

Special mention should be made of the groves of *cativo*,⁴ yielding a sort of resinous substance, as important for medicinal purposes as it is plentiful in that locality, for this important tree is found growing over many leagues of land, especially between *Old Harbour* and the *Cerro de Cuabre* (Peak of *Cuabre*); it being remarkable that while large quantities of this resin might be shipped no one up to the present time has sought to exploit this product.

Upon the *Cerro de Cuabre* there is found cinchona or Peruvian bark, *caraña* (a kind of resinous gum); oak and evergreen oak, *cedro*⁵ and particularly *guayacán*⁶ from the fruit of which the Indians extract an oil they call *Hibó*, which they export to Europe with such good success that it is considered and reputed to be the best grease to soften the skin and refresh the scalp. This oil is paid in *Mosquitia* two pesos a bottle more or less.

Upon this same *Cerro de Cuabre* a kind of cane is found from which they make walking sticks and umbrella handles, than which those that come from the East Indies are no better.

After four hours on the road I arrived with my company at the landing called "*Cuabre*" upon the aforesaid River "*Sivola*," "*Doraces*" or "*Tilire*," which having a width of about a hundred yards, although it was very dry, is navigable for small *bongos* (flat canoes) and little boats; and having been told that the only hut where we could lodge was infested with insects I decided to continue the journey, embarking in three boats that had been made ready beforehand, so that proceeding up the stream about four o'clock in the afternoon I came to a place they call "*Zapata*," where, although there was no hut, I commanded a halt to be made and did in fact stop there and passed the night tranquilly, since there was no rain nor any insects to annoy us or trouble our slumbers.

On Friday, the 11th, we started on our way at five o'clock in the morning and about twelve o'clock, after breakfasting, I met with two Indians of the *Biribirí* tribe, employed by the North-American, Mr. Lyon, and they asked me if I was Captain An-

⁴ *Copaifera hemitomophylla*.

⁵ *Cédrela mexicana* and *Cédrela Glaziovii*.

⁶ *Tecoma chrysantha*.

gulo (for already they had notice of my coming in those regions); and accepting a small trifle that I presented to them they sold me some meat of the *tepesquite*⁷ or mottled rabbit which they had just caught and decided to come along in my company at once.

A little later a small fishing boat came down bringing a letter sent from "Cuén," carried by a servant from the house of the Military Judge, Señor Iglesias, in which it was stated that "Edward Shepherd declared the day before in various houses that he *did not know how a Commander of Costa Rica dared to penetrate into those regions without his consent*,"—the letter adding that he had been heard to say that he had "*incited the natives to prevent my passage by the use of arms*."

Señor Iglesias having shown the letter to me, I directed him to conceal it, so as not to alarm the rest of the company, and proceeding on our way we came, about three o'clock in the afternoon at the mouth of River "Dueri," upon a large family of natives of the same *Biribirí* tribe, who came out to meet me and not only made no effort to hinder my passage, but coming out to my canoes they embarked therein two women and a child of about two years, while the father and others took the boat almost in their hands through the channel of the *Cuén* to the place of that name, where there were five houses of various Spanish creoles, among which was that of Señor Iglesias.

The first house we came to was that of a worthy New Granadian trader, named Mateo Gómez, who had lived there more than ten years and had some four sons and a beautiful Indian girl, neat and industrious, who belonged to the village of *Boruca*, from whence (like many other natives of both sexes) she had fled to escape the horrible punishments with the lash, with which the Indians declare the *Cures of souls* seek to teach them the doctrines of Jesus Christ; and although this is as true as it is contrary and prejudicial to that doctrine, brought with so much affection and charity, with so much persuasion and with the most admirable submission to the authorities of the land, it must be confessed and much more believed that *we are still left with the vestiges of the state of degradation in which the Government of the Mother Country held us subject*.

⁷ *Coelogenys paca*.

In this house I was received joyfully. There was a *Zuquia* (doctor) there named Joaquín, feared among the tribes on account of his witchcraft with which he was credited; and as I suffered still from the bite of a fly by which I had been innoculated on the River *San Juan de Nicaragua* during the year previous, some of the poison in my right hand not having yielded to the long treatment which had been administered to me in the capital by the excellent practitioner Dr. Don Alejandro von Frantzius, I took occasion to inform myself as to the curative methods of this *Zuquia*, asking him to cure me. Thereupon, taking my hand very formally he carried it to his lips and breathed a little of the vapor of his respiration upon the ulcer, as the only remedy. I was surprised at such a treatment and I asked him what was the cause for that ulcer. He had no hesitation in answering that it was a pustule, telling me through the interpreter that if I did not touch the body of any one, being *zuquied*, I would soon be well. As I do not trust or believe in witchery or superstitions I paid little attention to this treatment, as was natural, continuing to hope that better medicines would effect a complete cure.

After chocolate had been served, which was awaiting me, I went to the house of the Military Judge, Señor Iglesias, about half-past five o'clock in the afternoon, where there were preparing for me a sumptuous repast.

Without losing any time I duly held an inquest to ascertain what the aforesaid Shepherd had said, the result being the fact that he had expressed surprise that a Commander should enter into those regions without his permission, but that it was not true that he had incited the natives to prevent my passage.

On the following day, Saturday the 12th, I sent a message to Santiago, the titular King of *Biribiri*, that I desired to see him. Whereupon, about five o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, a young man presented himself to me, about 28 years of age, of a fine and interesting appearance, alert and cordial, at the head of some forty natives of both sexes, all persons of good height and well built, the men dressed in a shirt and pantaloons of blue cotton drilling, some armed with bows and arrows and others with single and double-barrelled guns. The women wore dresses or petticoats, or only a chemise and a blanket or flannel skirt; but

none of them were nude as has been said. I received them with my usual courtesy and soon the so-called King Santiago understood that the object of my visit was no other than to protect in the name of the Supreme Government of the Republic the natives of "*Talamanca*," or "*Viceita*" or "*Tierra de Blanco*," against the unjust and wicked persecutions of some ambitious traders who had gone among those tribes. He was gratified and related to me the horrible cruelties of some New Granadians and other men from *Heredia* and *Alajuela*, which led to the terrible assassinations among them, as to which he did not hesitate to speak, what he had commanded to be done, through some natives under his authority, to a criminal, for acts of force, for ravishment and gang robberies, and for assassination of Chepe Quesada, saying further that with the death of that bandit those lamentable occurrences had ceased in the "*Tierra de Blanco*," and that the *ladinos* (creoles) now met with in the region generally were all decent and peaceable, as to whom there was no complaint.

After presenting to him a beautiful Turkish turban, ornamented with small beads, braid and ribbons, and giving some pantaloons, shirts and handkerchiefs to those who accompanied him, he came to see me on the following day, Sunday the 13th, with them and several *ladinos*, after breakfast served for everybody (in which I had occasion to see Santiago take part in the service with the dexterity of a man accustomed to city ways) at the house of a man from *Cartago* named Francisco Mora, whose native consort, who spoke Spanish very well, is the mother of a charming little boy about three years of age, who was presented to me dressed very elegantly and shod with very nice shoes and stockings. This woman, called Isabel, was the one who first of all showed me a sample of heavy reddish cinchona, indicating that it was inclined to be yellowish or pale reddish, and giving me the generic name of "*Cupuriscú*," by which it was known. She also furnished me with some of the beautiful dye of a purple color which they call "*Cacamá*," showing me the plant from which it was extracted, by distillation.

Upon the principal subject of cinchona I took especial care to talk with Santiago, who was very much pleased to learn that this would be a new branch of commerce which could be sub-

stituted advantageously for sarsaparilla, since the whole of *Talamanca* did not produce more than about one hundred quintals in a year, the obligations of the settlement requiring more than that, and he offered to go with some Indians to get some of the three kinds mentioned; assuring me of the abundance of all, and offering me, with such ingenuousness, it might be called sincerity and naturalness in a man free from malice, to furnish me with any of the things I might indicate which could be found in the woods, without failing to frequently invite me not to go back without having become acquainted with all of the tribes and whatever might be desirable that was contained in that region.

