

E 409

.S62





MEXICO IN MINIATURE;

OR,

A STATISTICAL AND HISTORICAL VIEW

OF

THE WHOLE COUNTRY:

GIVING A DESCRIPTION OF ITS MOST IMPORTANT

CITIES, TOWNS, CHURCHES, CLERGY, CHURCH-PROPERTY,
POPULATION, MINES, MANUFACTORIES, EXPORTS,
RIVERS, LAKES, MOUNTAINS, CLIMATE, SEA-PORTS AND
HARBORS, ARMY, NAVY, &c.

TOGETHER WITH AN EXPLANATION OF THE

ROUTE AND PROGRESS OF OUR ARMY,
DESCRIPTION OF BATTLES FOUGHT, AND NAVAL OPERATIONS.

THE WHOLE ACCOMPANIED WITH

AN ACCURATELY DRAWN MAP,

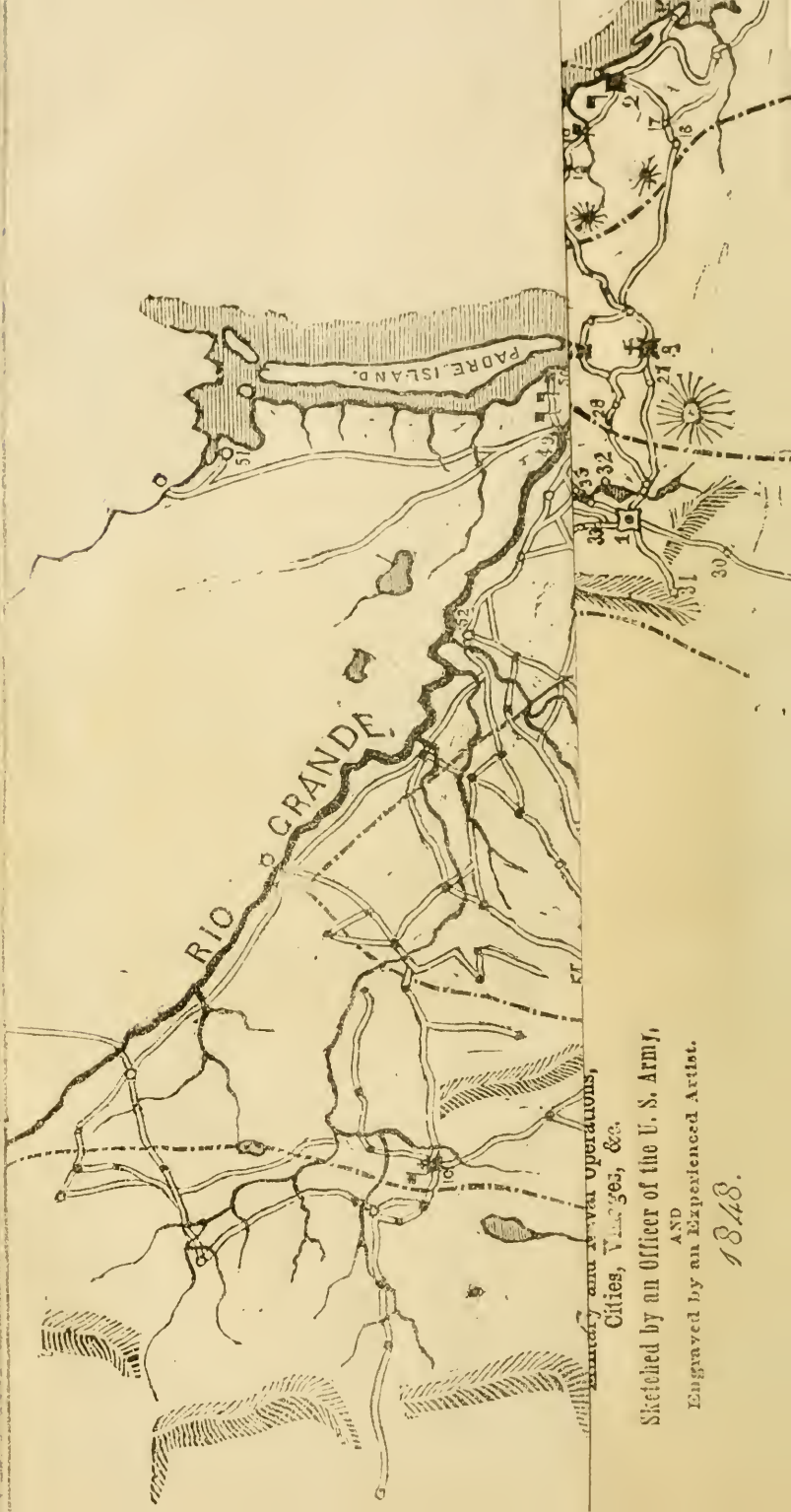
ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE WORK.

BY H. B. SKINNER.



BOSTON: ✓
PUBLISHED BY J. B. HALL, 66 CORNHILL.
1847.

Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1847, by J. B. HALL, in the Clerk's Office of the
District Court for the District of Massachusetts.



Military and Naval Operations,
Cities, Villages, &c.
Sketches by an Officer of the U. S. Army,
AND
Engraved by an Experienced Artist.
1848.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

This Map, with its accompanying remarks, has been drawn with great care, and with a particular view to accuracy. It gives a complete outline of the country, and refers to all the principal cities, towns, villages, harbors, seaports, rivers, lakes, climate, manufactories, population, &c., and gives a brief history of each.

It will afford the reader a better understanding of Mexico, the course of the army, battle-grounds, places now occupied by our troops, future plans, &c., than can be obtained from any other source whatever. In fact, it is a complete history of Mexico in miniature.

