

VERA CRUZ DEAD ARE BURNED IN STREETS

Bodies Mixed With Wood and Saturated With Oil Are Burned by Mexican White Cross Workers.

SHARP SKIRMISH ON THE BORDER

Mexican Federals Devastate Nuevo Laredo by Fire and Dynamite and Attempt Destruction of International Bridges, But Are Driven Back by Americans

Vera Cruz, via Galveston, Texas.—Smoke from funeral pyres characterized one of the developments in the American occupancy of Vera Cruz. When the disposition of Mexican dead had become a problem and Mexican White Cross workers had recovered eighteen decomposed bodies from the ruins of the naval academy and the barracks last occupied by Brigadier General Gustavo Maas the bodies, swollen under the heat of the tropical sun, were carried into the streets and piled in heaps.

Under them and among them wood was put and over the mass oil was poured. Then the torch was applied and the smoke that curled up told the final tale of the defense of the last two of Brigadier General Maas's positions.

It was impossible to bury the bodies and the stench that rose from the ruins of the court and the naval academy made men sick. The disposition of these dead was a problem to be solved only by the funeral pyre, and the Mexican White Cross organization workers here volunteered to do it.

From San Sebastian hospital a string of funeral corteges passed at frequent intervals. Within the building Father Blanco, Father Leon and other priests of the parochial church ministered to the dying and performed the last rite for the dead.

There are many new graves in the cemetery and another long trench where Maas' soldiers lie. Fifty-one dead have been buried from San Sebastian, while twenty-two were interred by Americans in one trench near the customs house. Twenty-three were taken from the military hospital and twelve private burials, bringing the total Mexican dead to 118.

Since the guns of the American cruisers were turned upon the naval academy sixty-four Mexican dead have been recovered from those ruins.

Appearances now indicate that the city will assume something resembling normal aspect. Business houses are being opened and citizens are appearing on the Calle Independencia, where are posted bulletins issued by Rear Admiral Fletcher.

Trouble on the Border.

Laredo, Tex.—Nuevo Laredo, the thriving Mexican border town opposite here, is in ruins, devastated by dynamite and fire by Mexican federal soldiers who began an orgy of destruction which did not end until they were forced to flee before the guns of the American border patrol.

Two Mexicans are known to have been killed by United States troops, and several were seen to fall when a machine gun platoon from Fort McIntosh got into action. Several brisk skirmishes between the Americans and Mexicans were fought as the Mexicans, their troop trains ready to pull out of the burning city, began an indiscriminate fire across the international boundary.

Property damage in Nuevo Laredo will reach \$500,000. Among the buildings destroyed were the United States consulate, municipal building, post-office, theater, the flour mills, one of the largest in this section of the southwest; railroad shops of the National railway and other smaller structures.

Bridges Are Safe.

There was no property loss in Laredo. Both international bridges are safe, although efforts to dynamite them resulted in the death of two men engaged in the undertaking. One Mexican was shot by a sharpshooter from the top of the water tower. The Mexican was trying to reach the end of the international foot and wagon bridge. Another was killed when he tried to blow up the American railroad bridge.

When the Mexican soldiers finally fled, order was quickly restored in Laredo, but guards remain through-

Finds Huerta at a Bar.

Vera Cruz, Mex.—Victoriano Huerta and Nelson O'Shaughnessy verbally fought out on the street in the open view of the public, the momentous matter of the Tampico incident, on which hung the question of whether American troops should force the dictator to respect the flag.

After April 15 the censor in Mexico city refused to permit me to receive messages, and all message which I attempted to file were rejected, with the exception of the code dispatches telling of Huerta's desire for war and

Won't Agree to Mediation.

Washington, D. C.—Foreign mediation between the United States and Mexico will not be considered by this government. An offer would be rejected and flatly refused. This has been most emphatically indicated by Secretary of State Bryan.

"Absolutely false," was how he characterized reports from London that Ambassador Spring Rice was making negotiations toward mediation. Bryan pointed out it was a diplomatic impossibility to have any power as mediator, and doubted that they

Brazil in Charge of U. S. Embassy.

Washington, D. C.—The Brazilian flag floats over the United States embassy at Mexico city. The stars and stripes were hauled down, when Charge O'Shaughnessy and his staff left by special train for Vera Cruz, guarded by Huerta's soldiers.

