

OLD GOA THE GOLDEN

ITS SITE IS NOW ONLY A VAST AND GRASSY TOMB.

The Once Splendid Portuguese City In India a Magnificent Wilderness. Its Masterpiece of Art the Tomb of St. Francis Xavier.

It was said that during the prosperous times of the Portuguese in India you could not have seen a piece of iron in any merchant's house, but all gold and silver. They coined immense quantities of the precious metals and used to make pieces of workmanship in them for exportation.

But then at last came the inquisition, which celebrated its terrible and deadly rites with more fervor and vehemence at Goa than in any other place. Religious persecution, pestilence and wars with the Dutch, disturbances arising from an unsettled government, and above all, the slow but sure workings of the shortsighted policy of the Portuguese in intermarrying and identifying themselves with the Hindoos of the lowest caste, made her fall as rapid as her rise was sudden and prodigious.

In less than a century and a half after Da Gama had landed on the Indian shore the splendor of Goa had departed forever. The inhabitants fled before the deadly fever which soon fastened upon the devoted precincts of the city, and in 1758 the viceroy transferred his headquarters from the ancient capital to Parjina, about eight miles distant. Soon afterward the religious orders were expelled, leaving their magnificent convents and churches all but utterly deserted, and the inquisition was suppressed upon the recommendation of the British government.

The place is now a grassy wilderness. But still the firm and well built causeways of this olden city and its moldering splendors are reminiscent of echoing pageants and the tramp of armies which once sounded there. As we tread the ancient wharf, a long, broad road, lined with a double row of trees and faced with stone, a more suggestive scene of desolation can hardly be conceived. Everything around teems with melancholy associations, the very rustlings of the trees and murmur of the waves sound like a dirge for the departed grandeur of a city.

Towering above a mass of ruins a solitary gateway flanks the entrance to the Strada Diretta, the Straight street, so called because almost all the streets in old Goa are laid out in curvilinear form. It was through this portal surmounted by the figures of St. Catherine and Vasco da Gama that the newly appointed viceroys of Goa passed in triumphal procession to the palace.

Beyond the gate a level road, once a populous thoroughfare, leads to the Terra di Sabalo, a large square fronting the Primacial, or Cathedral of St. Catherine, who became the patron saint of Goa when the place was captured by Albuquerque on the day of her festival. Groves of cocoanut palms and mango trees now incumber the ground once covered by troops of horse. The wealth, the busy life and the luxury of the old place are dead. Kites and cobras infest the crumbling halls which once resounded with the banquet and the dance, and naught but a few old monks and nuns keeps vigil amid its desolation today.

But Goa possesses one treasure of great interest. This is the tomb of Francis Xavier, the great Jesuit missionary to the east. It is to be found in the Church of Bon Jesus. It is a masterpiece of art which is lost to all but the casual visitors to old Goa. Some have ventured to suggest that no other mausoleum in India or even in Asia except the Taj Mahal can equal it. It is built of rich marble of variegated colors. The lowest stage is of red and purple jasper and Carrara alabaster adorned with statuettes and cherubs. The middle stage is of green and yellow jasper decorated with beautiful bronze plates representing incidents in the life of the saint. The highest of the three stages is surrounded by a lovely railing of red jasper marked with white spots, the adornments being figures of angels, while its middle portion is graced with columns elegantly carved, whose intervening spaces are surmounted by arches showing further incidents in the life of the saint. The friezes of the four lateral columns are of black stone and the plinths of yellow jasper. Surmounting this last stage lies the coffin overlaid with silver, a gorgeous receptacle embellished with many exquisite specimens of relief work. Lumps of silver depending around complete the adornment of the shrine. It is a worthy relic of Goa's departed glory.

The bell of the Augustinian convent still rings forth its vesper peal above this old city of ghosts, and it is impossible to forget the effect of the deep, mournful notes as they strike upon the ear. Never was heard a more beautiful or more sadly musical summons than that which calls in vain from the tower of the Augustinians to the forsaken and solitary city.

It is all summed up in the eloquent apostrophe of Sherer: "Goa the golden exists no more; Goa, where the aged Da Gama closed his glorious life; Goa, where the immortal Camoens sang and suffered. It is now but a vast and grassy tomb, and it seems as if its thin and gloomy population of priests and friars were only spared to chant requiems for its departed souls."—St. James Gazette.

Altogether. "How many are there in your family?" "Seven altogether, but we're scattered all over the United States."—Baltimore American.

Why has no religion this command before all others, Thou shalt work?—American.

BUDS AND FLOWERS OF HOME LIFE.

Paine's Celery Compound Makes and Keeps the Children Well and Strong.

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The children, God bless them, are the buds and flowers of our homes. Without their prattle and hearty laughter, our homes would be desolate. They should ever be carefully tended in childhood and youth, if we expect them to ripen into perfect men and women.

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I WILL apply to the Judge of Probate of Sumter County, S. C., on February 14th, 1903, for a final Discharge as Executor of aforesaid Estate.

W. G. S. SEYMOUR, Executor. Jan 14-4t

Intellect and Hair. "From the color of a man's hair may be learned a good deal in regard to his intellectual ability," says a professor of the University of Lille who has for some months been closely studying the subject. Schoolboys with chestnut hair, he maintains, are likely to be more clever than any other and will generally be found at the head of the class, and in like manner girls with fair hair are likely to be far more studious and bright than girls with dark hair. In mathematics and recitation these boys and girls, he claims, specially excel. On the other hand, he says that boys and girls with brown hair are most likely to attain distinction through their individuality and style and that those with red or auburn hair do not often excel in any respect.

The Eyes and the Temper. There are experts on the eyes who hold stoutly to the theory that troubles in vision often cause serious lapses from a well ordered life among children and that disobedience, ill temper, cruelty, wanton destructiveness and hysterics are frequently due among youngsters to aberrations and to ailments which affect the sense of sight. Such a theory may appear to be carried so far as to be almost a fad, yet there may be something in it.

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Condensed Schedule. TRAINS GOING SOUTH. Dated May 25 '02. Table with columns for No 55, No 35, No 51 and rows for Leave Wilmington, Leave Marion, Arrive Florence, Leave Florence, Arrive Sumter, Leave Sumter, Arrive Columbia.

TRAINS GOING NORTH.

Table with columns for No 54, No 53, No 50 and rows for Leave Columbia, Arrive Sumter, Leave Sumter, Arrive Florence, Leave Florence, Arrive Marion, Arrive Wilmington.

Northwestern Railroad.

TIME TABLE NO. 2. In effect Sunday, May 25, 1902, at 6 a m Between Wilson's Mill and Sumter.

Table with columns for No 73, STATIONS, No 72 and rows for Sumter, Summertown Junction, Tindal, Packsville, Silver, Millard, Summertown, Davis, Jordan, Wilson's Mill.

Between Millard and St Paul. Table with columns for No 75, STATIONS, No 74 and rows for Millard, St Paul.

Between Sumter and Camden. Southbound Trains. Northbound Trains. Table with columns for No 69, STATIONS, No 70 and rows for Sumter, N W Junction, Dalzell, Borden, Remberts, Elterbee, Sou Ry. Junction, Camden.

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Table with columns for Dated, No., No., No. and rows for Florence, Singtree, Lees, Lees, Florence.

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