H. B. S.



VERA CRUZ, AFTER THE SIEGE.

Names of the principal Cities, Towns, Villages, Rivers, Forts, Passes, &c., in Mexico.

The numbers refer to the numbers on the map, and point out the location of the places.

1. Mexico.	13. Queretaro.	25. Alta Tampico.	37. Atotonilco.	49. Fort Brown.
2. Vera Cruz.	14. Cuiderota.	26. Pamico.	38. Santiago.	50. Fort Polk.
3. La Puebla.	15. Alvarado.	27. Cholula.	39. Valles.	51. Corpus Christi.
4. Tampico.	16. Orizaba.	28. Rio Frio.	40. Tula.	52. Camargo.
5. San Luis Potosi.	17. Corlova.	29. Tlascala.	41. Cantoree.	53. Linares.
6. Matamoras.	18. National Bridge.	30. Cuernavaca.	42. Tula Pass.	54. Salinas.
7. Monterrey.	19. Jalisco.	31. Toluca.	43. La Blanca.	55. Encarnacion.
8. Victoria.	20. Vargas.	32. Teseuco.	44. Venado.	56. Bucara Vista.
9. Saltillo.	21. Guadalupe.	33. Tamezanda.	45. Guadalupe.	57. Agua Nueva.
10. Monclova.	22. Papomilla.	34. Tamyuca.	46. Marina.	58. Parras.
11. Potosi.	23. Tlaxcala.	35. Cerro.	47. Padilla.	
12. Zacatecas.	24. Toluca.	36. Toluca.	48. San Fernando.	



MAP OF

MEXICO

POINTING OUT THE

Route of the Army, Localities of the
Military and Naval Operations,
Cities, Villages, &c.

Sketches by an Officer of the U. S. Army,
AND

Engraved by an Experienced Artist.

1848.

RELATIVE HEIGHT OF SEVERAL TOWNS AND MOUNTAINS IN MEXICO.

	English Feet.
Mexico,	7.665
Tula,	6.733
Rio Frio,	10.122
La Puebla,	7.200
Perote,	7.692
Jalapa,	4.385

It will at once be seen that the army under Gen. Scott enjoy a very agreeable climate. Snow and ice are constantly seen upon the mountains, and an overcoat, even in the month of July, is found very comfortable by veteran soldiers.

How different from the climate of *Vera Cruz*, where the thermometer ranges from 90 to 110 degrees, and where the vomito makes such sad havoc with the unacclimated.

TABLE OF DISTANCES, &c.

The distance from	Miles.
Parras to Patos,	50
Patos to Saltillo,	40
Saltillo to Monterey,	60
Monterey to Caidereta,	28
Caidereta to Monte Morelos,	40
M. Morelos to Linares,	40
Linares to Victoria,	106
Victoria to Tampico,	175
San Luis to Saltillo,	275
“ “ to Victoria,	150
“ “ to Tampico,	290
Monclova to Camargo,	265
“ to Saltillo,	146
Matamoras to Monterey,	250
“ to Victoria,	200
“ to Tampico,	320
Vera Cruz to Jalapa,	70
Jalapa to Perote,	35
Vera Cruz to Tampico,	200
Vera Cruz to city of Mexico,	250
Tampico to city of Mexico,	300

FULL DESCRIPTION OF THE ROUTE PURSUED BY BOTH BRANCHES OF OUR ARMY IN MEXICO.

Course of the Army under Gen. Taylor.

WE will suppose the army to enter the country of Mexico by way of *Corpus Christi*; this place is designated on the Map by No. 51. From thence on to Point Isabel and Fort Brown, marked on the Map No. 50.

It was near this place that the celebrated battles of *Palo Alto* and *Resaca de la Palma* were fought, on the 8th and 9th of May, 1846. The precise location of the battle-grounds is designated by the two flags.

The next movement was to possess, and properly fortify, the capital city of Matámoras, as shown on the Map by No. 6.

From here the course of the army was by a hard march to Monterey; (see Map No. 7.) It was at this place that Taylor and his little army of heroes fought those renowned battles which resulted in the complete capture of the place. These several battles were fought between the 19th and 24th of September, 1846.

The next move was upon *Saltillo*; (see Map No. 9.) At Buena Vista, (see Map No. 56,) Gen. Taylor's last great battle was fought, which resulted in the complete triumph of our arms, and the utter overthrow of the Mexican forces, under their renowned leader, *Gen. Santa Anna*.

This memorable battle was fought on the 21st and 22d of February, 1847.

The army under Gen. Taylor are now waiting at *Saltillo* and its vicinity for reinforcements, which have been promised. Its next move will be upon *San Luis Potosí*, (see Map No. 5,) and from thence on to *Queretaro*; (see Map No. 13.)

From this place, the army will move forward towards *Zulas*, (see Map 36,) for the purpose of uniting with Gen. Scott in the conquest of the city of Mexico.

The route of the army from *Saltillo* may be to *Vittoria*, (see Map No. 8,) and so on to *San Luis Potosí*, by the way of the celebrated *Zula Pass*; (see Map No. 42.)

Having thus sketched the route of the army under *Gen. Taylor*, we will now trace the course of *Gen. Scott*.

NOTE. — Since the above was written, there have been some material changes in the plan of operations in regard to *Gen. Taylor's* division. A large portion of his detachment have been sent forward to join *Gen. Scott*. The remainder of Taylor's forces remain at *Saltillo* and *Monterey*. The head-quarters are at *Monterey*. As regards the future, nothing can be known until time makes further developments.

