

Art. 14th. The International Commissions of Inquiry are constituted by special agreement. The agreement defines the facts to be examined, an the extent of the Commissioner's powers, and settles the procedure to which they must limit themselves. On the inquiry both sides shall be heard, and the form and periods to be observed, if not stipulated by the agreement, shall be determined by the Commission itself.

Art. 15th. The International Commissions of Inquiry are constituted, unless otherwise stipulated, in the same manner as the Tribunal of Arbitration.

Art. 16th. The Powers in dispute engage to supply the International Commission of Inquiry, as fully as they may deem possible, with all means and facilities necessary to enable it to be completely acquainted with an to accurately understand the facts in question.

Art. 17th. The above mentioned Commissions shall limit themselves to ascertain the truth of the facts alleged, without entering into any other appreciations than those merely technical.

Art. 18th. The International Commission of Inquiry shall present its report to the Powers which have constituted it, signed by all its members. This report, limited to the investigation of facts, has in no manner the character of an arbitral award, and it leaves the contending parties at liberty to give it the value they may deem proper.

Art. 19th. The constitution of Commissions of Inquiry may be included in the Arbitration Bonds, as a previous proceeding, to the end of determining the facts which are to be the subject of the Inquiry.

Art. 20th. The present Treaty does not abrogate any previous existing ones, between two or more of the Contracting Parties, in so far as they give greater extension to Compulsory Arbitration. Neither does it alter the stipulations regarding Arbitration, relating to specific questions which have already arisen, nor the course of arbitration proceedings which may be pending by reason of the same.

Art. 21st. Without the necessity of exchanging ratifications, this Treaty shall take effect so soon as three States, at least, of those signing it, express their approval to the Government of the United States of

Mexico, which shall communicate it to the other Governments.

Art. 22nd. The nations which do not sign the present Treaty, may adhere to it at any time. If any of the signatory nations should desire to free itself from its obligations, it shall denounce the Treaty, but such denouncement shall not produce any effect except with respect to the nation which may denounce it, and only one year after the notification of the same has been made.

Whenever the denouncing nation shall have any arbitration negotiations pending at the expiration of the year, the denouncement shall not have any effect with reference to the case not yet decided.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS.

I. This Treaty shall be ratified as soon as possible.

II. The ratifications shall be forwarded to the Department for Foreign Relations of Mexico, where they shall be deposited.

III. The Mexican Government shall send a certified copy of each of them to the other Contracting Governments.

In virtue whereof they have signed the present Treaty and have attached their respective seals thereto.

Made in the City of Mexico, on the twenty-ninth day of January one thousand nine hundred and two, in one single copy, which shall be deposited in the Department for Foreign Relations of the United Mexican States, a certified copy of which shall be sent, through diplomatic channels, to each of the Contracting Governments.

(Signed.) For Argentine Republic, *Antonio Bermejo, Lorenzo Anadon*.—For Bolivia, *Fernando E. Guachalla*.—For Dominique, *Federico Henriquez i Carvajal*.—For Guatemala, *Francisco Orla*.—For Salvador, *Francisco A. Reyes, Baltasar Estupinian*.—For Mexico, *G. Raigosa, Joaquin D. Casaus, Pablo Macedo, E. Pardo, (jr.), Alfredo Chavero, Jose Lopez Portillo y Rojas, F. L. de la Barra, Rosendo Pineda, M. Sanchez Marmol*.—For Paraguay, *Cecilio Baez*.—For Peru, *Manuel Alvarez Calderon, Alberto Elmore*.—For Paraguay, *Juan Cuestas*.

#### NUMBER 21.

### Dictionary of Mr. Rufino J. Cuervo.

SESSION OF JANUARY 30, 1902.

