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The strength of this galleon was nothing considerable as having only seven guns and ten or twelve muskets for its whole defence, being on the other side very ill-provided of victuals and other necessaries, with great want of fresh water, and having no more sails than the uppermost sails of the main mast. This description of the said ship, the Pirates received from certain persons who had spoken with seven mariners belonging to the galleon, at such time as they came ashore in the cock-boat to take in fresh water. Hence they concluded for certain they might easily have taken the said vessel had they given her chase and pursued her, as they ought to have done, especially considering the said galleon could not long subsist at sea.

But they were impeded from following this vastly rich prize by gluttony and drunkenness, having plentifully debauched themselves with several sorts of rich wines they found there ready to their hands. So that they chose rather to satiate their appetite with the things above-

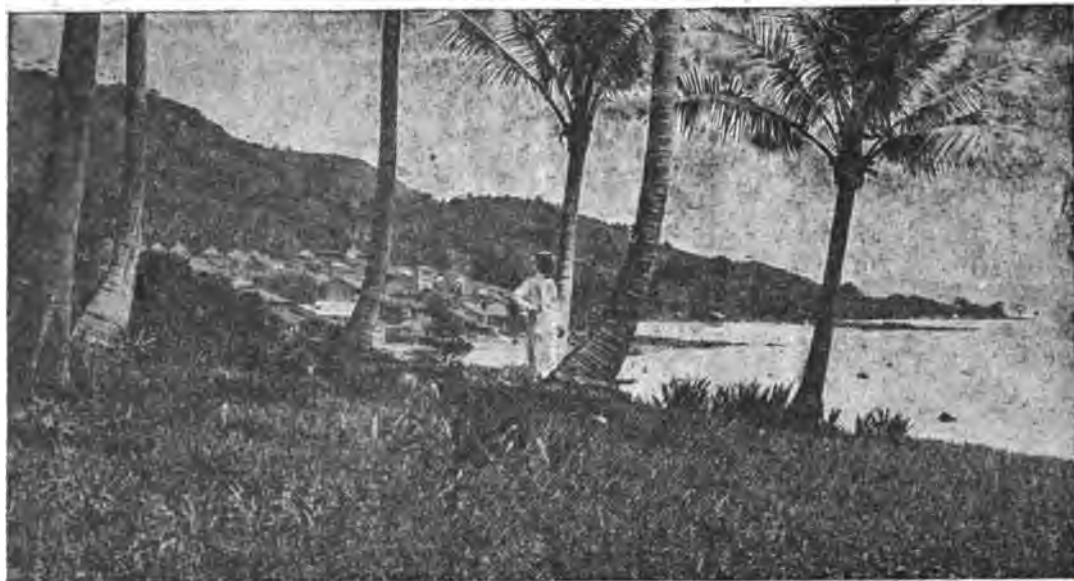
mentioned, than to lay hold on the occasion of such a huge advantage, although this sole prize would certainly have been of far greater value and consequence to them than all they secured at Panama, and other places thereabout.

The next day, repenting of their negligence, and being totally wearied of the vices and debaucheries aforesaid, they set forth to sea another boat well armed, to pursue with all speed imaginable the said galleon. But their present care and diligence was in vain, the Spaniards who were on board the said ship having received intelligence of the danger they were in one or two days before, while the Pirates were cruising so near them, whereupon they fled to places more remote and unknown to their enemies.

Take Prizes at Taboga.

Notwithstanding, the Pirates found in the ports of the islands of Tavoga and Tavogilla (Taboga and Taboguilla), several boats that were laden with many sorts of very good merchandize all of which they took and brought to Panama where, being arrived, they made an exact relation of all that had passed while they were abroad to Capt. Morgan. The prisoners confirmed what the Pirates had said, adding thereto, that they undoubtedly knew whereabouts the said galleon might be at that present, but that it was very probable they had been relieved before now from other places.

These relations stirred up Capt. Morgan anew to send forth all the boats that were in the port of Panama, with design to seek and pursue the said galleon till they could find her. The boats aforesaid, being in all four, set sail from Panama and having spent eight days in cruising to and fro and searching several ports and creeks, they lost all their hopes of finding what they so earnestly sought for.



Toboga Village, Toboga Island, Panama Bay.

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Hereupon they resolved to return to the isles of Tavoga and Tavogilla. Here they found a reasonably good ship that was newly come from Payta, (Peru), being laden with cloth, soap, sugar and biscuit, and with twenty thousand pieces of eight in ready money. This vessel they instantly seized, not finding the least resistance from any person within her. Near to the said ship was also a boat, whereof in like manner they possessed themselves. Upon the boat they laded great part of the merchandize they had found in the ship, together with some slaves they had taken in the said islands. With this purchase they returned to Panama, something better satisfied of their voyage, yet withal much discontented they could not meet with the galleon.

The convoy which Capt. Morgan had sent to the castle of Chagre returned much about the same time, bringing with them very good news. For while Captain Morgan was upon his journey to Panama, those he had left in the castle of Chagre had sent forth to sea two boats to exercise piracy. These happened to meet with a Spanish ship, which they began to chase within sight of the castle. This being perceived by the Pirates that were in the castle, they put forth Spanish colours, thereby to allure and deceive the ship that fled before the boats. Thus the poor Spaniards thinking to find refuge for themselves under the castle and the guns thereof, by flying into the port, were caught in a snare and made prisoners where they thought to find defence. The cargo which was found on board the said vessel consisted of victuals and provisions that were all eatable things. Nothing could be more opportune than this prize for the castle, where they had begun already to experience great scarcity of things of this kind.

-Torture of Prisoners.

This good fortune of the garrison of Chagre gave occasion to Capt. Morgan to remain longer time than he

had determined at Panama. And hereupon he ordered several new excursions to be made into the whole country round about the city. So that while the Pirates at Panama were employed in these expeditions, those at Chagre were busied in exercising piracy upon the North Sea.

Capt. Morgan used to send forth daily parties of two hundred men to make inroads into all the fields and country thereabouts, and when one party came back, another consisting of two hundred more was ready to go forth. By this means they gathered in a short time a huge quantity of riches, and a no lesser number of prisoners. These, being brought into the city, were presently put to the most exquisite tortures imaginable to make them confess both other people's goods and their own.

Here it happened that one poor and miserable wretch was found in the house of a gentleman of great quality, who had put on, amidst the confusion of things, a pair of taffety breeches belonging to his master with a little silver key hanging at the strings thereof. This being perceived by the Pirates they immediately asked him where was the cabinet of the said key. His answer was: He knew not what was become of it, but only that finding those breeches in his master's house, he had made bold to wear them. Not being able to extort any other confession out of him they first put him upon the rack, wherewith they inhumanly disjointed his arms. After this they twisted a cord about his forehead, which they wrung so hard that his eyes appeared as big as eggs, and were ready to fall out of his skull. But neither with these torments could they obtain any positive answer to their demands. Whereupon they soon after hung him up, giving him infinite blows and stripes while he was under that intolerable pain and posture of body. Afterwards they cut off his nose and ears and singed his face with burning straw, till he could speak nor lament his misery no longer. Then losing all hopes of hearing any confession from his mouth, they commanded a negro to run him through with

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a lance, which put an end to his life, and a period to their cruel and inhuman tortures. After this execrable manner did many others of those miserable prisoners finish their days, the common sport and recreation of these Pirates being these and other tragedies not inferior.