State department dispatches said that when the American embassy—a huge stone castle—was abandoned by Americans for the first time in years, every official document, every standard of arms and every personal and government article of the Americans was placed under the protection of the Brazilian government.

Huerta Seizes Nothing.

Huerta according to advices received, has not attempted to seize any embassy effects. Unless he violates international law he cannot secure the arms and cartridges held in the embassy for many months.

Secretary Bryan stated that steps for protection of all United States property had been taken. Unless rioting and vandalism should ensue, the building is safe.

The embassy building is merely rented. Secretary Bryan recently recommended that the government buy it or some other suitable building, for a permanent embassy at a cost of \$150,000.

1,000 "Krag's" May Have Been Ruined. The embassy occupies about two acres of ground on an elevation, picturesquely situated. About 1,000 Krag-Jorgensen rifles and thousands of rounds of ammunition were stored in the basement and garret.

Officials here scout the idea that these munitions of war have fallen into Huerta's hands. They have not heard directly regarding them, but

Delay Makes Task More Difficult.

The general staff of the army and navy has told the president, through Secretaries Daniels and Garrison, that if Mexico city is seized and the railroad to Vera Cruz guarded, this country can dictate terms and restore tranquility.

If action is not immediate, the president has been told, Huerta can gather to his support Zapata's brigands and many of Carranza's and Villa's men. Then the taking of Mexico city will be serious.

This question is being thrashed out by the president and cabinet. If Huerta formally declares war all available troops will be hurried to Vera Cruz and concentration camps on the border.

Must Not All Be Officers.

Washington, D. C.—The bill recognizing the militia and putting it under the direction of the secretary of war has been passed by the senate. It will go into effect immediately upon being signed by the president.

Secretary of War Garrison is intensely anxious that the measure should go into effect before actual war opens.

The bill makes a militiaman volunteer his services in the event of war at the time of enlistment. This prevents the necessity for his volunteering again, and prevents delay in fighting troops.

It provides that no regiment can be accepted unless the number of privates is proportional to the officers, the tendency in militia being to have many more generals and colonels than needed, not to mention lieutenant colonels and majors. The total number of men must comply with war department specifications.

Another Clash Reported.

Denver, Colo.—A report reached the state house that state militiamen, under General John C. Chase, were battling with strikers at Rouse, two miles from Monson, on the Colorado & Southern railroad. Heavy firing was also heard at Ludlow, north of Rouse.

Reports are that strikers unloaded a machine gun at Rouse in preparation for the coming of the militia. General Chase's troops, which left Denver, detained at Monson and presumably met the strikers at Rouse while marching overland.

One thousand armed strikers from the United Miner's ten colony at Augilar gathered below Walsenburg to oppose the advance of 369 militiamen under command of General Chase.

Behind the strikers lay the smoking ruins of eight great coal properties between Delagua and Grouse, over which fighting between strikers and mine guards had raged. One striker was shot in a battle in the streets of Walsenburg.

The list of known dead in the Ludlow district, where the miners' tent colony was burned, is twenty-nine, and it is believed that at least twenty more strikers and guards lie dead in the fields over which the fighting raged. Scores are wounded.

Women and children were placed in protection cellars under tents or other places of safety. Strikers are patrolling between Wray and Rugby, fifteen miles below Walsenburg, and parties armed with explosives are reported moving towards Walsenburg.

Leader Arrested by Troops. John McLennan, district president of the miners, was arrested by militiamen at Ludlow as he was passing through from Trinidad.

Huerta's attendants and bodyguard drew aside and for three-quarters of an hour O'Shaughnessy and the dictator argued. A photographer who attempted to snap them was driven away.

O'Shaughnessy spoke smilingly, but Huerta spoke vehemently, sinking his right fist from time to time into the palm of his left hand. O'Shaughnessy said Huerta was not drunk.

At the conclusion of this public conference the charge drove away in his machine and fled his report to Washington.

reservoirs which supply the city with water.

Major Smedley Butler commands the marines destined for this duty and he will take his own men every one of whom has been trained as an engineer and machinist.

Butler knows every foot of the territory between Vera Cruz and the capital. He has been over it some fifty times since early last fall and made maps which are now in the possession of Admirals Fletcher and Bagser.

Huerta Plans For Escape.

