



Alone
in
Mexico

The Astonishing Travels of
Karl Heller, 1845–1848

Karl Bartolomeus Heller
Translated and edited by Terry Rugeley

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Chronology

1824

November 20 Karl Bartolomeus Heller is born

1845

August 9 Heller departs from Vienna

August 10 Reaches England

October 11 Reaches Madeira

October 25 Reaches Barbados

October 30 Reaches Jacmel, Haiti

c. October 31 Reaches Jamaica

November 9 Reaches Cuba

c. November 14 Reaches Veracruz, Mexico

November 16 Reaches Mirador

November 30 Begins life in his hut

December 9 Trip to Tiger's Cave

December 15 Trip to San Bartolo

December 25 Christmas in Mirador

1846

January 5 Earthquake in Mirador

January 18 Departs for Huatusco

February 15 Trip to El Fortín

February 23 Trip to Los Baños

March 12 Returns to Huatusco

March 23 Departs Huatusco for Orizaba

March 25 Climbs Orizaba

March 28 Returns to Huatusco

April 27 Journey to Pueblo Viejo

mid-May Returns to Huatusco

May 20 All Mexican ports blockaded by U.S. Navy

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June 5	Maritime trade closed off
July 2	Heller departs for Orizaba, reaches Acatzingo
c. July 7	Reaches Puebla
July 11	Departs from Puebla, reaches Mexico City
July 30	Departs from Mexico City; passes evening in Lerma
July 31	Reaches Toluca
August 10	Departs for volcano Toluca
August 12	Reaches volcano
August 14	Returns, passes evening at hacienda Cocustepec
August 27	Departs for south of Toluca; passes evening in Tenancingo
September 5	Departs for Zacualpan; reaches Los Arcos mine
September 10	Departs Los Arcos to visit other mines
September 14	Visits La Golondrina mine
September 16	Departs Zacualpan for Toluca
September 18	Reaches Toluca
September 21	Departs for Mexico City
October 5	Returns to Toluca
October 15	Departs from Toluca
October 16	Reaches Mexico City
October 18	Departs from Mexico City; reaches Perote
October 23	Departs from Perote; reaches Zacuapan
October 29	Departs from Zacuapan; reaches Veracruz port
November 2	Departs from Veracruz port
November 3	Reaches Alvarado
c. November 8	Sets sail for Campeche
November 13	Reaches Campeche
November 14	Comes ashore in Campeche
December 25	Christmas in Campeche

1847

January 21	Departs for Champotón
January 26	Begins travel up Champotón River
January 28	Begins return journey
February 2	Sets sail from Champotón to Campeche
February 14	News of the wreck of the <i>Tweed</i>
April 2	Holy Week in Campeche
April 4	Departs for Uxmal
April 10	Returns to Campeche
May 22	Departs for Mérida; arrives the following day
June 14	Returns to Campeche

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July 1	Departs for hacienda Chivic, visits dyewood forests
July 6	Returns to Campeche
September 5	Receives instructions from Europe, with half his stipend
September 14	Fiesta of San Román; Mexico City falls to U.S. forces
November 3	Sets sail for Tabasco
c. November 11	Sets sail upriver into Tabascan interior
November 20	Departs Villahermosa
c. November 22	Reaches Teapa
December 25	Christmas in Teapa

1848

January 16	Visits Cueva del Tigre
January 21	Departs for Chiapas
February 21	Travels in Pichucalco area
March 5	Reaches Pichucalco
April 19	Easter in Teapa
May 15	Departs Teapa for Tabascan coast
June 6	Boards <i>Arietes</i> in Frontera
June 19	Reaches Havana, Cuba
July 6	Boards <i>Lyre</i> for the United States
August 5	Leaves New York for Europe
September 4	Reaches Vienna

1857

Heller joins faculty of Theresianum Academy

1864

Heller's son Karl Maria is born

1880

Karl Bartolomeus Heller dies in Vienna