They spared in these their cruelties, no sex or condition whatsoever. For as to religious persons and priests, they granted them less quarter than to others, unless they could produce a considerable sum of money, capable of being a sufficient ransom. Women themselves were no better used, and Capt. Morgan, their leader and commander, gave them no good example on this point. For as soon as any beautiful woman was brought as a prisoner to his presence, he used all the means he could, both of rigour and mildness, to bend her to his pleasure, for a confirmation of which assertion I shall here give my reader a short history of a lady, whose virtue and constancy ought to be transmitted to posterity as a memorable example of her sex.

Morgan and the Constant Lady.

Among the prisoners that were brought by the Pirates from the islands of Tavoga and Tavogilla, there was found a gentlewoman of good quality, as also no less virtue and chastity, who was wife to one of the richest merchants in all of those countries. Her years were but few, and her

beauty so great as peradventure I may doubt whether in all Europe one could be found to surpass her perfections either of comeliness or honesty. Her husband at that present was absent from home, being gone as far as the kingdom of Peru, about great concerns of commerce and trade, wherein his employments did lie.

This virtuous lady, likewise, hearing that Pirates were coming to assault Panama, had absented herself thence in the company of other friends and relations, thereby to preserve her life amidst the dangers which the cruelties and tyrannies of those hard-hearted enemies did seem to menace to every citizen. But no sooner had she appeared in the presence of Capt. Morgan than he commanded they should lodge her in a certain apartment by herself giving her a negress, or black woman, to wait upon her, and that she should be treated with all the respect and regale due to her quality. The poor afflicted lady did beg with multitude of sobs and tears she might be suffered to lodge among the other prisoners, her relations, fearing less the unexpected kindness of the commander might prove to be a design upon her chastity. But Capt. Morgan would by no means hearken to her petition, and all he commanded, in answer thereto, was she should be treated with more particular care than before and have her victuals carried from his own table.

This lady had formerly heard very strange reports concerning the Pirates, before their arrival at Panama, intimating to her, as if they were not men, but, as they said, heretics, who did neither invoke the Blessed Trinity, nor believe in Jesus Christ. But now she began to have better thoughts of them than ever before having experienced the manifold civilities of Capt. Morgan, especially hearing him many times to swear by the name of God, and of Jesus Christ, in whom, she was persuaded they did not believe. Neither did she now think them to be so bad, or to have the shapes of beasts, as from the relations of several people she had oftentimes heard. For

as to the name of *robbers* or *thieves*, which was commonly given them by others, she wondered not much at it seeing, as she said, that among all nations of the universe there were to be found some wicked men, who naturally coveted to possess the goods of others.

Conformable to the persuasion of this lady was the opinion of another woman of weak understanding, at Panama who used to say, before the Pirates came thither, she desired very much and had a great curiosity to see one of those men called Pirates for as much as her husband had often told her that they were not men, like others, but rather irrational beasts. This silly woman at last happened to see the first of them, and cried out aloud saying: *Jesus bless me! these thieves are like us Spaniards.*

This false civility of Capt. Morgan wherewith he used this lady was soon after changed into barbarous cruelty. For three or four days being past, he came to see her and the virtuous lady repulsed him with all the civility imaginable and many humble and modest expressions of her mind. But Capt. Morgan still persisted in his disorderly request, presenting her withal with much pearl, gold and all that he had got that was precious and valuable in that voyage. But the lady being in no manner willing to consent thereto nor accept his presents, and showing herself in all respects like Susannah for constancy, he presently changed note and began to speak to her in another tone, threatening her with a thousand cruelties and hard usages at his hands.

To all these things she gave this resolute and positive answer, than which no other could be extorted from her: *Sir, my life is in your hands; but as to my body, in relation to that which you could persuade me to, my soul shall sooner be separated from it through the violence of your arms than I shall condescend to your request* No sooner had Captain Morgan understood this heroic resolution of her mind than he commanded her to be stripped of the best of her apparel and imprisoned in a darksome and stinking cellar.

Here she had allowed her an extremely small quantity of meat and drink, wherewith she had much ado to sustain life for a few days.

Under this hardship the constant and virtuous lady ceased not to pray daily to God Almighty for constancy and patience ~~against the cruelties of Capt. Morgan.~~ But he being now thoroughly convinced of her chaste resolutions, as also desirous to conceal the cause of her confinement and hard usage, since many of the Pirates, his companions, did compassionate her condition, laid many false accusations to her charge giving to understand she held intelligence with the Spaniards and corresponded with them by letters abusing thereby his former lenity and kindness.

I myself was an eye witness to these things here related, and could never have judged such constancy of mind and virtuous chastity to be found in the world, if my own eyes and ears had not informed me thereof. But of this incomparable lady I shall say something more hereafter in its proper place, whereupon I shall leave her at present to continue my history.

Preparations for Departure.

Capt. Morgan having now been at Panama the full space of three weeks commanded all things to be put in order for his departure. To this effect, he gave orders to every company of his men to seek out for so many beasts of carriage as might suffice to convey the whole spoil of the city to the river where his canoes lay.

About this time a great rumour was spread in the city of a considerable number of Pirates who intended to leave Capt. Morgan and that, by taking a ship which was in the port, they determined to go and rob upon the South Sea till they had got as much as they thought fit, and then return homewards by the way of the East Indies into Europe. For which purpose, they had already

gathered great quantity of provisions, which they had hidden in private places, with sufficient store of powder, bullets, and all other sorts of ammunition, likewise some great guns, belonging to the town, muskets and other things where with they designed not only to equip the said vessel but also to fortify themselves and raise batteries in some island or other, which might serve them for a place of refuge.

This design had certainly taken effect as they intended, had not Capt. Morgan had timely advice thereof given him by one of their comrades. Hereupon he instantly commanded the mainmast of the said ship should be cut down and burnt, together with all the other boats that were in the port. Hereby, the intentions of all or most of his companions were totally frustrated. After this Captain Morgan sent forth many of the Spaniards into the adjoining fields and country, to seek for money wherewith to

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A chinese vegetable garden in the vicinity of Panama.

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~~ransom not only themselves~~ but also all the rest of the prisoners; as likewise the ecclesiastics, both secular and regular. Moreover he commanded all the artillery of the town to be spoiled, that is to say, nailed and stopped up.

At the same time he sent out a strong company of men to seek for the Governor of Panama, of whom intelligence was brought that he had laid several ambuscades in the way by which he had to pass on his return. But those who were sent upon this design returned soon after, saying they had not found any sign or appearance of such ambuscades for, a confirmation whereof they brought with them some prisoners they had taken, who declared that the said Governor had had an intention of making some opposition by the way, but that the men whom he designed to effect it were unwilling to undertake any such enterprise so that for want of means he could not put his design in execution.

