

5. FACSIMILE COPY OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY MR. BLAINE TO THE ARGENTINE PLAN OF ARBITRATION.

^{from}
The delegates of the Republics of North, South and Central America ~~and the Republic of Haiti~~, assembled in the International American Conference --

Believing that war is the most costly, the most ^{cruel} ~~uncertain~~ ^{dangerous} ~~factory~~, and the most perilous experiment for the ~~permanent~~ settlement of international differences -

^{Believing}
Recognizing that the growth of moral principle in the world has induced a public opinion that there are no questions of international interest which cannot be ~~promptly and~~ amicably ^{adjusted} settled by the intervention of impartial counsel -

^{Believing}
Encouraged by the ~~great benefit to mankind which has~~ thus far attended the establishment of Republican institutions, and confident ^{Assured} that the present condition of their ~~respective countries~~ ^{Republics} free from the conflicting political interests and entanglements which disturb other countries - is especially favorable to the substitution of Arbitration for war -

^{Believing that the}
Convinced by their friendly and cordial association in the present Conference that the American Republics, sharing alike the principles, the ~~own~~ obligations and responsibilities of popular constitutional government, and bound together by vast, ~~largely~~ increasing, ~~and ever concentrating~~ ^{to much to} common interests, may within their own circle, establish peace on earth and good will towards men ~~by the outbreak of April~~

~~Do hereby recommend to all the governments by which they have hitherto agreed upon & concluded are accredited to celebrate a uniform treaty of Arbitration~~

in the articles following:

Do hereby recommend that a uniform Treaty of Arbitration in the articles following be celebrated and confirmed

6. PLAN OF ARBITRATION.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL WELFARE, SUBMITTED TO THE CONFERENCE, APRIL 14, 1890.

The delegates from North, Central, and South America in Conference Assembled:

Believing that war is the most costly, the most cruel, the most fruitless, and the most dangerous expedient for the settlement of international differences;

Believing that the growth of moral principle in the world has awakened a public opinion in favor of the amicable adjustment of all questions of international interest by the intervention of impartial counsel;

Animated by a realization of the great moral and material benefits that peace offers to mankind, and that the existing conditions of the several nations is especially propitious for the adoption of arbitration as a substitute for armed struggles;

Believing that the American Republics, sharing alike the principles, the obligations, and the responsibilities of popular constitutional government, and bound together by vast and increasing mutual interests, may, within their own circle, do much to establish peace on earth and good will to men;

And considering it their duty to declare their assent to the high principles which tradition has authorized, public reason supports, and the whole of mankind proclaims, in protection of the weak states, in honor of the strong, and to the benefit of all;

Do solemnly recommend all the Governments by which they are accredited to celebrate a uniform treaty of arbitration in the articles following, namely:

ARTICLE I. The Republics of North, Central, and South America hereby adopt arbitration as a principle of American international law for the settlement of all differences, disputes, or controversies that may arise between them.

ARTICLE II. Arbitration shall be obligatory in all controversies concerning diplomatic rights and privileges, boundaries, territories, indemnities, the right of navigation, and the validity, construction, and enforcement of treaties.

ARTICLE III. Arbitration shall be equally obligatory in all cases, other than those mentioned in the foregoing article, whatever may be their origin, nature, or occasion, with the single exception mentioned in the next following article.

ARTICLE IV. Such exception shall be when, in the judgment of any nation involved in the controversy, its independence might be endangered by the result of arbitration; for such nation, arbitration shall be optional, but it shall be obligatory upon the adversary power.

ARTICLE V. All controversies, or differences, with the exception stated in Article IV., whether pending or hereafter arising, shall be submitted to arbitration, even though they may have originated in occurrences antedating the present treaty.

ARTICLE VI. No question shall be revived by virtue of this treaty concerning which a definite agreement shall already have been reached. In such cases arbitration shall be resorted to only for the settlement of questions concerning the validity, interpretation, or enforcement of such agreement.

ARTICLE VII. Any government may serve in the capacity of arbitrator which maintains friendly relations with the nation opposed to the one selecting it. The office of arbitrator may also be entrusted to tribunals of justice, to scientific bodies, to public officials, or to private individuals, whether citizens or not of the states selecting them.

