DESERET EVENING NEWS: SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1901.



Such is the Gradition of the People of Guatemala.

Brigham Young Academy Expedition-Travels Among Interesting People of Guatemala-Their Ancient Civilization Rivalled that of Mexico -- Site of Their Capital City Devoted to Corn Growing.

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Santa Cruz del Quiche, Guatemala, Central America, April 8, 1961.- Huehue-cenango, the town from which I last wrote, is the capital of the district by the same name, and contains about tweive thousand inhabitants, meatly Indians, though all the government offi-cers and principal business men are Ladinos. As this was the first large town we had entered in Guatemala we town we had entered in clocking around. The houses are all after the Mexican, or rathor Spanish style. They were neat, clean looking, roofed with thes, and whitewashed or painted with a rough paint. The streets are rather narrow, being only from a rod to a rod and a half wide. They are paved, however, and a raised sidewalk just wide enough for one person is raised a little on either The pluza occupies one square. On three sides are stores and shops, on the other covering the full length of the the other covering the full length of the block is the government building, a two-story building with very thick walls, and old fashioned doors and win-dows Coarse looking soldiers occupied the forch of the house, each one having a gun, which was old fashioned years ago. The plaza was full of people buy-buy and calling. A few cents at most ing and selling. A few cents, at most a dollar, takes the full stock of most f the stores.

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We had scarcely reached the market. when a police came and asked our business, where we were from and where we were going, and how long we intended to stay in town. Another one soon came back to ask the make of our runs. We had letters to the hefe politico, who is the head not only of the district, but of everything in it, including the soldiers and police, and on call ing found the gentleman a very polite, and a very intelligent young man of thirty-five or forty years of age. He received us kindly, and after reading our letters desired very much to do something for us. We needed no assistance, but he gave us letters to the hafe at this place which have greatly aided us. He pressed us to stay over night in town, saying that he would send a guide to show us some ruins a couple of miles from the city, which are very ancient. We were tempted. but as our packs had gone on and as the feed was scarce and very dear, we excused ourselves. The hefe told us that the ruins consisted of mounds and terraces, and must correspond with those we found on entering the repub-

The people seem intelligent, kind and not unhospitable, but many, in the country especially, in spite of the fer-iflity of the land are extremely poor. Many in the city are no better though they make a better appearance.

DIFFICULTIES BY THE WAY.

Leaving the town by the east road we climbed a mountain eight hundred feet, and came to a plateau where there ar a number of Indian ranches. It was now late, and we decided to camp, as there were fields near by. But we could not get feed. One man had oxen and cows, another could not rent because the field belonged to his eon His wife urged him to rent it as the rent money would suit the boy, but no, the old man would yield. Another still had a little patch of corn, and though we promised to night-herd our animals, we could not get it. At dusk, very much disgusted, we con-tinued our journey. An hour's ride over a hill and down a canyon or gulch, brought us to another ranch, and to our surprise, the lady of the house invited us to camp, saying the pasture was not very good, but we were welcome to it if we chose.

of Quesaltenange, flows through that Huehuetenango, and later forms, with the river Usumacinta, the boundary line, between Chiapas and Guatemala, then continues until it reaches the Gulf of Campechy. From the sources and directions of other rivers, especially those of the forks of the hiapas, the Lamala, which empties the Pacific, and the Montagua Grandes, it will be seen into Grandes, that we are traveling on the water-shed. We are really passing over the highest lands of the republic The volcances, especially Agua and Fuega, are higher, but the land surrounding them is much lower than it is here. The heavy climb from the river caused Brother Wolf's riding mule to give out, and as the extra mule was sick, the professor was placed on his feet for awhile. But the boys readily offered him their mules. Many of ou company, especially where the roads are bad, do such walking to save their animals, and to this fact I attribute our excellent success over desert roads. From the ascent from the river we came out on a plateau of rolling land, the hills being not more than a hun-dred to three hundred feet high. Little clumps of trees dotted this plateau, especially in the ravines and along water courses. Oak predominated though there was some pine. A day and a half on this brought us gradually to the plains of Santa Cruz del Quiche, and within sight of the ruins of Ultetlan, the once proud capital of the Quiche Indians.

