

**A WINTER IN
CENTRAL AMERICA
AND MEXICO**

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

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CENTRAL AMERICA.

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PREFACE.

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.

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, 1866.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

OFF FOR GUATEMALA!

- The Outlook — Discouraging Prospect — The Start — In the South — New Orleans — The Mississippi and the Gulf — Sea-sickness — A Sumptuous Repast — In the Caribbean — Our Indian Pilot — Arrival at Balize 7

CHAPTER II.

BALIZE, LIVINGSTON, AND THE CARIBS.

- Tropical Luxuriance — Our Hostelery — An After-Dinner Drive — An Odd Cemetery — Business-hours — Livingston — Strange Sights — The Caribs — Carib Folk-lore — Leaves from Carib History — Race-qualities 19

CHAPTER III.

A VOYAGE ON THE RIVERS DULCE AND POLOCHIC.

- The "Sweet River" — The "Goliete" — Lake Izabal — Exorbitant Duties — Inconsistency of Officials — Spanish Politeness — The Marimba — The Indian's Idea — In Crooked Ways — A World of Beauty — Bird and Beast — The Land of Mañana 31

CHAPTER IV.

LIFE AMONG THE INDIANS.

- Beasts of Burden — Indians and Ladinos — Travelling in Style — A Refractory Mule — A Terrible Road — Spanish Jargon — A Valued Friend — New Difficulties — In the "Cabildo" — Frugal Fare — Primitive Couches — The Native Beverage — A Fairy's Bower — Tucuru — Fine Scenery — A Shower of Questions — Occupying a Jail — Our Friend Leaves Us — Spanish Tact — Dress of the Natives — "All Right" — A Queer Hubbub — Indian Music . . . 44

CHAPTER V.

A WEEK IN AN INDIAN VILLAGE.

- A Thrifty Town — Cassimir's Triumph — A Reflex of Home — Hungry Travellers — Candelaria — Coban — Exiles from Civilization — Welcome Visitors — The "Plaza" — Funeral Rites — Evening Worship — Anxious Forebodings — In Despair — Obstacles — Injustice to the Indians 68

CHAPTER VI.

ON MULE-BACK.

- The Dreaded Ordeal — A Young Smoker — "Salamá" — An Enchanting Scene — A "Great Man's" Trials — The Goltre — A Hard Climb — Mountain after Mountain — The Land of Do-nothing — An Indifferent Official — A Motley Throng — "Agua, Agua" — Unique "Villages" — A Strange Bedfellow — A Barren Piece — A Clever Ruse — A Sleepless Night — Astir Again — Looking for Dawn — Awful Grandeur — "Our Heads Fairly Whirled" — "No Mas Mulas" — Melesio Leaves Us 84

CHAPTER VII.

THE CAPITAL.

- "Pequeña Paris" — A Pleasant City — Our Host and Hostess — The Hotel's "Patio" — A Black Pedagogue — King

CONTENTS.

3

Carnival—The American Minister—The Market—Tireless Servitors—Rise of the Liberals—A Protestant Mission—Guatemalan Schools—At the Opera 108

CHAPTER VIII.

A BULL FIGHT.

Victims of Carnival—A Relic of Barbarism—A Gay Throng—The Actors—Torturing the Bull—A Wonderful Feat—The "Matador"—Master of the Situation—A Wanton Sacrifice—The Spanish View—A Needed Reform 122

CHAPTER IX.

ANTIGUA AND A BURIED CITY.

A Busy Scene—A Rare Garden—Antigua—A Weird Ruin—Our Little Cicerone—Agua and Fuego—"Ciudad Vieja"—A Thief in the Night—At the Foot of Agua—"Cerro del Carmen"—Forebodings 134

CHAPTER X.

INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT AND MRS. BARRIOS.

Barrios—A Cordial Greeting—Devotion of the Indians—"La Presidenta"—A Romantic Alliance—On the Eve of Revolution—The Great Decree—A Republic in Name—The Iron Hand—A False Step—Secret Preparations—A Faithless Friend—The Man and His Time—Barrios' Works—A Glowing Tribute 146

CHAPTER XI.

COFFEE PLANTATIONS, GROWTH AND CULTIVATION.

The Coffee Plant—Setting the Shrub—Preparing the Berry—Indian Labor—Water in Coffee-curing—Guatemala Coffees—Difficulties in Buying Coffee 162