ARTICLE VIII. The court of arbitration may consist of one or more persons. If of one person, the arbitrator shall be selected jointly by the nations concerned. If of several persons, their selection may be jointly made by the nations concerned. Should no choice be made, each nation claiming a distinct interest in the question at issue shall have the right to appoint one arbitrator on its own behalf.

ARTICLE IX. Whenever the court shall consist of an even number of arbitrators, the nations concerned shall appoint an umpire, who shall decide all questions upon which the arbitrators may disagree. If the nations interested fail to agree in the selection of an umpire, such umpire shall be selected by the arbitrators already appointed.

ARTICLE X. The appointment of an umpire, and his acceptance, shall take place before the arbitrators enter upon the hearing of the questions in dispute.

ARTICLE XI. The umpire shall not act as a member of the court, but his duties and powers shall be limited to the decision of questions upon which the arbitrators shall be unable to agree.

ARTICLE XII. Should an arbitrator, or an umpire, be prevented from serving by reason of death, resignation, or other cause, such arbitrator or umpire shall be replaced by a substitute, to be selected in the same manner in which the original arbitrator or umpire shall have been chosen.

ARTICLE XIII. The court shall hold its sessions at such place as the parties in interest may agree upon, and in case of disagreement or failure to name a place the court itself may determine the location.

ARTICLE XIV. When the court shall consist of several arbitrators, a majority of the whole number may act, notwithstanding the absence or withdrawal of the minority. In such case the majority shall continue in the performance of their duties until they shall have reached a final determination of the questions submitted for their consideration.

ARTICLE XV. The decision of a majority of a whole number of arbitrators shall be final both on the main and incidental issues, unless in the agreement to arbitrate it shall have been expressly provided that unanimity is essential.

ARTICLE XVI. The general expenses of arbitration proceedings shall be paid in equal proportion by the governments that are parties thereto; but the expenses incurred by either party in the preparation and prosecution of its case shall be defrayed by it individually.

ARTICLE XVII. Whenever disputes arise the nations involved shall appoint courts of arbitration in accordance with the provisions of the preceding articles. Only by the mutual and free consent of all such nations may those provisions be disregarded, and courts of arbitration appointed under different arrangements.

ARTICLE XVIII. This treaty shall remain in force for twenty years from the date of the exchange of ratifications. After the expiration of that period it shall continue in operation until one of the contracting parties shall have notified all the others of its desire to terminate it. In the event of such notice the treaty shall continue obligatory upon the party giving it for at least one year thereafter, but the withdrawal of

one or more nations shall not invalidate the treaty with respect to the other nations concerned.

ARTICLE XIX. This treaty shall be ratified by all the nations approving it, according to their respective constitutional methods; and the ratifications shall be exchanged in the city of Washington on or before the first day of May, A.D. 1891. Any other nation may accept this treaty and become a party thereto by signing a copy thereof and depositing the same with the Government of the United States: whereupon the said Government shall communicate this fact to the other contracting parties.

In testimony whereof the undersigned plenipotentiaries have hereunto affixed their signatures and seals.

Done in the city of Washington, in _____ copies in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, on this _____ day of the month of _____, one thousand eight hundred and ninety.

JOHN B. HENDERSON,	MANUEL QUINTANA,
JUAN FRANCISCO VELARDE,	N. BOLET PERAZA,
J. M. HURTADO,	J. G. DO AMARAL VALENTE,

FERNANDO CRUZ.

WASHINGTON, April 9, 1890.

7. THE RIGHT OF CONQUEST.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL WELFARE.

Whereas there is in America no territory which can be deemed *res nullius*; and Whereas, in view of this, a war of conquest of one American nation against another would constitute a clearly unjustifiable act of violence and spoliation; and

Whereas, the possibilities of aggressions upon national territory would inevitably involve a recourse to the ruinous system of war armaments in time of peace; and

Whereas, the Conference feels that it would fall short of the most exalted conception of its mission were it to abstain from embodying its pacific and fraternal sentiments in declarations tending to promote national stability, and guarantee just international relations among the nations of the continent:

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE INTERNATIONAL AMERICAN CONFERENCE, That it earnestly recommends to the Governments therein represented the adoption of the following declarations:

First. That the principle of conquest shall never hereafter be recognized as admissible under American public law.

Second. That all cessions of territory made subsequent to the present declaration shall be absolutely void if made under threats of war or the presence of an armed force.

Third. Any nation from which such cessions shall have been exacted may demand that the question of the validity of the cessions so made shall be submitted to arbitration.

