

QUINTANA ROO.

The following notes applying to what was formerly the Eastern part of the State of Yucatan, but recently created the Territory of Quintana Roo, have been compiled exclusively from various authentic sources, and consequently no personal responsibility can be assumed for the various potent statements offered. The foundation of the whole was prompted by an article that appeared in the principal Merida paper, "La Revista de Merida," of the 29th of May 1908, the notes therefore, in their entirety being distinctly under the circumstances original, will it is hoped, be read with interest.

For upwards of half a century, a war of caste, that is between the Indians and all others, having broken out, the vast tract in question has been a scene of disturbance, towns and cities having been sacked, and many of the inhabitants having had to seek refuge elsewhere, it is stated that in a few months over two hundred towns and villages were destroyed by the Indians, who left death and desolation in their wake.

The country although possessing many good attributes, has on account of opposing elements been thoroughly neglected, no attempt has been made to improve the many objectionable features, or take advantage of the natural and desirable characteristics that are only too abundantly found to exist in almost the whole area. In the first instance not a road, in the modern acceptation of the term, is to be found upon the wide expanse, and no real or practical inducement is offered to would be, and greatly desired colonists, to take up land and become interested in the locality. Nearly the whole territory is covered by a virgin and almost impenetrable growth of tropical vegetation, in all stages of luxuriance and dimensions, rendering the neighbourhood highly unhealthy, besides also giving