

Estates Left by Montezuma and Cortez

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MEXICO CITY—Do you know that descendants of both Hernando Cortez and the Emperor Montezuma, whom he conquered, are still living in Mexico? I am told that this is the case, and that some of them have in their possession big estates which have come down through the family of Montezuma and large and left his children to the care of Cortez, who promised to care for them as though they were his own. This Cortez did, sending them to Spain, where they were educated in the imperial household of Charles V. Some of them intermarried with Spanish nobles and today there are great landed properties in Salamanca which belong to a Montezuma, having come down through fourteen generations from the family of the conqueror. The present head of the family is known as Vicente Augustine Maldonado y Carbajal Cano Montezuma. He has the title of Marquis de Castellano and is a high Spanish noble, with this strain of the imperial blood of the Aztecs. He is a well educated man and has studied for the law, although he has never practiced. He is now 70 and he has two sons, one famous as a statesman and the other as a musical composer.

Montezumas Left in Mexico.
 There are still several Montezumas in Mexico City. One is a lawyer, another is a banker and a third a musician. I am told there is royal Aztec blood in the veins of other families here from whom the name Montezuma has passed away, and that it flows also through some of the great families of Spain and tints even some of the ducal families of England. The Empress Eugenie, the wife of Napoleon III, was born at Granada, in Spain, but she is said to have had a streak of Montezuma in her veins, the same coming from the Count of Miravalles, who was indirectly descended from Montezuma. The Miravalles family still owns big estates near Granada.

Another descendant of Montezuma married a relative of the oldest son of Columbus, and it is said that one of Montezuma's daughters was taken by Cortez as his wife or his mistress.

Some Love Affairs of Cortez.
 Indeed Hernando Cortez was a man of many loves and many marriages. He left the University of Salamanca at the age of 18 on account of his love affairs, and when he had first decided to try his fortune in the new world, his departure was postponed by an accident received in scaling a tumble-down wall on his way to a final meeting with one of his sweethearts. He was only 19 years old when he sailed for Santo Domingo, and there he got his first wife, a beautiful Spanish girl, named Catalina Juarez, whom he refused for a time to marry, but was afterward forced to do so. She brought him both lands and money, and also the hand of the governor, Velazquez, who later on sent him from Cuba, as the commander of the expedition to push the conquest of Mexico.

Donna Marina, the Indian Maiden.
 While going to Mexico, Cortez picked up at Tabasco, Marina, a beautiful Indian girl, and made her his mistress. He taught her Spanish, and she became the interpreter through whom he talked with the natives of different parts of Mexico. She stuck to him in all his troubles and he had by her a son and three daughters. When Cortez returned to Spain he married this girl to one of his lieutenants.

The two lived together in Mexico City at Cortez's home near there, and she went with him during his tours. He had an estate at Oriaba and it was in his palace there that he married this girl off to one of his lieutenants, Juan Jaramillo, and by him she had a number of children. As late as the close of the sixteenth century the heirs of Donna Marina and Jaramillo were living near Oriaba.

Strangled with Her Pearl Necklace.
 It was while Cortez was living with Donna Marina, that his wife, whom he had left in Cuba, came to Mexico, Cortez and then became famous, and as the story goes his wife sneaked into the country without his knowledge and accosted him at Coyohuacan. He took her into his palace, and there, as the tradition goes, after one of his riotous banquets he strangled her with her own necklace of pearls. Others say that she committed suicide. At any rate, after Cortez went to Spain he was indicted for murdering his wife, and the case occupies many pages in the "Archives of the Indies," which includes the history of the crime, giving all the judicial proceedings against Cortez and his final acquittal.

Cortez married again while he was in Spain, taking there a wife, Donna Juanna de Zuniga y Arellano, a woman of title and property. He had a son, by her, who was christened Don Martin and who inherited the most of the property. The daughter of Montezuma, whom Cortez took as one of his wives, had given the Christian name of Isabella. She had been married to Guatemotoc, Montezuma's nephew and successor, who fought against Cortez and who was put to death by the Spaniards in 1522. Guatemotoc succeeded Montezuma, and it was said that Cortez had him executed in order that he might marry Isabella. Some time afterward Isabella married again, and this time a Spaniard. He died and she again married. Her name was now Senora de Saavdra, and as such she had three sons and a daughter. One of her sons married a daughter of the Duke of Toledo.

