

**NARRATIVE OF A
JOURNEY TO
GUATEMALA, IN CENTRAL
AMERICA, IN 1838**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649654666

Narrative of a Journey to Guatemala, in Central America, in 1838 by G. W. Montgomery

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

G. W. MONTGOMERY

**NARRATIVE OF A
JOURNEY TO
GUATEMALA, IN CENTRAL
AMERICA, IN 1838**

NARRATIVE
OF A
JOURNEY TO GUATEMALA,
IN
CENTRAL AMERICA,
IN 1838.

BY G. W. MONTGOMERY.

NEW-YORK :

PUBLISHED BY WILEY & PUTNAM,

No. 161 Broadway.

1839.



Entered according to an Act of Congress, in the year 1839, by
WILEY & PUTNAM,
In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Southern District of New-York.

072356 /

J. P. Wright, Printer. 18 New Street, N. Y.

1870

1871

1872

1873

1874

1875

1876

1877

1878

1879

1880

1881

1882

1883

1884

1885

1886

1887

1888

1889

1890

1891

1892

1893

1894

1895

1896

1897

1898

1899

1900

1901

1902

1903

1904

1905

1906

1907

1908

1909

1910

1911

1912

1913

1914

1915

1916

1917

1918

1919

1920

1921

1922

1923

1924

1925

1926

1927

1928

1929

1930

1931

1932

1933

1934

1935

1936

1937

1938

1939

1940

1941

1942

1943

1944

1945

1946

1947

1948

1949

1950

1951

1952

1953

1954

1955

1956

1957

1958

1959

1960

1961

1962

1963

1964

1965

1966

1967

1968

1969

1970

1971

1972

1973

1974

1975

1976

1977

1978

1979

1980

1981

1982

1983

1984

1985

1986

1987

1988

1989

1990

1991

1992

1993

1994

1995

1996

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

2024

2025

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

	Page
Preliminary Remarks.—Departure from New York.—The Bahama Banks.—Havana.—The Moro Castle.—Theatre.—Plaza de Armas.—Paseo.—The Friar.—The Café.	9

CHAPTER II.

General Tacon: his character, acts, &c.	17
---	----

CHAPTER III.

Departure from Havana.—Truxillo.—The Commandant.—A Military Household.—The Dinner.—Incredulity of Mine Host.—Civility of a Native.	23
--	----

CHAPTER IV.

Remarks on Truxillo.—A Ramble in the Woods.	30
---	----

CHAPTER V.

Unpleasant News.—Carrera.—Departure for Balize.—Troubles of a Night at Sea.—Sketch of Balize.	33
---	----

CHAPTER VI.

The Steamboat.—Don Francisco.—A Thunder-Storm.—A Vessel with three Captains.—Bay of St. Thomas.—A Modern Robinson Crusoe.—Passing of a Bar.—The Negro Alcalde.	39
--	----

CHAPTER VII.

The River of Izabal.—Mr. M.—An Exploring Excursion.—The Lake.—Don Valentin.—Remarks on Izabal.—Don José.—The Grave of an American.	46
--	----

CHAPTER VIII.

	Page
Preparations for Travelling.—Passage of "the Mountain."—An Encounter.—The "Arroyo del Muerto."—A Repast in the Woods.—The Rancheria.—Don José a Philosopher.	55

CHAPTER IX.

Fording of a River.—The "Hacienda."—A Natural Park.—Apprehensions on the Road.—Gualan.—A Christening.—The Curate of Toco.—The Fiesta.—St. Isidro.—Rural Theatricals.	63
--	----

CHAPTER X.

Departure from Gualan.—St. Pablo.—The Centenarian.—"Tortillas."—Goitres.—Town of Sacapa.—A Dilemma.—Change of Route.—Valley and Town of Chiquimula.—Cabildos.—The Cautious Ladino.—Mountain of Saltepeque.—The Devout Guide.	74
--	----

CHAPTER XI.

Town of Esquipulas.—A New Perplexity and Change of Route.—The Curate.—His Domestic Establishment.—His Library.—Attending Mass.—The Shrine of Esquipulas.—The Miracle.	83
---	----

CHAPTER XII.

Departure for St. Salvador.—The "Mal Paso."—Town of Ocotepeque.—Scruples of a Quondam Monk.—An Hacienda.—Throwing of the <i>Lazo</i> .—An Awkward Mistake.—The Liberal Housekeeper.	89
---	----

CHAPTER XIII.

Approach to St. Salvador.—Indians and their Dress.—Arrival at the City.—The "Meson."—The Hospitable Frenchman.—The American Consul.—Description of St. Salvador.—The Market-Place.—The Vice-President.—The Secretary of State.—Visit to the Chamber of Deputies.—A Ball.—The American Janissary.—Departure.	98
---	----

CHAPTER XIV.

The Ravine of Guaramal.—Village and Curate of Ateas.—Precautions against Surprise.—My Military Protector.—Volcano of Isalco.—A View of the Pacific.—Sonsonate.—Night View of a Volcanic Eruption.—Separation from my Protector.—The Escort.	106
---	-----

CHAPTER XV.

	Page
Tito.—Indians of Aguisalco.—Arrival at Aguachapa.—The Postmaster.—His Daughters.—The Boiling Lakes.	113

CHAPTER XVI.

A Night at the Hacienda del Coco.—Tito again.—The Alarm.—A Scene by Moonlight.—Carrera.—The "Cuesta de la Leona."—Stronghold of a Rebel Chief.—Another View of the Pacific.—The Rebels in Sight.—Valley of Petapa.—Lako and Volcano of Amatitan.—Another Alarm.—Approach to Guatemala.—View of the City.—Arrival there.—Separation from Tito.	117
---	-----

CHAPTER XVII.

Sketch of Central America.—Bays and Harbours.—Rivers.—Lakes.—Projected Canal of Nicaragua.—Mountains and Volcanoes.—Vegetable and Animal Productions.—Mines.	126
--	-----

CHAPTER XVIII.

Population of Central America.—Trade.—Form of Government.—Political Events.—Insurrection of the Indians.—Account of Carrera.—Deputies sent to him.—Capture of Guatemala.—Distracted State of the Country.—Military Force of Central America.—Revenue.—Church Establishment.—Public Debt.—Principal Men.	139
---	-----

CHAPTER XIX.

City of Guatemala.—The Plaza.—Public Buildings.—The Hermitage.—Account of the Old City.—Earthquakes and Volcanic Eruptions.—Cosiguina.—Character and Customs of the Natives.—Peculiarities of Language.—Procession of Corpus Christi.	151
---	-----

CHAPTER XX.

General Morazan.—Preparations for Returning.—A New Travelling Companion.—Departure from Guatemala.—View of the City from a Distance.—Unexpected Luxuries.—The Commander of the Escort.	162
--	-----

CHAPTER XXI.

"Rio Grande."—Novel Contrivance for passing a River.—A Military Card Party.—The Warm Springs.—Valley of Salamá.—Detention	
---	--