*Secretary Macedo*.—A convention has been received signed by various Delegations for the purpose of recommending to their respective Governments that a subscription be made of 210,000 francs for the complete edition of the Dictionary on the Construction and Regimen of the Castilian Language, by Rufino J. Cuervo. Said convention, which the Chair rules pass to the Secretary of Foreign Relations of Mexico, for the purposes in it expressed, reads as follows:

**PROPOSITION for the purpose that the Governments of the American Republics may subscribe frs. 210,000 for the complete edition of the DICTIONARY OF CONSTRUCTION AND RULES OF THE SPANISH LANGUAGE by Mr. Rufino J. Cuervo.**

The undersigned Delegates, considering:

That the Spanish language, by unanimous accord of the American and European philologists, possess

ses in the *Dictionary of Construction and Rules of the Spanish Language* of the Colombian writer Rufino J. Cuervo, a monument which highly honors the science of America, destined to contribute in a powerful manner to the better knowledge and perfection of the very language itself, that the work has been undertaken and accomplished with admirable ability, erudition and perseverance by an American who has rendered his name illustrious by a great number of the most delicate linguistic works; that notwithstanding the acceptance which the work has met, only the first two volumes have been published, owing to the cost to which the complete edition amounts: that the three remaining volumes which are about to be published, will form, when the work is complete, the most valuable, extensive and methodical lexicographic work of the said language, that the author of the Dictionary offers with pleasure to cede it and to attend without compensation

to the printing of the same, which is extremely laborious;

#### HAVE AGREED:

I. To recommend to their respective Governments to subscribe the amount of frs. 210,000 for the complete edition of 1,200 copies of the *Dictionary of Construction and Rules of the Spanish Language*. The said amount of frs. 210,000, which the edition will cost, according to the statement of the author, shall be distributed among the countries, which accept this agreement, in the following manner: the Republics of Argentine, Colombia, Chili, United States of Mexico, shall contribute the sum of frs. 110,000 in equal parts, that is to say, frs. 22,000 each; the Republics of Bolivia, Costa-Rica, Santo Domingo, Ecuador, Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Uruguay, shall contribute frs. 100,000 also in equal parts, that is frs. 10,000 each.

II. To request the Mexican Government to undertake the realization of this idea, collecting the amount of the subscriptions, furnishing the funds

to the author of the work; and distributing copies of the same among the Governments that have contributed to it.

Therefore, the undersigned Delegates recommend to the Conference to resolve that the present petition be transmitted through its Secretary General, to the Department of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, for the purpose indicated.

Mexico, January 28th., 1902.—(Signed.) *Antonio Bermejo*.—*W. I. Buchanan*.—*Charles M. Pepper*.—*Volney W. Foster*.—*Lorenzo Anadon*.—*Fernando E. Guachalla*, Delegate for Bolivia.—*J. Walker M.*—For Mexico: *Rosendo Pineda*.—*Joaquin D. Casaus*.—*Pablo Macedo*.—*F. L. de la Barra*.—*G. Raigosa*.—*Alfredo Chavero*.—*J. B. Calvo*.—*Juan Cuestas*.—For Nicaragua: *L. F. Carbo*.—*F. Davila*.—*Baltazar Estupinian*.—Delegate for Salvador, *Emilio Bello C.*, Delegate for Chili.—For Colombia: *Rafael Reyes, M. Sanchez Marmol*, Mexican Delegate.—*E. Pardo, jr.*, Delegate for Mexico.—*Cecilio Baez*, Delegate for Paraguay.—*Francisco Orla, Francisco A. Reyes*, Delegate for Salvador.

#### NUMBER 22.

### Geographical Congress in Rio Janeiro.

SESSION OF DECEMBER 30, 1901.

*His Excellency General Reyes, Delegate from Colombia*.—Mr. President: Having to present to the Honorable Conference a labor that by its very nature is somewhat extensive, I have passed to the American Delegation a copy of it in English, in order thus to save time, and to avoid a second reading. The quality of the work has rendered it impossible for me to reduce it more; I have tried to mark those points of general interest for this Assembly, and if in aught this memoria resembles the description of an exploration, I beg the pardon of my colleagues for being unable to present in briefer form this work, as in the map that I have had the honor to submit to the Conference. It states:

**NARRATIVE of the journeys of exploration made by General Reyes and his brothers Nestor and Henry, in some regions of South America.**

Mr. President:

I have the honor to present to the Conference the Charts of the explorations I made, with my brothers Henry and Nestor, during several years, in South America, from the Pacific to the Atlantic, in the immense territories which are watered by the Amazon and its tributaries, and the Parana and its own tributaries.