AN OLD BATTLE FIELD.

It while be remembered that on these olains, near the now quiet little town of Santa Cruz del Quiche, Alvarado met the indians in a final death struggle after the latter had invited him into their city with the intention of firing the town and in the rush fall upon the Spaniards and put them to death. The Spaniards suspected something wrong when they saw that the houses were all vacant and were supplied with com-bustible material. They marched out, took the king prisoner, tried and executed him, and in a short time con-quered the safuriated Indians as they made a last attack. There to the right were the juins plainly seen from the hill just before entering the town; in ront, dry now from the long drouth winter, but green and beautiful in times of rain, was the battle field. Once it was drenched in the blood of a people fighting for their homes, and the gods and customs of their fathers. Once it was strewn with the dead bodies of their noblest chieftains and warriors. Now, all of this is hidden. The bodies have long since re-turned to dust, the blood stains have long since been washed away, and the degenerate posterity of the conquered

children of the conquerors. There were soldiers in Huchuetenan-go, there were also soldiers in Quiche. As Brother Wolfe and I, who were ad of the party to arrange for pasturage and camping, rode up to the government house, there was no little stir among the rank and file. I carried my gun and pistol, both strapped to my saddle, and these catching their eyes seemed to attract their attention. One follow came hurriedly up and saying something in Spanish began to draw my gun out. But I took hold of

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way of aiding us to get corn and feed for ourselves. This afternoon the Alcaide of Estansia in response to the request traveled many miles to buy us corn. From the town we came down to the ruins, passed over the narrow cause-way across which the Spanish had both entered and left the city, and camped on the banks of a stream at the foot of the mound on which stood the great palace. RUINS OF UITETLAN.

The ruins are in a bad state, not be-cause of time or weather, because of the hand of man. All the hewn stones, even the foundation stones have been removed to build the public buildings including the church, in the new city. It is a shame that such should be the case. But the walls of the palace, of the seminary of learning, of the great military school and fort, and of the outer guards or forts can all be traced, while many of the towers, built of smaller stores and mortar still

stand to a height of forty feet. According to the old Spanish writers, quoted by Stephens and others, Uitetlan was a fair rival to the City of Mexi-co, both in size and in the size and structure of its buildings. The size of the city can best be imagined when we remember that the king drew from it 72,000 fighting men at one time. Some buildings were magnificent. the The fort of Resguardo was four stories high, 180 paces in front and 230 paces deep. The foundations of the building are seen, and two of its principal tow ers still stand. The palace was five stories high, 376 paces long and 728 paces deep. It was built mostly of hewn stone of various colors. Several towers are all that remain of the building. In these towers the treasure-hunters have made numeraus excavations, for it is still believed that some-where the king concealed his gold and sliver which amounted to several tons. It is also believed by some that near here is a very rich gold mine which with great jealousy the Indians still guard that no white man may come and secure the wealth.

MODERN RUINS.

From the main tower of the fort can be seen in front capping each a hill three towers or forts, which constituted the first defense of the city. The palace and other public buildings stood on the flat top of a mound and covered about thirty acres of land. The sides of this mound are so steep that in but one or two places is it possible for a man to ascend. The only approach to this mound was by way of a narrow cause-way, a hundred yards long, and built by hand, and so narrow that two horses could not go abreast. The city extend-ed for miles on both sides of the deep ravine surrounding the palace. ravine surrounding the palace. From the tower, besides the palace the fort and the outer fortifications we counted a half dozen other ruins, some of them

two miles away. These towers, one of which measured 40 feet square and 50 feet high, were built of small stones, weighing from five pounds to ten pounds each, put up in much mud mortar. We the wells of in much mud mortar, like the walls of Mitla. In fact these walls resemble Mitla. In fact these walls resemble those of Mitla very much, but have no resemblance to those of Palenque or of Ocosingo. In the latter the walls are mostly of stone, laid regularly, and but little mortar. Here the reverse is the

The cement floors of the palace are still seen. In these lime seems to have been used. They are still, in the parts uncovered, as hard and apparently as as the day the king trod them as he marched out at the head of his immense army to repel the white men at Quesaltenango. All parts of the floors of the fort, and away from the fort a hundred yards, the pavement of the streets or sidewalks are still preserved. the willing slaves of the But besides these the streets, and I sup-pose the very heart of the city, are

planted to corn. The tiller of the soil, himself a Quiche, never dreams that once his forefathers were proud of their

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wer. The natives held that their forefathers rebeiled or broke away from the rest of the people under Moses and were brought to this land. BENJ. CLUFF JR.