Vera Cruz, Mexico.—In the event of a crisis, Dictator Huerta has made all preparations for flight. His plan is to declare that he is leaving for the front. With him he will have a small body of soldiers, known as the Battalion of the Supreme Powers. He will elude these, according to his plan, and will seek refuge on a Japanese cruiser at Manzanillo, on the Pacific coast.

The papers print what Huerta orders. The probability is that in arranging to escape the dictator will cause the papers to print that there is great danger from the rebels on the Pacific and that it is necessary, for him to go to the front.

It is well known that he has made most strenuous efforts to keep the road toward the Pacific clear of rebels. The report, therefore, will be an untruth, but it will give Huerta the necessary excuse for leaving the capital.

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SAYS HUERTA WILL FIGHT TO FINISH

War Correspondent Describes Mexican Dictator as a Man of Iron Will.

MORE INDIAN THAN SPANISH

Perhaps the Strongest Man in the Republic, Though Not Military Genius—Willing to Take Gambler's Desperate Chance.

By N. C. ADOSSIDES, War Correspondent in Mexico and Student of Conditions There.

During my stay in Mexico Victoriano Huerta was the head of Madero's federal army, and so exceedingly hostile to the representatives of the press was he that he issued orders for the arrest of many and used means at his command to hamper the efforts of others.

One correspondent, Gerald Brandon, was imprisoned and sentenced to death, but was released.

At Torreon, where I first met him, the commander-in-chief's quarters at the Hotel Francia were two doors away from my room; I dined at his table and, unwelcome guest that I was, found him exceedingly suave and polite.

I saw him so intoxicated that officers had to assist him to his apartments, and sober, reticent and frigid, I saw him in the brotherly embrace of Pancho Villa, praising him for his fidelity.

I once asked a highly educated Mexican officer if Huerta were a really able military man. "Do you know," he answered me, "the French proverb, 'Dans le royaume des aveugles le borgne est le roi?' (In the kingdom of the blind the one-eyed man is the king). Well," he continued, "we have no great strategist nor great military genius in Mexico. Victoriano Huerta is, however, the best officer in our army; he is a man of great tenacity and strength of character, and he possesses the qualifications necessary to a successful dictator."

Something Like Diaz.

Huerta is much the same type as Porfirio Diaz, more Indian than Spanish in blood, appearance and traits. Educated in the military academy of Chapultepec and having no influence at his back, he advanced slowly to the foremost rank of Madero's revolutionary army. In that capacity he shone, undoubtedly, for he could inspire his forces with confidence and fighting spirit.

And now when he is provisional president of the Mexican republic it would be unfair to consider him as a puppet and figurehead. He is perhaps the strongest man in that republic and a man who will strain every nerve to retain his position and solidify his achievements. He is a man with a keen sense for a crisis, and he is a clever manipulator of possibilities.

With the vision of his crushed armies and his own power depleted by the successful constitutionalists in the North, hampered by the nonrecognition of this country, he is the kind of man to take a gambler's desperate chance.

He sees his own salvation in a war with the United States. He hopes to behold his present enemies, the constitutionalists, rallying to preserve the national honor. With the united factions he hopes to resist the hated "Gringo."

He hopes for the time when there will no longer be federals and constitutionalists, but Mexicans defending Mexico and Huerta.

It almost seems that he is more afraid of Villa's victorious army than of an imminent blow from the exasperated American nation.

Thinks Victory Will Be Easy. Chicago.—Coming direct from Tampico, the scene of the insult to the American flag, Don B. White, a wealthy oil operator, who has lived in Mexico for twenty years, arrived in Chicago. Mr. White knows personally both Victoriano Huerta and Zapata, the rebel terrorizing the south of the devastated country. He talked graphically of conditions in Mexico and the possible outcome of the war.

"If the United States acts quickly and sends a large army down there at once," said Mr. White, "then the war won't last long, because they will lay down their arms with fear. But there must be decisive action and it must be done quickly."

"Huerta—I know him personally. He can't possibly raise more than 5,000 real soldiers and to conquer him would require scarcely more than mere toying."

"But the hardest fight the United States army will have will be in the state of Morales, which is controlled by Zapata. Zapata is the Agualdado of Mexico. Brutish, ignorant and inhuman, he is an Indian about thirty-

five years old, who will stop at nothing. Zapata will have to be killed. That will be the only way he can be dealt with. I have ridden on trains with him many times. He is a robber bandit of the worst type, although if you do not antagonize him he will not bother you.

