

**RECOLLECTIONS OF
CENTRAL
AMERICA AND THE
WEST COAST OF AFRICA**

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Recollections of Central America and the west coast of Africa by Mrs. Foote

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MRS. FOOTE

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WEST COAST OF AFRICA**

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OF
CENTRAL AMERICA
AND THE
WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

BY
MRS. FOOTE,
WIDOW OF THE LATE
HENRY GRANT FOOTE, Esq.,

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Lagos.

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1869.

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F 720

Nick

12/32
3d

Henry Stevens

ERRATA.

PAGE.

- 65 For "on the morning of 16th April," read "on the night, &c."
71 For "Tree Cotton," read "Cotton Tree."
78 For "It seemed I was several minutes," read "It seemed I was several seconds."

ERRATA

PART I.



RECOLLECTIONS OF CENTRAL AMERICA.

CHAPTER I.

AFTER a residence of upwards of eighteen months in Greytown, or San Juan del Norte, in which place my husband held an official appointment, he was removed to the neighbouring state of Salvador; and on the 3rd September, 1853, we started on our long and toilsome, though interesting, journey.

Perhaps a short description of this bustling, but little-known seaport of Nicaragua, or Grey-

town as more commonly called, may not be out of place.

At the time I was residing there it could boast of one of the finest harbours in the world—a narrow, but deep passage being the only inlet into the broad expanse of water which washed its low, swampy shores.

Large men-of-war, and deeply laden merchant ships could lie safely at anchor within hail of land; and however much the great rolling waves of the Atlantic might be raging outside, the harbour preserved its same calm aspect.

Greytown is built on a loose, sandy soil; but on account of the deluges of rain, which last more or less, nine months of the year, it is extremely fertile, the grass growing nearly down to the water's edge. The houses are all built of wood; and groups of trees have been left here and there, giving a pretty appearance to the little town, when seen from the water. Most of these white-washed buildings have green verandahs and