Prisoners Held for Ransom.

On the 24th of February of the year 1671, Captain Morgan departed from the city of Panama, or rather from the place where the said city of Panama did stand; of the spoils whereof he carried with him one hundred and seventy-five beasts of carriage laden with silver, gold and other precious things, besides six hundred prisoners, more or less, between men, women, children and slaves. That day they came to a river that passes through a delicious campaign (champaign) field, at the distance of a league from Panama.

Here Capt. Morgan put all his forces into good order of martial array in such manner that the prisoners were in the middle of the camp, surrounded on all sides with Pirates. At which present conjuncture nothing else was to be heard but lamentations, cries, shrieks and doleful sighs, of the many women and children, who were persuaded Capt. Morgan designed to transport them all and carry them into his own country for slaves. Besides that,

among all those miserable prisoners there was extreme hunger and thirst endured at that time, which hardship and misery Capt. Morgan designedly caused them to sustain, with intent to excite them more earnestly to seek for money wherewith to ransom themselves according to the tax he had set upon every one.

Many of the women begged of Capt. Morgan upon their knees, with infinite sighs and tears he would permit them to return to Panama, there to live in company with their dear husbands and children, in their little huts of straw which they would erect, seeing they had no houses until the rebuilding of the city. But his answer was: He came not hither to hear lamentations and cries, but rather to seek money. Therefore they ought to seek out for that in the first place, wherever it were to be had and bring it to him, otherwise he would assuredly transport them all to such places whither they cared not to go.

The next day when the march began, those lamentable cries and shrieks were renewed in so much as it would have caused compassion in the hardest heart to hear them. But Capt. Morgan, a man little given to mercy, was not moved therewith in the least. They marched in the same order as was said before; one party of the Pirates proceeding in the van, the prisoners in the middle, and the rest of the Pirates in the rear-guard, by whom the miserable Spaniards were at every step, punched and thrust in their backs and sides with the blunt end of their arms to make them march the faster.

Morgan Punishes Treachery.

That beautiful and virtuous lady of whom we made mention heretofore for her unparalleled constancy and chastity, was led prisoner by herself between two Pirates who guarded her. Her lamentations now did pierce the skies, seeing herself carried away into foreign captivity, often crying to the Pirates, and telling them: *That she had*

given order to two religious persons, in whom she had relied, to go to a certain place and fetch so much money as her ransom did amount to. That they had promised faithfully to do it, but having obtained the said money, instead of bringing it to her, they had employed it another way to ransom some of their own and particular friends.

This ill action of theirs was discovered by a slave, who brought a letter to the said lady. Her complaints, and the cause thereof being brought to the ears of Capt. Morgan, he thought fit to enquire therein. Having found the thing to be true, especially hearing it confirmed by the confession of the said religious men, though under some frivolous excuses of having diverted the money but for a day or two, within which time they expected more sums to repay it, he gave liberty to the said lady, whom otherwise he designed to transport to Jamaica. But in the meanwhile he detained the said religious men as prisoners in her place, using them according to the deserts of their incompassionate intrigues.

As soon as Capt. Morgan arrived upon his march at the town called Cruz, situated on the banks of the river Chagre as was mentioned before, he commanded an order to be published among the prisoners, that within the space of three days every one of them should bring in his ransom, under the penalty aforementioned of being transported to Jamaica.

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In the meanwhile he gave orders for so much ~~corn~~ ^{corn} and maize to be collected thereabouts as was necessary for the victualling of all his ships. At this place ~~some~~ of the prisoners were ransomed but many others could not bring in their moneys in so short a time. Hereupon he continued his voyage, leaving the village on the 5th day of March next following, and carrying with him all the spoil that ever he could transport.

From this village he likewise led away some new prisoners who were inhabitants of the said place. So that these new prisoners were added to those of Panama who had not as yet paid their ransoms, and all transported. But the two religious men who had diverted the money belonging to the lady, were ransomed three days after their imprisonment by other persons who had more compassion for their condition than they had shown for hers.

Pirates Searched for Valuables.

About the middle of the way to the castle of Chagre, Capt. Morgan commanded them to be placed in due order according to their custom, and caused every one to be sworn that they had reserved nor concealed nothing privately to themselves, even not so much as the value of a sixpence. This being done, Capt. Morgan having had some experience that those lewd fellows would not much stickle to swear falsely in points of interest, he commanded every one to be searched very strictly. both in their clothes and satchels and everywhere it might be presumed they had reserved anything. Yea, to the intent this order might not be ill taken by his companions, he permitted himself to be searched, even to the very soles of his shoes. To this effect, by common consent, there was assigned one out of every company to be the searchers of all the rest.

The French Pirates that went on this expedition with Capt. Morgan were not well satisfied with this new

custom of searching. Yet their number being less than that of the English, they were forced to submit to it as well as the others had done before them. The search being over, they re-embarked in their canoes and boats, which attended them on the river, and arrived at the castle of Chagre on the 9th day of the said month of March. Here they found all things in good order, excepting the wounded men, whom they had left there at the time of their departure. For of these the greatest number were dead, through the wounds they had received.

Division of Spoils.

From Chagre, Capt. Morgan sent presently after his arrival, a great boat to Porto Bello, wherein were all the prisoners he had taken at the Isle of St. Catharine, demanding by them a considerable ransom for the castle of Chagre, where he then was, threatening otherwise to ruin and demolish it even to the ground. To this message those of Porto Bello made answer: They would not give one farthing towards the ransom of the said castle, and that the English might do with it as they pleased. This answer being come, the dividend was made of all the spoil they had obtained in that voyage. Thus every company, and every particular person therein included, received their portion of what was got, or rather what part Capt. Morgan was pleased to give them. For so it was, that the rest of his companions, even of his own nation, complained of his proceedings in this particular, and feared not to tell him openly to his face that he had reserved the best jewels for himself. For they judged it impossible that no greater share should belong to them than two hundred pieces of eight *per capita*, of so many valuable booties and robberies as they had obtained. Which small sum they thought too little reward for so much labour and such huge and manifest dangers as they had so often exposed their lives to. But Capt. Morgan was deaf to all these

and many other complaints of this kind, having designed in his mind to cheat them of as much as he could.

Morgan Takes French Leave.

At last Capt. Morgan finding himself obnoxious by many obloquies and detractions among his people, began to fear the consequences thereof and hereupon thinking it unsafe to remain any longer time at Chagre, he commanded the ordnance of the said castle to be carried on board his ship. Afterwards he caused the greatest part of the walls to be demolished, and the edifices to be burnt, and as many other things spoiled and ruined as could conveniently be done in a short while.

