

APENDICE VI.

Nota dirigida á los Hon. Señores Janssen y Davidson,
Presidentes de las Comisiones Francesa y Americana

Yokohama, Noviembre 26 de 1874.

Mi estimado Señor:

Tengo la honra de participar á vd. que nombrado por el Gobierno de mi país para observar en el Asia el tránsito de Vénus, he llegado á esta ciudad con los Señores Ingenieros que componen la Comision de mi cargo, y he establecido en sus inmediaciones dos Observatorios temporales.

En ellos me propongo hacer la observacion del interesante fenómeno que va á tener lugar, así como las necesarias para determinar exactamente la posicion geográfica de las mismas estaciones si es que se logra, como espero, la diferencia de longitud entre mi estacion y la de vd. ó la de la Comision (americana francesa) que se halla en esa ciudad, pues no dudo que ambas determinarán, ó acaso habrán ya determinado, la diferencia de sus respectivos meridianos. Si, pues, una ú otra de las dos Comisiones se sirve acceder á la ejecucion de este trabajo, que indudablemente contribuirá á la comprobacion de todas las observaciones, espero que tendrán la bondad de indicármelo en respuesta, con el fin de operar de comun acuerdo.

Al mismo tiempo tengo la satisfaccion de enviar á vd. ejemplares de algunas obras mias sobre asuntos matemáticos y astronómicos, que suplico á vd. tenga la bondad de aceptar, esperando que me hará la honra de ensayar en su Observatorio el nuevo procedimiento para medir la latitud que he publicado en esta ciudad.

Soy, Señor, con la mayor consideracion, su atento servidor.

(Firmado) F. DIAZ C.

Al Hon. Sr. (Janssen Davidson) Presidente de la Comision Astronómica (francesa americana) en el Japon.—Nagasaki.

APENDICE VII.

Nota del profesor Davidson en respuesta á la anterior.

U. S. TRANSIT OF VENUS STATION.

Nagasaki, Japan, Dic. 4.—1874.

F. Diaz Covarrubias, Chief of Mexican Transit of Venus party, Yokohama, Japan.

Dear Sir:

I must answer your two letters from recollection of contents, as I left my station to day.

After the Transit of Venus, I have arranged to determine the difference of longitude by telegraph between my telegraph observatory here and Tokei, via Yokohama; for which purpose my first and second assistant astronomers will leave here on the 13.th

As our clock signals will pass through the Yokohama office and through your observatory if you have connection therewith, I am ready to assist you by allowing a relay on the main line in your observatory to make its register

on your chronograph; or if you have no chronograph, you can compare your chronometer with the clock telegraph beats. Our beats are made every second, except at the commencement of each minute, when 0 second beat is not made. After our work is reduced I will furnish you the clock correction. Our longitude will connect with Europe, via Wladivostok, which I have already finished in conjunction with Prof. Hall.

In return for the proposed facilities, I ask that you give me your comparisons with my clock signals and the correction to your chronometer for each epoch.

I will authorize Mr. O. H. Tiltmann, the first assistant astronomer of this party, to communicate freely with you when he commences work at Tokei, where I expect him to arrive about Dec. 10.th

I thank you kindly for the volumes on astronomical and geodetic subjects which you have sent me. I send you a pamphlet of star factors received by last mail.

On the subject of Transit of Venus, can you aid me, when you return to Mexico, to ascertain the location of the station occupied by Velazquez in 1769 at Santa Ana, lower California. I was at San José del Cabo about two years ago, and recovered Mr. Chappe de L'Auteroche's station, and determined its latitude and longitude; but of even the general locality of Velazquez I could gather no information.

The office at Madrid afforded no clue, and the few scattering remarks which I have found about it, are very indefinite. (*)

On the Pacific Coast, my address is San Francisco, California.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant

(Firmado) GEORGE DAVIDSON,

U. S. Coast Survey in charge Pacific Coast,
Chief Transit of Venus party.

APENDICE VIII.

Telégramas y comunicaciones de S. E. Mr. Bingham, Ministro de los Estados Unidos.

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPHS.

Tsekidgi, Nov, 21—1874.

From John A. Bingham to Francisco Diaz Covarrubias Esq. Mexican Commissioner.—Oriental Hotel, Yokohama.

With your associates please come by 12 o'clock on monday, and much wish me answer.

Yokohama, Nov. 22—1874.