"There will never be a union of the forces of Huerta, Carranza and Zapata. That's out of the question. Each band will fight this country to the last ditch.

"The better class of Mexicans—those whose haciendas and property have been torn from them by the robbers—welcome intervention. It is only the peons, or the poor working people, who are fighting, and they are so ignorant that they do not know who they are fighting for. The Mexicans won't stand up and fight. They are treacherous, deceptive and sneaky. They are all cowards—and their word is no good."

Routes to Mexico City.

Washington.—If invasion of Mexico City should be ordered, it is believed Mexico City again will be the chief goal of the American troops, as in the former war with Mexico, and Vera Cruz will be the starting point.

There are two routes from Vera Cruz to Mexico City. One is the Jalapa route, taken by General Scott in his advance in the former war. The other is the Orizaba route, used by the French when Maximilian invaded Mexico.

STATE TO FIGHT HOG CHOLERA

FINDS BURLINGTON WATER SUPPLY IN GOOD CONDITION.

GOSSIP FROM STATE CAPITAL

Items of Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources and Presented in Condensed Form to Our Readers.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

The live stock sanitary board met with about thirty members of the live stock breeders' association and agricultural editors from over the state. J. A. Ollis of Ord introduced a resolution asking the board to appoint one or more men, experienced veterinarians, to give advice and supervise the work of extinguishing hog cholera in Nebraska. The governor said that the board has always been willing to appoint one man for this work but that the understanding had been that five men were wanted for this purpose and that he believed five men too many. He will recommend that one man be appointed with the approval of the board and on recommendation of State Veterinarian Kigin and J. H. Gain, head of the veterinary department at the university farm.

Only Two Polluted Sources of Supply.

The examination of water used on Burlington trains in Nebraska, so far as analysis has been made by Dr. Wild, director of the bacteriological laboratory of the state board of health, shows only two polluted sources of supply. One is from a pond at Anselmo which has become contaminated or polluted and which will soon be replaced by bored wells, and the other is water from the Missouri river at Nebraska City which is not properly filtered. Wells will be completed at Anselmo within one month. Better filters or some other remedy will be found at Nebraska City. Samples from the following sources of supply on the Burlington road have been found pure: Alliance, Hastings, Ord, McCook, Omaha, O'Neill, Holbein, Red Cloud, Alma, Aurora, Broken Bow, Fairfield, Fairmont and Lincoln. The railroad company also uses some water from the water system of the city of Lincoln. This has not yet been examined by Dr. Wild.

To Organize Additional N. G.

Organization of another regiment of National guardsmen to fill a Nebraska brigade and thus assure state troops, in the event of war, of being sent out solidly in some division, was the subject of a lengthy conference between the military board members and Governor Morehead. As a result, preparations went on in the matter and plans were perfected for applying to the war department for permission to make this move. It is planned to secure enough provisional companies within the next few days to give impetus to the undertaking. Companies are in process of formation at Ord, Verdigris, Ashland, Friend and O'Neill, and bunches of young men in other towns are said to have made application for permission to organize.

The Ballot Title Prepared by Attorney General Martin for the Submission of the employers' liability and workmen's compensation law, an act of the legislature which is to be submitted under the referendum to a vote of the electors of the state for their approval or rejection, is as follows:

"The purpose of this act is to prescribe the liability of employers, to establish an elective schedule of compensation for injuries received by employees in the course of their employment, to modify common law and statutory defenses and remedies in such cases, to regulate the procedure for determining such liability and to provide the methods for paying compensation thereunder. When employer and employee elect to embrace its provision this act applies to every employer employing five or more persons including the state and its governmental agencies, except employers of household servants, farm laborers and railroad companies, subject to congressional regulation."

A number of students at the state university have organized a commercial club, which will play the same part to the university students as the city commercial club plays to the city according to plans. It will boost all movements which will advertise the university and squelch those which are injurious. Prominent visitors will be entertained by the club, and prominent business men will also be secured to give addresses on current problems for the club members. The club is open to all "patriotic" university men.