Course of the Army under Maj. Gen. Scott.

The troops designed for Gen. Scott were sent forward in the usual manner from New Orleans to *Tampico*; (see Map No. 4.) They were joined here by forces which had been detached from Gen. Taylor and sent forward by way of *Vittoria*; (see Map No. 8.)

The next movement was that of the whole branch of Gen. Scott's army upon *Vera Cruz*; (see Map No. 2.) The army was transported from *Tampico* to *Vera Cruz* by the U. S. vessels of war.

It was at this place that Gen. Scott commenced his active operations, and which resulted in the complete surrender of the city and castle of San Juan de Ulloa, and the entire Mexican forces on that station as prisoners of war, in seventeen days from the disembarkation of the American troops. Such a conquest as this is scarcely to be found in the annals of human warfare. It was a display of military skill which has filled the nations of Europe with profound wonder and astonishment.

Scott next moved upon *Jalapa*; (see Map No. 19.) At Cerro Gordo, near the National Bridge, (see Map No. 18,) was fought that celebrated battle, in the month of April, 1847, which resulted in the capture of three thousand prisoners of war, among whom were about seventy officers, including five generals.

The next advance was upon *Lz Puebla*, (see Map No. 3,) by way of Perote. At this place the army made a stand for reinforcements, and to complete still further the necessary arrangements for the attack upon the city of Mexico.

20th Sept. — The attack on Mexico has been made — two battles of unparalleled severity have been fought, and the result in both cases such as we expected. Our banner is still triumphant, and our arms, in Mexico at least, are invincible.

The city, being now occupied by the American forces, is comparatively quiet, and the Mexicans, broken down and dispirited by continual disasters, must soon submit to the dictates of peace.

RESULTS OF THE SEVERAL BATTLES FOUGHT IN MEXICO.

MEMORANDUM OF THE BATTLES OF 8TH AND 9TH OF MAY.

Palo Alto, May 8th, 1846. American force, 2,288. Mexican force, 6,000 regular and several thousand irregular troops. American loss, nine killed, and forty-four wounded. Mexican loss about two hundred killed, and four hundred wounded. Mexican army fell back to Resaca de la Palma.

May 9th, 1846. American force engaged, 1,700, (aggregate, 2,222.) Mexican force, 7,000 (reinforced by cavalry and infantry.) American loss, thirty-nine killed and eighty-two wounded. Mexican loss, about two hundred and fifty killed and six hundred wounded. The Mexicans retreated in the greatest confusion, pursued by the

American cavalry to the Rio Grande, where many of them were drowned in crossing. The Mexicans had veteran regiments of cavalry and infantry, perfectly equipped and provided, and occupying a chosen and advantageous position, strongly defended with artillery. The entire camp, baggage, ammunition, maps, papers, &c., fell into the hands of the Americans.

Monterey, Sept. 21st, 22d and 23d, 1846. Capitulated on the morning of the 24th, after the Americans had carried all the forts, batteries, and barricades, and held three quarters of the town. American forces engaged, not quite 6,000 men. Mexican force, 7,000 regular and about 4,000 irregular troops. American loss, one hundred and twenty-six killed and three hundred and fifty wounded. Mexican loss supposed to be about eight hundred killed and wounded.

Battle of Buena Vista, Feb. 22, 1847. This was one of the most desperate battles ever fought; our arms were victorious, though engaged in the unequal contest of four to one. The enemy was descried on the morning of the 21st, at which time our volunteers sent up three tremendous cheers. The enemy had thirty-two cannon of large calibre. The result of the first day was only eight or ten killed and wounded on the American side.

The second day, at sunrise, the fight began in earnest. The dark columns of the Mexicans extended as far as the eye could see; the two armies were soon in hot conflict. At night the Mexicans withdrew in haste, leaving their arms and munitions of war upon the field. Many perished from starvation in their retreat.

The loss on both sides was great, and a large proportion of officers.

The Mexicans lost three general officers, and twenty colonels and commanders of battalions.

The Mexican force engaged in this action was from twenty to twenty-five thousand. The Americans, all told, did not exceed six thousand, and most of them were new recruits and volunteers. This was a contest of four against one, and, strange to tell, our arms were triumphant.

Vera Cruz and the Castle taken, March 26. We are indebted to one of the officers of the Princeton for the following summary of the proceedings in this most brilliant achievement,—an achievement that will redound more to the glory of our army and marine among the nations abroad than any that has yet had place in our annals:—

March 9th.—Disembarkation of troops commenced.

11th.—Investment of the city completed.

18th.—Trenches opened at night.

22d.—City summoned to surrender; on refusal, seven mortars opened a fire of bomb-shells.

24th.—Navy battery of three long thirty-two pounders and three sixty-eight pounders, Paixhan guns, opened a fire in the morning—distance seven hundred yards.

25th.—Another battery of four twenty-four pounders and three mortars opened this day; the naval battery opened a breach in the walls of the city. The fire was very destructive to the town.

26th.—Early in the morning the city proposed for a surrender.

Commissioners on the American side, Generals Worth and Pillow, and Colonel Totten.

26/h. — Negotiations completed ; city and castle surrendered — Mexican troops marched out and laid down their arms — American troops occupied the city and batteries of the town and castle. At noon on that day the American ensign was hoisted over both, and saluted by our vessels ; the garrison, of about four thousand men, laying down their arms, as prisoners of war, and being sent to their homes on parole — five generals, sixty superior officers, and two hundred and seventy company officers being among the prisoners.

