US-Mexico relations in retrospect

Editor's note: The relationship between the United States and our neighbor to the south, Mexico, has often not been one of mutual understanding and cooperation, including the last century's border disputes and today's immigration and old issues. Of late, however, most Americans and Mexican students now see little or nothing of our southern neighbor. While this lack of attention, a knowledgeable MIT student, provoked to consider the consequences of the relationship between the two nations, printed as a guest column in The Tech of March 8, 1882.

Perhaps few readers were aware of the recent difficulties between Mexico and Guatemala, and the position of the United States as a mediator between the two republics, but this should not prevent interest in the readers of The Tech. The history of Mexico is almost entirely unknown to the great majority of the American people; indeed, Americans are much better acquainted with the history and customs of nations beyond the seas than with those of their next-door neighbor and sister republic.

The most general knowledge of Mexico up to quite recent times was acquired at the age of 6. Somewhere, way down in equatorial regions, where the palms, the olive, and the orange trees grow in abundance, and where the sun ever shines, there is a country inhabited by a people who are always engaged in cutting each other's throats, and those of the unfortunate foreigners who chance or dare to wander that way. Others of a romantic nature, would substitute: There is a country inhabited by dark-eyed maidens, and men who ever wrap up in their serapes and under their wide-brimmed sombreros. Others, who had more pretensions to historical lore, would assert that there was once a man by the name of Santa Ana, who was ever engaged in promiscuity, and who had a woodens leg.

On the other hand, a common

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