

CHICHEN ITZÁ.

It is most fortunate that the two principal ruined groups, Chichen Itzá and Uxmal, both affording splendid fields for archaeological research, are even now accessible to tourists, and in the near future, when means of communication are improved, the different trips will be made with little fatigue, and still less hardship than is experienced at the present moment.

Chichen Itzá, meaning in the ancient Maya language 'The City of the Sacred Well,' is said to be in many respects the finest and most interesting of the two.

To get to this place which contains the only group of ruins in its immediate neighbourhood, all the others to which we refer being in other and different directions, we take the train, at present leaving the San Cristobal Station, the Merida terminus of the Eastern or Valladolid Branch of the United Railways of Yucatan; at half past six in the morning.

It is naturally supposed that you have called upon Mr. Andres Solis Camara, the Curator of all the ruins belonging to the State of Yucatan, whose residence is at N° 553, 59th Street, and obtained from him the necessary permits to explore the ruins, without which inconvenience or annoyance is likely to be experienced.

Take your railway tickets to the Station of Titas, more correctly pronounced Tcitas, a distance of one hundred and forty two kilometres, or about ninety miles, where a volan, a conveyance peculiar to the country, and liable to remain such, drawn by a team of mules, can be hired to take you to your destination, or perhaps preferably a saddle animal could be substituted. The road, certainly at the present writing, is not the best in the world, but it nevertheless has advantages, as any one troubled with a sluggish or torpid liver decidedly derives benefit from the trip. In about four