The total loss of the American army, from the day of landing, March 9th, is sixty-five persons killed and wounded. Officers killed : Capt. John R. Vinton, 2d Artillery ; Capt. Alburtis, 2d Infantry ; Midshipman T. B. Shubrick. Wounded : Col. Dickenson, of South Carolina Volunteers, severely ; Lieut. A. S. Baldwin, Navy, slightly ; Lieut. Delozin, 2d Infantry, slightly ; Lieut. Lewis Neill, 2d Dragoons, severely. All the wounded are doing well.

Of the Mexicans the slaughter is said to be immense. The commanding general was stationed in the city, while his second in command held the castle.

Their regular force was about three thousand, and they had about the same number of irregulars. Outside the city was Gen. La Vega, with a force of from six to ten thousand cavalry. Col. Harney, with between two and three hundred United States dragoons, charged on and repulsed this immense force, with terrible carnage, scattering them in all directions.

Battle of Cerro Gordo, April, 1847. This great battle, fought under the direction of Gen. Scott, was planned with great skill, and carried on with zeal to a successful and triumphant result. After the favorable issue of the conflict, Scott writes to the Department at Washington as follows : —

“ We are quite embarrassed with the results of victory — prisoners of war, heavy ordnance, field batteries, small arms, and accoutrements.

“ About three thousand men laid down their arms, with the usual proportion of field and company officers, besides five generals, several of them of great distinction. Pinson, Jarrero, La Vega, Noriega, and Obando. A sixth general, Vesquez, was killed in defending the battery (tower) in the rear of the whole Mexican army, the capture of which gave us these glorious results.

“ The small arms and their accoutrements being of no value to our army here or at home, I have ordered them to be destroyed ; for we have not the means of transporting them. I am, also, somewhat embarrassed with the — pieces of artillery — all bronze — which we have captured. It would take a brigade, and half the mules of our army, to transport them fifty miles.

“ A field battery I shall take for service with the army ; but the heavy metal must be collected, and left here for the present. We have our own siege-train and the proper carriages with us.

“ Our loss, though comparatively small, in numbers, has been serious.

“ I estimate our total loss, in killed and wounded, may be about two

hundred and fifty, and that of the enemy three hundred and fifty. In the pursuit towards Jalapa, (twenty-five miles hence,) I learn we have added much to the enemy's loss in prisoners, killed, and wounded. In fact, I suppose his retreating army to be nearly disorganized, and hence my haste to follow, in an hour or two, to profit by events.

"President Santa Anna, with Generals Canalizo and Almonte, and some six or eight thousand men, escaped towards Jalapa just before Cerro Gordo was carried, and before Twiggs' division reached the national road above."

Battle at Sacramento, under Col. Doniphan. The victory of Col. Doniphan, at Sacramento, it has been truly said, is, in many respects, the most remarkable achievement of the war, as will be seen by the following statistics:—

Americans engaged, . . .	924	Mexicans engaged, . . .	4,223
American pieces artillery, . .	6	Mexican pieces artillery, . .	12
Americans killed, . . .	2	Mexicans killed, . . .	300

Nearly half the Mexican force were regulars, while the American force was nearly all, if not entirely, made up of volunteers. Major Owens was the only man killed in the action; one private wounded.

Battles before the City of Mexico. The following letter is from a highly respectable Mexican, and seems to be a very impartial account of the late battles before the city of Mexico:—

"On the 16th of August, Gen. Worth, in command of Gen. Scott's advance, encountered the advance of the Mexican army. From that moment considerable skirmishing ensued, until the 19th, at twelve o'clock, noon, when the Americans came in sight of works near Contreras. They then assailed our works, and, after six hours' hard fighting, they left our troops still in full possession of their position. The Americans then withdrew, and bivouacked in sight of our army, as night had come on. Early in the morning of the 20th, after a night of heavy rain, the operations were again commenced on both sides. Our main batteries at Contreras were stormed and taken by the Americans, after a short but terrible struggle; and I am sorry to be in the necessity to say it, Valencia's army was obliged to fly towards the city, having left behind him about 1,500 prisoners, and no less than fifteen pieces of artillery. Among the prisoners were Generals Blanco, Garcia, Salas and Mendoza.

"I was among the very last who left that spot, and therefore I have had a good opportunity to see all I now relate.

"The road, along which our troops fled, was covered with our unfortunate dead and wounded, among whom a large number of officers are to be counted; and I do not hesitate to say, that I saw at least seven hundred of my countrymen dead, and double that number wounded, in the field.

"All our ammunition and camp equipage was taken by the Americans, and a great quantity of our muskets were abandoned on the road.

"We arrived at San Antonio, where strong works had been constructed, and were again attacked by the Americans. We, however, soon abandoned that position, with the loss of two pieces of artillery. General Valencia then ordered us to fall back upon the main works at

Churubusco, where the contest was again fiercely renewed; and, after some hours' fighting, the whole were taken by the Americans, and our forces retreated, in some disorder, to the city.

"Our forces amounted in all to from 15,000 to 20,000, and it is reported that the American forces which engaged us were only six or seven thousand. I cannot tell you the correct loss which our troops sustained.

"Many of our generals have been lost; also forty-five pieces of artillery and an immense quantity of amunition.

"The loss of the Americans cannot fall short of 1,100. An armistice was agreed upon on the 23d, and commissioners on both sides to negotiate.

"The following are the prisoners made at Churubusco: Generals Anaya, Rincon, and Gorostiza. Gen. Frontera was killed at Contre-ras."

Capture of the City of Mexico. The following is from a foreign resident of Mexico:—

"I avail myself of the departure of the British courier, to sketch you the scenes it has been my luck to witness in the capital and its environs, the Mexicans having been beaten in all points and in every way, from the 8th to the 13th inst.