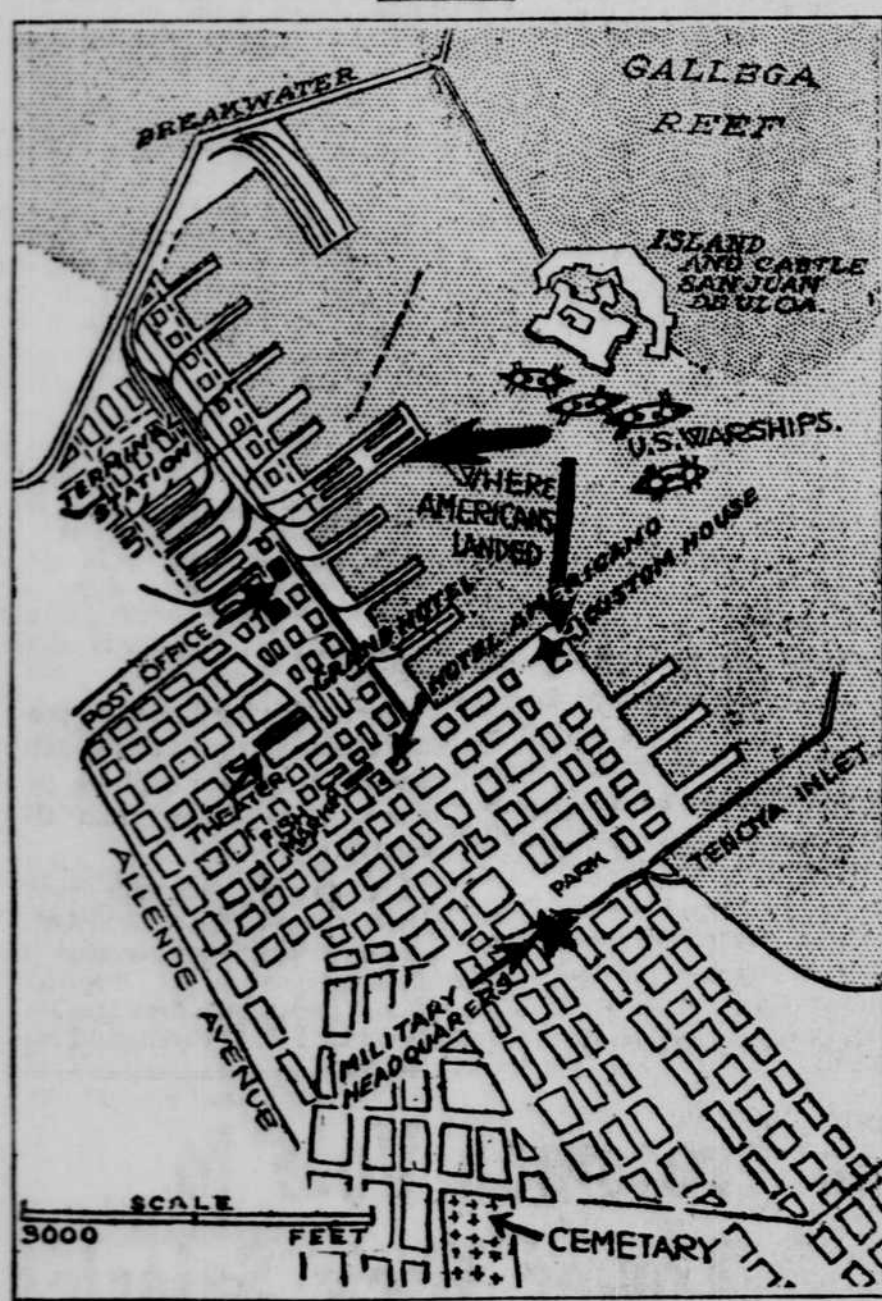
Game Warden Plants Fish.

State Game Warden Rutenbeck has returned from a trip with the state fish car. From Fremont to Valentine bass, croppies, bull heads and a few catfish were distributed. At Valentine young trout were taken from the subsurface hatchery and were placed in suitable waters as far west as Harrison, Sioux county. The car will make another trip soon to North Platte and its vicinity. Bass, croppies and bull heads and catfish will be distributed.

Hog Mortality Great Last Year.