DICTATOR OF PHILIPPINES.



Here is Gen. Cailles, the self-proclaimed successor of Aguinaldo. This picture is taken from the photograph used to identify Callles and is absolutely authentic.

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Children who are weak, fretful or troublesome should be given a few doses of WHITE'S CREAM VERMI-They will then become strong,



The next day we had our roughest road, and our horses were illy prepared fer the work, as corn was sim-ply out of the question. We had tried every rauch house we passed to buy some but had failed. The people did not have it to spare, and some did not have it at all. The famine was not due to drouth as we have since learned, but to an over-abundance of rain during the wet season, which had

injured the corn. The severity of the road was caused by the deep canyon of the Negro river, both banks being very steep and about three thousand feet above the river bed. From the top as we approached, the stream could be seen far below like a winding thread, white and black. The waters are dark, the rapids and foam white. It was a grand sight. Then we descended. Down, down, zig zag, first to the right, then to the left. At 11 o'clock we reached the bottom and decided to rest and feed our animals be-fore beginning the climb. We desired also to take a bath in this one of the principal rivers of Central America.

draw my gun out. But I took hold of it firmly and with some postiveness tolinim to leave it alone. He desisted and returned to the porch. While I was in the hefe's office, and by the way their official, a perfect gentleman, re-ceived us kindly, and like the hefe at the last district, desired to do all he out? the last district, desired to do an ne could to aid us, the boys came up each one carrying his gun strapped to his saddle. This seemed too much for the soldiers, and the minor officers gave orders to take the guns. There was no show of resistance, in fact the boys helped unstrap the guns from the saddles thinking this was merely in the program, but the soldiers in many instances were trembling from head to foot. One of the officers, thinking per-haps to score a point with the hefe brought a gun in and reported what had been done, when that officer with a had been done, when that officer with a severe rebuke ordered the guns restored and commanded that the company should in no way be molested. The In-dians throughout this district are con-sidered a bad set, hence the need of soldiers, but I guarantee, judging from the looks of the soldiers, that if the Quiches had the fighting ability of the Apaches, a dozen of them would put to route the whole regiment.

also to take a bath in this one of the principal rivers of Central America. A reference to the map will show that this river rises in the department to give us all assistance necessary by

great city, split their blood to preserve it from the invaders. In fact he hardly new as much about the ruins as w He pointed out to us the palace but did not know which was the fori, or what the ruins were out beyond. He only knows that corn grows well and he plants it, and from it he obtains tortillas to eat and aguardiente to drink. THE SACRIFICIAL MOUND. The sacrificial mound still remains, but is much in ruins as the stones sup-porting the sides, as well as those form-

porting the sides, as well as those form-ing the steps have been taken down. On this mound human sacrifice was wont to be made. Here the victims were brought, stretched upon a stone that was somewhat rounding in the center, thus causing the chest to be higher than the head or feet. Four priests heid each a head or a feet. Four priests heid each a hand or a foot, while a fifth held the head. A sixth with a sharp stone axe cut the victim over the heart, and while that organ was still beating, thrust in his hand and tore it out, at the same time offering it to the idel nearby. The corpse was then thrown down to the multitude below, and the owner, perhaps the one who had cap-tured the victim in war, would take it and prepare the flesh for the banquet that followed.

ANCIENT TRADITIONS.

According to the old Spanish writers and historians of the time of the Spanish conquest, the natives held very de-cided traditions that their forefathers

healthy and so lve, have rosy cheeks, bright eves, will be happy and laughing all the day long. Price, 25 cents. Z. C. M. I.



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