"Gen. Santa Anna left the capital on the evening of the 13th, and took the road to the interior. On the 14th, in the morning, the Americans entered the city in a very quiet manner, and Gen. Scott was already in the palace, when on a sudden the people of the low classes commenced throwing stones on the Americans from the tops of the houses, and from all the streets, whilst individuals of a better standing fired from the windows and balconies on the Yankees, who were far from expecting such treatment.

"Gen. Scott ordered immediately pieces of artillery to be placed in all directions, and soon swept the streets with grape shot; but this proved insufficient to subdue the insurrection. Gen. Scott then sent a few companies on divers points, with orders to break open every house out of which the Mexicans should fire; to put to the sword those found within; and, lastly, to sack the property therein contained.

"This order was executed with great moderation, thanks to the secret instructions of Gen. Scott; but in some cases with stern energy, which soon put down the insurrection.

"These scenes lasted three long and sad days—from the 14th to the 16th—and, I assure you, we were much alarmed during the whole time."

The New Orleans Delta's correspondent gives the following account of the entrance into the city after the results and successes of the day:—

"Gen. Scott intended, on the morning of the 18th, to make a lodgment on the new Payo, entering by the San Cosme gate, and bombard the city; and for this purpose the balance of Gen. Twiggs' division was ordered from El Piedad to the support of Gen. Worth.

"On the night of the 13th, Santa Anna evacuated all his positions and retreated from the city, having had more than one half of his army killed and wounded or taken prisoners. Among the latter was Gen.

Bravo, with his staff, at Chapultepec. Santa Anna found that if he fought on the 14th, he would hardly have a body-guard left to cover his retreat. Early in the morning, the two columns took up their march. Generals Quitman and Smith, at the head of their columns, entered the grand national plaza at seven o'clock.

"The column was formed in the plaza by order of Gen. Quitman. The national flag of the vanguard, of the Cerro Gordo division, while the command came to a present, was flung to the breeze on the National Palace, and it now triumphantly waves over the Halls of the Montezumas.

"Gen. Worth's command halted four or five squares from the plaza, where Col. Garland was wounded.

"About eight o'clock, Gen. Scott and staff, in full feather, escorted by the cavalry, came into the city, amid the huzzas of the soldiery on all sides. As he entered, the band of the 2d Dragoons, mounted, interested the staring crowds with 'Hail Columbia.'

"As the escort entered the grand plaza, the band moved the patriotism of the whole of us to a little higher pitch, by the good old-fashioned national air of 'Yankee Doodle.'

"One of the first acts of Gen. Scott was to appoint Gen. Quitman Civil and Military Governor of Mexico, and Col. J. F. Belton Lieutenant Governor. Gen. Quitman's department embraces the following officers: Capt. F. N. Page, Assistant Adjutant General; Lieut. M. Lovell, M. Wilcox, and R. P. Hammond, Aid de Camps; Capt. G. T. Davis, Secretary; M. Levi, Interpreter.

"Throughout the 14th, and on the morning of the 15th, the Mexicans continued to fire from the corners and tops of the houses, killing some and wounding others. The artillery was first tried on them, but owing to their unseen position, it was not effective.

"The rifle regiment and some of the infantry were then sent in pursuit, which force silenced them wherever they went. The Mexicans were very much mistaken when they came to engage the rifles on the housetops. During their revolutions, they would fight in this way for several days, without doing each other much injury; but the deadly fire of the rifles picked them out from their hiding places where they least expected it, and made them very willing to cease so unequal a combat.

"Since our army arrived in the Valley, we have lost about 3,000 men in killed and wounded.

"We have destroyed the Mexican army, of over 30,000 men, upward of 6,000 of which have been taken prisoners.

"We have captured seventy pieces of artillery — twenty-seven at the battle of Contreras; ten in a fort at Churubusco; and thirty-three on the 12th, 13th and 14th."

GENERAL ORDER.

"The General-in-Chief calls upon his brothers in arms to return, both in public and private worship, thanks and gratitude to God, for the glorious and signal triumph which they have recently achieved for their country; beginning with the 19th of August and ending on the 14th September.

"This army has gallantly fought its way through the fields and fort of Contreras, San Antonio, Churubusco, Moleno del Rey, Chapultepec, and the gates of San Gaston and Tacubaya, to the capital of Mexico. When the very limited numbers who have performed those brilliant deeds shall have become known, the world will be astonished and our country filled with joy."

RECAPITULATION OF THE KILLED AND WOUNDED.

Gen. Worth's Division — 140 killed, 766 wounded, and 27 missing.
Gen. Twiggs' Division — 38 killed, 194 wounded, and 10 missing.
Gen. Pillow's Division — 21 killed, 111 wounded, and 10 missing.
Gen. Quitman's Division — 41 killed, and 267 wounded. Total killed, wounded, and missing, 1,623.

The Pennsylvania and New York regiments lost 41 killed, and 276 wounded — total 317. [A list of their names is published in the New York papers.]

Bombardment of Puebla. — *Defeat and Flight of Santa Anna.* Santa Anna was before Puebla on the 25th of September. He informed Col. Childs that he had occupied the city with 8,000 men, and demanded that the Americans evacuate the citadel, giving them permission to proceed to Mexico and join Gen. Scott.

Col. Childs defied Santa Anna. On the 27th Santa Anna commenced a tremendous assault upon Col. Childs' position; and the latter in return rained bombs and shells upon the city.

On the 28th the cannonade was resumed by the Mexicans, but the city defended themselves from the attacks of the Americans by cotton bales.

On the 30th the Mexicans had completed another battery.