It is also stated that Isabella had a daughter by Cortez named Leonor, and that when she died she made a will giving her estate to her six children, stating that five of them were legitimate by her two Spanish husbands, and that the other, the said Leonor Cortez, was a natural daughter by the great general. This Leonor is said to be still in existence. Leonor Cortez was married, and her daughter was known as the Princess Acatlan from whom is descended the Duke of Sotales de Montezuma of Madrid.

The first husband of Isabella, the Emperor Guatemotoc, was one of the fiercest characters of Aztec history. He was conquered by the Spaniards and tortured by fire to make him confess where the Aztecs had buried their treasure. With him during the roasting was another chief who could not stand the pain and cried out that he felt he must tell. Thereupon Guatemotoc shook his head and sternly rejoined:

"And perhaps you think I am resting on a bed of roses?"

The painting of this scene is one of the great pictures of the National museum.

The Cortez Estates.
 Cortez, like Columbus, had a sad time during his latter days. He was given the title of the Marquis of the Valley of Oaxaca, and he had great estates in



1489
PORTRAIT OF Hernando Cortez

Mexico, but when, toward the latter part of his life, he went to Spain, he found it almost impossible to see the king. At one time he tried to force his way through the crowd to the emperor's carriage, and even put his foot on the step. Thereupon the emperor, Charles V. astonished at his assurance, demanded to know who he was, Cortez replied:

"I am a man, sire, who has given you more provinces than your ancestors left you cities."

Shortly after this, Cortez left Madrid and died in solitude near Sevilla. As to his estates here in the new world, he had some in the Valley of Mexico, some near Cuernavaca and some on the isthmus of Tehuantepec. He had also a palace at Coyohuacan and valuable property there, which remained in the hands of his heirs until about ten years ago, when it was taken over by the town council. The so-called palace still stands and it was for a long time used as the city council chambers and jail. It was one of the first buildings erected by white men on the North American continent and it bears the Cortez coat of arms over its doorway. Similar inscriptions have been found in Cuernavaca, Vera Cruz and Oaxaca.

This Coyohuacan palace is a rude building without much architectural beauty. The doorway inside the patio is Moorish and the cornice of the building is very plain. The walls are thick and the house was evidently a fortification as well as a home. Not far from it is the church of John the Baptist, which was erected about the same time, and not far away is the Dominican monastery near where Cortez is said to have strangled his Cuban wife.

I do not know the exact extent of the lands given to Cortez, but they probably covered millions of acres. The property he had in Tehuantepec comprised several hundred thousand acres, and it was for many years the home of his descendants. He erected a house there in 1527, but this is now in ruins. The estate has been divided into three ranches. One of them has 70,000 acres and is chiefly devoted to stock raising. Another has 7,000 acres of sugar cane on it, and a third is right on the Tehuantepec railway, having a station of its own. It is not far from Rincon Antonio. This property remained in the hands of the heirs of Cortez until the days of Andrew Jackson, when it was purchased by the family which now holds it.

Founded by Cortez.

When Cortez died he gave some of his Cuernavaca lands to the hospital and Church of Jesus of Nazareth, which still stands not far from the cathedral in Mexico City, and in which his patent of nobility is. The archives of the hospital have also his land grants. The hospital stands on the site of Montezuma's palace, and it is said that Montezuma was killed while standing upon its roof by a stone thrown from a mob of Indians whom he was trying to pacify.

Cortez built a palace at Cuernavaca after he came back from Spain in 1520, and this for a time formed his favorite residence. He personally superintended his vast estates and cultivated them. He introduced sugar cane from Cuba, and erected sugar mills and other works. Most of the estates have been more or less subdivided, and the town of Cuernavaca, which contains about 7,000 people, has grown up on his land. The place is noted for its beautiful views and is celebrated as a health resort. It has recently been the scene of the operations of the rebels, and travel there is unsafe. The cathedral of Cuernavaca is one of the oldest and quaintest in Mexico. It is known as the Church of San Francisco, and it was founded at the instigation of Cortez. It was for years the most important Franciscan temple of the new world. The tower contains a clock which the Emperor Charles V. gave to Cortez at the time he granted him the most of the great valley which can be seen from the top of the tower. This clock is run by weights which swing almost to the ground. They are wound up at intervals by a mechanism at the top.