Being told that an unfortunate notion was prevalent here as to the Indians, considering them almost as cannibals, he smiled disdainfully and replied that there was nothing of that kind; that they were all generally peaceable; that among themselves, one family against another they had their quarrels, but in these they never used any kind of weapons, for guns and bows and arrows were not to shed human blood but to provide food by the chase, they making use in their disputes only of sticks. In speaking of this he referred to the case of the natives of the tribe of *Téribes*, who many years ago killed a missionary priest, using their arrows, and that this tribe had fallen so low by the punishment of God that now but very few of them were left, for the most part women, but in such an ill condition that their color is almost yellow and the abdomen much bloated. I thought it well to let them continue in this superstition and I assured him moreover that Christians ought to kiss the ground upon which the minister of the Most High set his foot; still it is very evident that the real cause and reason for this decadence in the health of the *Téribes* comes from the fact that they live upon the bank of a river where copper abounds. Therefore, leaving them, as I did in this case, in such a belief, those referred to could be made to change the place of their abode.

Speaking next as to the desirability of some missionary fathers coming to those regions to teach Christian doctrines and preach the Gospel, he said to me: "If they are willing, it is well they come; I will not place anything in the way, nor my companions either; but, I do not call for them, because we are poor and we cannot build those great buildings (churches) and those holy

images, which it is said were here at one time: besides, the natives from the village of *Térraba* and *Boruca* still bring to us reports of the bad treatment they receive from the Fathers, which causes them to come and reside among us."

On Monday morning, the 14th, the said Santiago informed me that he was obliged to go to his dwelling to perform some duty and at the same time to fetch me the specimens of the "*Cupuriscú*." While I was sorry to have a man leave me who could furnish me with so much information regarding the country, I could not help being deprived of his company. The remainder of the day was taken up in getting out various liquid colors, blue, purple and red, all of them beautiful.

On Tuesday, the 15th, the King Santiago came back, bringing to me as a present a necklace of tiger teeth, which I still have, and also some plumes of feathers. He came accompanied by "*Lapis*," who bears a like title of King: and also by several captains, chanters (priests), *Zuquias* (medicine men) and a numerous company of both sexes. The men were dressed as I have already described, and at the very least wore a large shirt and a loin cloth, and all generally with the hair very long, black, straight, fine and divided into four plaits coming to the rump. They covered the head with a hat of straw or with only tufts of fine feathers of different colors. As for the women, some of them had costumes of calicos with the corresponding petticoats or skirts; others had skirts and chemises ornamented with what the countrywomen wear here; and others, moreover, with only short skirts of cotton cloth, heavy and fine, having blue yellow and purple stripes, all fast colors, the latter being so excellent in my humble opinion as to be advantageously substituted for cochineal, in the trade, since it costs very little to cut the vines that produce it and send it to Europe. It was very pleasing to me to inhale the delicious perfumes used by the women in their hair dressing, to observe the beauty of their bodies, with their pale reddish tint, and especially some who had brilliant and beautiful blue eyes. I would infer from this that they had some mixture with the white race, which had produced the variation in their color, the flexibility of their hair and the different eyes; and recollecting the forays which in times past the Indians of "*Talamanca*" or of "*Viceita*" made upon the settle-

ments of *Cartago*, from whence they carried away many white women, I have no doubt that from the union with them came the name of "*Blanco*" (white) which they bear, and the almost morbid use of chocolate without sweetening, called *tibio*, which so generally distinguishes the dwellers in *Cartago* from the rest of the Republic. I saw in *Cuén* of *Talamanca* the grossest use of this drink, there having been served to King Santiago in one afternoon as many as fourteen cups, which showed me how passionately fond all the Indians are of cacao, of which they never fail to have in every tribe some groves yielding a quantity sufficient for their consumption, it being of a much better quality than which is served in the capital; for although they extract the oil (mixing it with perfumes for use in hair dressing) it still retains an exquisite aroma.

In the afternoon the North American, Mr. Lyon, was presented, and the *Mosquito* Edward Shepherd, with various other creoles from different places along the coast. I had already hoisted the national flag upon a high pole in front of the house; and in the main hall of it, closed only half-way, I had caused to be draped over the coat of arms of the Republic another of a smaller size. All those present having gathered there, after a very abundant dinner served in plenty to every one, I stood up in full uniform, with all the insignia of my rank, and informed them as to the purpose of my visit, and spoke especially of the reports I had received that there was one among them who pretended to have influence over one of those called Kings, who was amazed that I, a military officer of the Republic, should come into those regions without his consent and that his insolence even went so far as to threaten with fifteen thousand arrows the legitimate authorities of the country; that it was well known who it was that in his dreams pretended that "*Talamanca*," "*Viceita*" or "*Tierra de Blanco*" belonged to the New Granadian Confederation, or that is to say, to the United States of *Colombia*.

I read to them, for this purpose, the Treaty celebrated between *Colombia* and *Central America*; Art. 4 of the Constitution of the Republic, and lastly Art. 115 of the Penal Code, in order to ask who was willing to render himself liable to the penalties provided for in the said law against those who would dismember Costarican territory; giving them to understand that even the

Port of "*Boca Toro*," which *New Granada* withholds to the injury of the rights of this Republic, was not yet decided, even though being now a part of that nation; that as to this, the manner of settling such high matters definitively was fixed by international laws and it was not possible in any way, nor in any nation, that they should be subject to the caprice of an adventurer to whom the boundaries of the country were of no consequence, to which he had been carried by his exorbitant greed. I asked those who called themselves civilized merchants, what had they done for progress and the civilization of the locality, where they had lived for so many years?—except to subject some simple natives, followed like Mussulmen by six wives, whom they treated, not like those in the Orient by keeping them in a seraglio or harem but like animals upon whom they piled loads of sarsaparilla and even of timber and the thatch for the ranches where they were sheltered, keeping their sons in the utmost ignorance of even the principal tenets of our holy religion, for there are many children of fourteen years and upwards who are not yet baptised, although their parents are Catholics; and they even allow to go to waste so many and such valuable vegetable products!

Without any hesitation whatever I referred to Edward Shepherd as the one responsible for the crime of seeking to break up the territory, etc., and the latter grew pale and stammering stood up on his feet in the presence of them all and denied what had been said about him; and the remarkable thing was that all the witnesses were present. The result of this was that he fell greatly in their estimation, for up to that moment they had considered him as a person able to maintain what he said.

The ceremony was closed by cheers for the Government and the Costarican people, Shepherd asking my permission to withdraw with his followers; it being reported that, much surprised, he had decided to leave the place before the rising of another sun, proceeding to "*Bocas del Toro*," where he had his principal dwelling, not without confessing to several persons that if he had said those things it was so that his name might not be unknown. * * *

During Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, I passed the time in the company of the three Kings, for the one named

Chirimo, over whom it was supposed that this Shepherd exercised an influence, arrived on Wednesday, the 16th of April, and broke out into loud laughter when Santiago told about the scene on the day previous, declaring that he was convinced the former did not amount to much and assuring me, as did Santiago and Lapis, that if I went away from the place without becoming acquainted with all the tribes they would be ready to accompany me whenever I came back, so as to take me over the whole of "*Talamanca*," promising that nothing should be hidden from me.

I was constantly being presented with things to eat, or netting of *pita* (a fibre plant) and tufts of feathers, while Chirimo, to whom I presented a cap of blue cloth bound with gold braid, regretted that he had not brought either his kingly insignia nor anything with which to make me a gift. I secured specimens of three kinds of cinchona, yellow, dark red and light red, dye in powder, purple color, which the Indians extract by evaporation from a vine they call *Cacarmá*, a copal gum, pure and mixed which they call *Acuna* or *Acunthica*, and in the end I was able to satisfy myself that "*Talamanca*," which seems to have about 15,000 inhabitants, can furnish for the export trade not only drugs and dyes, but the most valuable woods for carpentry and cabinet work, besides the rich minerals it contains and the skins of many quadrupeds.

