

at least, can hardly be realized, all Yucatan sleeps in hammocks, it was born, it lives, and dies in hammocks. In many places a bed is unknown, but when both are available, the Yucatecan, and for the matter of that many foreigners, invariably prefer the hammock, consequently they are to be found in every house and every hut, many are frequently of a very superior class unknown abroad, and are sometimes beautifully made of pure silk, of lovely designs, commanding such high local prices that few people elsewhere would ever dream of paying.

On arriving at the ruins, after a short ride, the most imposing sight to be seen is a great mound, which is more easily ascended on the South side; here are found the remains of an immense range of steps, 137 feet wide, the treaders of each step measuring 4 feet and 5 inches, with the risers 1 foot and 5 inches, uncomfortable proportions for the present decadent race to use very often, (for, from what we read, the present average Yucatecan does not begin to compare in physique with his early forbears) the whole forming an approach that must have been equal in grandeur to any that ever existed in the country. On the ascent being made, a platform 225 feet long by 50 feet broad is found, upon which thirty six columns, or shafts, or pillars, 14 to 16 feet high by 4 feet square, are erected, these are in three rows of twelve each, and which rows are about ten feet apart, running North to South, and about fifteen feet apart, from East to West. The columns are composed of stones from one to two feet thick each, comparatively very few of which have fallen, although some of the pillars certainly have lost various courses.

Subsequently to Stephens observing these remains, and bringing them to the notice of the world, would-be-wise ones have presumed that the columns were intended to support a roof, and suggest, in support of their argument, that as there are no traces of such roof, that it must have been composed of wood, or some