On the 29th and 30th there was very little fighting.

On the 1st of October Santa Anna marched at the head of 2,000 cavalry to attack the reinforcements on their way to join Gen. Scott, at Mexico, but his men revolted, and pronounced him a traitor, &c. Santa Anna escaped with a body guard of 150 hussars.

The Mexican Government had ordered Santa Anna to Queretaro, but he fled in a contrary direction towards Oaxaca, and would probably seek refuge in Guatemala.

Up to the 1st of October, Col. Childs continued to maintain his position in the citadel of Puebla. Cannonading had ceased at all points.

The cotton store-house, in the city of Puebla, took fire during the bombardment, and was burned down, spreading alarm and consternation.

NAVAL OPERATIONS.

Attack on Tobasco. Tobasco is a fine city, situated on a high bluff on the right bank of the river, eighty miles from its mouth. The river is narrow, the banks are high and steep, and covered with trees, chapparal, and flags, interwoven with hanging vines and the densest foliage.

On the 12th of —, the squadron anchored off the river Tobasco,

and on the 14th, all things being ready, sail was made. The steamer Scorpion, bearing the commodore's broad pennant, having in tow the Washington and Vesuvius, followed by the steamers Spitfire, Vixen, and Scourge, towing the Etna, Stromboli, Bonita, and Capt. Taylor's little vessel, the Spitfire, with the patent camels, for lifting our vessels over the shoals and obstructions thrown across the river—the boats of the squadron, about fifty in number, towing astern of all, presented a beautiful sight.

After a variety of successful skirmishing, a party was landed from the Scorpion, to take possession of the town, and thinking in the fort that they were about to be attacked in the rear, they prepared to limber up their field-pieces, when Lieut. Porter landed with a force from the Spitfire, and gallantly rushed up the hill to board, when the enemy fled, leaving two of their field-pieces behind all limbered up for moving off. He then spiked the guns and hoisted the American flag.

KILLED AND WOUNDED IN THE ATTACK ON TOBASCO.

Killed—James White, seaman, Spitfire.

Wounded Mortally—James Mitchell, seaman, Potomac, since dead.

Dangerously—William Treat, seaman, Potomac.

Severely—James Hoy, seaman, Mississippi; — Crosby, ordinary, Etna; George Brown, seaman, Etna. These last two men were wounded by an explosion of gunpowder.

Slightly—George Johnson, seaman, Potomac, by an explosion of gunpowder.

Surrender of Tampico. This, unlike the other conquests of our arms in Mexico, was obtained without the price of blood. The fleet sailed under Com. Conner, on the 11th and 12th of ——. On the 14th Com. Perry crossed the bar with the Spitfire, Vixen, Petrel, Bonita, and Reefer, reinforced from the Cumberland, Mississippi, Princeton, and St. Mary's. There was no opposition made to the American arms. The town was surrendered unconditionally, the garrison having been previously withdrawn.

The town is now sufficiently garrisoned by our land forces, and will become a place of great importance in our further operations upon the interior.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRINCIPAL CITIES, TOWNS, VILLAGES, &c., IN MEXICO.

Mexico. The valley of Mexico, in which the city is situated, occupies the table land, from 6,000 to 8,000 feet high, about midway between the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific Ocean. The valley inclosed between this rampart of hills contains 1,700 square miles.

The present city of Mexico is one of the most beautiful and splendid on the western continent. The population of the city of Mexico is estimated from 150,000 to 200,000. 70,000 are probably of Spanish origin, and not less than 40,000 are pure-blooded Indians; the

remainder are of all possible shades, from the copper-colored native to the light olive shade of the Spaniard.

Vera Cruz. Vera Cruz is a walled city, well built; its towers, cupolas, and battlements, give it a very imposing appearance from the sea. Its climate is warm, but fatal to strangers; many of them die of the vomito and yellow fever. Its water is extremely bad, which is one chief cause of its prevailing sickness. In this city centres almost all the trade of Mexico; its population is about 7,000.—(See Map No. 1.)

Castle of San Juan de Ulloa. The celebrated castle of San Juan de Ulloa was built by the Spaniards, in 1682, sixty-four years after their arrival on the shores of Mexico. It is built on an island, about *one third* of a mile from the city of *Vera Cruz*. Its cost was about *forty millions of dollars*.

Its batteries have mounted as many as 177 guns, of various calibre. It has been taken at four different times:—

1. By *Juan Aquinas Acle*, the pirate.
2. By *Lurencello*, a buccaneer, on the 17th of May, 1693.
3. By the French, in 1838. Its magazine blew up, otherwise the success of the French would have been very doubtful.
4. It has been now taken for the fourth time, by the army of the United States. The stars and stripes now triumphantly float upon its battlements. This celebrated castle was the last hold of the Spaniards in the New World.

Perote. Perote is a strongly fortified place. It has long been used as a place of confinement for state prisoners; the *Texan* prisoners were confined here. It is situated 8,500 feet above the level of the sea, and is uncomfortably cold.

La Puebla. *Puebla* is a handsome and large city; it is the capital of the state of *Puebla*, and is next in importance to the city of Mexico. It is celebrated for its manufactures of glass, earthenware, woollen and cotton goods; it has been called the *Lowell* of Mexico. Its population is about 80,000.—(See Map No. 3.)

San Luis Potosi. This is the capital of the state of the same name, and is one of the most important inland towns in Mexico; it is the depot of the trade of Tampico, and of the northern and western ports of the republic. It contains a mint, a college, and several churches, and is connected with several rich silver mines. Its population is about 50,000. Its location is midway between Monterey and Mexico, about 350 miles from each place.—(See Map No. 4.)

