

## PANAMA—ASPINWALL HOTEL—HOTEL CHARGES.

We had telegraphed for beds at the Aspinwall Hotel, and found at the station an omnibus ready to convey our whole party to the town. The vehicle was good enough, but the mules and the road were alike in sorry condition. The bedrooms in the hotel were good, looking out upon verandahs, where a cool breath could be sometimes got in this fiery furnace. There was also a large and cool saloon for sitting in; but the eating-rooms were close and dirty. No meals are sent up to the sitting-rooms; it is customary for all to go down between certain hours and have the meals—from eight to eleven for breakfast, from three to six for dinner; luncheon, ice, wine, &c., extra. We stayed four days, and for my party of seven, including omnibus and taking to and fro of luggage to the station, I had to pay \$106 (21*l.*). We were all heartily glad to get away on shipboard once more.

## THE TOWN OF PANAMA—RAMPARTS—DRIVE.

Panama is an old Spanish town, situated in lat. 8° 56' N., long. 79° 31' W.; has 10,000 inhabitants. Several beautiful islands are to the north-west, in the fine roadstead. The old town, six miles south-east, was destroyed, in 1661, by Sir Harry Morgan. The cathedral has a handsome façade, with two western towers; the style is Italian. There are several other churches, all more or less dilapidated. The east end of the cathedral has no window, but the usual figures; it resembles very much the interior of a Chinese joss-house. Round the town are ramparts, which are strongly built; these are altogether out of repair. We had a charming evening walk upon them, and looked upon the placid waters of the Pacific, beneath the cool shade of night, and by the light of the moon.

*Friday, February 10.*—Mr. Henderson, the British Consul, took my wife and myself to-day a delightful drive. No one stirs out till five o'clock; dining generally at four o'clock, and spending the evening in going out for drives, and in visiting. Mrs. Henderson accompanied her husband, and we went to the plains, about three or four miles out of the town, and drove upon the grassy slopes, amid park-like scenery and herds of cattle, which reminded one of the Alderney breed.

*Saturday, February 11.*—Our kind friend Mr. Henderson invited us to dine with him and his amiable wife to-day. We met several Americans, who were pleasant; and, as next day was Sunday, we practised the hymns and psalms. The singing and music are conducted by Mrs. Henderson, Miss Goddard, and Mr. Corwine,—the two latter American. Mrs. Henderson afterwards charmed us with some exquisite singing, in which she greatly excels.

## JUSTICE IN PANAMA.

Nothing can exceed the corrupt condition of the Government in the Republic of New Granada; it is in the hands of the lowest of the people. The old Spanish stock have been gradually put aside, and those of Indian and Negro race have come into power. A case occurred this day in the courts which may serve for illustration. A boy had