

**A WINTER IN
CENTRAL AMERICA
AND MEXICO. [1889]**

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A Winter in Central America and Mexico. [1889] by Helen J. Sanborn

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P R E F A C E .

The knights of old journeyed into distant lands to do deeds of chivalry; the knights of to-day, more practical though not less courageous, go searching for the North Pole, for gold, for knowledge, for adventure; but who of them has gone into distant, uncivilized lands in search of coffee? Such was the errand of the two whose wanderings and observations are recorded in this little volume. The journey was undertaken by Mr. James S. Sanborn, of the firm of Chase and Sanborn, of this city, in the interest of the coffee business of that firm. The author went, as narrated in the first chapter, to be a companion to her father, and, as far as a limited knowledge permitted, to speak the Spanish language. On our return home, notes of our travels were published in the *New England Grocer*, for the interest of the trade.

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The publication of these in book form has been demanded so widely, by friends and strangers, that — well, here is the book !

Among the scores of books constantly coming into market, the writer feels that this one has no reason for being and no claim for attention, except from the fact that it treats principally of a country and a people as yet but little known, and rarely visited or written about. The narrative is a true, unvarnished tale ; and our earnest desire and hope is that it may awaken in those who read a greater interest in, and regard for, that small, remote, almost unknown republic of Guatemala, which we shall always hold in loving remembrance.

H. J. S.

BOSTON, February, 1886.

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