The resident *ladinos* who trade only in sarsaparilla, since they know no other product, are as follows:

In "Cuén," of the Biribiri Tribe.

Citizens	4
New Granadians.....	9
Nicaraguans	2

In "Sipurio."

Citizens	1
Nicaraguans	1
Mosquitos	1
New Granadians.....	1
North Americans.....	1
—	
Total, men.....	20

Each one of these men has at least one native woman and some have more than two in the same house and in the same bed, with as many as eight children that have not been baptised, who speak both Spanish and the "*Blanco*" tongue.

Speaking with the Kings concerning the need for building a house for a primary school and a jail, Chirmo asked me *if I did not think it better to wait till someone committed an offense before building a jail*. I replied to him that we were not on a level with buzzards, without any shelter, living in the open; that we built our habitations to protect ourselves against the weather and we constructed everywhere houses of correction in which to shut up offenders. This idea of the King Chirmo raised such a laugh among the natives roundabout that I could not refrain from smiling myself, agreeing with the rest in the necessity for constructing the house referred to. For this purpose I prepared the following note:

No. 8. Republic of *Costa Rica*.

Commission of the Supreme Government.

Cuén, April 19, 1862.

To the Señor Alcalde and Military Judge of "*Talamanca*," or "*Viceita*," or "*Tierra de Blanco*."

Having decided, in the interviews I have held with Santiago, Lapis and Chirmo, the titular Kings of "*Blanco*" upon the construction of a building twelve yards long and seven wide, of good timber, thatched with the best kind of palm, one part of which is to be used as a jail, and the other for establishing a primary school, I beg that, with the utmost promptness, you will proceed at once to the construction of said edifice, at the place of "*Cuén*," as the one most suitable at which to establish a settlement, since its climate is pleasant and healthful, and its beautiful situation and its fine water indicates that it is the place for the gathering of the principal native tribes and the few *ladinos* who dwell in those regions.

Therefore, you will require the inhabitants from the age of eighteen years, without any exception as to color or class, to take part in the work, provided they have not already rendered any public service.

When the building is finished, you will erect in front of it the tallest flagstaff possible, to be used in flying the national colors, which I leave with you, so that the inhabitants continuing to see it, becoming familiar with it and knowing it will respect and desire it. In the interior of the building you will put a stocks of good and heavy timber, to be used for restraining and punishing offenders or guilty persons, of whatever class they may be; and in order to apprehend them you will call upon one of the titular Kings, so that at the head of some natives he may assist therein, in case you may be unable to do it alone with the *ladinos*.

Until the Supreme (Government) decides to make suitable provision for the administration of these interesting regions, you will not neglect to take charge of the supervision of the primary school, teaching the children in it with the utmost kindness to read and write and instructing them in Christian doctrine according to the catechism of Padre Ripalda; and I hope that among the native girls who know how to weave and sew some will be found who in their own houses can take charge of teaching the girls in those things and in the knowledge of the true God.

I fully confide in your activity and in your well known desire for the prosperity of the Republic and for the welfare of these inhabitants, as well as in the moral and material support which the good citizens will afford you in successfully carrying out the enterprise proposed.

I am your very attentive and obedient servant.

A. ANGULO.

On Sunday, the 20th, the mentioned Kings withdrew with their followers, leaving the Captain named "Onfres" and eight men beside to accompany me to the sea-coast; and upon my promising, in taking leave of them, to come again to see them, at the latest within a period of six months, they once more offered to come to meet me upon receiving news of my arrival at the port, so that in company with them I might become ac-

quainted with each one of the tribes and teach them the way to make use of their productions.

The tribes which make up "Talamanca" or "Viceita" or "Tierra de Blanco," are:

<i>Chicao.</i>	<i>Telire.</i>
<i>San José Quevequir.</i>	<i>Sainsí.</i>
<i>Chombri.</i>	<i>Biribirí.</i>
<i>Hurem.</i>	<i>Térebés.</i>

The principal vegetable productions which the soil yields and which can be exported advantageously by the Rivers *Sixola*, *Doraces* or *Telire* and *Changuinola*, are:

Sarsaparilla.....	<i>Native names.</i>
Cinchona or Peruvian Bark.....	Zas.
Cáscara, ⁸ black.....	Cupuriscú.
Jagua (fruit of inaja palm), blue....	Durubí.
Cáscara, red.....	Shipú.
Bejuco (a vine), purple.....	Decóo.
Cáscara, red.....	Cacamá.
Bejuco, violet.....	Córerí
Incense, a gum, aromatic.....	<i>Ojo de buey</i> (ox-eye).
Caraña, a resinous gum.....	Acúma.
Cativo (a gum)	Dóri.
Rubber.	
Vanilla.	

The principal woods for carpentry and cabinet work are:

Mahogany. Cedar. Rosewood. Lignum-vitæ. Oak. Tolu-tree. Cacique.⁹

While I was assured that there were other woods of a yellow or rose color, of very fine quality, the Indians were unable to show them to me, nor did they know their names; but that would have been of not much importance, to know the name, without a knowledge of the wood in order to appreciate it.

The minerals to be found in the country are:

Gold: auriferous deposits in the River *Duerí*, a tributary of the *Cuén*.

Copper: native, in the River *Orocí*.

⁸ Bark of a tree, or husk or peel of various fruits.

⁹ *Eugenia lepidota*.

Platinum: I have not seen it, but the New Granadian, José del Carmen Gracia, assures me it was found abundantly in the ravine of *Hurbaquí*, of the tribe of *Hurén*.

Coal. In *Holm Creek*, which empties into the Atlantic.

Coal. In *Mananita*, which empties into the Atlantic.

I can not close this report without referring to the principal customs of the natives, both as to births and also as to deaths or burials; it being sufficient as regards the union of the sexes to state that polygamy existing the women are bought, as is done in Circassia and other places in the Orient.

When a woman finds the time of her parturition approaching, she goes into the bush near her dwelling. There at the foot of some tree she builds her shelter and strews upon the ground a quantity of leaves in the shape of a couch, where very little different from a female pig, or any other sort of quadruped she brings her child into the world, and takes care of it, after previous inspection by another woman if it is the first one. There she remains during the quarantine period that no one may see her, and much less her husband, for they have so much repugnance to the foulness that the woman who carries the food leaves it in a sort of basket which is hastily made of one or two large leaves at a place where the lately delivered woman can get it. As soon as the time of her quarantine is at an end a full bath is taken and the mouth is washed out with *cupuriscú* (extract of cinchona) so that she may be received in her house, where however her cares are not over, since it must be remembered that the husband must never see anything dirty in connection with the child, because it would be very ill-received by him and by any one else among the many who live together in a house of conical shape, the roof beginning at the ground, like a funnel with the mouth downward, and the support of which (a large forked pole) is used to fasten the hammocks to, in the form of a star.

It is not believed that, although many families may live together in the same dwelling, they hold their goods in common, since each family has its own cooking fire and kitchen necessities close by, they having such respect for property that no one takes anything belonging to another; and so the one who may not have any food awaits the favor which must be extended

by each woman who is preparing that for her own family; the custom of extending such favors being such that from any dish, however small it may be, some must be distributed to everyone, and especially to the guest who may have stopped at the house.

It is not alone in the foregoing that the natives show their respect for the property of another, but when any person dies without leaving a successor, they destroy what is left to such an extent that it is surprising to one who has not witnessed such a practice. When I was there an old Indian woman died who had lived alone in a little hut on the bank of the River *Jurquin*, leaving two or three head of cattle, some pigs and many fowls; but cutting up everything they threw it into the water, going away satisfied that the memory of the dead woman would not be a source of disquiet.

