

the bench beside m and says: "I am the boss chain-dragger, and own roads about here. "Chapparal and sporia and pica-

pica?" I suggest. "Worsen that, width the wood-lice and ticks, and dhere's the bugs they call the carappatics; oh, thim's the divvels. We do sit down for two hours at night a-scrapin' thim off our legs. Wan o' thim gets into yer leg and he'll make a hole there 'll kill a

Llook encouragement, and he goes

"It burries in there and feeds and grows; shure there's wan o' the byes in Mexico now—that Mr. Wellington sint him there - widh a hole in his leg you could put your hand into 't."
I receive this horrible story with stoical composure, and he continues 'He will lose his leg; the flesh about

it has turned quite green: if indade he don't lose his life. Bad luck to the country. Here he obligingly picked from his neck a specimen of the Carapato, which has the body of the Cinex lec-

ingeneer! On the principle of the dog who was supposed to be a good coon dog, I suppose I am an engineer. I have point where the louder roar of surf taken brevet rank as an engineer since and thicker flight of pelicans and sea I came here, and why should I not? The first chief engineer of the road was a physician when he landed, but became an engineer because it paid

betther where ye are now. Are ye an

foam, with the breakers yellow with better. A gentleman whom I left six the sand of the bar; inside is a green, months ago head waiter at the Conquiet river, running parallel to the cordia called to see me a few days ago to the angry sea, from which it is separated only by a few yards of sand surveying for Grant's railroad. He dunes. At the angle of the meeting are a few desolate buts of fishermen, and the fishermen are standing barelegged in the water with nets, which was a pretty good one. So I modthey throw like lassoes over the passing fish. Sometimes the fish waits to I am going up to La Pena to look for be caught—most frequently he de-clines. There are more skillful fisher-the rock'll ye get as big as yer hat

morning. .

This MEXICAN FROM CORK

I afterward found out was a Senor Murphy, one of the celebrated chartween Jalaga and Mexico, and amassbut nobody has ever got him to admit that he had ever seen a brigand or knew one of them by sight. He is living now in comfort at Jalapa, near which city he owns a fine farm, Although the soil beneath our feet and at present is engaged in showing is mere sand the vegetation on either the railroad engineers the paths and hand is so luxuriant as to form an un- passes, and winding ways through the

We slept on cot beds, without mattress beneath or blanket above. In the night the norther came inland and

defore starting we had a breakfast of come soberactualities.

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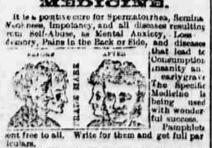
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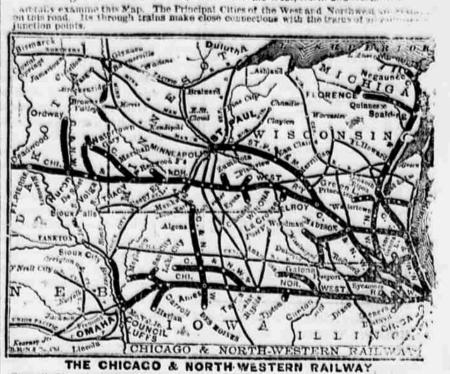
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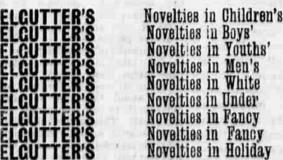
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