F. Diaz Covarrubias to Hon. John A. Bingham, Minister of the U. S. of America in Japan.—Tokio.

I will have the honor of being exact to your invitation with my associates.

(*) Tan pronto como llegué á Europa, trascribí los dos últimos párrafos de esta nota á la Sociedad Mexicana de Geografía y Estadística, juzgando que en la numerosa coleccion de documentos que posee podria acaso hallar los que desea el Profesor Davidson; pero hasta hoy no he recibido respuesta alguna, lo cual me hace creer que nada ha podido hallar acerca de la localidad en que observó nuestro ilustre compatriota Velazquez en 1769, pues no es presumible que aquella Asociacion haya podido ver con indiferencia un asunto que interesa á una de las glorias científicas nacionales. Me propongo dirigirme al Sr. D. Joaquin Velazquez de Leon, sobrino de nuestro astrónomo, con el fin de ver si algun documento conserva su familia relativo al lugar de aquella estacion.

UNITED STATES LEGATION.

Tokai, 20 November, 1874.

Francisco Diaz Covarrubias, Esq. &c., &c., &c.—Yokohama.

Sir:

I have the honor and pleasure to hand you herewith a copy of the official letter of His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, granting the request made by you through me to locate a station from which to observe the Transit of Venus, and to connect the same by telegraph line with the nearest Japanese telegraphic office.

Please inform me of the place selected by you for the observatory.

I have also the pleasure to inform you that His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs expressed to me his desire to see you and your associates on Monday next, on which day I shall be pleased to present you, should it suit your convenience.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

(Firmado)

JOHN A. BINGHAM.

COPY.—TRANSLATION.

N.º 100. Foreign Office, Tokio, the 19th, the 11th month, the 7th year of Meiji.

(November 19—1874.)

To H. E. John A. Bingham, &c., &c., &c.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 14th inst. informing me of the arrival of Mexican Commissioners to observe the Transit of Venus, and of their wish to be permitted to locate a station at a favorable place for the observation and to erect a telegraph line to connect it with the nearest telegraphic office.

The present observation being very important to the advancement of the Science of Astronomy, I have the honor in reply to comply with your request, of which I will notify the proper authorities.

I beg leave to request you to inform me of the locality where the station is to be located.

With great respect.

(Signed)

TERASHIMA MUNENORI.

H. I. J. M. Minister for Foreign Affairs.

APENDICE IX.

Notas cambiadas entre S. E. el Ministro de la Educacion y el Presidente de la Comision Mexicana acerca de Mr. Scharbau.

* NOMBUSHO.

Nov. 27th—7th year Meiji.

To Mexican Astronomical Party of Venus Expedition.

Gentlemen:

I beg leave to write to you that Mr. Henry Scharbau, English, the employee of the Bureau of Surveying on the Department of the Interior of our country, having been appointed by the same Department to make observations of the Transit of Venus, you are respectfully requested to give your kind advices, in case he consults with you concerning the above subject.

Very respectfully yours.

(Firmado)

F. TANAKA.

Assistant Minister of Education.

Yokohama, Dec. 1st—1874.

Sir:

I received yesterday the letter of Your Excellency informing me that Mr. Scharbau, English employee in the Bureau of Surveying, has been appointed by the Department of the Interior to make the observation of the transit of Venus, and requesting me to give to that gentleman my advices in the case he consults with me about that subject.

In reply, I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that I am ready to do all that is in my power to cooperate to the success of Mr. Scharbau's observations; and that I have given him my opinion about the construction of the temporary building he proposes to erect at Tokio with that purpose, and about the instruments he wishes to employ.

At the request of the same gentleman, I will probably go to Tokio on next thursday to see the astronomical instruments belonging to the Government, and I have also invited Mr. Scharbau to examine the two Stations which I have established at this place.

Very respectfully, I am Your Excellency's servant.

(Firmado)

F. DIAZ C.

Assistant Minister of Public Works in Mexico and President of the Mexican Astronomical Expedition to Japan.

To His Excellency F. Tanaka, Assistant Minister in charge of the Department of Education.

APENDICE X.

Notas cambiadas entre S. E. el Ministro de los E. U. en el Japon y el Presidente de la Comision Mexicana, respecto de los practicantes japoneses.

UNITED STATES LEGATION.

Tokai, December 1,—1874.

