

MEXICAN FOLK TALES

WEIRD LEGENDS OF LONG AGO PERSIST IN SOUTH.

Swarthy Poets Still Cherish the Mysterious Folklore of the Aztecs and Their Spanish Conquerors—Mexico City Has Seen History of the Most Varied Type—Stories Lost in Antiquity.

Of all the relatively larger cities on the American hemisphere, the capital of Mexico is by far the oldest. Its beginning was long before Columbus sailed on his memorable voyage of discovery, when it was the seat of the Aztec empire.

It has been a city of many vicissitudes. It has been held by Indian and Spanish, by vicery, by republican, by revolutionist, and by northern invader.

As is inevitable, the City of Mexico has its own peculiar folk lore, its mysterious legends. There are old tales that have been handed down from generation to generation by word of mouth and are still told by Mexican nurses to the children as they were told centuries ago.

A relic of Aztec folk lore is the tale of the Walling Woman. Once a long time ago, the story runs, there was a very bad woman in the City of Mexico.

Frequently since then, it is said, watchmen have seen a woman in white, with a white mantilla over her head, roaming through the streets at night.

One story with a foundation in fact is the legend of Don Juan Manuel. He was the last of the folk lore Don Juan was an amiable enough gentleman, except that he had a bad habit of wandering out at night and murdering people.

As a matter of history there was such a person in Mexico in 1641 and he was a dishonest collector of revenues. He was killed, and to secure his liberty his wife was compelled to suffer incredible humiliations at the hands of a judge.

A striking story of ghostly revenge is the legend of Don Juan de Nava, priest and guardian of his orphan niece, a beautiful girl.

Decidedly creepy is the story of Father Lecuona. This good priest, hurrying to the home of a friend, was met on the street by a woman, who told him a dying man wished to make a confession.

The housekeeper who bakes pies and then puts them in rows on the shelf or in the pantry for future use should not use a tin pie plate.

There is a man in a midland town whose name is Burst. It is a misfortune that would not have attracted much attention if he had not called his two children Anna May and Ernest Will—London Mail.

Every time some people feel very naughty they quote Gen. Sherman's remark about war and tell themselves that their emotions have been relieved.

FORTUNES IN SONGS.

The Mocking Bird Made \$3,000,000 For Publishers.

The death of "Stephen Adams," in private life Michael Maybrick, composer of such world-famous ballad songs as "A Warrior Bold," "Nancy Lee," "The Midshipmite," "The Star of Bethlehem," "The Holy City," "They All Love Jack" and "There," reminds one that, unlike many other composers of popular songs, who have usually sold their compositions outright instead of on the royalty basis, he must have made a good sum from his music.

It is true that he sold "A Warrior Bold" for a dollar, a song that produced royalties for its lucky purchaser that ran into four figures, and he also offered "Nancy Lee" to a publisher for \$100.

But it is doubtful if Maybrick received as much for any of his songs as the \$200,000 which the universally popular Queen of My Heart earned for its composer.

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Grass. Scientists long have believed that the "grass" which was eaten by Nebuchadnezzar to cure the madness that for several years threatened or obscured his reason was what modern epicures esteem under the name of asparagus.

Unrenewable Patent. A lawyer who makes a specialty of patent cases was once engaged in a case before a country justice.

How Much He Thought About Her. They were on their way to the theatre, and she was tremendously happy. She felt that the words she longed to hear would be spoken that night, and the idea made her almost dizzy with delight.

Balaam's Sword. "Here, sir," said the antique dealer, displaying a huge sword to a clerical-looking collector.

So It Does. An Irishman was asked how many legs a horse has. "Eight," he replied; "one at each corner and two on each side."

Pie Plates. The housekeeper who bakes pies and then puts them in rows on the shelf or in the pantry for future use should not use a tin pie plate.

Badly Named. There is a man in a midland town whose name is Burst. It is a misfortune that would not have attracted much attention if he had not called his two children Anna May and Ernest Will—London Mail.

Companies Give \$40,000. Montreal, Aug. 31.—The Canada Sugar Refinery will contribute \$10,000 to the Patriotic Fund, the Imperial Tobacco Co., \$20,000, and the Montreal Light, Heat, and Power Co., \$10,000.

GERMAN NAVY CRIPPLED.

Bold Thing to Do, But Enterprise Was Justified.

New York, Aug. 31.—The Tribune publishes the following London cable: "It was a bold thing to go into the light of Helgoland," says the Daily Chronicle, commenting on yesterday's naval victory.

The Morning Post's naval expert says: "The reduction of the German light cruiser force is a serious matter for them. The loss of the Magdeburg in the Baltic was reported on Thursday, and three more were lost yesterday.