Fourth. Any renunciation of the right to have recourse to arbitration shall be null and void whatever the time, circumstances, and conditions may be under which such renunciation shall have been effected.

MANUEL QUINTANA,
JUAN FRANCISCO VELARDE,
N. BOLET PERAZA,

The delegations from Colombia, Brazil, and Guatemala approve the preamble and the first article or declaration of the resolutions.

J. M. HURTADO,
J. G. DO AMARAL VALENTE,
FERNANDO CRUZ.

8. TREATY OF ARBITRATION SIGNED BY THE DELEGATES TO THE PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE.

I.—TREATY OF ARBITRATION.

The Delegates from North, Central, and South America in Conference assembled: Believing that war is the most cruel, the most fruitless, and the most dangerous expedient for the settlement of international differences;

Recognizing that the growth of the moral principles which govern political societies has created an earnest desire in favor of the amicable adjustment of such differences;

Animated by the conviction of the great moral and material benefits that peace offers to mankind, and trusting that the existing conditions of the respective nations are especially propitious for the adoption of arbitration as a substitute for armed struggles;

Convinced by reason of their friendly and cordial meeting in the present Conference, that the American Republics, controlled alike by the principles, duties, and responsibilities of popular Government, and bound together by vast and increasing mutual interests, can, within the sphere of their own action, maintain the peace of the continent, and the good-will of all its inhabitants;

And considering it their duty to lend their assent to the lofty principles of peace which the most enlightened public sentiment of the world approves;

Do solemnly recommend all the Governments by which they are accredited to conclude a uniform treaty of arbitration in the articles following:

ARTICLE I.—The Republics of North, Central, and South America hereby adopt arbitration as a principle of American international law for the settlement of the differences, disputes, or controversies that may arise between two or more of them.

ARTICLE II.—Arbitration shall be obligatory in all controversies concerning diplomatic and consular privileges, boundaries, territories, indemnities, the right of navigation, and the validity, construction, and enforcement of treaties.

ARTICLE III.—Arbitration shall be equally obligatory in all cases other than those mentioned in the foregoing article, whatever may be their origin, nature, or object, with the single exception mentioned in the next following article.

ARTICLE IV.—The sole questions excepted from the provisions of the preceding articles are those which, in the judgment of any one of the nations involved in the controversy, may imperil its independence. In which case, for such nation, arbitration shall be optional; but it shall be obligatory upon the adversary power.

ARTICLE V.—All controversies or differences, whether pending or hereafter arising, shall be submitted to arbitration, even though they may have originated in occurrences antedating the present treaty.

ARTICLE VI.—No question shall be revived by virtue of this treaty concerning which a definite agreement shall already have been reached. In such cases arbitration shall be resorted to only for the settlement of questions concerning the validity, interpretation, or enforcement of such agreements.

ARTICLE VII.—The choice of arbitrators shall not be limited or confined to American States. Any government may serve in the capacity of arbitrator which maintains friendly relations with the nation opposed to the one selecting it. The office of arbitrator may also be intrusted to tribunals of justice, to scientific bodies, to public officials, or to private individuals, whether citizens or not of the States selecting them.

ARTICLE VIII.—The court of arbitration may consist of one or more persons.

If of one person, he shall be selected jointly by the nations concerned. If of several persons, their selection may be jointly made by the nations concerned. Should no choice be agreed upon, each nation showing a distinct interest in the question at issue shall have the right to appoint one arbitrator on its own behalf.

ARTICLE IX.—Whenever the court shall consist of an even number of arbitrators, the nations concerned shall appoint an umpire, who shall decide all questions upon which the arbitrators may disagree. If the nations interested fail to agree in the selection of an umpire, such umpire shall be selected by the arbitrators already appointed.

ARTICLE X.—The appointment of an umpire, and his acceptance, shall take place before the arbitrators enter upon the hearing of the questions in dispute.

ARTICLE XI.—The umpire shall not act as a member of the court, but his duties and powers shall be limited to the decision of questions, whether principal or incidental, upon which the arbitrators shall be unable to agree.

ARTICLE XII.—Should an arbitrator or an umpire be prevented from serving by reason of death, resignation, or other cause, such arbitrator or umpire shall be replaced by a substitute to be selected in the same manner in which the original arbitrator or umpire shall have been chosen.

