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of harem, of the plurality of wives, from the bath, in the narrow streets, and from various other circumstances, that the two nations are descendants of one family.

Before the conquest, many large cities of nearly equal note existed in the kingdom of Quiche, and in the other Indian countries; such as Xelaju, Chemequeua Patinmit, the famous city of Atilan, and the fortress of Mizco; but, as has been already observed in the preceding article, nothing now remains of these spacious places but distant records, or a few uncertain traces.

Guatemala is the fourth city which has borne the name. The first was that Guatemala which was the residence of Raquiqueles, and which has so entirely disappeared that the Spanish historians are still at issue as to the spot, where it existed. The second was founded by the Adelantado Alvarado, in 1524, before the settlement of the colony.

The establishment until he could select a more appropriate situation; but finding none such, the inhabitants resolved to remain stationary, approaching somewhat nearer to the east, at the bottom of the volcano called *Volcan de Agua*, a most fertile and pleasant site, the temperature of which is rather cold, with a wholesome atmosphere, and a soil well supplied with cool and salubrious waters. In that situation the conqueror Alvarado founded the city on the 23d November, 1527; and very soon afterwards it was peopled by the Dominican, Franciscan, and Lamerced Friars, the Hermits of our Lady the begging hermits, those of the True Cross, and by all the rest of their innumerable family. The city, however, at first increased but slowly, having been inundated and desolated, on the night of the 11th of September, 1541, by a tremendous torrent of water which issued from the volcano, destroying with its flood, trees, houses and inhabitants; by reason of this disaster that city (called *Ciudad Vieja*) was rebuilt on the supposed site of the old Guatemala, (*Antigua Guatemala*).

This third city of Guatemala was founded in a pleasant valley encompassed by woods and ever verdant hills, enjoying a moderate temperature, and blessed, as it were, with a perpetual spring. In the cathedral of this Guatemala were buried the mortal remains of the Adelantado Alvarado. This city was also peopled by Dominicans, Franciscans and Lamerced friars, as well as by Jesuits. It contained ten monasteries of regulars, and five convents of nuns. There was likewise a convent of the order of La Concepcion, of such vast extent, that nuns, novices and servants, to the amount of more than a thousand are said to have inhabited it; the city was unfortunately shaken by frequent earthquakes, and the visitation of which it was doomed several times to be destroyed. At last the place having again been partially laid waste by the earthquake of 1773, the inhabitants tired of ruin, and of so often rebuilding their domes, resolved to remove to a spot further distant from the volcano and their misfortunes; it occasioned, making choice for that purpose of the valley of Mico, where in 1776 the new Guatemala was erected.

New Guatemala, the capital of the republic, is built in a spacious plain, five leagues in diameter, watered and fertilized by various rivulets, and considerable lakes, under a smiling sky, and enjoying a benign climate; so much so that throughout the year, woollen or silk stuffs may be worn indiscriminately. The streets of the city are straight and tolerably long, and in general paved. The houses, though low, for fear of earthquakes, are nevertheless commodious, pretty in appearance, and have gardens and orchards attached to them. The principal plaza is a large square, of which each side measures 150 yards, well paved with porphyry all round. In front of it is the cathedral, built by an Italian artist in a compact and magnificent style of architecture. On one side of the cathedral is the archbishop's palace, and on the other one of the seminaries. In front of the cathedral is erected the palace of the government, near which stands the palace of justice, and in the square plays a fountain slightly elevated. The churches of Guatemala are all handsomely and elegantly constructed; and attention is particularly arrested by a beautiful amphitheatre of stone, destined for the barbarous amusement of bull-baiting, and in this building by way of refinement in cruelty, combats between jaguars and bulls have sometimes been exhibited. There is a well-built university where law, theology, medicine, mathematics and natural history, are taught to which a small library, and an anatomical museum, with several curious preparations in wax. The city possesses besides, an academy for the fine arts, an elegantly constructed mint, very deficient however, in the machinery employed in European establishments of the same kind. To remedy this deficiency, the

## HISTORICAL

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### GUATEMALA.

It is asserted by the Spaniards, who wrote the history of the Conquest, that in the kingdom of Guatemala alone, before the arrival of Don Pedro Alvarado, there were millions of Indians existing. If we believe this account, and contrast that immense population with the 7000-8000 poor and degraded Indians, who are now being in solitary dispersion throughout the vast extent of that republic, a sentiment of horror cannot but pervade every bosom, resulting from the court of Alvarado.