I confess that, although I have been urged to publish this work by members of the Geographical Societies of London and of Paris and by various other persons interested in Geography, I had not done so, because the disastrous death of my two brothers during these explorations, the elder, Henry, a victim of fever, and the younger, Nestor, devoured by the cannibals of Putumayo, caused me to halt in that enterprise, and the plans and notes have reposed during

a long time among my papers, untouched, through the egotism of my affliction . . . !

To-day, when I have the unmerited honor of belonging to this Conference, in which are represented all the countries of the three Americas, by their most distinguished sons, I believe it becomes an unavoidable duty to give publicity to this work, which interests all the nations herein represented.

If the territories to which I refer presented a few years ago but a local and relative importance, such is not the case to-day, because the development of navigation and of commerce and the growing necessities of humanity demand that they should not remain ignored and unproductive. In the extended forests in which the cannibal savages were wandering when we made these explorations, there exists to-day an important commerce of some tens of millions of dollars and towns of thousands of inhabitants have been established.

Furthermore, the proposed Inter-Continental Railway, a work of great civilizing tendency, in which this Conference manifests so much interest, will give a very great importance to these territories, the ownership of which lies in almost all the countries herein represented, excepting, however, those of North and Central America and Chili.

When I had the honor to visit President Roosevelt while passing through Washington, he stated to me that he knew of the explorations which I had made with my brothers, in South America, and about which the *New York Herald* had written in the month of March of the present year; President Roosevelt encouraged me to give to this Conference an account of the same, and, with the clear vision of a great statesman, he told me:

"That region is a New World destined for the progress and the welfare of humanity."

He offered to recommend to the North American Delegation to interest itself in this matter, and I know that he kept his offer. In the opinion of this well-informed statesman, the explorations made by my brothers and myself are intimately connected with the project of the International Railway.

If that part of South America with which I am dealing, be compared with that part of Africa which was explored by the great Livingstone and by Stanley, the superiority in mineral and vegetable wealth, in agricultural lands, and, above all, in navigable rivers, is in favor of the former. Scarcely a quarter of a century has elapsed since the explorations of those two apostles of progress came to an end, and to-day railroads already traverse those territories which they had to cross a-foot opening routes through the dark forests; flourishing and new settlements spring up as if by magic, and a commerce of very great importance is conducted. Why should not the same take place in South America?

We hold to the conviction that as the construction of the Inter-Continental Railway advances, which is in reality but the connection of the railroads already in actual operation in the different countries, that region will develop with greater force and importance than those explored by Livingstone and Stanley. Humanity is looking for new territories for its progress and welfare; the great masses of population which overflow from North America and Europe will invade South America by means of railroads and steamships; it therefore behooves the Republics which form that part of the Continent to prepare themselves for their reception, and to preserve their integrity and cause it to be respected through peace, liberty and justice.

#### FIRST EXPLORATION FROM PASTO TO THE AMAZON RIVER.

At the risk of abusing the kindness of my distinguished colleagues, I shall give a short sketch of the first explorations which I made in company with my brothers.

We started from the city of Pasto, situated on the summit of the Andes, under the equinoxial line. The immense region which extends from that city for more than 4,000 miles to the Atlantic, was then completely unknown. We traversed a-foot the great mass of the Cordillera of the Andes, which rises more than 12,000 above the level of the sea, up to the region of perpetual snow. Where this ceases there are immense plains, called *paramos*, upon which there grow neither trees nor flowers and where animal life completely disappears. We wandered for a whole month over those cold solitudes, guided only by the compass. They are covered with a fog as dense as that of the high latitudes of the North in winter; there were days in which we had to remain in the same spot in semi-darkness, without being able to advance a single step, the thermometer falling to 10 degrees below zero, a temperature made unbearable by the lack of proper shelter and shoes. We had to use a kind of shoe called *alpargatas*, made out of *henequen* (hemp), which only covered half of the foot; leather shoes cannot be used as those plains are covered with a thick layer of mud in which the traveller, while walking, sinks down to the knee.