These orders being performed, he went secretly on board his own ship, without giving any notice of his departure to his companions, nor calling any council as he used to do. Thus he set sail and put out to sea, not

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Ancon, showing palm trees planted by the French—Panama.
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On England's grand throne great Elizabeth reigned,
And on sea and on land her power maintained;
O'er the hearts of her subjects, o'er the conquests they made,
O'er their lives and their fortunes her sceptre she swayed,
But her title of "Queen of the Seas" to dispute
King Philip essayed from the land of the lute;
And velvet-clad Dons cast their love-songs aside
To battle the English, and wind, wave and tide.
In many and mortal affray they engaged,
And bravely and fiercely the struggle they waged,
But the men of old Devon---those stout hearts of oak---
As often successfully parried each stroke.
The Drakes and the Gilberts, the Grenvils and Leighs,
The Oxenhams, Raleighs---the props and the stays
Of England's first greatness---were the heroes of old
Who helped Britain's queen with the Spanish king's gold.
They robbed the arch-robber of ill-gotten gain,
And brought England the glory they wrested from Spain.
His galleons they captured, his treasure trains seized---
Outfought him abroad and with zeal unappeased.
At home they defeated the Armada's great fleet,
And laid a world's spoil at Elizabeth's feet.

—

Alas, that such deeds should grow dim with the years!
Alas, that such men should have trained buccaneers!
That from such examples---so noble, so true---
A race of marauders and ruffians grew!
That friends such as Morgan should follow the wake
Of men like John Oxman and Sir Francis Drake,
Who swore by the oak, by the ash and the thorn,
God helping them always, to sail round the Horn
To fair Panama and the placid South Sea,
Which they saw one day from the top of a tree!
For old England's glory their standard to raise,
To cruise the Pacific and its isle-dotted bays.

—

Four miles from where Ancon looks down on the New,
Stood Old Panama, whence Pizarro once drew

The bravest of followers Peru to obtain
And her Incas subject to the power of Spain;
There once stood cathedrals and palaces fair,
Whose altars and vessels and tapestries rare
Were the pride of the people whose opulence then
Was the envy of kings, and the longing of men;
Where once stately streets to the plains stretched away,
And warehouses skirted the vessel-lined bay;
Where plantations and gardens and flowering trees
Once perfumed the tropical evening breeze---
Stands naught but a ruin half hidden from view,
A pirate's first gift to his blood-thirsty crew!

—

From sacked Porto Bello redhanded they came,
All bloodstained from conquest unworthy the name,
To the mouth of the Chagres, where, high on the hill,
San Lorenzo kept guard, to plunder and kill
Its devoted defenders, who courageously fought
For homes, wives and children, accounting as naught
Their lives held so precious, so cherished before,
Could they drive the fierce pirates away from their shore.
Three days they repulsed them, but to find every night
The foe still upon them in ne'er-ending fight.
Their arms could not conquer the powers of hell!
San Lorenzo surrendered---ingloriously fell!
Burned, famished and bleeding from many a wound,
They lay while their stronghold was razed to the ground.

—

On, on, up to Cruces the buccaneers sped,
But to find it in ashes, its inhabitants fled.
Yet on and still on, with Morgan ahead,
They pressed down the road that to Panama led.
Nine days through the forest unbroken they tramped,
And at last on a mount near the city encamped.
Before them the ocean for leagues away rolled:
Below them the islands lay bathed in the gold
Of the sun that, just setting, looked mournfully down
On the last day of life of the ill-fated town;

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While around them the plains with groves of bright trees
 Sheltered cattle and fountains their wants to appease.
 The famed "golden cup" lay filled at their hand,
 And to drain it at sunrise the buccaneers planned.
 "Oh ho, for the morrow!" quoth Morgan the bold.
 "Oh ho, for the day and the tale to be told!"

The dawn's faint purple had scarce 'gan to light
 The peak of Ancon, erst hid in the night,
 When the blare of the trumpet and beat of the drum
 Made known that the day of the struggle had come.
 In the camp of the pirates "To arms!" is the cry;
 "Press forward, my hearties, our treasure is nigh!
 Avoid the main road----there are ambuscades there----
 Push on through the forest, your firearms prepare!"
 Now out on the hill, still called the "Advance,"
 The buccaneers over their enemy glance.
 Before them they see in the full light of day
 The Spaniards drawn up in battle array.
 Two squadrons of horse, four thousand of line,
 With bullocks and peons their forces combine,
 And then, were it safer for them to retreat,
 Would Morgan have ordered the signal to beat?
 Too late it is now---it is triumph or die!
 Though desperate to battle, 'twere folly to fly!
 'Tis useless to falter! On, onward my men!
 We have won against odds, we shall win once again!

And "On!" cry the Spaniards, shouting "*Viva el Rey!*"
 Our numbers are greater! Ours, ours is the day!
 Our bullocks will rout them! Huzza for old Spain!
 The gore of the thieves shall enrich the plain!"
 Alas, for the hopes so sadly misplac'd,
 For never before such a foe had they faced!
 No Indians now, but trained men of might,
 Who had learned in stern schools to die and to fight.
 Two hours they fought 'neath the tropical sun,
 Then threw down their muskets and---Morgan had won!

The verdant savanna like a great river runs
With the blood of six thousands of Panama's sons!
"Ou, on to the city!" cries Morgan the bold!
"Oh, ho 'tis the day, and the tale is soon told!"

"Fire, pillage and slaughter!" the order goes round
Till palace and cottage are burned to the ground;
Till cathedral and warehouse no treasures contain,
And in the whole city no gold doth remain;
Till mother and daughter are captured and chained
With father and brother, or ransom obtained.
Monasteries and hospitals—down with them all!
Leave not a stone standing on yon city wall!
"Oh, ho, 'tis the day!" quoth Morgan the bold!
"Oh, ho, 'tis the day, and the tale is now told!"

O demon insensate! O offspring of hell!
What pen may thine awful enormities tell!
How picture the cruelties, useless and vain,
Upon the march back through the forest again!
Old men tottering feebly 'neath Time's hoary crown,
Frail women in chains and with burdens borne down,
Fresh youth and grown man and the child but just born,
Scourged pitilessly on with the lash and the thorn,
While sobs, lamentations and shrieks of despair
Unceasingly freighted the soft summer air!
The ink turns to tears and corrodes the sad pen
O'er the torture at Cruces repeated again.
There, under the shade of the broad mango trees---
'Mid anguish that nothing may ever appease---
Are parents and children and husbands and wives,
Condemned without mercy to horrible lives!

Then back down the Chagres the buccaneers hie
To where ships near the castle awaiting them lie;
And embarked with his slaves, his treasure and gold,
Once again for Port Royal sails Morgan the bold!

THE FOUNDING OF NEW PANAMA.

When the news of the destruction of Old Panama reached the ears of the Conde de Lemos, then Viceroy of Peru, he was so deeply chagrined over the affair, that he immediately took steps resulting in the removal of the defeated governor, Don Juan Pérez de Guzmán. At the same time he represented to the Queen Regent of Spain, María Anne of Austria, the necessity of issuing a decree providing for the rebuilding of the city on a new site.

Between the burning of the old city and the building of the new, nearly two years elapsed. During this time the survivors had erected temporary homes on and around the old site, which were thrice visited and destroyed by conflagrations before the removal to the new town took place.