Francisco Diaz Covarrubias, Esq.—Yokohama.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith for your information, a copy of a communication addressed to me by H. E. Terashima Munenori, H. I. J. M. Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which you will observe that it is said that the Navy Department of the Japanese Government desire that M. M. Yoshida and Yamasaki, officials of the Navy Department, and Mr. Takano, a student of the Naval Academy, may be permitted to join your party of observation, and may become acquainted with your methods of observing the Transit of Venus.

The expression of your wishes to the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the occasion of your presentation by me to His Excellency, assures me that this will be a pleasure to you.

Any reply you may be pleased to make, I shall take pleasure in transmitting to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

(Firmado)

JOHN A. BINGHAM.

COPY.—TRANSLATION.

Nº 101. Foreign Office, Tokio, the 30th, the 11th month, the 7th year of Meiji.

Your Excellency:

I have the honor to advise you that it being understood that the Mexican

Commissioners for the observation of the Transit of Venus have selected a place in Yokohama for making their observations, our Navy Department sent a communication to this office, expressing its great desire that M. M. Yoshida and Yamasaki, officials of the Navy Department, and Takano, a student in the Navy Academy, may enjoy the advantage of joining their party, in order that they may receive information and become acquainted with the methods of making observations & and, I beg that you will oblige me by informing Mr. Francisco Diaz Covarrubias, Chief of the Transit of Venus Expedition, of the purpose of this letter.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the expressions of my highest consideration.

(Signed.) TERASHIMA MUNENORI,
H. I. J. M. Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Yokohama, Dec 2nd 1874.

Hon John A. Bingham Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America in Japan.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter informing me that H. E. Terashima Munenori, H. I. J. M. Minister for Foreign Affairs, addressed to you a communication in which it is expressed that the Navy Department of the Japanese Government desires that M. M. Yoshida and Yamasaki, officials of the Navy Department, and Mr. Takano, a student of the Naval Academy, may be permitted to join my party of observation, and may become acquainted with my methods of observing the transit of Venus.

In answer, I have the honor to inform you that I will do every thing that is in my power, with the view of showing to the gentlemen appointed by the Government of H. I. J. M. to join my party, my methods of observation, and of giving them any information relating the same subject.

I respectfully request you to make my reply known to H. E. Terashima Munenori, H. I. J. M. Minister for Foreign Affairs, and I profit with the greatest pleasure this opportunity of expressing to you my highest consideration.

(Firmado.) F. DIAZ C.

APENDICE XI.

Notas cambiadas entre S. E. el Gobernador de Kanagawa y el Presidente de la Comision Mexicana, acerca de Mr. Joyner.

TRASLATION.

Kanagawa Kencho. December 2nd 1874.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that I have received instructions from the Central Government that the Survey Department intend sending Mr.

Joyner, an Englishman in their employ, to call on you at your Observatory for the Transit of Venus.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

(Signed) NAKASHIMA NOBUYUKI.
Kanagawa Ken no Kami.

Don Francisco Diaz Covarrubias. President of the Mexican Scientific Mission &, &, &.

Nogae-no-yama Station, Dec 2nd 1874.

Sir,

I have just received the letter of Your Excellency informing me that, according to the instructions from the Central Government, the Survey Department intended to send Mr. Joyner, an Englishman in their employ, to call at my Observatory for the transit of Venus.

I have the honor to tell Your Excellency in reply, that I will be very happy of receiving Mr. Joyner in my Observatory, and of giving him all the informations he may desire about the observation of the transit.

I am, Sir, Your Excellency's obedient servant

(Firmado) F. DIAZ C.
President of the Mexican Astronomical Expedition.

To H. E. Nakashima Nobuyuki, Governor of Kanagawa.

APENDICE XII.

Nota de S. E. el Ministro de la Educacion respecto del practicante Sr. Rioge Koé.

Membusho. Tokio, Nippon, Dec 4, 7th year Meiji.

Sir,

I have the honor to introduce to Your Excellency the bearer of the letter Rioge Koe, an officer of this Department, sent out for the purpose of acquainting himself with Your Excellency's processes of observing the Transit of Venus, according to our request made by Renichi Kuki a few days ago.

Requesting Your Excellency will give kind advises and directions to him in the case he needs about that subject,

With respect

(Firmado.) F. TANAKA.
Acting Minister of the Department of Education.

To His Excellency F. Diaz C., Assistant Minister of Public Works in Mexico and President of the Mexican Astronomical Expedition to Japan.