After marching for a month through that desert, in which perished, due to the intense cold, two men

of the expedition, of the ten who carried provisions on their backs, we reached the limit of those solitary pampas which appeared like the product of a nature in progress of formation. We were at the Eastern watershed of the Andes. An ocean of light and verdure extended before our eyes, in marked contrast to the shadows and solitudes which we had just traversed, we had before us the abrupt declivity of the Cordillera, which descended in some parts almost vertically, then in slightly inclined slopes, and beyond in perfect levels for miles and miles down to the ocean. Over the granite walls of the Andes the waters precipitate themselves in majestic cataracts, rushing afterwards in torrents through the valleys of the Cordillera, and upon reaching the plain, they convert themselves into broad and beautiful rivers and, like great ribbons of silver on an emerald field, they are lost in the distant horizon. In the forests, the luxuriant tropical flora exhibits itself in all its beauty. The trees appeared peopled with all kinds of varied colors; it was, in a word, life which we had before us, and chaos which we left behind.

We penetrated these unknown forests, opening roads with the machete through brambles and briars and creepers that obstructed our passage. Arriving at the vertical declivities of the Cordillera, in places impassable, we had to descend by the aid of ropes.

For fifteen days we continued our march through these virgin forests, peopled by vipers and wild beasts which fortunately did not cause us any injury. We crossed the torrents over bridges of trees which we threw across them, or forded them a-foot; in crossing one of these mountain torrents, we lost two of the carriers and the expedition was thereby reduced to only six men. After great fatigue, and already exposed to a temperature of 30 degrees Centigrade, we arrived at a river navigable by canoes, on the shores of which lives the tribe of the Mocoas, which Indians, although savages, are hospitable and not cannibals. We remained with this tribe one month during which we procured from them a canoe to continue our expedition to the Amazon river, and six Indians who were to accompany us on our trip. They were familiar with only six hundred miles of down stream and they informed us that from there they had never gone beyond because those who had dared before to proceed further, had been devoured by the cannibal tribes, which inhabit the other half of the river down to the Amazon.

We launched our canoe following the course of this unknown river, to which we gave the name by which it was known to the savages «Putumayo» (meaning «clear water» in the Siona dialect.) After two days of navigation we arrived at a point which we baptized with the name of «La Sofia» that of my wife, where the river is six feet deep at all times, and which is the terminus of steamboat navigation.

In venturing upon that expedition, so full of perils of all imaginable kind, I desired, and please pardon this digression of a purely personal character, to consecrate with a name so very dear to my affections, that point of a new departure towards the great mystery of American Nature. I chose this name as a precious talisman for our struggle with an unknown and savage world. The pure sentiments of the soul have always been the best armor for man in the battles of life.

It took us a month from La Sofia to reach the last

point known by the savages of Mocoa, a distance of 600 miles. Through all this territory, the river is navigable for steamers of five foot draft, without encountering any obstacle; its shores are covered with dense forests, in which there abound the caucho, or «Jeve», cocoa, sarsaparilla, vegetable ivory or «tagua», ipecacuanha, many other medicinal plants and a variety of fine woods. We visited the nomadic tribes, which treated us with benevolence and even generosity, making us presents of smoked provisions, the product of hunting and fishing, which constitute their principal occupation.

These tribes are the Cosacuntis, Montepas, Tohalla and the Inquisilla, all finely built men and in constant migration in the search of game and fish. They have but few huts of straw, they cultivate small plantations of bananas and yucca, in the clearings made in the woods, felling the trees with stone axes and then burning them. They go almost naked, and each tribe preserves the most absolute autonomy with respect to the others. The dialect which they speak is a mixture of Siona and Quipchua. They have no religion other than the worship of the evil spirits, with which their priests, or Payes pretend to be in communication, for which purpose they intoxicate themselves with the juice of a narcotic plant called by them Yoco. It is always necessary to be on good terms with the Payes or priests, whose influence over their companions. The number of individuals of which the said tribes are composed, according to the information we gathered, is about 20,000.

