

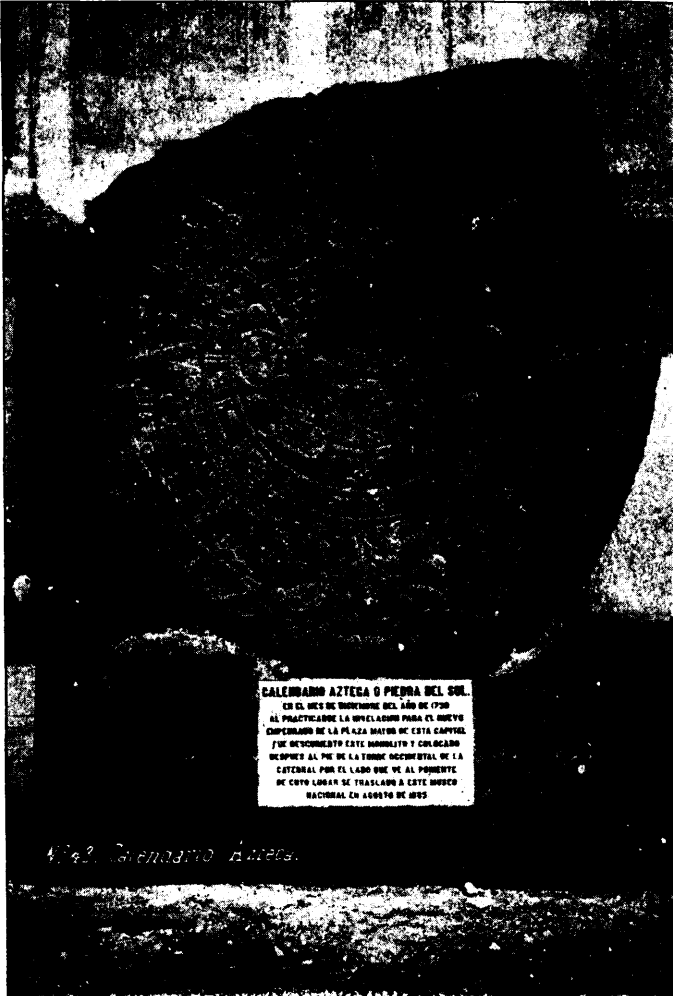
lake some "calendar stone" or "Indio triste" is exhumed by the work of some modern engineer.

This ancient city, then, must be for us, as it ever has been for others, the centre of greatest interest. But before dealing with it in detail we must for

bounded by the Pacific on the west and the Gulf of Mexico on the east. Though not more than 700 miles in width on the north, and though narrowing to 116 miles at its southern border, Mexico extends for many hundred miles north and south between

the parallels 14° to 30° N. It is, however, only one-fifth the area of Canada or of the United States, but is six times as large as Great Britain, while its importance may, to some extent, be measured when we know that it has more than 11,000,000 of people.

Its physical features, are, moreover, very unusual. With a coastline mostly level, bordered by many islands, and indented by many *lagunas* or bays, it nevertheless must be looked upon as a mountainous country. the land sloping upward from either sea till mountain ranges are reached, rising in peaks having in some instances a height of more than 17,000 feet. These mountains form two



AZTEC CALENDAR.

a moment take a glance at the country of which this old city is the capital. All are familiar with the comparatively narrow strip of land lying south of the Rio Grande, the great river of Texas, which land runs southward, shaped as a cornucopia, and is

ranges, a division of the Cordilleras of Central America, which run northward, and are known as the Sierra Madre Oriental and the Sierra Madre Occidental. These, again, are broken up and receive different names, such as the mighty Sierra Nevada, lying