The contrary happens with those that die leaving a family. In such cases they wrap up the body in leaves like a *tamal* (in a *tamale* or bundle) and it is placed upon a barbacoa (a rude support) at a short distance from the house and all the property of the deceased is guarded with the greatest care, inasmuch as the natives believe they will die if they touch or dispose of anything belonging to the dead person. When a year has expired after the death, then they make a party in which with the family are gathered the King of the tribe, the *cantores* (chanters) or priests, and even the *Zuquias* or medicine men who attended the patient; and they make a festival, dancing and singing, in which the two sexes do not mingle, but men dance with men and women dance with women, continuously, until all the property is exhausted that was left by the deceased. Then they transfer the remains to the burial place, where they deposit the same in a trench, which they cover with a great slab of mahogany or cedar, about four or five yards long and five or six *cuartas*¹⁰ wide, and from four to eight inches thick, the same one serving for the whole family, and those of larger dimensions being very extravagant.

I shall always remember with pleasure the cordial words with which, in the little port of "*Portete*," Captain Onfres bade me

¹⁰ Forty to forty-eight inches, a *cuarta* being the fourth part of a Spanish yard, or about eight inches.

farewell, with his eight companions. Each one of them in his turn, beginning with the Captain, took me firmly by the hand, saying in his own language: *Eru yeno berelina?* (Will you think of me?). *Vequia neru yeg* (I shall miss you very much). *Eru yeno berclitu yeno* (You make my heart very sorrowful). Then they invited me to get into the boat which was still upon the land and without permitting my sailors to assist them they raised it up until they thrust it into the water, dropping some copious tears which affected me deeply and begging me to come back soon.

May the Hon. Sr. Minister overlook the defects in this report, accepting at the same time the consideration of profound respect and special esteem with which I subscribe myself with great attachment the subordinate and servant of Your Honor.

A. ANGULO.

DECREE XXI.

Doc. 530

Authority Conferred Upon the Executive Power to Appoint as Political Chiefs, Subordinate to the Government of Cartago, Such Caciques of Talamanca as May Be Deemed Suitable; With Various Other Provisions Helpful to the Organization and Progress of the Peoples Thereof; and Furthermore Authorizing the Same to Carry Out the Reduction of the Natives Known as "Guatusos," Who Live Within the Jurisdiction of the Province of Alajuela.

SAN JOSÉ, July 25, 1867.¹

The Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Costa Rica, in Congress assembled,

DECREE.

ART. 1. The Executive Power is authorized to appoint as Political Chiefs, subordinate to the Government of the Province of Cartago, such of the *Caciques* of *Talamanca* as may be deemed suitable, and they shall be paid out of the Public Treasury, as

¹ Collection of Laws of Costa Rica. Year 1867.

compensation for their services, a salary which shall not be less than ten pesos nor greater than twenty pesos monthly.

ART. 2. He is also empowered to appoint a capable and well disposed person, with the title of Director of the Subjections of *Talamanca*, to counsel and assist the *Caciques* in the administration of the peoples thereof, to suggest the best methods for their most speedy civilization and prepare the reports which are asked for by the Supreme Government, or by the Governor of *Cartago*. The allowance for the Director shall be one thousand two hundred (1,200) pesos annually.

ART. 3. Whilst the development of those peoples does not permit their administration to be arranged like the others of the Republic, these *Caciques*, Political Chiefs, shall govern and administer justice in conformity to their customs, subordinate to the directions of the Government; but they shall never be permitted to impose upon any person the penalty of capital punishment, nor that of banishment from the territory of the Republic. Nor shall they arrest, imprison, keep in seclusion or upon public works for a longer period than one year.

ART. 4. From the decision or action of these *Caciques*, Political Chiefs, an appeal may be made to the Governor of *Cartago*, and from the latter to the President of the Republic, who in such case must confirm, amend or revoke such decision or action, in accordance with the principles of justice and after the proper reports.

ART. 5. Whenever any individual, not a native of the tribes of *Talamanca*, shall commit any grave offense in that jurisdiction, the Director shall investigate the matter and send the record, together with the person arrested, before the Criminal Judge of *Cartago*, in order that he may be tried according to law. The same proceeding shall be had whenever any native commits an offense which merits capital punishment, that of banishment from the territory of the Republic or the arrest, seclusion, imprisonment or labor upon the public works of a person for more than one year.

ART. 6. The Executive Power is authorized to appropriate salaries, not exceeding sixty pesos monthly, to the Curates who may be sent by the Diocesan to those peoples, who shall not be allowed to collect there any fees or revenues.

ART. 7. The Executive Power is also authorized to mark out the jurisdiction of each *Jefatura Política* (the district of a Political Chief); to take all the measures that are conducive to the best administration of those peoples, and to appoint and designate a compensation for such employees as he may deem to be strictly necessary.

ART. 8. In the same way the Government may undertake to carry out the reduction of the Indians called "*Guatusos*," who live within the bounds of the Province of *Alajuela* and should be subordinate to the Government of that province.

To the House of Representatives:

Done in the Session Hall. National Palace.

San José, June 18, 1867.

J. M. MONTEALEGRE, President.

J. RAFAEL MOTA, Secretary.

RAMÓN FERNÁNDEZ, Secretary.

To the Executive Power:

Hall of the House of Representatives. National Palace.

San José, July 24, 1867.

MANUEL A. BONILLA, President.

ANDRÉS SÁENZ, Secretary.

JUAN M. CARAZO, Secretary.

NATIONAL PALACE. *San José*, July 25, 1867.

Let it be executed:

JOSÉ MARÍA CASTRO,

Secretary of State in the Department of Government:

A. ESQUIVEL.

Mr. Keith to Dr. Gabb, Relating to a Scientific Investigation to be Made in Talamanca. Doc. 531

NEW YORK, October 29, 1872:

Professor William Gabb.

VERY ESTEEMED SIR:

You have to undertake to make investigations regarding the geology, the topography and the natural history of those portions of the territory of the Republic of *Costa Rica* that are known under the name of "*Talamanca*," or in a part of the latter or in other parts of *Costa Rica* which I may designate upon my

return to that country. You are to organize a company of persons, suitable for the work to be done and to take entire charge of the party; and you will have the right to employ and discharge, provided you have the full number of persons competent and perform your work to my satisfaction and that of my Financial Agent in *Costa Rica*. It is of course understood that you will give your entire time and energy exclusively to securing the full and complete success of this work.

In case you may not have the full number of persons required, the salary and proportional expense of such person or persons shall be deducted from the total sum allowed to you; but you are always to do everything you can to fill up the number of your party with as little loss of time as possible. In case Professor von Seebach accepts my proposal to take charge of these investigations, you and your party will be under his direction. The reports, maps and the necessary documents, relating to the work of each person of the party, shall be presented in his name, but the Chief will always have the privilege of making such comments as he may deem necessary.

Your party should consist of yourself, as Chief; one topographer and three general assistants. You are to be upon the ground with your party within three months where the work is to be done, counted from this date, advising me or in my absence my Financial Agent in *San José*; and you are to continue your labors without interruption until concluded, except only in case of illness or accident.

You are to receive from my Financial Agent in *Costa Rica* the sum of \$1,500, in Costarican gold, each month, for the payment of all current expenses, such as salaries, payments to servants, provisions, etc., etc. The salaries shall be:—for yourself, \$300 per month; for the topographer, \$150; and for the other three assistants, \$100 each; and the balance to be used proportionally for general expenses. It is my wish that Señor J. C. Zeledón of *Costa Rica* shall be a member of your party.

You will be provided in the United States, at my expense, with all the instruments, papers and other necessary articles for your work; and in the same way, where most convenient, you will procure the animals necessary and equipment; as to all of which you will furnish me with an account upon the comple-

tion of your work. The actual expenses of each member of your party shall be allowed from the place where he may be engaged to *Costa Rica*, and a like sum at the end of his employment; and the salaries shall begin upon the day work is begun.

