

GLOSSARY OF MEXICAN, SPANISH,
AND
OTHER FOREIGN WORDS.

- Acales* (Mex.), ships, from a = water and calli = a house.
- Adelantado*, governor-in-chief.
- Alacranes*, the name of a dangerous reef, from alacran, a scorpion.
- Alala*, an Indian exclamation.
- Alcalde*, chief magistrate or mayor.
- Alférez*, ensign or standard-bearer.
- Alguacil*, a constable.
- Alguacil Mayor*, chief constable.
- Alguacil del Real*, constable or storekeeper.
- Amales*, amal (Mex.), paper, letters.
- Atalaya*, a watch-tower.
- Arriero*, a muleteer, carrier.
- Arroba*, a Spanish weight of 25 lbs.
- Atlatl* (Mex.), a spear-thrower or throwing-stick (tiradera, Span.).
- Audiencia*, a court of judicature, the law officers appointed to hold a judicial inquiry.
- Barranca*, a ravine.
- Cacao*, Cacahuatl (Mex.), the fruit of *Theobroma Cacao*. Chocolate, made from the cacao fruit, takes its name from the Mexican word chocolatl.
- Cacique*, a Cuban word meaning chieftain.
- Cacica*, the female form of the title Cacique.
- Calachoni*, Calachone, Calachione, Calacheoni or Calachuni, the title of chieftain among the Mayas.
- Camarero*, chamberlain.
- Cedula* (real), Royal letters patent.
- Ceiba*, *Bombax ceiba*, the silk-cotton tree.
- Cenote*, Tznóte, deep natural wells or caverns in the limestone rock whence the natives of Yucatan obtain water.
- Chalchihuite*, Chalchivies or Chalchihuys (B. D.), Chalchihuitl (Mex.), Jadeite, highly valued by the Indians as a precious stone.
- Compadre*, godfather, friend.
- Copal*, a resinous substance burnt for incense, the gum of the *Rhus copallinum*.
- Cue*, a shrine, temple, a word picked up by the Spaniards in the Antilles.
- Despoblado*, uninhabited country.
- Enaguas*, petticoats, or the upper skirt of a woman's dress.

Encomienda. The Indians, at first slaves, were next subjected to the system of *repartimientos*, that is, divided among masters, who had a property in their labour, not in their persons; and, lastly, they were distributed in *encomiendas*, paying to the *encomendero*, or owner of the district, a tribute or produce-rent, in return for protection (Herman Merivale—Lectures on Colonisation).

Escopeteros, musketeers.

Fraila de la Merced, a friar of the Order of Mercy.

Hennequen, or sisal hemp; enequen (B. D.), a species of aloe (*Agave Ixtli*); the fibre is now largely used for cordage.

Hidalgo a gentleman by birth.

Huajolotes (Mex.), turkeys.

Jiquipil (Maya), a body of warriors eight thousand strong.

Lienzo, a painting on linen or cotton cloth.

Lope luzio (Totonac), prince or great lord. Used by the Spaniards as a nickname for the Totonac Indians.

Macana or *Maquihuitl* (Mex.), a wooden sword edged with sharp pieces of flint or obsidian.

Maestresala, the chief waiter in a nobleman's household.

Mamei, the fruit of the Mamie Zapote tree.

Mastel, a loin cloth.

Monte, in Spanish meaning a mountain, a hill is used in Spanish America in the way *bush* is used in Australia or *veldt* in South Africa.

Nahuatatos (Mex.), interpreters.

Pelota, a Basque and Spanish ball game.

Penacho, a tuft of feathers, a plume.

Petaca, a trunk or leather-covered hamper.

Petate, a plaited mat; *Petlatl* (Mex.).

Piragua, a large canoe.

Plaza, a square, market-place.

Pueblo, a town or village, used especially to designate a township or community of American Indians.

Regidor, magistrate, prefect.

Repartimiento. See *Encomienda*.

Residencia, the examination and formal account demanded of a person holding public office.

Rubrica, the flourish which forms part of the signature of a Spaniard.

Salitrales, salt marshes.

Tacal Naguas (Mex.), wizards, soothsayers.

Tamenes (Mex.), porters, carriers.

Tapias, mud walls, walls made of earth stamped into a mould.

Tatuan (B. D.), *Tlatoan* (Mex.), a chieftain.

Teleçiguata, a great lady.

Teocalli (Mex.), a temple, usually raised on a pyramidal foundation.

Tepuzques (B. D.), the Mexican word for cannon, from *Tepusque*, iron.

Tianguez or *Tianguiz* (Mex.), a market or market-place.

Tiradera, an *Atlatl* (Mex.) or spear-thrower, throwing-stick.

Tonatio (B. D.), *Tonatiuh* (Mex.), the sun, or child of the sun; the name given by the Mexicans to Pedro de Alvarado.

Tortilla, a little cake; the thin cake made from maize, the staple food of the Mexicans.

Tuna, the prickly pear, fruit of the Nopal Cactus (*Opuntia*).

Vecino, a neighbour, a citizen.

Veedor (obsolete), overseer, official in charge of stores.

Xexenes, a small kind of mosquito.

Yuca, Yuca de Casave, *Jatropha Manihot*, or *Manihot utilisima*. Cassava bread is made from the root of *Jatropha Manihot*.

PLACE - NAMES.

Acalá, a province situated about 18° Lat. N., 91° 30' Long. W. Gueacala or Hueyacala, Great Acalá.

Altlatlaya (B. D.), (Atalaya) from Atalaya, a watch tower.

Axaruco or Ajaruco. On the north coast of Cuba.

Ayagualulco (B. D.), Ahualolco (O. y B.).

Cempoala, Çenpoal (B. D.).

Chanpoton (Potonchan). See note on pages 21-22.

Chichimecatecle (B. D.), Chichimecatecutli (O. y B.).

Cholula, Cholulan.

Coatzacoalcos, Guaçacalco or Guaçagualco (B. D.).

Cotaxtla, or Cuetlaxtla, Cotastan or Cotustan (B. D.).

Cauhtémoc, Guatemuz (B. D.) ; Guatemucin (C.) ; Guatemoc, successor to Montezuma and Cuitlahuac as ruler of Mexico.

Culua, Culoa or Ulua. The land of the Mexicans.

Estomies (B. D.) or Otomis : this tribe is reputed to be the earliest settled in Central Mexico.

Huexotzingo, Huexoçingo, Guaxoçingo or Guaxalçingo (B. D.), a district and town allied to Tlaxcala ; Guaxoloçingo (B. D.), a chieftain of Tlaxcala (?).

Huichilobos (B. D.), Huitzipochtli, the Mexican God of War.

Kukulcan or Cukulcan, the Maya Culture God, the same as the Mexican God Quetzalcoatl.

Malinchi or Malinche, the name given to Cortés by the Mexicans, see p. 273.

Montezuma (B. D.), Motecuhzoma (O. y B.), Motecutzoma.

Papaloapan, Papaloaba (B. D.).

Pitalpitoque (B. D.), Cuitlalpitoc (O. y B.). A Mexican chieftain called by the Spaniards Ovandillo.

Potonchan (Chanpotan). See note on pp. 21-22.

Quetzalcoatl, from the bird Quetzal (*Trogon resplendens*), and Coatl, a serpent. The Serpent-bird God, the Culture God of the Mexicans. The same as the Maya God Kukulcan.

Quiahuitztlan, Quiahuyztlan (B. D.).