

MEXICO AS IT IS NOW.

Nellie Bly Throws New Light on the Country and Its People.

AMERICANS HAVE A HARD ROW TO HOE.

How the Alleged Mexican Editors Hoodwinked Their American Brothers.

WHY A WARRANT WAS ISSUED FOR HER ARREST

Among the dozen or so of passengers who alighted from the Panhandle express at the Union depot last night were Nellie Bly and her mother, of Allegheny, who have been doing Mexico for several months past. The hot rays of the tropical sun have darkened their complexions somewhat and it has not done any damage to their health, if appearance can be taken as a criterion.

"Of course I had a good time," exclaimed the vivacious little tourist, in answer to a reporter's query. "Mexico is just the place to have a good time if you are not too exacting and don't expect too much."

"You like the country, then?" was asked.

"Yes, I think I can say I do. The climate is much preferable to that of Pennsylvania, but of course the people can't be compared. The Mexicans as a general thing are cruel and not very highly civilized. There are some people down there, however, who are cultured, and I was fortunate enough to become acquainted with a number of them. An American always has a hard row to hoe after he crosses the border from Texas. Mexicans have a sort of horror for everything that comes from the States. The introduction of American capital is fought against constantly, save by a few of the better classes. But the people from the States seem to realize more and more the natural advantages of the country, and every year shows some material advance in the way of building up the commercial interests of the two countries.

PENNSYLVANIANS INTERESTED.

"You would be surprised to know what an interest Western Pennsylvania people take in the little country beyond the gulf. While I was in the City of Mexico I received on an average of 50 letters a day from people living in and about this city. It seems improbable, I know, but it is true. They were all from people who wanted to know about the country—women and young girls inquiring if they could get positions in stores or in factories or if a boarding house or restaurant would pay down there; men who had a little capital to invest wanting to know what chance there was in Mexico for investment, and everything else you could think of. Of course, I answered some of them, but I couldn't answer them all; I wouldn't have had time for anything else.

"And now I want to tell you about that Mexican editorial party. You know they traveled all over the United States and were treated sumptuously. Well, the funny thing about the whole business is that only one or two of them were newspaper men at all, and only two have a comparatively good standing in their own country. They are Arroyo de Anda, a lawyer, and Signor Bianchi, who was the historian of the party. One of the others came very near being a newspaper man. He owns the building in which the office of the *Two Republics*, the best newspaper in the city, is situated.

"I had a funny experience in the City of Mexico which illustrates the difference between the press of that country and this. I wrote a paragraph in one of my letters to THE DISPATCH in which I criticised Mexicans somewhat. A St. Louis paper copied the article, and it eventually drifted back to its starting point, with a few editorial additions. Some of the authorities got hold of it, and actually had a warrant out

FOR MY ARREST

on a charge of writing sentiments which were detrimental to the interests of the Government. The editor of the *Two Republics* took my side in the controversy and I did a good deal of what is commonly called 'bluffing' in regard to the power of the American Government to protect the freedom of her citizens and her press, and I guess together we scared the officials out, for I was never arrested. Down there, however, editors and newspaper writers are often put in jail for expressing their sentiments a little too freely, and I have learned since that they have an especial clause in their code of laws in regard to foreigners who write or say anything against the Government. I know of two instances where American newspaper men were expelled from the country for offending in that way.

"I suppose nearly all Pittsburgers remember the shooting of a young American by a Mexican military officer in a City of Mexico Tivoli. The Government made a pretense of investigating the case, but of course they found that the American was to blame. I took the trouble to look the matter up myself shortly after I went there, and I found conclusive evidence that the American was entirely innocent of any offense. A couple of weeks ago the same Mexican shot and killed another man in the street, and he was not even arrested for the offense. They seem to think that because he is an officer he has a perfect right to slaughter just as many people as he wants.

"But, barring the majority of the people, Mexico isn't so bad. The scenery is, in many places, absolutely grand. There are supposed to be about 10,000,000 people in the country, but of these nearly four-fifths are Indians, only partially civilized. The Indians, however, are very pleasant people to deal with, and many of them are very ingenious. They manufacture crockery and fancy articles, which are both unique and useful, and for which they get good prices.

"We started home a week ago and have had a very pleasant journey, although an uneventful one. I was a little sorry to leave Mexico, but as soon as the border was crossed I began to get a little homesick, and I assure you I was anything but sorry when the train stopped at the Union depot a few minutes ago, and I stepped off into Pittsburg again."

THE ALLEGHENY HIGH SCHOOL.

Programme of the Commencement Exercises to be Held Next Week.

The programme of the commencement exercises of the Allegheny High School was issued last evening. As has been stated the exercises will be given at the North Avenue M. E. Church on the 29th. The first honor goes to Alberta Hay, the second to James Witherspoon and the third to Mary Margery Gilmore. Following is the programme:

- Music. Prayer. Music.
- Rev. A. M. Hills.
- Salutatory... "Truth Crushed to Earth Will Rise Again"
A. H. Smith.
- Essay,..... "The Fates,"
Laura E. Saint.
- Essay,..... "Friendship of Books,"
Virtue V. Palmer.
- Oration,..... "National Prosperity,"
Arthur W. Boyd.
- Essay,..... "What Are We Girls to Do?"
Cora M. Lowe.
- Oration,..... "America for Americans,"
Preston C. Farrar.
- Essay,..... "Unfinished Columns,"
Henrietta H. Harper.
- Oration,..... "At the Threshold,"
William S. Langfitt.
- Music.
- Essay,..... "The Day is Done,"
Anita Cordier.
- Valedictory,..... "The Mission of Co-operation,"
Carl G. Wettach.
- Music.
- Presentation of Diplomas.
- Music.
- Benediction,..... Rev. W. H. McMillan.

Temperance Workers.

A temperance meeting, under the direction of Mrs. E. D. C. Maier and her assistants in the railroad department of the W. C. T. U. work, was held last evening in the waiting rooms of the Pittsburg and Lake Erie depot, on the Southside. It was very largely attended by railroad employes and others. A pleasing feature was the exhibition of a number of stereopticon views of a temperance nature. It is the intention to hold similar temperance meetings on every Tuesday evening in the future.