Up to the year 1905, the exact date of the foundation of the present city had been lost sight of, all the Spanish histories being at fault on this important point. On March 28, 1905, the President of the Municipal Council of Panama, Ciro L. Urriola, acting under official instructions of that body, addressed letters to the Director of the Archives of Simancas; to the Director of the Archives of the Indias at Seville, and to the Director of the National Library at Madrid requesting information as to the exact date the new city was commenced. After an exchange of communications covering some months, the certified copies of two documents were submitted by the Director of the Archives of the Indias, Pedro Torres Lanzas, together with plans of the old and new cities. The documents were:

1. Cedula providing for the fortifications of the new city, dated October 31, 1672.
2. Letter treating of the change of the city, and outlining same, accompanied by the acts of the Council upon said change and delineation, and allotting sites for public buildings.

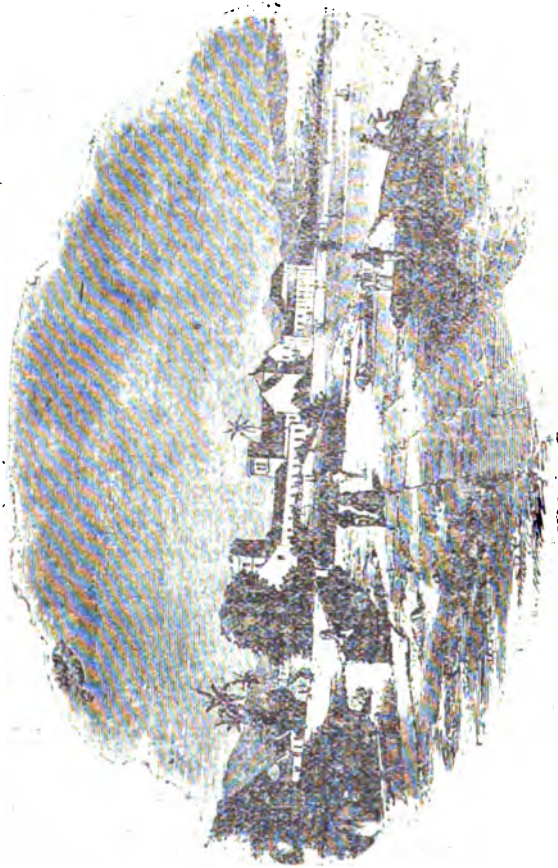
The signing by the Spanish Queen of the decree authorizing the changing of the site of Panama on October 31, 1672, has been adopted and is now observed as the anniversary of the founding of the new city, although the document relating to the plan and lines of the town shows that the inauguration ceremonies in connection with the establishment of the new site were actually held on the 21st of January, 1673.

The important task of supervising the building and fortifying of the new town was confided to Don Antonio Fernández de Córdoba, a Spanish cavalier of high rank who reached the Isthmus in 1672, with the title of Governor of the Province of Tierra Firme, and President of the Real Audiencia. Córdoba only saw the work of reconstruction commence, his death occurring the year following his arrival.

The Queen's cedula or decree on the fortifications of the new city refers to the site of Ancon, as "Lancon", evidently an error or misprint, as the correct spelling appears in documents of a little later period.

In this cedula is set forth the necessity of first providing the city with adequate defenses, making them as strong as possible, but not to start the general work until the plans had been submitted to the Crown for consideration and approval.

As to the question of means, the Queen wrote, "Advise the Viceroy of Peru, with an estimate of the cost, that he may with this notice get the means in conformity with this order". Continuing the document reads, "I charge you (Cordoba) with much care that I have sent you to this place to apply the means furnished for this work, without diverting it to other things. To this end form in the city a Council, in which you will be present, with two judges, a treasurer, two of the oldest secular representatives, and the attorney general of the city who with the help of the officials of the Royal Treasury, will allow the expense and employ the rents remitted you by the Viceroy of Peru,



VIEW OF SEA WALL OF PANAMA AT AN EARLY DAY
(PASEO DE LAS BOVEDAS.)

BY COURTESY OF G. ANDRÉVI & CO.

with whom you will communicate very frequently on these points..... I hope that your experience, prudence, activity and faithfulness, which you have always shown, will conduce to the service of the king, my son, and to these subjects, and that you work in everything as it ought to be done”.

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In a decree drawn up by the attorney general of the city and signed March 10th, 1673, it appears some opposition had developed on the part of those who had already commenced to rebuild their ruined homes at Old Panama, to the change to the new site at Ancon. He wrote requesting that some one be sent to the Isthmus without delay with plenary powers to execute the change, and to compel the inhabitants of Old Panama and vicinity, "without exception", to move to the new site.

He suggested as an inducement to persons of standing an exemption from taxes, upon their agreement to commence building their houses and offices on the new site within two months from the date of this decree, and to occupy them within the year.

He urged forced compliance as to removal in order as the document reads, "That the point which is now populated (Old Panama) may be razed to the ground on account of the risk of enemies coming in the meantime and taking possession, thereby putting a stop to commercial traffic. This demolition will not only help in the new foundations, but will furnish convenient material with which to build the new houses, and at the same time will put a stop to all points of doubt that might delay the execution of the decree".

The decree also prohibited the use of lamps, or rather censers, as they were then known, in the houses at

Old Panama, thereby avoiding danger of future conflagrations from which they had suffered frequently since Morgan's raid. It further provided that just rents should be paid up to the time of the change, and that the people could not be deprived of their homes until four months succeeding the announcement of the decree. The original of this rare document bears the signature of Cordoba, the attorney general, Don Luis de Lossada Quiñones, Don Andres Martinez de Amileto, and the Secretary, Don Diego Juan Aranda Grimaldo.

The signatures were attested by Augustin de Urrutia, with his rubica, and his signaturo and identity attested in turn by three others, each with his rubica.

The ceremonies in connection with the inauguration of work on the new city, held January 21, 1673, were participated in by Governor Cordoba, and all the notables, civil, military and secular. With the assistance of the military engineer, the Governor indicated the lines on which the principal plaza should be laid out, the location of the Cathedral, and the cemetery alongside. The cemetery was abandoned many years ago, but the old Cathedral still rears its twin towers skyward, and is as solid an edifice today as when it was first built. In connection with the cemetery, it might be interesting to note that while the water works force was excavating on Sosa Street in 1905, they ran across and unearthed a great many bones of the early settlers.

The inaugural ceremonies were conducted with all the pomp and ritual common to the Catholic Church at that time. The Bishop and his assistants pronounced a blessing on the Cathedral and cemetery site, and put one large and two small crosses in the center of the plaza. The Governor likewise indicated the site for the convent, now occupied by the store of D. Cardoze and the government telegraph office on Avenue B. Capt. Juan Hidalgo Balcera, Mayordomo of the convent, took occasion to call attention to the fact there was a quantity of building tim-

ber already available near the site, and that furthermore a ship had just entered the bay with a load of building materials, urging that it would be a good thing to commence work on the convent first, so that this constituted the first building of consequence to be erected in the new city.