ARTICLE XIII.—The court shall hold its sessions at such place as the parties in interest may agree upon, and in case of disagreement or failure to name a place the court itself may determine the location.

ARTICLE XIV.—When the court shall consist of several arbitrators, a majority of the whole number may act notwithstanding the absence or withdrawal of the minority. In such case the majority shall continue in the performance of their duties until they shall have reached a final determination of the questions submitted for their consideration.

ARTICLE XV.—The decision of a majority of the whole number of arbitrators shall be final both on the main and incidental issues, unless in the agreement to arbitrate it shall have been expressly provided that unanimity is essential.

ARTICLE XVI.—The general expenses of arbitration proceedings shall be paid in equal proportions by the governments that are parties thereto; but expenses incurred by either party in the preparation and prosecution of its case shall be defrayed by it individually.

ARTICLE XVII.—Whenever disputes arise the nations involved shall appoint courts of arbitration in accordance with the provisions of the preceding articles. Only by the mutual and free consent of all of such nations may those provisions be disregarded, and courts of arbitration appointed under different arrangements.

ARTICLE XVIII.—This treaty shall remain in force for twenty years from the date of the exchange of ratifications. After the expiration of that period, it shall continue in operation until one of the contracting parties shall have notified all the others of its desire to terminate it. In the event of such notice the treaty shall continue obligatory upon the party giving it for one year thereafter, but the withdrawal of one or more nations shall not invalidate the treaty with respect to the other nations concerned.

ARTICLE XIX.—This treaty shall be ratified by all the nations approving it, according to their respective constitutional methods; and the ratifications shall be exchanged in the city of Washington on or before the first day of May, A. D. 1891.

Any other nation may accept this treaty and become a party thereto, by signing a copy thereof and depositing the same with the Government of the United States; whereupon the said Government shall communicate this fact to the other contracting parties.

In testimony whereof the undersigned plenipotentiaries have hereunto affixed their signatures and seals.

Done in the city of Washington, in copies in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, on this 28th day of the month of April, one thousand eight hundred and ninety.

JUAN FRANCISCO VELARDE, For the Republic of Bolivia.	JACINTO CASTELLANOS, For Salvador.
J. M. P. CAAMAÑO, For the Republic of Ecuador.	JAMES G. BLAINE, For the United States of America. (Signed after April 28, 1890, on receipt of instructions.)
FERNANDO CRUZ, For the Republic of Guatemala.	SALVADOR DE MENDONÇA, For the United States of Brazil.
HANNIBAL PRICE, For the Republic of Haiti.	N. BOLET PERAZA, JOSÉ ANDRADE, For the United States of Venezuela.
JERONIMO ZELAYA, For Honduras.	ALBERTO NIN, For the Oriental Republic of Uruguay.
H. GUZMÁN, For Nicaragua.	

II.—RECOMMENDATION TO EUROPEAN POWERS TO ACCEPT ARBITRATION.

The International American Conference Resolves: That this Conference, having recommended arbitration for the settlement of disputes among the Republics of America, begs leave to express the wish that controversies between them and the nations of Europe may be settled in the same friendly manner.

It is further recommended that the government of each nation herein represented communicate this wish to all friendly powers.

III.—RECOMMENDATION OF THE CONFERENCE REGARDING THE RIGHT OF CONQUEST.

Whereas the International American Conference feels that it would fall short of the most exalted conception of its mission were it to abstain from embodying its pacific and fraternal sentiments in declarations tending to promote national stability and guarantee just international relations among the nations of the continent: Be it therefore

Resolved, That it earnestly recommends to the Governments therein represented the adoption of the following declarations:

First. That the principle of conquest shall not, during the continuance of the Treaty of Arbitration, be recognized as admissible under American public law.

Second. That all cessions of territory made during the continuance of the Treaty of Arbitration shall be void, if made under threats of war or the presence of an armed force.

Third. Any nation from which such cessions shall be exacted may demand that the validity of the cessions so made shall be submitted to arbitration.

Fourth. Any renunciation of the right to arbitration made under the conditions named in the second section shall be null and void.

9. RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED BY THE PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON APRIL 10, 1890, IN FAVOR OF RECIPROCITY TREATIES.

The Committee on Customs Union has made a careful study of the questions submitted to its consideration by the International American Conference, in reference to forming a customs union among the several nations of this continent.