Don Francisco de Fuentes took up his abode expressly in Quiche, anxious to investigate its alleged antiquity by an accurate survey of its ruins, which his assiduity might discover. According to his narrative, that capital was built near to the site of the present city of San Juan Cruz del Quiche, which leaves room to conjecture that the latter might have been a suburb to the former. It was surrounded by a precipice, which served it as a fosse, and left access to the city but by two very narrow entrances, defended by the castle of Resguardo; in this situation it was considered impregnable. In the centre of the capital was the royal palace enclosed, by the houses of the nobility, it being the usage of the Indians to reside at the extremities of the city. Its streets were extremely narrow, and the place was so populous that the King called from it alone several thousand soldiers to dispute the empire of the Anas. It was a most wealthy capital, adorned with numerous sumptuous edifices, the most celebrated of which was the seminary, where five or six thousand young men were bred, clothed and instructed, at the expense of the royal treasury; and whose six directors and projectors were employed in the various labours of education. Besides the extensive edifices of Atilan and Resguardo, which were both capable of containing a vast number of scholars, the grand palace, or palace of the King of Quiche, was immense and beautiful in the extreme; and according to Terquemad, its splendour competed with the palace of Montezuma in Mexico, and that of the Incas in Cuzco. Its front from east to west, measured 376 geometrical paces, and its sides 728. It was built of divers-coloured stones, was elegant and magnificent in its proportions, was divided into seven departments. The first served as quarters for a numerous band of spearmen, archers and other expert soldiers, whose duty it was to guard the royal person. The second was destined for the habitation of the princes and relatives of the King, who during the ceremony were treated with royal magnificence. The third was the abode of the King himself, whose apartments set apart for morning, after dinner, and evening. In one of these chambers, under four canopies of feathers, stood the splendid regal throne the ascent of which was by a grand flight of steps. In this part of the palace were the royal treasury, the tribunal of the judges of the people, the armory, the gardens, the cages of the birds and the wild beasts, and a great variety of offices. The fourth and fifth departments were amazingly extensive, occupied by queens and concubines of the King. It contained an assemblage of suites of apartments requisite for the accommodation of thirty females who were treated as queens; and was provided with orchards, bushes, and places for birds which furnished the feathers in use among the natives of the country. Contiguous to the last was the sixth department, which was the college of the young ladies where the princesses of the blood royal were educated.

To those who are of opinion that the natives of America derive their origin from the Asiatics, the description of that immense capital might furnish evidence conclusive in the support of their doctrine; inasmuch as without taking into account the idolatrous worship, the diversity of form and colour, and the physical constitution of these people, it is rationally to be inferred from the use

of government has lately commissioned an individual at present in London to purchase one of Bolton's projects. This mint has always been in active employment; and from it was issued, in 1824, the recent gold and silver coin, stamped with the newly devised armorial bearings adopted by the republic, exhibiting on one side a tree, with the motto "*Libre crezca y fecunda*," and on the other a rising sun enlightening five mountains, emblematical of the five federal states.

According to the census, instituted by the order of Senor Del Valle, while he was president of the republic, the population of the republic exceeds 40,000 souls.

The city is nine Spanish leagues from the sea on the north, twenty-six from the Pacific ocean, and four hundred from the city of Mexico.

The federal congress and the senate are the most valuable establishments of this capital, and cannot fail to render it flourishing, and celebrated in time to come. These two bodies conjointly exercising the legislative power, assemble in two distinct halls, founded on the site of the old university. In the first national assembly more than eighty deputies took their seats. At the present time the federal congress reckons but 46 representatives, and the senate is composed of ten members. The senate house has been lately adorned in a simple and dignified style. The hall of congress is no way remarkable, and its walls are covered with velvet and damask. It has a table for the public; and behind the president's chair is a kind of balcony, where ladies may be present at the debates. It is an incontrovertible fact that eloquence is rare in all assemblies where members are few in number.

One of the first acts of the constituent assembly of Guatemala was abolition of slavery, which disgrace of the civilized ages was annihilated by a decree of the 17th of April, 1824. Nevertheless the law wisely settled a rate of indemnity for the owners of slaves. Senor del Valle, ever foremost in the paths of patriotism and humanity, was very urgent in recommending such a compensation, and his example was followed by the greater part of the proprietors. The number of slaves at that time in the republic did not exceed five hundred. The epoch of this decree was observed by the government as a season of festivity and jubilee; and the legislative power, rejoicing in the benefit done to humanity, declared in its message that the degrees of the assembly deserved to be registered on tables of brass, in the hall of the assembly, as one of its greatest ornaments.