Tampico. Tampico was founded in 1824, and is at present one of the principal seaports in Mexico, though its harbor is very poor. It is a very pretty town, and contains about 5,000 inhabitants. Its climate is warm; at this season (Feb.) the thermometer ranges as high as 90 at noon, which renders the place very sickly. The market is good—well supplied with choice fruits, and at reasonable prices; the water is very bad.—(See Map No. 4.)

Monterey. This is the capital of the state of *New Leon*; it is situated on the *Fernando* river, about 250 miles from its mouth. It

has well-paved streets, and mostly one story stone buildings. The city is located on the main travelling route from the Rio Grande to the city of Mexico. This place will be noted in history for the hard-fought battles around it, and its surrender to Gen. Taylor and his brave troops. Its population is about 12,000.—(See Map No. 7.)

Matamoras. Matamoras is situated on the south bank of the Rio Grande, and at but a little distance from its mouth. This place was taken by Gen. Taylor in May, 1846, and was the first Mexican town taken after the beginning of the war.—(See map No. 6.)

Saltillo. This place is situated about 60 miles south-west of Monterey. This was for some time the head-quarters of the American army under Gen. Taylor. Ten or twelve miles south of *Saltillo* is Buena Vista. Here was fought the hardest battle that has yet taken place in Mexico, the result of which has covered our arms with immortal honors.—(See Map No. 9.)

Alvarado. This was the principal entry port on the Gulf during the occupation of San Juan de Ulloa by the Spanish forces.—(See Map No. 15.)

Queretaro. This is the capital of a state by the same name. It is one of the most beautiful and wealthy cities of Mexico. Its streets cross at right angles and terminate in its three principal squares. Its aqueduct, ten miles in length, with lofty arches, and its splendid churches and convents, give the city an air of great magnificence. The convent of *St. Clara* is more than two miles in its circuit. Population, about 40,000.—(See Map No. 13.)

Valladolid. This is the capital of the state of Michoacan. It has wide and clean streets, a magnificent cathedral, and plaza, or public square. It is situated 6,300 feet above the sea, and contains a population of about 25,000.

Guadalaxara. This is the capital of Jalisco. Its streets are regularly laid out, and it contains several handsome churches and convents. Its population is about 60,000.—(See Map No. 21.)

San Blas. San Blas is situated near the mouth of the Rio Grande. During the rainy season it is extremely unhealthy; the rain falls in such torrents that no roof can exclude it, and it is dangerous to go out into the streets. The population in the dry season is about 3000; at the beginning of the rainy season they move away to *Tepic*, and thereby reduce the population to 150 souls.

Zacatecas. This is the capital of the state of *Zacatecas*. The mint in this place employs about 3,000 persons; \$60,000 have been coined at this mint in twenty-four hours. The total coinage for *five years*, from 1821 to 1826, was more than 17,500,000 dollars. Its population is about 33,000.—(See Map No. 12.)

Oaxaca. This is the capital of a state of the same name. Its population is about 40,000.

New Mexico. The territory of *New Mexico* is only an infant settlement, formed on the upper part of the Rio Grande. Its climate

is very cool. *Santa Fe* is the capital, and contains about 5,000 inhabitants. 30,000 sheep are annually reared here and sent southward. The caravan route from Missouri terminates here.

Lower California. This is a long peninsula in the Pacific Ocean. It contains about 8,000 white inhabitants and converted Indians, and about 4,000 savages.

New Upper California. This is a vast tract, extending from Lower California to the latitude of 42°. Several missions exist here, containing about 7,000 converts, and 300,000 head of cattle.

The coast has some good harbors. *St. Francisco* is one of the best in the world. It affords perfect security to ships of any burden, and plentiful supplies of beef, vegetables, wood and water.

STATISTICS OF MEXICO.

Churches. In the city of Mexico, there are more than 90 churches.

Church Property. The whole church property has been estimated at no less a sum than 160 *millions of dollars*.

Clergy. In the city of Mexico there are about 800 secular clergy, and nearly 2000 of the regular clergy.

Salaries. Several of the bishops have a salary of from 100 to 130,000 dollars annually. The presents of the clergy and other public servants are enormous.

Santa Anna, on the anniversary of his birth, has been known to receive presents to the amount of \$200,000.

Population. The entire population of Mexico has been variously estimated from *seven to eight millions*.

The Army. The army of Mexico is usually about 40,000 by the pay roll; they have from 200 to 300 generals.

Exports. The exports of Mexico are about twenty millions per annum. The following table will show the revenues of the government, and the sources from which it is derived, as near as can be ascertained.

From the <i>Maritime Custom Houses</i> ,	\$6,500,000
“ “ <i>Interior Commerce</i> ,	4,500,000
“ “ <i>Direct Taxes</i> ,	3,000,000
“ “ <i>Percentage on produce of Mines</i> ,	1,000,000
“ “ <i>Profit of Mints</i> ,	500,000
“ “ <i>Tobacco Monopoly</i> ,	500,000
“ “ <i>Post-offices, Lotteries</i> ,	500,000
“ “ <i>Manufacture of Powder, Salt, &c.</i> ,	
“ “ <i>Tolls and other sources</i> ,	500,000

\$17,000,000

To this should be added *four millions* more as the amount of taxes

levied, and from 5 to 10,000,000 more which is annually embezzled by agents, and which of course does not find its way to the public treasury.

Mines. The gross produce of the mines of *Mexico*, from 1690 to 1803, amounted to *one billion three hundred and thirty-eight million four hundred and fifty-two dollars and twenty cents*, being about *twelve million dollars* per annum.