It is generally understood by customs union the establishing among the several nations of a single customs territory, to wit, that the nations forming the union shall collect import duties on foreign goods, under substantially the same tariff laws; divide the proceeds thereof in a given proportion, and mutually receive, free of duty, their respective natural or manufactured products.

The acceptance of this plan would demand, as a previous requirement, a change in the fundamental laws of the countries accepting the union. Even after they were ready to make such changes, a great many other difficulties, almost insurmountable, would have to be overcome; as, for instance, fixing the representation of each nation at the international assembly empowered to frame a common tariff and amend it in the future. The territorial extent, the populations, and the national wealth differ so much among the American Republics that if these conditions should be taken as the basis of representation at said assembly, the small States would not have sufficient protection for their interests; and, if all the nations were admitted as sovereign on an equal footing, the large ones would be insufficiently protected. It might be necessary, to obviate this difficulty, to create two bodies, one representing the population and the other the States, in the manner in which a like problem was solved in the Constitution of the United States of America. But this step would, in the opinion of the committee, require a partial sacrifice of the national sovereignty of the American nations, and more radical changes in their respective constitutions than in its judgment they are willing to accept.

If by customs union is meant the free-trade between the American nations of all their natural or manufactured products, which is, properly speaking, unrestricted reciprocity, the committee believes it is in principle acceptable, because all measures looking to the freedom of commerce must necessarily increase the trade and the development of the material resources of the countries accepting that system, and it would in all probability bring about as favorable results as those obtained by free-trade among the different States of this Union.

But while the committee believes that such a union is at present impracticable as a continental system, among other reasons because the import duties levied on foreign trade constitute the main sources of revenue of all the American nations, and such of them as are not manufacturing countries would thus lose more or less of such revenue, on which they depend in a great measure to defray their national expenses; while the manufacturing countries, such as the United States of America, would have to abandon, at least partially, the protective policy which they have adopted to more or less extent, and they do not seem yet prepared to change that system. Besides, a reciprocity treaty mutually advantageous between two contiguous countries might prove onerous if extended to all as a continental compact, especially as the products of many of the American Republics are similar. Therefore, while these obstacles are in the way, it seems premature to propose free-trade among the nations of this hemisphere.

But although it is not easy, in the opinion of the committee, to reach at once unrestricted reciprocity, that end might be obtained gradually and partially. The first and most efficient step in that direction is the negotiation of partial reciprocity treaties among the American nations, whereby each may agree to remove or diminish their respective import duties on some of the natural or manufactured products of one or more of the other nations in exchange for similar and equivalent advantages, as, if the mutual concessions were not equivalent, the treaties would soon become odious, and could not last but for a limited time, and would discredit the system. If after this has been tried for some reasonable time a good result should follow, as it is to be expected, the number of articles on the free list might be enlarged in each case, from time to time, until they attain, through the development of the natural elements of wealth, other sources of revenue or an increase of the existing ones, which would allow the

contracting nations to reach unrestricted reciprocity or a free-trade among some or all the American nations.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE CONFERENCE.

Therefore the committee proposes:

To recommend to such of the Governments represented in the Conference as may be interested in the concluding of partial reciprocity commercial treaties, to negotiate such treaties with one or more of the American countries as it may be in their interest to make them, under such a basis as may be acceptable in each case, taking into consideration the special situation, conditions, and interests of each country, and with a view to promote their common welfare.

10. RECOMMENDATION OF THE PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE
APPROVED ON FEBRUARY 26, 1898, ON RAILWAY
COMMUNICATION.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RAILWAY COMMUNICATION.

The International American Conference is of the opinion:

First. That a railroad connecting all or a majority of the nations represented in this Conference will contribute greatly to the development of cordial relations between said nations and the growth of their material interests.

Second. That the best method of facilitating its execution is the appointment of an international commission of engineers to ascertain the possible routes, to determine their true length, to estimate the cost of each, and to compare their respective advantages.

Third. That the said commission should consist of a body of engineers of whom each nation should appoint three, and which should have authority to divide into sub-commissions and appoint as many other engineers and employees as may be considered necessary for the more rapid execution of the work.

Fourth. That each of the Governments accepting may appoint, at its own expense, commissioners or engineers to serve as auxiliaries to the sub-commissions charged with the sectional surveys of the line.