You will arrange to have exact maps made and will submit them to me from time to time, together with full information concerning the work done. You will also pay especial attention to all matters which may have a bearing, directly or indirectly, upon the geology or climate of the country and as to whether it is possible for persons of the Caucasian race to live and work there. You will treat all these things fully and completely in your special and general reports. But, above all, you must always bear in mind, so far as possible all your scientific work must have some immediate practical application. All information resulting from your labors and investigations, or those of your assistants, shall be solely for the use and benefit of your employers and you are not at liberty to publish anything concerning your work, except with my written consent or that of my authorized agent.

It is understood that you are to conclude the work within one year (counted from the day the work is begun, and in no case are you to exceed eighteen months, except with my approval in writing).

In case, after your arrival in *Costa Rica* and the work has been begun, Professor von Seebach comes to that country and you decline to work under his orders, you shall be at liberty to cancel this contract and be entitled to an extra payment for three months for yourself and the persons of your party.

In case of any question or difference arising under this contract, the two parties agree to submit its decision to two arbitrators, one selected by each of them; and in the event of a disagreement these arbitrators shall choose a third; both parties being obliged to submit to the decision of the said arbitrators as final.

Upon the signature of this contract by you in duplicate, it shall

be deemed as binding upon both in due form and as having the force of a contract.

I take this occasion to subscribe myself yours obediently,
E. M. KEITH.

Doc. 532 Report by Dr. Gabb to the Minister of Public Works of
Costa Rica.

SAN JOSÉ, September 18, 1874.

Hon. Sr. Don Salvador Lara;
Minister of Public Works.

MY DEAR SIR:

In response to your request for a full report as to the condition of the work of the scientific exploration of *Talamanca*, I respectfully submit, as briefly as possible, the following:

The copy of the contract in your hands explains the object of the work very well and the terms under which I consented to undertake it. I contracted to do the work, receiving: (1) all the expenses of the journey for myself and my assistants, from the point where each one was engaged to *Costa Rica* and return; (2) all instruments and other outfit necessary for the work; (3) for current expenses, such as salaries, servants, cost of provisions, etc., One thousand five hundred pesos (\$1,500) each month, in Costarican gold. For this I contracted to make the exploration, aided by four assistants, I paying all current expenses, and making reports from time to time and map or maps as some portions of the surveys were completed. At the end of the work I was to deliver a final and detailed report and a map of all the country examined, as explained more in detail in the contract. I also contracted to do the work within a year and a half (eighteen months) of work in the field.

In 1873 I spent ten months in the field, when taking advantage of the rainy months of November and December, I came back here in order to prepare reports and a map of the work finished up to date. Upon arriving here I learned that the Government had taken charge of the contracts of Mr. Keith. As Mr. Keith had, in the contract, designated Señor Nanne as his agent, I asked that gentleman as to the situation of my affairs. He assured me, after some days, that the Government had also taken

charge of the *Talamanca* contract and that I should proceed exactly as if Mr. Keith was present. In order to be better satisfied I asked him who my employer was, and he replied the Government through him; he being the only person through whom I should receive orders or to whom I was to give statements as to the work, exactly as before.

I was detained here by Señor Nanne until January 17th, awaiting a settlement of the accounts of the preceding year; and upon the 16th of January I was directed by him to resume the work. Thus I lost two months here, for no fault of my own. I left on the 17th and proceeded without delay to *Talamanca*, in order to finish up the work. Up to this date I had given to Messrs. Keith and Nanne three reports or statements of the condition of the work and, as Señor Nanne desired a map, I left Señor Martínez, my topographical assistant, here to make the map, paying him out of my own pocket, and taking another in his place. Señor Martínez undertook to deliver the map before the end of February, but, after my arrival I learned that in consequence of a serious illness, from which he barely escaped with his life, he only completed it a few days before the departure of Señor Nanne for Europe.

The rains in this year in *Talamanca* were very heavy, almost unprecedented. There was not a whole week of dry weather during the months that are generally dry. In consequence of this I had many delays, more than could have been anticipated. For example, we were once kept prisoners for ten days between two swollen rivers, without being able to go forward or back. This not only caused us much delay but also a good deal of suffering; since at times we had to travel and work without sufficient food. Notwithstanding all this, in seventeen months of work in the field, one less than the limit of the contract, we made a complete exploration of the whole of the region, from the frontiers of *Colombia* to the head of the River *Tilivi*, an area of about three thousand (3,000) square miles, or in other words more or less one-seventh of the entire area of the republic.

In a few weeks I can submit a detailed map of that region, more exact than any map that exists of an area of such size in the republic. My data concerning the geology, mines, climate

and resources of the country is full and my statement will be all and perhaps more than called for by the contract.

Beside, I have caused a collection of things to be made covering almost every branch of natural history. This collection, as directed by Mr. Keith, at the beginning, was deposited in the care of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, United States, as the property of the Government and subject only to its orders.

When I was sent out by Señor Nanne in January, he agreed to make my accounts payable in the office of the Railway of *Limón*, each month. I have his letters in which he not only said, as he said before, that the Government accepted the contract, but that he had directed Señor Mallory to pay my money there. I not only did not receive my money in *Limón*, but my draft or order for the final balance for the year previous, which he accepted and signed, with promise to pay it upon delivery of the map by Señor Martínez, has not yet been paid. I have engaged my assistants and the servants out of my own credit and money; I have bought the food necessary in the same way, and all the money I received on account of my salary for the year past, except a small sum I sent to my mother in the United States for her support, I spent otherwise in the work. Beside I have been forced to get other sums loaned by my friends for the same purpose.

The accounts in the possession of Señor Nanne will show the full amount and the details of the expenses of the undertaking up to date. Aside from the travelling expenses (Supre 1) and the purchase of articles required for the work (*id* 2), which were not for my account, I have received or the enterprise owes to me the following:

1873.

Credit.

Feb., July, 6 months, at 1,500.....	9,000.00
Aug., Nov., 4 months (one assistant less), at 1,300	5,200.00
Dec. (Martínez and Gabb only).....	750.00
	————— 14,950.00

Debit.

Received in various sums to Jan. 15th..... 13,646.98

Balance in my favor, for the year 1873..... 1,303.02
 1874.

Credit.

Jan., April, 4 months at 1500..... 6,000.00

May, Aug., 4 months (one assistant less),
 1300..... 5,200.00

Balance of previous year..... 1,303.02
 ----- 12,503.02

Debit.

Mar. 8. Office M. C. Keith by G. Nanne..... 410.69

Mar. 8. Martinez by G. Nanne..... 150.00

Aug. 28. Juan Cooper by Milner..... 100.00
 ----- 660.69

Balance in my favor, Sept. 1, 1874..... 11,842.33

I am, Sr., your faithful and obedient servant,

WM. M. GABB.

Chief of Exploration of *Talamanca*.

San José, Sept. 18, 1874.

Resolutions Relating to Talamanca.

Doc. 533

No. 544. 1880-1893.

Guillermo Vargas Calvo, Director General of the National Archives, certifies:

That in the Resolutions Books of the Secretary of State's Office in the Department of the Treasury, kept in the archives of this office and belonging to the years 1880 to 1893, the numbers of which are hereinafter stated, and at the folios which are also given, there are found extended with the formalities prescribed by law, duly signed and marked by the high officials authorized to do so, the following governmental resolutions, which under the public authority with which I am invested, I certify are authentic and literally copied from the original with which they are compared, and state:

* * * * *

I. *Book No. 2155.**At Folio 1.*

No. 2. NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, May 4, 1880.

Having considered the communication, which under No. 87, dated April 25th last, was addressed to this office of Secretary by the Administrator of Customs of the North; it is resolved:

Let there be approved the provisions made by the said Administrator in compliance with the despatch which was directed to him by this Secretaryship, dated the 15th of the same month of April, relating to the inspections that should be made, on the Atlantic littoral.

Let there be approved also the commission which was given to the Principal Agent of Police when he made his trip to *Talamanca* by governmental direction, in order to ascertain the location of the rubber duties which are exported from those places.

The *Jefe Político* and his Secretary will hereafter sign the memorandum of remission of said duties to the Administrator of Liquors and advise the Custom House of *Limón*.