In the Footsteps of Cortez.
 It is interesting to follow the footsteps of Cortez through Mexico. He landed first at Tabasco, having sailed out of the harbor of Santiago de Cuba over the very place where Hobson sank the Merimac during our war with Spain. He coasted along the Mexican gulf to Vera Cruz, and there made his first settlement, building rude huts and mounting his guns to protect his party from the Indians. He had at this time ten vessels in the harbor, and his force consisted of about 700 Spaniards, eighteen horses and some pieces of cannon. He had already learned of Montezuma at Tabasco, and as soon as he landed at Vera Cruz the Aztec chief of that place, by means of picture writing, sent a message from him to the emperor, saying that he, Cortez, came as the ambassador of a mighty ruler beyond the seas to carry a present to him. Montezuma, who was then in the city of Mexico, was such that an answer came back inside of a week, and this notwithstanding Mexico City was over 300 miles away. The reply from Montezuma was that Cortez had best not come to the capital and that the



PHOTOGRAPH OF THE Banner Carried by Cortez

road was long and dangerous. He also added: "You had better go back to your own country with our greetings to your mighty king."

With this letter Montezuma sent presents, and among them two huge plates, one of solid gold and the other of silver. Each plate was as big around as a cart wheel, or about twenty feet in circumference, and the gold wheel was afterwards estimated to be worth \$20,000. There were also necklaces of rubies and pearls and many golden shields, inlaid and decorated.

One can easily imagine what effect this would have on the Spaniards. Cortez replied that he had come 6,000 miles over the oceans to see Montezuma, and he would not go back to his king without having personally met him. The king again sent back a ceremonious message for him to get out, but notwithstanding all this, Cortez started and, with his little band, made his way over the mountains and conquered the nation of millions. The story has been told in the wonderful works of Prescott and others, and it times have been pictured in the novels of Rider Haggard and our own General Lew Wallace. I shall not attempt any description, but will only refer you to some points over the route and show you how they look in this year of our Lord, 1912.

On the Way Over the Mountains.

Where Cortez landed there have sprung up the great wharves of Vera Cruz, at which a dozen or more of the best known lines of steamers call every month. There are railroads running from there to the capital, the isthmus of Tehuantepec and to other parts of the republic; and about the harbor is a city of 20,000 or more, which has streets paved with asphalt and new buildings beside those of the style of old Spain. The country about is taken up with fruit gardens and tropical plantations, and passing over the road, which Cortez took on his way to the capital, you go through banana fields and great coffee estates, climbing higher and higher in plain sight of the snow-clad peak of Oriaba, until at last you traverse the pass, and come down into the famed valley of Mexico, where amid the lakes, is situated the capital of the Mexican republic, and just where about 400 years ago was the capital of Montezuma.

The distance from the coast is about 200 miles and Cortez drafted 1,000 Indian porters to transport his baggage. The most of his way was through the wilderness, and it was at the town of Tlaxcala, near Puebla, that he fought with the Indians of that name and made them his allies. Tlaxcala is now a shabby village whose chief interest is in its collection of Cortez relics. It was at this point that some of the Spaniards turned aside to ascend Popo-

catepi for sulphur to be used in making gunpowder and they entered the Mexican valley by way of Amecameca, which is still a small town on the slope of that mountain. It is where one leaves the railroad and starts up the volcano on foot.

In Mexico City.
 As far as the Mexican capital is concerned, it is full of the remains of Cortez and Montezuma. The Aztec city was like Venice, in that it was built upon islands with numerous bridges. Since then the land has been drained and the spaces between the islands so filled that the city is now solid land. Nevertheless, the old places of note can be picked out. The cathedral stands where the great Teocall or mound upon which the sacrifices took place, once was. The Hospital of Jesus is where Montezuma welcomed the Spaniards and at Chapultepec, which is now a beautiful park where the president has his summer home, was the summer residence of the emperor, Montezuma, where he had his favorite wives, his fish ponds, aviary and hunting lodge. You can ride out to it now on the street car. The Spaniards made their way there in boats and on foot. Farther out of the city you may trace the causeway by which Cortez entered the capital, and find the place where the famous gardens in which Montezuma and Guatemotoc entertained the Spaniards.

The Tomb of Cortez.

There is one spot, however, which you will find to find and that is where Cortez lies buried. Where that is no one knows. He died in Spain, in a little village near Sevilla, and his body rested there in obscurity for fifteen years, when his son, Don Martin, had it exhumed and brought to Mexico. It was first kept here in the Monastery of San Francisco, in Texcoco, and was then brought to the Church of San Francisco in the Mexican capital. It lay in that church for more than 150 years, when it was again brought forth in a great procession and carried to the Hospital of Jesus of Nazareth. There it lay for thirty years, and then, for fear of a mob which proposed to destroy it, the friends of the family entered the tomb by night and secretly removed the remains. Some believe that they were again buried in Mexico, and others will tell you that they rest in the tombs of the Sicilian branch of the family near Palermo. But as to the exact truth I am unable to say.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

How It Got There.