The Queen's injunction to build the new city's fortifications strong and well were heeded as evidenced by the huge wall of masonry that today extends around a large section of the shore front of the city. These walls commenced in Cordoba's time were not completed until many years afterward under the government of Alonso Mercado de Villacorta. The fortifications are estimated to have cost upwards of ten million dollars in money, principally furnished from Peru. This does not take into account the forced labor employed in their construction. The story has been handed down how a sovereign of Spain was seen standing at a window of his palace one day looking toward the west with a disturbed expression on his features. A courtier made bold to inquire what he was looking at. "I am looking", replied the King, his face relaxing into a grim smile, "for those costly walls of Panama. They ought to be visible even from here".

THE ISTHMIAN BUBBLE OF 1698.

The Darien region was the scene of the first attempt by Europeans, other than subjects of Spain, to obtain a commercial foothold on the Spanish Main. For some time prior to 1695, William Patterson, one of the founders of the Bank of England, had been nourishing a project of commercial expansion of considerable magnitude. It was his idea to establish colonies in various parts of the

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Orient, as well as the Occident, to build up a trade between these points and his country, Scotland. Under royal charter, a company was formed, and in the year 1698 five vessels with more than a thousand Scottish emigrants on board set sail for the Isthmus. From returning buccaneers Patterson learned what a key to the trade of the South Sea the Isthmus really was, and induced him to send his first colony to that point.

The colonists landed at a place on the north coast of Darien, known to day as Puerto Escoces. Here on a small bay which they named Caledonia, the immigrants founded the settlement of New Edinburgh, located about 75 miles to the north-west from Cape Tiburón on the Gulf of Urabá. They built some fortifications, establishing two batteries of 52 cannons each. Only a few months elapsed however, before the effect of the tropical climate and its fevers became apparent on the hardy men of the north, and before the end of the first year arrived only a remnant of the original colony remained. In the meantime other emigrants had been sent out from Scotland, but they fared even worse than the first comers. About this time the Spaniards learned of the full scope of Patterson's designs toward the South Sea trade, and determined to frustrate it. An expedition was sent against the colony at New Edinburgh and met with but little resistance. The captured survivors were thereupon deported.



View of part of the shipping in Colon--Panama.

Schmiedt American & P. R. R. News Agency & Advertising Bureau, A. B. Kowalski

Patterson did not give up his plan without a further effort, and endeavored to plant another colony, this time on the Pacific Ocean and away from Panama, but acting under orders from Spain, Lieut. General D. Juan Diaz Pimiento, Captain-General of the province, took the necessary steps to prevent it.

TROUBLE WITH INDIANS, 1710-90.

The period from 1710 to 1790 was principally marked by frequent battles between the Spaniards and the Indian tribes of the Darien. Early in the century, Catholic missionaries from Spain founded several places in this region, but in 1719 the savages rose and destroyed them all. In 1740, Lieut. General D. Dionisio Martinez de la Vega entered into a treaty of peace with the Indians, and soon after the Viceroy of Santa Fe, Don Sebastian de Es-lava, and the Governor of Panama, acting in conjunction sent out four Jesuit priests, two to the north, and two to the south, in the Darien region, and these founded Yaviza, a town located on the Chucunaque River, the largest affluent of the Tuira, or Tuyra, the principal river in the Darien emptying into the Pacific. Yaviza to-day is an outpost on the forbidden frontier of the Darien Indians. To this point travelers can go with safety, but a further journey inland would be exceedingly risky. Although Yaviza is located fifty miles or so from the coast, tide water does not end for several miles past the town.

Notwithstanding the efforts of the Jesuit priests to obtain a foothold in this region, it was not long after before the Indians planned an uprising and the missionaries had to flee for their lives. In 1784, forts were established

on the Sabana, Chucunaque and Taira Rivers; also on the coast of the Gulf of San Miguel, but six years later upon conclusion of another treaty with the Indian chiefs, these were abandoned. Since then the Indian tribes of that region have been more or less independent, the Government of Colombia having exercised only a nominal rule over them. The Republic of Panama to date has also been content to leave them to their own devices. On one occasion the Colombian Government sent a force of 500 men against them, but this expedition was defeated.

The only other incident in Isthmian history during the eighteenth century worth relating, was the landing of a band of desperadoes and cutthroats on the Caribbean coast, near Porto Bello, made up of the scum of several nations, These at once commenced assaulting and robbing wherever possible, and finally crossed the Isthmus to the Pacific, where they were hunted down and scattered. Some were taken to Cartagena and executed; others died at the hands of the Indians, and still others sought refuge in the caves of San Blas, where they subsisted by fishing. A few of these later started plantations, but they were a restless lot ever keen for desperate deeds, and they soon got into trouble with the Indians who rose against them in 1758, and killed ninety of them. The rest left the country immediately after.

INDEPENDENCE FROM SPAIN, 1821.

The provinces of Panama and Veraguas that composed the Isthmus from 1719 to 1821, and which formed a part of the *Virreinate* of Santa Fé, were among the last to be emancipated from the power of Spain, despite

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the fact that the decisive battle of Royacá, which made an end forever to Spanish dominion in Colombia, had been fought and won by Simon Bolivar over two years before, namely, August 7, 1819. This was due to the large armed force maintained by Spain on the Isthmus. The forts of San Lorenzo and Porto Bello were well garrisoned, while the city of Panama was at all times kept in a state of perfect defence.

To the little town of Los Santos, capital of the province bearing the same name, belongs the honor of making the first open manifestation for liberty, and this was brought about in the following way: In 1819, a small club was formed in Panama, consisting of influential citizens, for the purpose of carrying on a secret revolutionary propaganda. Agents were sent to the interior towns to organize other societies for the fomenting of a revolutionary sentiment among the population. The little society at Los Santos became so enthusiastic that it boiled over, and

one day the members turned out en masse and made a public demonstration in favor of freedom.

Early in 1821, Gen. Juan de la Cruz Murgeon arrived at Panama, having been appointed by the Spanish Government to the post of Captain-General and President of Quito. He was further promised the post of Viceroy of Santa Fé, if he could recover control of two-thirds of the *Virreinate*. This he very soon saw was impossible, and on October 22nd of the same year embarked for Quito to exercise his title of President, leaving in command of the provinces on the Isthmus, Lieut.-Col. José de Fábrega, whom he then promoted to the grade of Colonel.

Col. Fábrega was Isthmian born, and when he saw that he was to be the arbiter of the fate of the Isthmus, he resolved to throw in his lot with his liberty-aspiring countrymen. Thereupon, a general meeting of all the civic corporations, military and church organizations in Panama was called, and on November 28, 1821, before a large and enthusiastic crowd, the independence of the Isthmus from Spanish mis-rule became an accomplished fact. Fábrega himself, was an interested spectator of this event.

Some of the Spanish troops still remaining loyal to the Crown, debated amongst themselves their future course of procedure, but realizing the helplessness of their position, without a commander, with enemies on every hand, and without hope of reinforcements, they decided prudence the better part of valor, and laid down their arms. Thus was independence gained without the shedding of a drop of blood. Isthmian history came near to repeating itself eighty-two years later when the independence of the Republic of Panama was attained, with the loss of but one life, that of a Chinaman.

