LIFE IN THE CHILIAN CAPITAL

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Quaint Sights in a Faraway Southern City

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Santiago de Chill, Nov. 10, 1903,-On a signtseeing expedition in Chili's capital one cannot do better than begin with the central square, named La Plaza de la Independencia; because from it all things adiate, even the tramway lines and backney coaches, and in the streets immediately surrounding it are found the principal institutions, religious, social and litical. It is an imposing place, with a handsome marble fountain in the middle and environed by a beautiful garden containing trees, flowers, statues, stonepaved walks and marble benches, Nearly all the west side of this great plaza is occupied by the cathedral, which is said to be the largest in South America, as it is certainly one of the oldest. Originally erected by the conqueror, Pedro de Valdivia, it has been several times partially destroyed by carthquakes, and was reconstructed on its present plan by Garcia de Mendoza, somewhere about the year 1659; or rather, it was carried as near to com-pletion as seems to be consistent with lo-cal principles of economy. It has never been quite finished, and probably never will be, because—like the i.censed beggars of these southern countries—its imperfecof these southern countries—its imperfec-tions are a fruitful source of revenue. Though millions of dollars have been collected from plous parishloners—almost enough to veneer the wholy vast pile with a coating of gold—there is still a stand-ing call for 'funds to finish the cathe-drall' and year after year, as generations come and go, a contribution box, posted in a conspicuous position and frequently handed around, presents its gaping mouth like a perpetual mandicant crying "give,

The cathedral is large enough to shelter 14,00 people, yet has no striking feature except that of size, it is built of a coarse kind of porphyry, with a single tower of rough brick, and a tall fron cross over the main entrance. Though looking like a monument of solidity, its earthquake cracked walls have long been concemned and the citizens repeatedly warned that another slightest terr, mote may tumble it down about their ears.

RELIGIOUS SHRINES.

RELIGIOUS SHRINES.

No Chilian—high or low, whether clad in scanty rags or, figuratively robed in royal purple—ever passes the beloved cathedral, (or any other church, for that matter), without lifting the hat, making the sign of the cross or muttering an Ave Marie. This popular deference to religious shrines is shown on every occasion. In the tront wall of ohe of Santiago's handsomest residences, near the main entrance, is a deep niche, in which stands an image of the "Blessed Virgin," cichted in sky blue, with a pink satin mantle embrodered with gold and star bespangled, crowned with a halo of gas jets. An iron grating protects the figure from the street; but every day boquets and wrenths of flowers, rich gifts and widow's mites, and votive offerings of various sorts are showered upon it by people in bodily or mental distress, who believe that trustful appeals to the holy mother will bring speedly mitigation of their infirmities. The story is that some years ago the sonora of the casa, a lady of wealth, being very ill, made a vow to the virgin that if her health was restored she would show her gratitude in this manner; and there stands the more and more venerated image, an effective illustration of the power of prayer and the senora's flety. It is said that many miraculous faith cures have resulted—and all good Santiagoans lift their hats and cross tiemseives in passing by.

A prettier custom among these exceedingly pointe people is that of doffing the hat at sight of a funeral procession. The toneral pageant is not likely to be particularly solemn, as there is no black about the hearse, nor weeping women following it—only a few men, and the horse cars, in their carriages, on the payement or in their balcomies paying a last token of courtesy to the passing last token of courtesy to the passing a last token of courtesy to the passing

cars, in their carriages, of teken of courtesy to the passing er, who is on the way to his long robs grim death of some of its

ARCHBISHOP'S SEE.

exiles being the seat of government, Existature and the court of law, San-go is an archbishop's see, and is there-blessed with numerous churches and an archbishop's see, and is theressed with numerous churches and constitutions. Among the finest se of San Augustin, erected in the 1941. La Merced, Santa Domingon, Francisco-all built nearly three es ago; the San Augustine Numbunded in 1576; the Carmen Alto, or of the Carmeitte Nunnery, an elettle gothic structure where most of hionable weddings take piace; the church of the Reformed Dominisch in marble monolithic columns; red which was erected about fifty go to the memory of Pedro Vallicity's founder; next to the house he is reputed to have lived; and it a long ways from least, the eleccieta, now nearly completed at us expense, and one of the most cent structures I have ever seen, ains a vast amount of imported, in pillars, walls and altars, rich s, and costly, brana new paintings; by far too new to be impressive, entirely wanting in "dim religious and that smell of mold and marbones and the ghosts of incense years ago, not to mention the festing the sanctity" that pervades old sancture to our starting point, the

rn to our starting point, the a Independencia; the side oppocathedral is occupied by a siding faced toward the street of pavement under a series of town as the postales, which has de and dwelling rooms above, or side is a big hotel and two arches crossing each other at les and extending from street. The arches are of white stuccog marble, with rounded roofs of Iron. One of Santiago's most structures is the adjacent Porernandez Concha, the name regists builder. It is a spacious is arches, supporting a twoliding, the whole being four height, an unusual attitude in quake-troubled country. Within his, no great stretch of imaginaquired to fancy yourself in the some old-time marble palace—
bra, perhaps—arched with glass besides beautified by frescoes, palntings, and innumerable tech containing its exquisite stature is a cave, apparently as nait, beneath a chaos of boulders, with growing ferns and ivy the miniature caveri, and you at startled by a remarkably lifeaerpent, evil-looking head raised strike; and then by the discovyou have inadvertently wanderstartled by a remarkably lifeerepent, evil-looking head raised
rike; and then by the discovan have inadvertently wanderrivate dwelling, whose owner
singular taste to thus disront door All these fanciful
both sides of the Portales de
Concha lead into business
fashionable shopping places of
here lewelry, bric-a-brac and
llinery are chiefly sold,
favorite resort for the fair
particularly after morning
you meet them by ht dreds,
with a black manta, or shawl,
ly over her head, prayer sook
in hand, and a small rug
er one arm. The latter is
embroidered felt, but somesquare of vicuna or guanaco
sused to spread upon the cold,
of the church floor, when its
is to say her prayers, it used
rule for a servant to follow
d my lady, bearing her rug
book, but now-days—perhaps
t example of package carrying
though of wealth and high dechapers no longer disdain to
wn,
done at church, they gaze uporchgoers no longer discain to rown,
aty done at church, they gaze upvishing display in the shop winheir heart's content, or purchase
uets at the flower stands that
be all along the outer edge of
the or gather in groups to solace
alnine souls with hits of gossip.
at shops do not open before 9
lock in the morning, because behour there is nobody to patroni, then they are closed between 5
m. to allow the clerks and protime to dine-as in many Mexican
here the postoffice remains locked
the afternoon so that the emnay not be disturbed in their daily
sta. Here they are open till midis the heaviest part of the retail
accomplished after nine in the