Fifth. That the railroad, in so far as the common interests will permit, should connect the principal cities lying in the vicinity of its route.

Sixth. That if the general direction of the line cannot be altered without great inconvenience, for the purpose mentioned in the preceding article, branch lines should be surveyed to connect those cities with the main line.

Seventh. That for the purpose of reducing the cost of the enterprise the existing railways should be utilized as far as is practicable and compatible with the route and conditions of the continental railroad.

Eighth. That in case the results of the survey demonstrate the practicability and advisability of the railroad, proposals for the construction either of the whole line or of sections thereof should be solicited.

Ninth. That the construction, management, and operation of the line should be at the expense of the concessionaires, or of the persons to whom they sublet the work or transfer their rights, with all due formalities, the consent of the respective Governments being first obtained.

Tenth. That all materials necessary for the construction and operation of the

railroad should be exempt from import duties, subject to such regulations as may be necessary to prevent the abuse of this privilege.

Eleventh. That all personal and real property of the railroad employed in its construction and operation should be exempt from all taxation, either national, provincial (State), or municipal.

Twelfth. That the execution of a work of such magnitude deserves to be further encouraged by subsidies, grants of land, or guarantee of a minimum of interest.

Thirteenth. That the salaries of the commission, as well as the expense incident to the preliminary and final surveys, should be assumed by all the nations accepting, in proportion to population according to the latest official census, or, in the absence of a census, by agreement between their several Governments.

Fourteenth. That the railroad should be declared forever neutral for the purpose of securing freedom of traffic.

Fifteenth. That the approval of the surveys, the terms of the proposals, the protection of the concessionaires, the inspection of the work, the legislation affecting it, the neutrality of the road, and the free passage of merchandise in transit, should be (in the event contemplated by article eighth) the subject of special agreement between all the nations interested.

Sixteenth. That as soon as the Government of the United States shall receive notice of the acceptance of these recommendations by the other Governments, it shall invite them to appoint the commission of engineers referred to in the second article, in order that it may meet in the city of Washington, at the earliest possible date.

JUAN FRANCISCO VELARDE.	H. G. DAVIS.
E. A. MEXIA.	FERNANDO CRUZ.
JERÓNIMO ZELAYA.	JACINTO CASTELLANOS.
ANDREW CARNEGIE.	CARLOS MARTINEZ SILVA.
JOSÉ ANDRADE.	J. M. P. CAAMAÑO.
F. C. C. ZEGARRA.	E. C. VARAS.
MANUEL QUINTANA.	J. G. DO AMARAL VALENTE.
JOSÉ S. DECOUD.	H. GUZMÁN.

11. MR. BLAINE'S REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT, CONTAINING THE
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL AMERICAN
CONFERENCE OF APRIL 7, 1890, ON AN AMERICAN INTERNA-
TIONAL MONETARY UNION.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, July 10, 1890.

THE PRESIDENT:

The International American Conference, recently in session at this capital, adopted the following report:

"The International American Conference is of opinion that great advantages would accrue to the commerce between the nations of this continent by the use of a coin or coins that would be current at the same value in all the countries represented in this Conference, and therefore recommends—

"(1) That an international American monetary union be established.

"(2) That as a basis for this union an international coin or coins be issued which shall be uniform in weight and fineness, and which may be used in all the countries represented in this Conference.

"(3) That to give full effect to this recommendation there shall meet in Wash-

ington a commission composed of one delegate or more from each nation represented in this Conference, which shall consider the quantity, the kind of currency, the uses it shall have, and the value and proportion of the international silver coin or coins, and their relations to gold.

"(4) That the Government of the United States shall invite the commission to meet in Washington within a year from the date of the adjournment of this Conference."

It was hoped and expected by the Conference that the recommendations would be transmitted to Congress with a recommendation that the several nations interested be invited to send delegates to a meeting of the international American monetary union at Washington on the first Wednesday of January next; that authority be granted for the appointment of three delegates on the part of the United States, and that an appropriation be made to meet the necessary expenses.

Respectfully submitted.

JAMES G. BLAINE.