The same year that the Isthmus threw off the yoke of Spain, Simon Bolivar termed "The Liberator" sent over a force under Gen. Montilla from Cartagena to assist the local patriots, but upon their arrival found that the

Isthmian people had already secured their independence through favoring circumstances.

THE ISTHMUS IN THE DAYS OF '49.

The discovery of gold in California, and the lack of a safe and rapid transcontinental means of getting to the desired goal, induced many thousands of treasure hunters to seek the Isthmian transit. During the seven or eight years succeeding the first find of gold on Sutter's Creek, it is estimated that not less than \$40,000,000 in gold, \$12,000,000 in silver, and 25,000 passengers were annually transported across the Isthmus on pack-mule trains. By 1853 the rush was on in earnest, and according to official figures the output of gold in California for that year reached the highest mark in its history, namely, \$66,000,000.

The sudden development of the pack-mule train business on the Isthmus by reason of the discovery, attracted to the country a large number of Chileans, Peruvians, Indians and mixed breeds, many of whom came not to engage in an honest business, but to plunder, rob and murder. A rich field was at once opened to them on account of the demand for pack-mule trains, a business in which the majority of them were expert. The Panama newspapers of those days are filled with stirring accounts of assault and robbery, and many pathetic incidents of people who had reached Panama successful and happy only to be robbed and frequently murdered in making the transit to the other side.

Often ships would arrive from California with from one to two millions of dust and bullion on board, and with half as much again probably secreted about the person, or

in the baggage of passengers who trusted nobody but themselves, not even the ship's strong box. On one occasion several boxes of gold arrived at New York, apparently intact, but when opened it was discovered that from forty to fifty per cent. had been stolen. The rifling was accomplished by the aid of a certain shaped boring apparatus that would bring out as much as desired of the contents of the boxes, and fill in again with sand, until the original weight was reached. The holes in the boxes were then plugged and sealed so neatly that they could not be detected, except upon close examination.

As a usual thing however, this method was too laborious, and bands of armed men made open attacks on pack trains, assisted by confederates acting as guards, or drivers. In January, 1851, the S. S. Northerner arrived from San Francisco with \$2,600,000 in gold dust and treasure on board, and carrying 500 passengers. Many of the latter had their newly gained wealth concealed in their baggage. Immediately after the steamer's arrival, preparations began for the pack across. The start was made, and at a place called Cardenas, about one day's journey from Panama by mule back, the passengers were attacked in broad daylight by a large body of armed men. In the fight that followed some few of the passengers succeeded in withdrawing with their pack trains unobserved, but the robbers managed to capture two mule loads of treasure, amounting to about \$120,000.

During the fight, the leader of the band, a Chilean, was shot and killed. The affair had hardly terminated when reinforcements arrived to the aid of the passengers. The robbers thereupon fled into the woods, but were promptly pursued. Some were killed, others taken prisoners, while several boxes of gold were recovered in the nick of time, the thieves being come upon just as they were about to bury the treasure in the ground.

One of the pathetic incidents of the period was the case of seven men returning from California, who started



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across the Isthmus in company, to take ship on the other side. They were not heard of again until one day a man came across some bodies half-devoured by the buzzards. An investigation was started, and it was conclusively proven that the seven men had been waylaid and murdered. The men were artisans on their way home, and had with them a chest of tools. This chest from its weight and appearance led one of the numerous gangs of robbers to believe that it contained treasure. They offered themselves as pack-train men, were accepted, and at a certain point on the road the travelers were set upon and killed. Among the effects of the dead men were found a master mason's apron, and other emblems of the order, which increased the desire to run the guilty parties to earth. This was shortly accomplished. The pack-train men were arrested, confronted with the evidence, and confessed. Subsequently they were all taken to Panama and shot.

These and similar occurrences aroused the authorities to take some decisive action toward putting down the out-

rages. All that were caught in robberies were given short shrift. Usually, if found guilty, they were immediately shot. Then too, the returning Californians, being previously advised of the insecurity of the transit, provided themselves against these emergencies, as the robber bands found out to their cost. In one case, a pack-train carrying British bullion from South America was attacked on the trail. The party put up so stiff a defense that several of the thieves were killed, and the remainder put to rout.

The record of those times go to show that many a returning treasure seeker never reached home and loved ones again, but left his bones to bleach on the Cruces trail. A couple of years ago, a native living near the trail ran across a quantity of coins, discolored with age. He brought them into Panama and showed them at a local bank. Many of the coins were gold, and all bore dates of the period when the Cruces trail was the main traveled road of the gold hunters of California. They had evidently formed a part of some robber's hoard.

Lola Montez "of Paris and Panama."

Among the many thousands of persons that passed over the Isthmus from all parts of the world in the mad rush for California, none attracted greater attention on the streets of Panama than Lola Montez, in the zenith of her world-wide fame, and owning to the distinction of being the most wonderful dancer of her day.

The fair Lola, known in private life as the Countess Landsfield, left Paris in December, 1851, on an American tour. On the eve of her departure the Paris press said of her:

"Lola Montez is bidding us farewell, and leaves us for America. Whoever ye be, young or old, rich or poor, it is impossible for you not to have heard of Mme. Comtesse Landsfeld, the butterfly known as Lola Montez. The laurels won by Fannie Elssler and Jenny Lind has driven sleep from her eyes. She too wishes to conquer. Farewell then, Mme. Comtesse, may America be propitious to you. If a handful of adventurers under Cortez effected the conquest of Mexico, why should not Lola Montez triumph over the New World."

The writers in the Paris press in acknowledging her peculiar and fascinating beauty, said that dancing was not an art with her, but natural, like the singing of a bird.

In touring the United States, Loa caught the gold fever, and arrived on the Isthmus on her way to California in May, 1853. She appeared on the streets of Panama in men's clothes, and armed with a riding whip, presented a picturesque and striking figure. On one occasion, a young man of the town had the temerity to pull the tail of her coat. She turned upon him in terrible anger, and raising her whip struck the offender a sharp blow in the face which left its mark for many a day.

Love Me, Love My Dog.

While at Gorgona on her way across the Isthmus, she ordered the hotel keeper to fit up a cot in the room she had engaged for the night, for her dog, which was her inseparable companion. The host remonstrated stating that all of his cots were occupied and that many of his guests had to content themselves with sleeping on the floor. "I think Madame," he said, "that your dog can sleep very well for one night on the floor." "Sir," replied the Countess, removing a Havana from her pretty lips, "I do not care where or how your guests sleep, but I would have you to know that my dog has slept in palaces. Get me the cot immediately and say no more about it." The now frightened hotel keeper obeyed, and the next morning

charged five dollars in the bill for the dog's bed. To this the Countess objected, and on the landlord insisting that the bill should be paid, she pulled out her pistol, and threatened to settle not only the bill, but the hotel keeper as well, for extortion. There was no further argument.