The German wearing down tactics have now resulted to Germany's advantage in one British cruiser sunk and to Germany's disadvantage in one mine layer, three cruisers and two destroyers sunk, besides damages to many other vessels.

The British admirals mentioned in the official despatch have youth on their side. Rear Admiral Beatty, although only forty-three, is a seasoned sailor who has seen fighting service in Egypt and China, and has had an amazingly swift rise to distinction.

ANTWERP IS IMPREGNABLE. So Long As Communications by Sea Are Preserved.

Antwerp, the capital of the Belgian province of that name, is on the right bank of the Scheldt, a Belgium's chief centre of commerce and is strongly fortified.

Weak In French. Miss Ellis, the teacher of French, looked at Bertie in surprise, and said: "I'm surprised that your French is so weak. Bertie, now, think for a moment, 'Chaplain! What is that?'"

The Clock Was Wrecked. Biway—Use an alarm clock nowdays? Jigsaw—No, never tried one but once.

Getting Off Easy. "Very well," she said, "if you are afraid to ask father for me we will consider our engagement at an end."

Didn't Get a Chance. She—What did papa say when you asked him for my hand? He—Why, he couldn't say a word.

Righteous Wrath. A man will lose half a day's work and all of his temper to attend a depositors' meeting if he has \$4.13 in a suspended bank.

City Baseball League. On Wednesday night, at the Y.M.C.A. building, there will be a meeting of the city baseball league.

Cynical. "Marriage is a lottery." "As lotteries are unlawful they ought to arrest the ministers."—Livingston Lance.

To believe that a tank is impossible is to make it so.

THE LAND OF OPHIR.

Territory Now Derelict Where Solomon Got His Gold.

The coast of southeastern Africa is not usually regarded to-day as a region of any special interest. It mainly belongs to the vast undeveloped territory of Portuguese East Africa.

Nevertheless, there is much that is of great, perhaps supreme interest in this more or less derelict territory. It is certain that it has been in the past of great commercial importance.

There is ample evidence that the region behind Sofala, part of which is now known as Mashonaland, was richly endowed with gold mines.

CONCEALS THE PEOPLE WHO BUILD these settlements and exploit the mineral resources of this still unexplored region there has been much controversy.

It is indeed possible that the country is the land of Ophir wherefrom Solomon obtained his gold. We know that the treasure ships sailed from Eziongebir on the Red Sea; we know also that Solomon had relations with the Sabaeans.

WAR BULLETINS. The London Times war correspondent, after describing the recent fighting, says: "We have to count our losses, take stock of the situation and set our teeth."

At Paris general Lacroix says: "Every step gained by the Germans against the allies in France is a step lost by them against the Russians."

Another German African colonel has been taken by the British. Germans lost eight hundred men in the North Sea engagement.

THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE. Led's Women to Organize a Patriotic League.

Gananoque, Aug. 31.—On account of the heavy rain on Saturday the meeting called at the town hall for the organization of a branch of the Leeds Women's Patriotic League and Relief Association was adjourned until this afternoon.

The Gananogue Water Power company has completed the repairs to its dams and canals, and the water will be available for the use of the local factories on Tuesday morning.

School Shoes. School will open in a week and every boy and girl will need a pair of New Shoes for the Fall and Winter Term.

so we have gathered together the best line of School Shoes we have ever shown. No advance in prices at this store.

J. H. SUTHERLAND & BRO THE HOME OF GOOD SHOES

Wanted: A Message From Canadian Manufacturers

There never was a time in the history of Canada when the people of Canada needed so badly a message from the manufacturers of Canada.

The factories of Canada's foes are closed to the need of her people. The factories of Canada's allies are forced temporarily to desist from shipping Canada-wards.

These facts are known to the people of Canada, but many of them do not know that Canadian manufacturers are now making many of the articles that have been imported from Europe and that many Canadian manufacturers will shortly be manufacturing in Canada many other articles that have not been made in this country heretofore.

There is here an opportunity for the manufacturers of Canada to render a real service to the people of Canada and in the rendering of that service to greatly benefit themselves.

Let the manufacturers of Canada use the newspapers at this time more than ever to tell the people of Canada that they are in a position to supply most of the things that have been imported from Europe and that they are equipping their factories to supply more of those things.

The eyes of the people of Canada are looking toward the manufacturers of Canada, waiting their message of re-assurance and of ability to serve. The newspapers of Canada are at the service of the manufacturers of Canada to carry their message to the Canadian people.

CAN'T TALK FOR DAYS.

War Bulletin. The London Times war correspondent, after describing the recent fighting, says: "We have to count our losses, take stock of the situation and set our teeth."

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