Let it be communicated: Marked by H. E. the General President of the Republic. For the Secretary of the Treasury—The Secretary of Government, MACHADO.

II. *Book No. 2081.**At Folio 173.*

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, November 28, 1885.

Having before him the report made by the Licentiate Don Pedro Pérez Z., who relies on the one hand upon the scientific work of exploration of the territory of *Talamanca* made by Professor W. Gabb, and on the other on accounts he has received from practical explorers of the zone which is on this side of the Cordillera of *Talamanca*, and shows the easy practicability of a road which shall connect the central valley of that extensive and rich territory with the valley of *General*, reached by the road from *New Santa María* now in construction; with the views of preparing the necessary studies for the execution of

such an important idea as would be the communication with the settled interior of the country, by a land route, of the territory of *Talamanca*, destined later to be one of the richest sections of the Republic on account of its advantageous location, the great variety of its climates and the ease of its fluvial communication with the Ocean, His Excellency, the General President of the Republic, Resolves:

To authorize the necessary cost, up to the sum of \$200, in order to pay the expenses of a purely investigating expedition, from the crest of the Cordillera which divides the *General* from *Talamanca* as far as the villages on the River *Telire*, and to entrust said exploration to Señor Don Jesús Bonilla, who has spontaneously offered himself therefor; Señor Bonilla being required to proceed in accordance with the indications given by Señor Pérez Z., who has in his possession and continues to collect data concerning the matter.

Marked by His Excellency the General President of the Republic.

FERNÁNDEZ.

III. Book No. 2107.

At Folio 105.

No. 55.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, August 18, 1886.

The General President of the Republic, with the view of expediting the distribution of national (domestic) rum in the territory of *Talamanca*, Resolves:

1. The Administrator of Liquors of the District of *Limón* will sell the aforesaid liquor at the rate of forty-five centavos per litre, to the persons registered to distribute it in *Talamanca*.
2. On such sales there shall not be allowed any discount for freight.
3. The Administrator will not make a second or subsequent sales to said distributors, unless there is presented to him the former bill of lading, with certificate of the Chief of the Colony of *Talamanca* that the quantity of rum previously sent had arrived at that place.
4. The Administrator will advise the Chief of the respective Customs Guard every time that a sale is made of said article,

destined for *Talamanca*, so that he may watch to see whether it is or not shipped to that locality.

5. The registration is to be made in the Government office at *Limón*, where the persons shall present themselves who wish to deal in said liquor in the territory of *Talamanca*.

Let it be published. Marked by the Señor General President of the Republic:

FERNÁNDEZ.

IV. *Book No. 1841.*

At Folio 256.

No. 228.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, January 10, 1890.

The Vice President in the exercise of the Executive Power, in view of the authority conferred upon him by the Decree No. 4 of September 25th last past, and at the petition of Mr. Minor C. Keith, in virtue of the rights given to him by Art. 9 of the Contract of August 3, 1888, for the construction of the Northern Railway, Resolves:

1. It is declared that there shall not be subject to denouncement the vacant lands, estimated at approximately twenty-five thousand hectares, included within the following boundaries: North, the highway that leads from *Barranca* to *Bagaces*; South, the Maritime Mile of the Gulf of *Nicoya*; East, the River *Barranca*, and West, the River *Tenorio*.

2. Vacant lands, deeded or not, which the same Concessionaire believes contains an approximate area of two hundred thousand hectares, between the following boundaries: North, and West, the River *Pacuare*; South, the River *Telire*; and East the Maritime Mile of the Atlantic Ocean, with the exception of the twelve miles belonging to the Costa Rica Railway to *Reventazón*.

Let it be published. Flourished by the Señor Vice President,

JIMÉNEZ.

V. Book No. 2029.

At Folio 94.

No. 203.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ. December 3, 1890.

Frequent petitions being made to the Government to allow passage from *Limón* to *Old Harbour* in the small National Steamer "Juan Santa María," with a view of accommodating the public by this new means of communication with the territory of *Talamanca*, the President of the Republic, Resolves:

That the Administration of Customs at *Limón* may receive passengers and cargo in the Steamer mentioned, under the following tariff: Passengers: From *Limón* to *Old Harbour*, \$1.00. From *Old Harbour* to *Limón*, \$1.00. Freight: For each 46 kilos, \$0.50.

Let it be published. Marked by the President: Valverde.

At Folio 147.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ. June 9, 1891.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

That by a charge upon the contingent fund of the Secretaryship of the Treasury there shall be paid to Don Florencio Castro the sum of Nine hundred pesos (\$900.00) to cover the expenses of an exploration entrusted to him by the Government on the Coast of the Atlantic. From the same account there shall be paid monthly the following sums: Two hundred pesos (\$200.00) to the said Señor Castro for his salary as Chief of the exploration referred to; and Eighty pesos (\$80.00) to each one of the following persons, Isidoro and Pedro Molina, Rafael and N. Salas, as assistants.

Let it be communicated: Marked by the President.

VALVERDE.

At Folio 188.

No. 135.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ. October 21, 1891.

Considering that by resolution of this date and by mutual agreement the annullment of the contract made with Don Luis Wichmann, for the sale of liquors and tobacco in the District of

Limón, has been arranged; and considering the desirability of re-establishing the old administration of that business, the President of the Republic, Resolves:

To re-establish official administration of liquors and tobacco in the District of *Limón*, to count from the 1st day of November next. The official in charge of that business shall receive a monthly compensation of one hundred and fifty pesos and shall be subject to the following obligations:

1. He shall give a bond to the satisfaction of the Secretaryship of the Treasury, in the sum of Five thousand pesos.

2. He shall receive at the Custom House in the proportion he applies for and in virtue of telegraphic or written orders from the Secretaryship of the Treasury, the said merchandise.

3. He shall sell the articles mentioned at the following prices: Jamaica Rum, per litre, \$1.11. Jamaica Rum going to *Talamanca*, per litre, \$1.00. Anisette, per litre, \$0:90. Plug tobacco, box of 25 kilos, net weight, \$45.00. Plug tobacco, box of 10 kilos net weight, \$18.30.

4. He shall deposit weekly in the National Treasury, through the section chief of the "Sello Nacional" the proceeds of the sales.

5. He shall take care that none of the articles mentioned are out of stock and shall advise the Government of those that are nearly exhausted at the Custom House:

6. He shall deliver sealed with wax and stamped the packages of rum sold for *Talamanca*, and shall provide, for the purposes hereafter stated, for the bill of lading of the Customs issued by the authority of that place, in which the arrival of the liquor at its destination shall appear, with the securities required.

7. He shall keep open for the sale of liquors and tobacco from eight to ten in the morning, and from eleven in the forenoon to four in the afternoon, every business day, in conformity with law.

8. He shall keep his accounts by double entry, shall take a trial balance monthly during the first five days of each month, and on the 31st day of March in each year, the end of the fiscal period, he shall close his accounts and shall send them to the Chief Accounting Office (*Contaduría Mayor*) for his examination and action. During the first ten days of April of each year, he shall

give to the Secretary of the Treasury a report of the operations carried on in the administration of his office during the economic year. All the rum from Jamaica delivered in the Custom House to the Administrator of Liquors and Tobacco of *Limón* shall be taken and charged in his accounts at the price of one peso and eleven centavos per litre, and the difference of eleven cents conceded to *Talamanca* shall be allowed and credited upon receipt of the bill of lading referred to in Section 6 of this resolution.

Let it be published: Marked by the President:

VALVERDE.

VI. Book No. 1833.

At Folio 6.

No. 154.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ. January 16, 1893.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

That for expenses of the Colony of *Talamanca* there shall be paid to Señor William Hornell Reynolds, the amount of Six hundred pesos (\$600.00) and that this sum be charged to the contingent fund of Fomento.

Let it be communicated: Marked by the President:

VALVERDE.

At Folio 15.

No. 166.

NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ. January 28, 1893.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

From the contingent fund of this Secretaryship let there be paid to Don Carlos Gagini the sum of Two hundred pesos (\$200.00), for expenses in the execution of a commission in *Talamanca*.