old "Palacio" of the government—an irregular, heavy-looking pile, which was formerly the abode of the presidents of the republic but is now utilized for the public good in a variety of ways, including a barrack and prison, Collectively, the buildings are known as Las Cajas; and though their glory has departed, they include some of the most noteworthy of the government buildings. The handsome new postoffice is close by, resplendent with inner wails of marble, tilel floors and gilded ceilings. In a courtyard of the postoffice the North American traveler is amazed at the apparitian of two unexpected ghosts standing before him— marble statues of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln; both of which, I regret to add, were brought from Lima, with a great deal of other plunder, by the victors in the last war between Peru and Chili.

The president now resides in the Mone-

and Chili.

The president now resides in the Moneda, or Mint, which is generally considered the linest of Santiago's public buildings. It is quadrangular in shape, 500 feet long, with a front 360 feet wide. Being much higher than the adjacent structures, it presents an appearance of dignity and strength rather than of beauty, although the interior shows considerable ornamentation, it was built during the days of the elder O'Higgins, more than a cen-

tury ago, at the cost of nearly two million pesos, but the whole thing was a misconception, having been planned for a government palace in Mexico, but given to Chill through a stupid mistake on the part of the architect. However, it serves as a sort of oriental omnibus, in which there is always room for more. It holds not only the president's household, the offices of the cabinet ministers, the government architect, the commander-in-chief of the army, the civil engineer of the state, the superintendent of primary education, and the families of several of the above mentioned officials. It also contains the Northern telegraph office; the headquarters for the superintendent of police; besides being the Chilian treasury and the place where all the nation's money is coined.

Probably the most conspicuous edifice in

place where all the nation's money is coined.

Probably the most conspicuous edifice in the city is the capitol. It is very much like our capitol at Washington, en a smaller scale. It occupies an entire square, and its walls are coated with brownish-yellow stucco, faced by great rows of columns.

It is a combination of the Doric and Grecian architecture, and a beautifully-kept garden spreads out in front. There are three extensive halls inside, of the senators, the deputies and that in which the presidents take the oath of office. They are plainly finished in white stucco, with a few simple frescoes ou the celling, lituminated with great skylights and furnished with leather-covered arm chairs and the plainest of desks and tables. The large, cool semi-circular senate chamber looks as inviting to repose as that in Uncle Sam's capitol; and when visiting it we find it easy to imagine ourselves at home, gazing down from the gallery upon dozing baldheads, set in regular rows like the cobble stones of a street, listening to some droning solon, who has apparently no other listeners—while the stenographers sleepily scribble,

and the presiding officer, yawning behind his hands, makes a shallow pretense of paying attention. The hall of deputies is a good deal larger than that of the senators, and its members are more lively and quarrelsome; but the galleries are so few and cramped that it is evident the dear public is not expected to attend its assions. There are 42 senators in the Chillan congress and 110 deputies.

FANNIE B. WARD.

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WHY HE STAYED.

The chapel of a northern fishing village used to depend for its services on the occasional help of the clergy of the nearest town. One very wet Sunday the clergyman who volunteered to do the duty drove over in fly. Tolling the chapel bell himself, he announced his arrival to the natives, but for a long time no one appeared. At last one solitary person came in

chapel. The ciergyman then found his surplice and conducted the service. That ended, he remarked to his audience of one that perhaps a sermon was super-

"Oh, please go on, sir," was the flattering reply, and the clergyman mount.

ed the pulpit. In the course of his address he expressed the fear that he was wearying his hearer, and was gratified to be told that he could not be too long. The sermon, consequently was lengthen if out to some 40 minutes.

When it was ended the preacher ex-pressed a desire to shake hands with the gentleman who had listened to him with such evident appreciation. Imagine his consternation at discovering on nearer view (for me was somewhat short sighted) that he had been preaching to the driver of his fly, who was all the while charging overting.—London Tit-Bits.

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be becoming envious to the cheap sensa- lest pastime known to man.

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ris have not aircody approached Chamerlain and begged him to include in his
thome some arrangement to exclude
om our shores the dumping of American

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"The latter compete with the home morkets under most unfair conditions. Their arents by means of trusts and such like pernicious associations are able to give their daughters vast sums of money and in this way they are able to compete unfairly for the best home customers in the matrimonial market.

"If may be said that our nation profits, is those wealthy girls spend the money with which they are freighted in Engaged. The benefit, however, is questionable.

thie. "Already there is a vast amount of vular estentation in what is called the smart
condon set, owing to the import of colsital millionaires, which raises the stanined of fashionable existence and lowers
ind degrades the tone of that society into
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an only increase if we are to have American golden girls, who have become peer
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