This story came from a clergyman in Kentucky, who vouches for its accuracy and age:
 An old colored man living in our town had no visible means of support. A man of the town, going out to his henery one morning, found the old fellow there. "What are you doing here, your rascal?" asked the man, "stealing my chickens?" "Oh, no, sah; 'deed I ain't," replied the old man earnestly. "I wouldn't do nothin' like dat, sah."

The man was wearing a straw hat, with a crown of the dimensions of a beehive, which was in a somewhat dilapidated condition just as he was about to deny once again any thought of appropriating the chicken the head of a half-grown pullet was seen to protrude from the aperture.
 "Well, sah," said the owner of the chickens, "how did that chicken get into your hat?"
 "Well, sah," exclaimed the colored fellow with an air of honest surprise and embarrassment, "de am de founnest 'ting dat ebery 'tupers happened to me, sah. Dat creatchun leg 'ad crawled up my trousers leg."—Jones' Magazine.

Figure It Out, Yourself.

Biggs—Going to have a vegetable garden?
 Wiggs—Not on your life. Waste of time and money.
 Biggs—How do you figure that out?
 Wiggs—By staying in bed all day in buying next winter's overcoat, laying in a season's supply of coal and rewarding yourself with a few minutes' rest at spring prices I can save enough money to buy fancy garden truck sufficient to last three years.—St. Louis Republic.

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How to Make Big and Little Wrinkles Disappear

and Other Secrets by Valaska Soratt

The Most Captivating Actress on the American Stage and Most Famous Self-Made Beauty, Reveals Some of Her Own Beauty Secrets.

It is almost magic. There is nothing like it that I know of. Get at any good drug store one ounce of what is called sulfo solution. It will cost you one dollar, but it will last you quite a while. Apply this solution freely with the finger tips on the hair you want removed. Keep the hair moist with it until it has actually dissolved. This will take out two or three curls at a time. Wipe off with a warm, damp cloth and wash the skin with warm water.

MARTHA H.—Yes, you can surely get rid of blackheads. First wash the face with hot water and soap. Then sprinkle some nersin generously upon a sponge made wet with hot water. Then rub well for a few minutes on the parts of the skin which are most likely to be blackheaded. Repeat several times the face with warm water and dry. The nersin will cost you not to exceed fifty cents at any drugstore.

WONDERING—The skin-bleach you mention is positively injurious. It is no wonder your skin has become coarse. To be sure, skin whiter than yours is not desirable, but the same time makes the skin delightfully pebbly and smooth. Just like a baby's.

Let half a pint of water come almost to a boil. Add two tablespoonfuls of glycerine. Keep stirring while adding one ounce zincate, until it is all dissolved. Then let it cool. The cream is too thick to pour easily from a bottle, thin it down a little with more hot water. It will be white and saucy. Hold a wet, hot towel to the face several times for several minutes. Then wipe off with a soft, dry cloth. Then apply again and let it dry on the face. Repeat this again at night. Any good druggist will let you have a sample for about fifty cents.

MRS. N. C. S.—For the pimples make up a formula as given below. This will purify your blood promptly and pimples will disappear. Don't worry about a diet; eat what your appetite demands, but chew everything well.

Dissolve twelve ounces of granulated sugar in one-half pint of water, and add one ounce of sarsaparil, and mix the whole together thoroughly. Then add more water to make a pint. You will have one of the most splendid and effective purifiers of the system. It is possible to obtain, however, the use of green soap. I contain strong lye and is very liable to seriously affect the life of the hair. A shampoo should eliminate all the scurf, dandruff, and scales, and cleanse the scalp pores so as to let the hair "breathe." The following formula does the work in a remarkably manner.

Dissolve one teaspoonful of eggol in half a cup of hot water. When entirely dissolved and the solution has become lukewarm, pour onto the hair and shampoo in the usual manner. The druggist will let you have the eggol for not more than twenty-five cents. It makes an exquisite lather. After rubbing it well into the scalp, so that it perfectly cleans, wash the hair thoroughly with plenty of warm water, and rinse with cold water.

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