12. CENSURE OF A MEXICAN DELEGATE BY THE MEXICAN PRESS AND A PROMINENT WRITER.

Señor Don Francisco Sosa, a prominent literary man of Mexico, published in the third volume of *La Revista Nacional de Ciencias y Letras* a biographical sketch of Señor Don Nicanor Bolet Peraza, a delegate from Venezuela, in which he censured him and myself for not having followed in the footsteps of the Argentine delegates in the discussion before the International American Conference. He said among other things the following:

As our countryman, Mr. Romero, has a great love for his native land, he vehemently desires to see her great and prosperous; but he has not been able to entirely shake off the influence that American habits have exerted on his mind. That is the reason why, during the Conference, neither Bolet Peraza nor Romero were among those who in round periods, with loud emphasis, and with the fire natural to the great orators of Spanish America, united their efforts with the Argentine Delegates, Quintana and Saenz Peña, zealous guardians of the autonomy, and legitimate and sacred rights of Latin America. To them, that is to say, to Bolet Peraza and Romero, the fraternal feelings of this great Republic are above suspicion, and no fear should be entertained, that, under the cloak of union, the stronger might dominate the weaker, and *quia dominat leo*, become the arbiter of their destinies, the judge of their controversies, in fine be their lord and master.

When Señor Sosa's paper came to my knowledge, I wrote to him, on June 10, 1890, a letter in which I explained my conduct in the Conference, and from which I insert the following extracts:

The opinions of the Latin-American Delegates were expressed in two different ways. The first was during the excursion, to which they had been invited by the Government of the United States, as its guests, and were received as such by all the cities of this country that they visited; and the second as representatives of their Governments, at the International American Conference.

In the first case, do you consider that it would have been proper and polite to

make any comparison between what the Delegates were seeing here and what they left in their countries, even if what they left at home was superior to what they found here? The greater the advancement and progress of their respective countries, the more impropriety there would have been to make reference to them under such circumstances, as all comparisons are odious. The fact that we were Delegates did not deprive us of the attributes of gentlemen, and when a gentleman invites another to his house, and attends to him as his guest, it would be at least very poor taste on the part of the person invited to expatiate to his host on the superiority of his own household, and on the condition of his own business affairs as compared with what he finds where he is in the capacity of a guest. That is so very true, that the Argentine Delegate himself, who was situated in a more advantageous position than ourselves, as I will explain farther on, did not deem it proper to say a single word at several banquets and receptions at which he was present.

Notwithstanding this, as I desired to avail myself of some opportunity to make a few remarks before some one of the distinguished audiences of this country regarding the commercial relations between Mexico and the United States, I read at the banquet given by the "Spanish-American Commercial Union," of New York, on the 20th of December, 1889, in honor of the Delegates, an address, which I suppose you may have seen, as it was published in all the papers of that city, wherein, without offending any one, and with the utmost moderation, as is shown by the fact that instead of being censured it was well received by nearly all the newspapers of this country, I made some remarks which can favorably compare in frankness and vigor with the speeches delivered during the excursion and in the meetings of the Conference.

If we now turn our attention to what the Delegates said at the meetings of the Conference, it seems proper to state that there were two sets of Delegates: one comprising gentlemen who had no permanent position near this Government, but who merely came to this country to stay during the meetings of the Conference; and the other comprising gentlemen who, besides being Delegates, were representatives permanently accredited, and who at the end of the sessions of the Conference would have to stay here and continue discussing official matters of importance with the Government of the United States, and whose duty it was to preserve cordial personal relations with the members of this Government, not to jeopardize the success of very important affairs of their respective countries. This second class of Delegates could still be subdivided into two classes, the first of which comprised those who represented countries that, owing to their being situated at the extreme southern portion of the American Continent, with scarcely any commercial, political, or social relations with the United States, and having no questions, affairs, or complications of any kind, enjoyed greater freedom to express their opinions without reservation or circumlocution, and who made free use of such freedom, in such a way that they pleased even the most exacting; and the second class was composed of representatives of countries situated near the United States—and in one instance, of a country adjoining it throughout a large extent of territory, and connected by several trunk railway lines, as is the case with Mexico—with intimate relations of every kind, who had to look beyond the immediate results of the Conference, and who could not, through misplaced patriotism or improper egotism, compromise not only the affairs pending before the Conference but the more weighty ones that were daily being discussed between their respective countries and the United States.

A very well-known proverb says that "speech is silver but silence is gold," and if this is not always true, it is so when prudence succeeds in overcoming a desire to obtain a victory by words, merely, which is often only a temporary one. Be it as it may, I think that in diplomacy especially, men are judged by their deeds and not by their words.