The rather startling statistics compiled by the department of agriculture showing the ravages of hog cholera during the past year cannot be explained by the hog serum department of the state farm. It is admitted that the figures are undoubtedly accurate, but it is not explained why the disease should be so much worse one year than another. The figures embodied in the crop report published by the weather bureau show that 65 per cent more swine died from the effects of cholera in the year ending April 1,

MAP OF VERA CRUZ CITY AND HARBOR



Secretary Bryan holds that the supplies come under the general order for protection of embassy property granted by the dictator. It is believed they will be held by the Brazilian embassy.

It was suspected, however, that if the arms were left behind, members of the embassy staff had made every effort to remove them. The ammunition is not fitted for use in anything but Krag rifles, which are not widely used in Mexico.

Famine in Vera Cruz.

Washington, D. C.—Food supplies at Vera Cruz are running low and every effort is being made to replenish them. If necessary the navy will issue rations to the inhabitants from the warships in the harbor until supplies can be rushed from Galveston and New Orleans.

One of the ships taking refugees to the United States will be returned loaded with food and clothing. The American Red Cross has ordered its agents to take charge in Vera Cruz and distribute supplies where needed. Mexicans as well as foreigners will be aided, but only until Admiral Badger can induce the local authorities, if possible, to resume their civil activity.

Further fighting is looked for when Admiral Fletcher sends a regiment of marines to take possession of the occupation of Vera Cruz, which he regarded as insignificant. Here, then, is how Huerta dealt with the question which really meant peace or war.

With his usual irregularity, Huerta left his home at an early hour. He did not go to the palace nor did he leave word where he planned to go. O'Shaughnessy received a 1,000-word cable-gram of instructions from Washington, set out to find Huerta, making the usual rounds of the Cafe Colon, where the dictator's morning cognac is usually taken; two or three

other cafes, which form resting places in Huerta's occasional progress to the palace, and finally the Jockey club. It was at the Jockey club that O'Shaughnessy found his man, standing at the bar.

"Have you your automobile out there?" asked Huerta. "Yes," replied O'Shaughnessy. "My new one."

"Let's go out and sit in that," said Huerta. The two men left the club and stepped into the car.

The suggestion came from the president himself that he has taken Carranza and Villa's promises, presented to the state department by their representatives here, at their face value. The cabinet has considered the entire Mexican situation. The report of Consul Aent Carothers, in which he stated flatly that Villa had assured him that under no circumstances would he bear arms against the United States, was presented in detail by Secretary Bryan.

Probs Report of Union at Torreon, Washington has no confirmation of

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PRONUNCIATION OF NAMES MENTIONED IN MEXICAN WAR NEWS.

- Huerta—Oo-ER-tah.
- Torreon—Tor-ray-OWN.
- Villa—VEE-yah.
- Hidalgo—Ee-DAH-lee-go.
- Zacatecas—Zac-ah-TAY-cas.
- San Luis Potosi—Sahn-Loo-EES-Po-to-SEE.
- Tampico—Tah-y-mo-LEE-pas.
- Queretaro—Kay-RET-a-roh.
- Coahuila—Co-a-WEE-lah.
- Jalisco—Hah-LEES-co.
- Agua Calientes—AH-gwas Cah-leh-EN-tes.
- Guanajuato—Gwah-nah-HWAH-to.
- Oaxaca—Wah-HAH-kah.
- Guerrero—Gher-RARE-ro.
- Texcoco—Tes-CO-co.
- Tlaxcala—Tlas-KAH-lah.
- Tehuantepec—Tay-WAHN-tay-pec.
- Tuxpam—TOOS-pam.
- Tampico—Tam-PEE-co.
- Chihuahua—Chee-WAH-wah.

Cleaning Mirrors.

Take a soft sponge, cleaned of everything gritty, dip it into water and squeeze it almost dry. Dip it into some spirit of wine, and then rub it over the glass. Next, dust the glass with some powder blue or whitening sifted through muslin; wipe the powder lightly and quickly off again with a cloth; then take a clean cloth and rub the glass well once more, and finish by rubbing it with a silk handkerchief. If the glass be very large, clean one half at a time, as otherwise the spirit

of wine will dry before it can be rubbed off. If the frames are not varnished, the greatest care must be taken not to touch them with the sponge, as this will discolor or take off the gilding.

To clean the frames take a little cotton wool and rub the frames with it. This will take off all the dust and dirt without injuring the gilding. If the frames are well varnished, rub them with spirit of wine, which will take out all spots and give them a fine polish.