Let it be communicated: Marked by the President:

VALVERDE.

It Conforms:

Given in the city of *San José, Costa Rica*, at 2 p. m., on the 13th of July, 1911, at the request of the Secretary of State in the Department of Foreign Affairs of this Republic.

GUILLERMO VARGAS,
Director.

(A seal which reads:

("Archivos Nacionales. San José.
República de Costa Rica.")

Carlo's María Jiménez Ortiz, Secretary of State in the Department of Government, certified:

That the foregoing signature of the Director of the National Archives and which literally reads: "Guillermo Vargas," is authentic.

CARLOS M. JIMÉNEZ.

(A seal which reads:

"Secretaría de Gobernación.
Rep. de Costa Rica.")

Doc. 534

Relation of the First Visit Made to Talamanca by Dr. Don Bernardo Augusto Thiel, Bishop of Costa Rica.

1881.¹

We, the Doctor Don Juan Gaspar Stork, Bishop of *San José de Costa Rica*, certify in due form,—

That in Book 2 of the Holy Visits of the Diocese of *Costa Rica*,

which is kept in the Archives of the Holy See, at folio 100, there is

That day he went as far as *San José Cavagra*. On the way there awaited him some *bizeitas*, who had not been able to come to *Térraba* and who begged him very anxiously for baptism and to be married. He instructed them and baptized them. As he was not able to register it he directed it to be put in the account of the visit. José Sebastián Calderón, aged 30: Godfather, Pedro Calderón. Juana Jesús Estrada, gave 25 years; Godmother, Francisca Estrada; both were married: Godparents the same as the baptism. There was baptized: María Dolores Calderón, daughter of the two *bizeitas* above mentioned, aged 5 years; Godmother Francisca Estrada. María Asunción Calderón, daughter of the same two *bizeitas* of 2 years of age: Godmother, Francisca Estrada. The place of the ceremony was at the entrance of the ravine of *Brujo* on the River *Grande*, the highway of *Térraba*.

In *Cavagra* the *bizeitas* had a spacious house placed at the disposal of the Bishop and his company. During the evening he said the Holy Rosary; two posts were despatched for the King of *Talamanca*.

On Friday, the 27th, he said the Holy Mass. The company or retinue of the Bishop was made up of 13 natives of *Boruca*, including the *Alcalde* and his brother who offered to accompany him; 12 natives of *Térraba*; 3 *bizeitas* of *Buenos Aires*, and 7 *bizeitas* recently baptized of *Cavagra*;—total 35 persons;—the Rev. Padre Hidalgo and Joaquín Páez. He took with him 6 calves of one year old, 2 from *Boruca*, 2 from *Térraba* and 2 from *Buenos Aires*, and two pairs of turkies, all as a present for the Cacique of *Talamanca*: 3 mules and one ox as beasts of burden. On that day, Friday, at breakfast time, he arrived at *Yuamán*, where there were 4 or 5 scattered houses of *bizeitas*. In one an Indian was found sick and he asked eagerly for the Holy Baptism, a favor which was granted in consideration of his condition and the good disposition which he showed. Likewise there was baptized the son of a *bizeita*, already a Christian, Francisco Rojas, aged 30: Godfather, Juan Vic. Rojas of *Térraba*. Valentín Rojas, two years old: Godfather, the same Juan Vic. Rojas. On Friday he reached as far as *Mueta*.

On Saturday, the 28th, they breakfasted at the headwaters of the River *Cavagra*, and in the evening they reached the head-

waters of the Savanna of *Ulán*. The ox was left here and it was necessary to kill it, making use of a part of the meat.

Sunday, the 29th, they breakfasted at the entrance to the savanna of *Ulán*, at the spring of *Agua*; in the evening he reached *Cori*.

Monday, the 30th, he passed the Cordillera at the highest part, erected a cross and called the peak "*Cruz del Obispo*" (The Bishop's Cross); he breakfasted on the other side of the Cordillera. In the evening he reached *Lari*.

Tuesday, the 31st, he went as far as *Dibus*. The work on these days was very hard. Everybody had to go on foot from the head of the River *Cavagras*. A small bull was left in the Savanna of *Ulán*.

Wednesday, July 1st, the birthday of the Padre Don Manuel Hidalgo was celebrated with the last bottle of wine reserved already 14 days and sausages; the Indians all very merry. He breakfasted in *Iberi*, called the ravine of *Cangrejo*; here two mules were left entirely worn out. In the evening the Bishop reached *Bribri* all drenched, with only one *bizeita*. The Indians made some difficulty in receiving him, but at last they yielded to the kind words that were used toward them. The people came at seven in the evening.

The next day the Indians of the house asked for the Holy Baptism; one old blind woman of 85 to 90 years who received the name of *María Concepción*: Godfather, the Padre M. Hidalgo. *María Asunción*, daughter of the former, of 55 to 60 years: Godfather, the same. *María Candelaria*, of 20 years, daughter of the former: Godfather, the same. *Rafael Hidalgo*, 2 years, son of the sister of *María Candelaria*, who was not baptized, her husband not being present.

Thursday, June 2, he breakfasted at the River *Depari*; in the evening he reached *Cucuricho* at the hill of *Palmital*. That day the Bishop was so exhausted that he had to take off all his clothes and in drawers and shirt belonging to the natives he was able to complete the journey.

Friday, June 3, he breakfasted at *Curiquicha* in the Valley called *Quibo* at the cattle ranch of the Cacique of *Talamanca*. There were some ten head of cattle; in the evening he arrived at

Duriguan. On the way they met an Indian of the King who offered them roasted plantains, bacon and eggs.

Saturday, June 4, reached *Lari* the Cacique or Political Chief: he came with two horses to the river. The Bishop entered *Lari* on the only mule that had been able to get across the Cordillera. In the evening of the same day he visited Mr. Lyon, a North American, Secretary of the *Jefatura Política*. The natives came from all parts to see the Bishop. At first they were very reserved but little by little they came nearer.

On Sunday of Pentecost he said mass in *Lari* in the courtyard of the house of the Cacique, where the Indians had built an altar. Many Indians came to see the ceremonies. The same day he went to *Sipurio*, the residence of Mr. Lyon. In the house of Mr. Lyon were gathered the foreigners established in *Talamanca*, almost all protestants. Some begged the Bishop to marry them and this furnished the Bishop with an opportunity to speak to them as to being converted to Catholicism. Mr. Lyon belonging to the Church of England, Mr. Horatio A. Menish to the Scotch Presbyterian Church and Mr. Stuard of the Church of England, adjured their errors and were confessed. The wife of Mr. Lyon, a native, baptized by a Protestant Minister, and very ill, declared that she would follow her husband in everything and that she was a Catholic Christian. She was unable to be confessed yet on account of her illness. In the house of Mr. Lyon there were celebrated five baptisms of *bizaitas*, which items are in the possession of Mr. Lyon, one confirmation and five marriages, which items and the information are likewise in the possession of the Secretary of the *Jefatura*.

Talamanca is a part of the territory of *Costa Rica*, from the borders of the State of *Panama* to *Limón*. It is composed of two parts: *Lari* or the great *Talamanca* and *Estrella*. The great *Talamanca* has three *palenques* or districts: *Bribri*, *Urén* and *Cabéquer*, distant from the central point some two or three days. The roads are very difficult on account of the rivers and the many hills. The three *palenques* are in the Cordilleras: *Lari* is on the plain that extends toward the coast and it has an extension of about two or three days walk. The population amounts to 2,300 individuals, who live in scattered houses, distant from each other

2, 3 and more hours. They plant maize, plaintains, some beans and rice: they have sugar cane. Many are engaged in getting out sarsaparilla and rubber. There are very few cattle. Aside from the Cacique and the foreigners, who have some cattle, very few Indians have any animals. In the whole of *Talamanca* there are about eight horses. The rivers are navigable from *Lari* to the Sea. The descent is very rapid and only takes 7 or 8 hours; the ascent is very difficult and sometimes it takes two days. The *Talamancas* have their medicine men, who cure with stones, barnacles, monkeys, etc., they blow over the sick; they prescribe a diet. They have beside chanters; there are still five who sing for the dead according to a traditional ceremonial. The Bishop directed the chanters to be called and talked much with them by means of the interpreter, Mr. Lyon; he explained to them the principal mysteries of Christianity and found them well disposed to accept Christianity. In some of them he observed some repugnance, but in general a good disposition. Mr. Lyon and all the rest of the foreigners, as well as a great part of the *Talamancas* begged the Bishop to send them a priest to teach them and to put them in the way of true progress.