We entered now upon the region inhabited by cannibal Indians. The first tribe which we encountered were the powerful and warlike Mirañas. Our companions, the Indians of Mocoa, notified us categorically that from that place on they would not go any further and that we had to procure a canoe and oarsmen from that tribe, because they were going to return. We did so, we landed and with an interpreter we went to the first settlement. We found in it its powerful chief «Chua» or «tiger», a handsome young man of fine and athletic frame, some 30 years of age; he received us as friends and gave us his hand, which is an unequivocal sign of friendship among these savages and invited us to enter his hut. I was the first white man whom those savages had seen, and for that reason I was the object of their child-like curiosity. They were celebrating a feast of the full moon and offered us their dishes of human flesh, of Indians called Huitotes, the enemies of the Mirañas, who had been made prisoners.

Through the interpreter we asked Chua—who from that date on was our friend and always remained faithful, carrying his affection so far as to take my name, calling himself thenceforward Rafael Chua,—to give us canoes, provisions and some Indians to continue our trip towards the Amazon river. The generous Indian promised to give us all that we might need.

We took leave of our companions the Mocoas, and remained as the guests of the Mirañas.

We remained among them 15 days, during which time we accompanied them on their hunting and fishing expeditions. After this, Chua gave us a large canoe and ten robust young men as a crew, to continue our trip to the Amazon.

On a beautiful morning, we bid good-bye to our friend Chua and put out in our canoe on the waters

of the Putumayo, which in those parts has a width of more than 900 yards and is 10 feet deep. There were yet 600 miles before reaching the Amazon river. In all this distance the river is navigable at all times for steamers of a draft of nine feet. The forests which cover its shores abound with the same vegetation as those we had just traversed. We visited and made friends with the cannibal tribes of the Huitotes, Beneció, Orejones, Carijones, Garapaná and Campulla. All these received and treated us with kindness and generosity. We must acknowledge that, during ten years, in which we made explorations on the Putumayo, on the Amazon river and its other tributaries, we were never threatened nor attacked by the savages, which unfortunately was not the case with our younger brother, Nestor, who was devoured by the cannibals of Putumayo and thus paid with his life, in the bloom of youth, his love for work, and for the knowledge and progress of America.

We spent two months in descending the lower part of the river, because we delayed making explorations ashore and remained some days visiting the different tribes. These speak the Siona language and the number of individuals of which they are composed, according to the information we received, is over 60,000. These tribes live in a continual warfare with one another, so as to take prisoners for their festivals and for selling them to the merchants ascending the Putumayo some 200 miles from the Amazon and who, in exchange, give them alcohol, tobacco, strings of glass beads, mirrors and other trifles. During the time in which I visited that region with my brothers we put an end to this barbarous trade, reducing to prison those traders in human flesh and delivering them afterwards to the Brazilian authorities, which always deal out to them a merited punishment.

The most troublesome part of this our first exploration, was not the heat of 45° centigrade, which we had to stand without any shade, as the canoe was an open one, and under a burning sun; nor the fatigue of rowing all day as much as the Indians, nor the poor and scant food, nor the dangers which we incurred in the midst of those cannibals. It consisted in the nights which we had to pass on the immense riverbanks, on burning sands, parched by the sun during the day time, in which we had to dig a sort of a grave to bury ourselves, leaving only the nose uncovered, as the Indians were in the habit of doing, in order to protect ourselves against the bites of the mosquitoes, which abound in such a number, that it may be said that the atmosphere is thick with them, and to such an extent do they fill and obscure it, that, on clapping the hands together, there remains between them a solid mass of mosquitoes. With the first dawn of the morning the mosquitoes disappeared and we emerged from our graves, which had served as improvised dormitories and in which we had lain naked, covered only with a mixture of sand and sweat which became hardened on our skins with the cold of the morning, and jumped into the river to free us through its waters of this heavy and disgusting covering, and put on the scant and tattered clothes which yet remained by us. We sailed during all the hours of daylight and only stopped for the purpose of hunting and fishing to supply our food necessities, and at night we prepared that which we had procured during the day.