In process of time the constitution was promulgated by the national assembly, and confirmed the abolition of slavery by the 13th article, worded as follows:—"Every man in the republic is free; and no one who takes refuge under its laws can be a slave; nor shall any one be accounted a citizen who carries on the slave-trade."

Public Instruction.—On this point every credit is due to the wisdom of the government, which from the first moment invariably acted on the principle, that the instruction of the people constitutes the true foundation of virtue and liberty. The local authorities were directed to present the list of the schools existing in each province, and to propose the means best fitted to augment similar seminaries. In the city of Guatemala are ten schools for reading and writing, in which nearly 700 men are educated. The government anxious to establish the system of mutual instruction, erected institutions in the U. States to procure a professor capable of translating and diffusing that plan in the republic, while it disseminated the province a pamphlet printed in Mexico, in which the new method was explained; and a committee was selected to translate the projects of Fourier, Condorcet and Talleyrand, on the subject of public instruction.

A chair of mathematics, of botany and of agriculture and another of architecture, were endowed in the university, and in order to propagate the knowledge of agriculture and botany, so essential in a country hitherto favoured by nature, and so shamefully neglected by man, young persons were sought from all the provinces to be instructed in those sciences. As a proof of the humane impartiality it is worthy of remark, that six black young men of Ormao and Truxillo are educated at its expense.

The cultivation of cochineal in the different provinces is greatly encouraged by the ruling powers; and by their direction, pamphlets have been circulated, disclosing some of the most approved methods of cultivating that valuable production, as well as printed essays on cocoa and indigo. The article which in former years had fallen in value, rose in 1824 to a price exemplified for many years. The plantations of cochineal recently cultivated by the republic make progress, and in a short time this production will be one of the principal sources of national wealth.

published to which are annexed six original letters of Burke, and reminiscences of him and his son. The reminiscences, which Mr. Therry has added are very interesting, as may be seen from the following specimens:—"To the anecdotes which Mr. Prior records of the festive evenings at the Grecian Coffee House of Mr. Burke, Dr. Johnson, Dr. Goldsmith and other men of mind, I take the liberty of adding one which Mr. Burke himself was wont to tell. Its circumstances are trivial indeed, yet they confirm the charge of excusable vanity made by his contemporaries on Dr. Goldsmith. As the Grecian Coffee House was a place of frequent resort with the above named eminent persons, at the time when none of them possessed very ample means, they entered into an agreement that the douceur, daily given to the waiter for his attendance by each of them, should not exceed sixpence. Dr. G. was the only member of the party to break through this equitable plan of remuneration. It pleased his vanity to present the coffee-house functionary with a shilling. His friends remonstrated with him upon the unreasonableness of not conforming to the rule of the party, as it only encouraged the waiter to indulge in extravagant expectations from others. "To these reminiscences the Doctor would reply, 'It is very easy for you gentlemen, to talk thus. Sixpence may be a very suitable sum for you though it is not for me. When you come here you are treated as strangers, but I am looked upon as a patron of the house; and I never come in or go out but I am attended with some kind and cordial expressions, such as God bless you, Dr. Goldsmith. This pleases me, and imposes upon me the obligation of being afterwards very attentive to you.'"

"A cautious and striking instance of the variety of acquisitions possessed by this extraordinary man, occurred on the occasion of a frigate party sojourning at his hospitable house at Beaufort. It was told to me by a father who had returned to me at that time the good nature of the visitors. One of them, after breakfast, village they happened conversation with a fat flustering parlance, veterinary surgeon, ed earnestly into the professor's duties and hour's conversation of the nature of his calling than he had fallen into. After Mr. Burke's them continued the farmer, who of mortified pride, knowing one from a very diversified mind of the mind of this wonderful man, at after having on the previous of his country, and manly and unadaptable in the discussion with an humble vince him that he corrected and practiced. On another occasion in living been introduced as to the London market was applied with more. Mr. Burke took up the subject, entered into a detail of the manner in which the supply was made—in which the oxen were driven up to town—the stages of rest at which they stopped during the night—the causes of variation of prices at different seasons of the year—the nature of credit subsisting between the salesmaster, the farmer and the butcher, and a full account of the whole process of business at Smithfield, which usually engrosses the attention of ordinary men for their lives.