A representative of the "Panama Star" interviewed the artiste on May 9, 1853, at the Cocoa Grove Hotel and wrote an account of it as follows:

"Instead of meeting a giantess in appearance, and a person of masculine manners as was expected, we were most agreeably surprised when on presentation to the Countess, to find her a lady of ordinary stature, and of rather delicate frame, possessing the most regular and handsome features, with a pair of brilliant and expressive eyes, and withal an exceedingly winning address. We were still more surprised when on extending her hand, to find it so diminutive."

"During an hour's conversation with the Countess, we could observe no peculiarity about her, beyond what we would desire to see in any well educated woman, possessing a degree of assurance peculiar to people who have traveled much, thus enabling her to give expression to her thoughts without any of that simpering mock modesty which makes many people appear ridiculous."

"It was not until after dark, and as we were about to take our leave, that we had a fair opportunity to judge of the courageous daring of this remarkable woman. One of the guests of the hotel who had been taking a walk about the grounds was attacked and an attempt made to shoot him. Lola Montez immediately went to where it was going on and rendered what aid possible, returning with the guest to the house. In all the excitement, there was no desire to faint, or expression of fear on her part. She cross-questioned the guest thoroughly, but the affair remained a mystery."

The stay of Lola Montez on the Isthmus was not of long duration, but she expressed great pleasure over her visit, and it was many a day before the memory of her and her queer attire was forgotten.

Oceans Linked by Steel Ribbons, 1855.

The possibilities incident to the construction of a railroad across the Isthmus early attracted the attention of capitalists and others. The first move in this direction was made in 1835 when, pursuant to a resolution offered in the United States Senate by Henry Clay, President Andrew Jackson appointed Charles Biddle a commissioner to visit the different routes on the continent of America best adapted for interoceanic communication, and to report thereon with reference to their value to the commercial interests of the United States. Mr. Biddle came to the Isthmus and accompanied by Don José Obaldía at that time a member of the Colombian Congress, la'ter visited Bogota where, after repeated delays, he secured from the government a decree giving him the right to build a railroad across the Isthmus. He returned to the United States in 1837, but died before he was able to make a report.

In 1847, a French syndicate headed by Mateo Kline obtained an option on the proposed undertaking from the Government of New Granada which, however, was permitted to lapse the following year. The rush of the goldseekers

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to California in '49 and the lack of a safe and rapid means of transit across the Isthmus, about which much complaint was made at the time, induced a group of American capitalists to interest themselves in the project. In this year a company was formed by William H. Aspinwall, John L. Stephens and Henry Chauncey of New York City under the name of the Panama Railroad Company. This company secured a concession from the Republic of New Granada giving it the exclusive privilege of constructing a railroad on the Isthmus in which was incorporated a provision that no negotiations looking to the building and operation of a ship canal could be concluded without the consent of the railroad. The concession was made for a period of forty-nine years dating from the completion of the road. The time given for completion was six years from the date of signing the contract. In 1867 when the name of the Republic of New Granada was changed to that of Colombia the concession was extended for a period of ninety-nine years, thus making the entire term of the grant 118 years from the date of completion. At the expiration of this time, the concession provided that the railroad and appurtenances should be turned over to the Colombian Government in fee simple, with no rights for ceding or selling to any foreign government.

When the French canal company sought from the Colombian Government a concession to construct a canal across the Isthmus, it found that the consent of the Panama Railroad was necessary, and after some negotiations concluded to buy the railroad, and in that way to secure the advantage of its concession, rather than to undertake to purchase its consent, which would have to be approved by the Colombian authorities. After repeated efforts they finally, in August 1881, secured possession of sixty-eight seventieths of the stock, paying \$250 per share, and in addition permitted the American stockholders to strip the company of all the cash and accumulated sur-



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plus, so that the actual amount received by the American shareholders was about \$291 per share for stock the commercial value of which at that time was only a little above par. When the United States bought the property of the French canal company, among its assets were the sixty-eight seventieths of the stock of the Panama Railroad.

Road Pays \$250,000 Indemnity Yearly.

The railroad has been bonded for various amounts since 1851. In 1897 however, all bonds were retired and a new issue of 4,000 first mortgage 4 1/2 per cent twenty year gold bonds of \$1,000 each was made. Of these bonds 3,374 were sold and 626 were retained in the treasury of the company. At the time the property was acquired by the United States Government 1,002 of the outstanding bonds had been redeemed.

Under the terms of the concession the railroad was compelled to pay to the Colombian Government an annual indemnity of \$250,000. The railroad therefore, has not only been required to pay from its earnings interest on its bonded indebtedness, and its operating expenses, but also the annual indemnity of more than \$5,000 per mile. In 1880 the railroad company at the request of the Colombian Government converted this indemnity into bonds for a period of twenty-seven and one-half years. These bonds were afterwards sold by the Colombian Government to private capitalists, so that this indemnity is now being, and will continue to be until 1908, paid to the purchasers of these bonds. After that, or in 1913 as the treaty under which the canal is being constructed stipulates, that amount will be paid by the United States Government to the Republic of Panama.

In preparing for the work, the company engaged the services of two eminent American engineers, George H. Totten and John C. Trautwine, both of whom had been previously employed on important engineering undertakings

both at home and abroad. One of these was the construction of a canal from Cartagena to the Magdalena River in Colombia by which they acquired some knowledge of the Spanish language, and an insight into the manner of working the native laborers.

Active work on the road began in the fall of 1849. The first three months were devoted to establishing a depot at Gorgona for material and supplies, it having been the original intention to build the section of the road from Gorgona to Panama first. This plan necessitated the transfer of all material from ocean steamers to smaller crafts and the voyaging of the latter around Point Toro to the mouth of the Chagres and up this stream to Gorgona. So many difficulties at once developed to this method that it was shortly abandoned and Aspinwall (1) made the northern terminus of the line.

One Way of Getting a Job.

The laborers employed in the construction of the road came from every part of the world. There were natives, East Indians, West Indians, Chinese, Europeans and Americans, as motley a crowd as ever assembled under the sun. The trial given the Chinese proved a dismal failure.

One of the leading spirits of the time was James L. Baldwin, a civil engineer to whom, by common consent, the early completion of the road was largely due. Baldwin was a good judge of men, and he knew as if by intuition just what he could do with the worse than Falstaffian mob with which he was surrounded. His tact was seconded by an off-hand manner of utter fearlessness and personal daring.

One day he had a difficulty at Frijoles with an immense Irishman whom he had previously placed in charge

(1). Former name of Colon. Named after W. H. Aspinwall, one of the founders of the P. B. R.

PANAMA. EMPIRE. COLON.

Bill Posting. Bulletins.

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of that station in which language frequently and painfully free was used. The subordinate was well skilled in the art of self-defence and was always ready to come to the scratch. The irate chief though headstrong had reached the years of discretion, and the matter passed up for the time being.

Baldwin went to Colon the morning following to inspect a detachment of employes newly arrived. His quick eye picked out a man of a thick-set stature, dark complexion and bull-dog look, and calling him before him this dialogue ensued:—

Can you read and write?

I can.

Do you want a good easy job with good pay?

I do.

Have you ever been in a prize fight?

One, or two.

Were you whipped?

Not much.