

DEAD IN A FOREIGN LAND.

Brave Soldiers of Both the North and the South
Who Sleep in Far off Mexico where they
Fought and Died so Bravely.

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CITY OF MEXICO, May 21.—Memorial or Decoration day, which derives its name from the beautiful custom—universally observed throughout both the northern and southern sections of the United States of placing flowers upon the graves of all who fell on either side in our late Civil war, is generally regarded by those to the manner born as a purely American custom known and observed only in our beloved country. This is an error. The Mexicans keep an annual decoration day which is even more elaborate and extended in its celebration than ours. Upon the annual recurrence of that day the graves of the American soldiers who fell in this lovely valley during our war with Mexico in 1847 are always most generously included in the decoration, as we shall see later. No nation follows more faithfully Mexico the Christian precept enjoining us to forgive and love our enemies. I have said that the Mexican Decoration Day is more elaborate and extended in its celebration than ours, for the reason that the Mexicans not only adorn with floral tributes the graves of their fallen soldiers but also deposit them upon the last resting-place of all their loved ones, irrespective of sex, age or occupation, because instead of being limited to one day, like our observance, that of the Mexicans is prolonged for a period of three nights and two days. The difference in the climate and the time of year at which flowers are most abundant also cause Mexico's Decoration Day to be kept at a different season from ours.

The observance practically begins on the night of October 31 at about 7 p. m., and about that hour on the last day of last October I found myself mingled with a crowd of people who were pouring along the Calle de San Francisco into the Plaza Mayor, within whose elegant arcade a government military band was sending forth strains of delicious music. Both the Plaza Mayor and the Plaza de la Constitución presented a most brilliant sight. They had been converted into a temporary fair ground crowded with innumerable booths which offer for sale the strangest commodities that ever merchant dealt in. Everything sold is emblematic of death and decay. There are immense piles of costly shawls, in some of which have been placed miniature war canoes, whose light shining through the tulleous jaws and eyes of the shawls, give them the appearance of a most ghastly effect. There are skeletons of every imaginable size and material upon the counter of every booth, some of them poor, cheap looking, and others elaborately constructed of wood and painted to look like the pulling of a string causes them to dance and cover the produce a most ghastly effect. There are skeletons of every imaginable size and material upon the counter of every booth, some of them poor, cheap looking, and others elaborately constructed of wood and painted to look like the pulling of a string causes them to dance and cover the produce a most ghastly effect.

At the village of Popotla, a short distance from the American cemetery, I saw on the Mexican side of the river a remarkable illustration of the gentle, forgiving spirit of the Mexicans. Popotla is famous for its grand old cypress trees, some of them poor, cheap looking, and others elaborately constructed of wood and painted to look like the pulling of a string causes them to dance and cover the produce a most ghastly effect.

On the road to the French cemetery of La Piedad, where are some of the most beautiful graves in Mexico, I saw a man and his force from the capital. As he and his broken army fled before their routed and savage foes he had taken refuge in the mountains and was now on his way to the capital. He was a man of noble bearing and was dressed in a simple but elegant manner. He was surrounded by a large number of men, some of whom were armed with rifles and others with spears. They were all dressed in simple but elegant manner. He was surrounded by a large number of men, some of whom were armed with rifles and others with spears. They were all dressed in simple but elegant manner.

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upon many graves. In the flower market that Decoration Day morning I was offered bouquets of flowers which in this States at that time of year would have been worth about thirty dollars for "quatro reales" (fifty cents), and the vendor, when I showed my disposition to purchase, dropped to "dos reales" (twenty-five cents). Finding that even this liberal reduction failed to attract attention he desired me to name my own price. Elaborate floral designs, such as would cost several dollars at home, may be purchased here for a few cents.

One of a colossal heap, made entirely of the finest white roses—Niphetos—which would have cost in the States at least twenty dollars, was offered me first for "sair real" (seventy-five cents) and finally at my own price, Mexican real money, for twenty-five cents. Finding that even this liberal reduction failed to attract attention he desired me to name my own price. Elaborate floral designs, such as would cost several dollars at home, may be purchased here for a few cents.

The friends of peace presented a bill to the Riksdag declaring private property inviolable during times of active warfare but it has been buried out of sight in both houses. The friends of peace presented a bill to the Riksdag declaring private property inviolable during times of active warfare but it has been buried out of sight in both houses.

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THE FAR NORTH.

REDEMPTION.

The big Laidlaw watch factory in Kalmar was burned down the other night.

Handfuls of laborers are without work in Lulea, and consequently in great distress.

A big fire raged in Boden the other day. Many houses were burned down and several lives lost.

During the three first months of the present year Swedish paper was exported in much larger quantities than during the three first months of last year.

A part of the large country mansion, Skerfvinge, in the parish of Skövde, was burned down the other day. Forty cattle were roasted to death.

A statue of Olof Perz, the great reformer of Sweden, will be erected at the great square in Stockholm. The cost is estimated at 250,000 Kronor. The money will be raised by subscription.

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