"He delighted in conversation with young persons, whom it was his constant occupation to instruct and amuse; and so successful was he in riveting the attention and affections, that many boys who were in the habit of spending their vacations with him, now grown to the stature of manhood, have assured me they look back to the period of these occasional sojourns with him, as the happiest and most interesting of their life-time, and that they derived more pleasure from the amusing stories which Mr. Burke told in his rural walks, than from any thing they have since read. This anxiety to please and delight those by whom he was surrounded was an amiable trait of character, in which no motive but one of true kind heartedness and the purest benevolence could have a share.

"The moral alteration between Mr. Fox and Mr. Burke, after a close and intimate attachment of twenty two years and upwards, terminated forever their public and private friendship. My father resided with Mr. Burke in London, at this period; he accompanied him to the house of commons, on the evening of his debate, the 8th of May, and it was agreed that he should wait for him in the part of the house allotted to visitors, until the close of the discussion. The question before the house was the second reading of the Canada Bill. For several days previously, Mr. Burke had been actively engaged in taking extracts

## MISCELLANY.

FROM THE TRENTON EMPORIUM.  
"Stand back a little," said an old gentleman to a very little boy who was pressing very close to the edge of a mill race some people were digging—"stand back a little, the ground will cave in with you." He had hardly got the words through his teeth before the event anticipated occurred—the boy fell and broke his arm. The example seemed to me to be applicable to a great many cases of common occurrence in life.

A disposition to push forward too fast and too far, has been the ruin of many a fine fellow; while an unfortunate diffidence has consigned a great many also to unmerited oblivion. There is a medium between these two extremes, a deviation from which of either side must always be followed by bad consequences.

Stand back a little, I would say to a man who is eagerly bent on acquiring popularity among men by spreading abroad his own fame and saying those things for himself, that others should be left to say for him. Stand back, and if you are indeed as deserving as you think yourself, others will only esteem you more highly for being left to make the discovery themselves. By mixing with an honest emulation a due proportion of modesty, you will at least reach as high a place as your merit entitles you to, and you will not run the danger of being borne down by a torrent of disgust.

Stand back a little, I would whisper to such young men as are trying to elbow and push themselves in offices, for which their elders in years are candidates.—Stand back—your time will come by and by—a deference to age is a most becoming feature in the character of the young—stand back, it is better to wait until you are solicited to accept, than begin when you will be obliged to solicit for posts, either of honor or profit. Beside very few perfectly honest office holders who depend upon their offices for a livelihood, are found to be among the "fat kins."

Stand back a little, I would say to such as I have often seen engaging in wild projects and extensive speculations, before they have great experience and sound judgment, matured by time and opportunity. This matter of getting rich in a day is not the easy thing some sanguine people imagine—and it is far better to go along with the world in the old and beaten track, gathering sixpences, than to hazard a flight on wings which we little know how to manage rightly—and which when managed as often retard as speed the journey of prosperous life.

Stand back a little I would say also, to such tradesmen and mechanics, as are trying to push their neighbours off the course, by underbidding, and low shuffling; the people will find you out, by and by, if you push forward in this way, and ten to one that in the end you will come off with your breeches in the gutter, stand back—rest upon your merits—if but won't support you nothing else will.

In fine—it would be well for us all to—Stand back a little—there would be less crowding and jostling of one another—and we should all go on more safely, easily, and happily.

OLIVER OAKWOOD.

The quantity of cotton raised in South Alabama last year was seventy five thousand bales, being an increase of one third on the growth of the preceding year. Mobile contains from 7000 to 8000 inhabitants and Montgomery about 4000. The Alabama river is navigable for boats of 300 tons to Coosawata, and is considered one of the best rivers to navigate in the United States. There are five steam boats on this river. The Tombeckho and Black Warrior are navigable six months of the year; the latter, five hundred miles to Tombeckho. There are four steamboats running there.—*Traveler.*

—On Thursday last, says a Mercantile paper, as the Steam-boat Hercules was coming into this harbour, having the Brig Amethyst, and three Schooners laden with tea, in tow, the Brig fired a gun opposite the Masonic Hall Hotel, upon which, the body of Mr. Lemoine's son who was drowned on Friday last, suddenly rose to the surface and floated like a piece of wood until it was taken up, and carried to the distressed parents. We have frequently before heard, that when a gun is discharged immediately over the place where a drowned body was lying, that it produced the effect above mentioned, but we cannot account for it.

Note.—Probably some vessel of the body containing a fluid of greater specific gravity than water is ruptured by the jar, and this fluid then escaping, the body becomes specifically lighter than the water and rises.—*New-York Observer.*

Reminiscences of Burke.—A letter from Mr. Canning on the present state of the Catholic Question, from Mr. Therry, of Gray's Inn, has recently been

(CONCLUDED OUR NEXT)