The returns of 1842 exhibit an exportation of silver and gold to the amount of \$18,500,000.

The present produce of the mines is about twenty-three millions of dollars per annum.

The whole amount coined at the mint since the conquest is about \$443,000,000.

MANUFACTURES OF MEXICO.

Manufactures in *Mexico* are in a very rude state. There are, however, considerable fabrics of coarse, red earthenware and glass, together with coarse woollens and cottons.

The working of the silver mines has been the principal business.

Elegant services of plate have been manufactured in *Mexico*, worth from 30,000 to 40,000 dollars.

The coaches of *Mexico* are celebrated for their good construction and beauty.

RIVERS OF MEXICO.

The rivers of *Mexico* are not very numerous, nor of any great magnitude.

Rio Grande. This is the principal river; it rises in the northern part of the country, and flows by a south-easterly direction, about 1,800 miles, to the Gulf of *Mexico*.

Sacramento, Buenaventura. These are rivers of Upper California, and of which but very little is known.

Colorado. This is a large river, 900 miles in length; it courses its way through countries but thinly peopled and little known. It falls into the gulf of California.

Gila. This is a considerable stream; it falls into the Colorado, and of course has the same termination.

LAKES OF MEXICO.

The lakes of *Mexico* are numerous, but of small extent. The valley contains five, on which floating gardens made by a raft covered with earth were numerous.

Chapala. This is the only lake of any great extent. It contains an area of about 1,300 square miles.

The *Tule* lakes in Upper California, and some others near the northern boundary of Mexico, contain large bodies of water, but little are known of them.

CLIMATE OF MEXICO.

In regard to climate, soil, and the varied productions of nature, Mexico is one of the most favored lands in the world: it is capable of producing all that commerce brings together from every part of the globe. Every variety of climate that can be enjoyed, from the *Equator* to the *Arctic* regions, seems to have been concentrated in Mexico.

PRINCIPAL SEAPORTS AND HARBORS IN MEXICO.

The chief seaports are,

Vera Cruz and **Tampico**, in the Gulf of Mexico.

Acapulco and **San Blas**, on the west coast.

Guaymas, on the Gulf of California.

Monterey is the principal place in Upper California, and is often visited by our whale ships.

Sante Fe, in New Mexico, is the centre of the trade with Missouri.

Remark. — The want of harbors must ever prevent Mexico from becoming a great maritime power.

VOLCANIC MOUNTAINS OF MEXICO.

Popocatepetl. This is a volcanic, or "smoking mountain;" it is 17,716 feet high, and is the highest in Mexico.

Iztaccihuatl, or "*white mountain*." This is a volcanic mountain, though it has not been active for ages.

Tuxtla. This is volcanic, and is the most eastern, situated only a few miles from Vera Cruz.

Orizava. This is about fifty miles from the coast, yet it is seen at the distance of one hundred miles at sea. It is 17,400 feet high; all above 15,092 is covered with snow. It is volcanic.

Colima. This is a volcano of recent formation; it emits smoke and ashes, but not lava. It is situated nearly west of the capital, towards the Pacific.





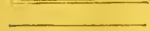


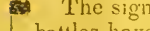

Jorullo. This is a volcano which is constantly burning.

Perote. This is a mountain of considerable elevation.

Toluca. This is another elevation of considerable importance.

A NAVAL AND MILITARY MAP OF MEXICO.

EXPLANATION OF SIGNS.

-  This sign denotes a capital city.
 This denotes a town of considerable importance.
 This sign indicates a small town or village.
 This mark indicates ranchos and estates.
 This sign is intended to indicate a good road.
 This denotes a bad road.
 This sign indicates a mule track.
 This mark denotes a boundary.
 The sign of the flag points out the location where the several battles have been fought, and also its possession by the American forces.

NAMES OF THE PRINCIPAL CITIES, TOWNS, VILLAGES, RIVERS, FORTS, PASSES, &c., IN MEXICO.

The numbers refer to the numbers on the Map, and point out the location of these places.

No. 1, Mexico.	No. 30, Cuernavaca.
2, Vera Cruz.	31, Toluca.
3, La Puebla.	32, Tescuco.
4, Tampico.	33, Tamepanda.
5, San Luis Potosi.	34, Tisayuca.
6, Matamoras.	35, Carprio.
7, Monterey.	36, Tulas.
8, Vittoria.	37, Atotonilco.
9, Saltillo.	38, Santiago.
10, Monclova.	39, Valles.
11, Patos.	40, Tula.
12, Zacatecas.	41, Catoree.
13, Queretaro.	42, Tula Pass.
14, Caiderota.	43, La Blanco.
15, Alvarado.	44, Venando.
16, Orizaba.	45, Guadalupe.
17, Cordova.	46, Marina.
18, National Bridge.	47, Padilla.
19, Jalapa.	48, San Fernando.
20, Vargas.	49, Fort Brown.
21, Guachinango.	50, Fort Polk.
22, Papomtla.	51, Corpus Christi.
23, Tuspan.	52, Camargo.
24, Tebuca.	53, Linares.
25, Alta Tampico.	54, Salinas.
26, Pamico.	55, Encarnation.
27, Cholula.	56, Buena Vista.
28, Rio Frio.	57, Agua Nueva.
29, Thascala.	58, Parras.

39

RB 9.3.1





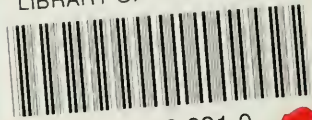
DOBBS BROS.
LIBRARY BINDING

ST. AUGUSTINE

FLA.

32084

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 011 896 691 0

