

Werk

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23,648 inhab., splendidly situated in a fertile valley, among lofty mountains, at a height of 8650 ft. above the sea. Its attractions include the *State Buildings*, fine *Markets*, interesting *Churches*, and quaint *Portales*; while linen 'drawn-work', pottery, and other souvenirs may be purchased.

The ascent of the *Nevado de Toluca* (15,155 ft.), a snow-clad volcanic mountain rising to the S., takes about two days (there and back). The view is superb.

The run from Toluca to Mexico reveals some of the finest scenery in Mexico, if not in the world. The train runs towards the E. and beyond the Indian town of (805 M.) *Ocoyoacac*, seen far below us to the right, begins to ascend the *La Cruz Mts.* (Sierra Madre; views to the right). We follow the windings of the *Rio Lerma*. To the right towers the *Nevado de Toluca* (see above). 809 M. *Jajalpa* ('Hahalpa'; 8870 ft.). Much maguey (see p. 545) is cultivated in this district. 815 M. *Salazar*. At (816 M.) *La Cima* (10,200 ft.) we reach the summit and begin the descent, obtaining magnificent **Views of the *Valley of Mexico*, with its lakes, the City of Mexico in the centre, and the grand snow-clad volcanoes of Popocatepetl (r.) and Ixtaccihuatl (l.; see p. 549) in the background. At (823 M.) *Dos Rios* we cross the *Rio Hondo* by a lofty trestle. Numerous lateral ravines (*barrancas*) are also crossed. Farther on, Chapultepec (p. 548) is conspicuous to the right. 835 M. *Naucalpan*. Beyond (838 M.) *Tacuba* the tree of the Noche Triste (p. 549) is seen to the left.

840 M. *City of Mexico* (*Colonia Station*), see p. 545.

108. From Eagle Pass to the City of Mexico.

1090 M. MEXICAN INTERNATIONAL RAILROAD (*Ferrocarril Internacional Mexicano*) in 42 hrs. (fare \$31.25, sleeper \$9; from Spofford Junction \$32.30, New Orleans \$52.70, New York \$85.20). This is the most direct standard-gauge line from the East to the City of Mexico. Baggage is examined and re-checked at Eagle Pass (comp. p. 520).

Eagle Pass, a small town of 3000 inhab., lies on the N. or American bank of the *Rio Grande*. The train crosses the river by an iron bridge, 310 yds. long, and halts at *Ciudad Porfirio Diaz*, formerly called *Piedras Negras* (720 ft.; Hotel; U. S. Consul, C. P. Snyder), a Mexican city of about 5000 inhab., in the *State of Coahuila*. Picturesque Mexican figures, the men in *sombreros* and scarlet *zarapes*, the women in blue *rebozos*, appear at once. — The train ascends steadily towards the great Mexican table-land (p. 537), traversing at first an arid and monotonous desert. Few houses are seen except an occasional *hacienda*, of stone or adobé, and little vegetation except yuccas, mezquite, and cacti. 25 M. *Nava* (1065 ft.); 32 M. *Allende* (1230 ft.); 51 M. *Peyotes* (1595 ft.); 72½ M. *Sabinas* (1115 ft.), in a coal-producing district, the junction of a line to (11 M.) *Hondo*; 82 M. *Soledad* (1215 ft.); 98 M. *Aura* (1485 ft.); 123 M. *Hermanas* (1300 ft.); 148 M. *Monclova* (1925 ft.); Rail. Restaurant; 10,000 in-

hab.); 159 M. *Castaño* (2455 ft.); 181 M. *Bajan* (2765 ft.); 209 M. *Reata* (2950 ft.). — 223 M. *Treviño* (2920 ft.) is the junction of a line to *Monterey* (p. 538) and *Tampico* (p. 543).

FROM TREVIÑO TO TAMPICO, 387 M., *Monterey & Mexican Gulf Railway* in 32 hrs. — This railway traverses a fertile valley, bounded by the *Sierra de Tamaulipas* (N.) and the *Sierra Madre* (S.). At (66 M.) *Monterey* (p. 538) it intersects the Mexican National Railroad (p. 533). — 99 M. *San Juan*; 157 M. *Linares*; 242 M. *Victoria*; 316 M. *Rosillo*. — 387 M. *Tampico*, see p. 543

At (254½ M.) *Jaral* (3750 ft.; Rail. Restaurant), where we may be said to have fairly reached the great Mexican plateau, the line turns to the right (W.) and now runs at nearly the same level. A railway runs hence to *Saltillo* (p. 539). — 297 M. *Paila* (3900 ft.); 334½ M. *Bola* (3575 ft.), at the S. end of the large *Laguna de Parras*; 350 M. *Hornos* (3595 ft.), the junction for (14 M.) *San Pedro*; 369 M. *Mata-moros* (3650 ft.; U. S. Consul, P. M. *Griffith*), the junction of a branch-line to (43½ M.) *Zaragoza*.

At (383 M.) *Torreón* (3720 ft.; p. 542) we join the *Mexican Central Railway*. — To the (1090 M.) *City of Mexico*, see R. 109.

The Mexican International Railway goes on to (640 M. from Eagle Pass) *Durango* (42,165 inhab. in 1895; *Central Hotel*, \$2½; U. S. Con., W. H. *Faulkner*), the capital of the state of its own name.

109. From El Paso to the City of Mexico.

1224 M. MEXICAN CENTRAL RAILWAY (*Ferrocarril Central Mexicano*) in 46 hrs. (fare \$61.40 Mex. currency; sleeper \$9; return-tickets, valid for 9 months, to City of Mexico, from St. Louis \$77, from Kansas City \$71.20, from New Orleans \$62.85, all U. S. currency). Side-trip tickets are issued, to holders of through-tickets to California, from El Paso to Mexico and back to Eagle Pass via R. 106, or vice versa, \$40). This line is the direct route between the city of Mexico and California and the West (comp. R. 104). Baggage is re-checked and examined at Ciudad Juárez (comp. p. 519).

El Paso, see p. 519. The train crosses the *Rio Grande* to (¾ M.) *Ciudad Juárez* ('Wahrez'), formerly *El Paso del Norte* (3800 ft.; Rail. Restaurant; U. S. Con., C. W. *Kindrick*), with the Mexican custom-house, an interesting old church, and a statue of Juárez (p. 548).

A new railway, opened in 1898, runs hence to the S.W. to (149 M.) *Casas Grandes* and (155 M.) *Terrazas*.

Our route at first lies through the *State of Chihuahua* ('Chee-wah-wah') and offers little of interest. 30 M. *Samalayuca* (4300 ft.); 95 M. *Ojo Caliente* (4090 ft.); 112 M. *Moctezuma* (Rail. Restaurant); 139 M. *Gallego* (5450 ft.); 194 M. *Sauz* (5170 ft.). We cross the *Chubiscar* to —

225 M. *Chihuahua* (4635 ft.; *Casa Robinson*, \$2½-3; *Palacio*, \$2-2½; U. S. Con., W. W. *Mills*), the capital of the state of that name, a busy city with (1895) 18,521 inhab., in a hill-girt plain. It was founded in 1539.

The chief object of interest is the fine *Parroquia*, or parish-church, dating from 1711-89. Behind the *Banco Minero Chihuahuense* is a monument marking the spot where *Miguel Hidalgo* and *Ignacio Allende*, leaders of the revolution of 1810, were executed in 1811. The patriots were previously imprisoned in the *Casa de Moneda* (Mint). The *Plaza* and *Alamedas* are