Tuesday, June 7, he departed from *Sipurio* at 11 in the morning, embarking on the river and he arrived that day at 4 in the afternoon at *Cuabre*, where he took a horse and arrived that same afternoon at *Oljava*, a village situated on the shore of the Sea.

Wednesday, June 8, at 3 in the afternoon he embarked at the little port, a point distant a half hour from *Oljava* and arrived at 6 at *Cahuíta*. In *Cahuíta* Mr. William Smith abjured his errors and was converted to Catholicism; thereupon he proceeded to the celebration of marriage between him and the Sra. Matilde Richardson: from *Cahuíta* he departed in two vessels at 12 at night for *Limón*, where he arrived at seven in the morning with a strong gale.

This conforms to the original to which we refer and for the purposes thereof in law and at the request of the Supreme Government we transcribe the present, which we sign in the Epis-

copal Palace of *San José de Costa Rica* on the twenty-seventh day of the month of May, one thousand nine hundred and eleven.

✠ JUAN GASPAR,
Bishop of C. R.

Before me, MOISÉS RAMÍREZ, N. M.
A seal which says:
Evangelizare. Pauperibus. Misit. Me.
Dominus. Fide et Pace.

**The Chief of the Talamanca Tribes to the Minister of
Worship of Costa Rica. Doc. 535**

TALAMANCA, August 1, 1881.¹

No. 147.

To the Minister of Worship (*Culto*), of the Supreme Government, of the Republic:

SIR: One of the most notable occurrences recorded of *Talamanca* in its little history, is the unexpected pastoral visit, which, in the month of June, the Illustrious Señor Bishop of the Diocese made to us, a visit which has left us full of hope for the future, because he having studied close at hand our mode of life and the complete way in which we have been left behind, will be our best and most faithful pleader before the Supreme Government; and with the perseverance which characterizes him, he will secure the early and future welfare of these unfortunate tribes.

It seemed to us incredible, Mr. Minister, when we received the news that His Worship, from *Térraba* and crossing the great Cordillera was coming to visit us, and we did not believe it because we know the distance that separates us from that settlement, the ruggedness of the mountain and the almost impassible road, if it can be called a road, a mere path which we who are children of the country can travel over with difficulty; but his arrival in this valley, on the 5th day of June, after seven days of very hard travel, the greater part on foot because his mules were left in the depths of the Cordilleras, it has demonstrated to us that the devotion of His Worship in the fulfillment of his sacred

¹ National Archives of Costa Rica. Secretaryship of Government. Year 1881.

duties as a pastor of his character, is proverbial and one of his great virtues. Many Indians went out to meet him and during the three days that he remained with us we had the happiness of hearing him celebrate the holy sacrifice of the Mass to us, being present every night at the teaching exercises, which were conducted for us by the honorable Presbítero, Señor Hidalgo, who accompanied His Worship.

These few days were enough for him to know the desire we have to enter into the temple of the Holy Religion, for he saw the enthusiasm with which, both the natives and some foreigners hastened to be married and have their children baptized. The good disposition of the Indians was a satisfaction for His Worship and made his stay here a pleasant one.

On the 8th of the month he bade us farewell, leaving us much grieved over the separation, but at the same time resigned to it for we have faith in his protecting hand, fortified with the efficacious help of our Supreme Government, and that we shall walk in the way of civilization, so that emerging from the darkness in which we find ourselves we shall know how to praise the God of all men and be useful to the fatherland where we have seen the light.

We are expecting a Cure of souls that His Holiness offered to send to live among us and we await it with eagerness as the first step which shall be given in the direction of our welfare.

In addressing myself to the Minister, informing him as to this matter, I am much pleased to subscribe myself your humble and obedient servant,

ANTONIO ZALDAÑA.

Juan H. Lyon, Secretary and Director of the Tribes of *Talamanca*.

Doc. 536

Appointments of Curates of Talamanca.

SAN JOSÉ, 1881-1896.

We, the Doctor Don Juan Gaspar Stork, Bishop of *Costa Rica*, certify in canonical form:

That in the Book of Resolutions (*Libro de Acuerdos*), existing in the archives of this *Curia*, and which includes the month of September, 1881, at folios 74 and 75 I find, registered the agreement which reads literally:

"We, Bernardo Augusto Thiel, by the grace of God and the Holy Apostolic See, Bishop of the Diocese of *San José de Costa Rica*.

No. 70.

"It being necessary for the greater honor of God and the welfare of souls to designate a priest who shall reside in *Talamanca* and visit the villages and hamlets that compose it, as also the villages and hamlets of *Estrella*, in order that, by imploring the Divine help the heathen natives thereof may be brought within the fold of Our Holy Religion, and having full confidence in the ability, benevolence and good will that concur in the Presbiter, Don Manuel Hidalgo Bonilla, for this work, we have decided to appoint him and we do appoint him Resident Priest and Visitor of the aforesaid villages, with the powers necessary for the instruction of converts, the administration of sacraments, performing marriages and exercising all the functions that of right belong to parochial curates.

"His Cural jurisdiction shall extend, until the locations are better known, from the crest of the Cordillera of the Andes, to a distance of three leagues from the shores of the Atlantic, from West to East; and from North to South, from the limits of the district of *Limón* as far as the boundaries with the United States of *Colombia*.

"The priest appointed shall enjoy the monthly subvention of sixty *pesos* which the Supreme Government has granted, from the day that he starts to his post, and he shall accept the personal services and the provisions that may be offered to him by the natives, provided that these are given of their free will, without his having any right to require them.

"Let this be communicated to whom it may concern.

"Done in our Episcopal Palace of *San José*, at 1 P. M. of the sixteenth of September of One thousand eight hundred and eighty-one.

✠ BERNARDO AUGUSTO,
Bishop of San José de C. R.

Before me: Juan Rafael Mata."

It is correct:

And for the legal purposes thereof and at the petition of the Supreme Government, we extend the present, which we sign

in the Episcopal Palace of *San José of Costa Rica*, on the ninth day of the month of February, one thousand nine hundred and eleven.

✠ JUAN GASPAR,

(A seal says:

Bishop of Costa Rica.

Evangelizare Pauperibus Misit Me Dominum.

Fide et Pace.)

Before me: Moisés Ramírez, N. M.

We, the Doctor Don Juan Gaspar Stork, by the grace of God and of the Holy Apostolic See, Bishop of *Costa Rica*.

We certify in canonical form:

That in the Book of Resolutions (*Libro de Acuerdos*), existing in the archives of this *Curia*, and which includes the month of August of 1894, at folio 213, and under No. 218, is registered the resolution of the tenor following:

“We, Bernardo Augusto Thiel, by the grace of God and of the Holy Apostolic See, Bishop of the diocese of *San José de Costa Rica*:

“By the present there is appointed Curate of the Parish or Mission of *Limón*, the Presbiter Don José Vicente Krautwig, to whom we at the same time entrust the territory of *Talamanca*. The new Curate shall receive the salary which the Government has designated for the Curate of *Limón*, and the salary which has been offered to the Priest who ministers in *Talamanca* and the other emoluments produced according to law and the custom of the diocese by that Parish. We give to the new Curate all the powers that incumbents of parishes legally have, including that of celebrating marriages, with the authority to delegate them to the Priest or Priests who may assist him in the administration of the Mission of *Talamanca*. The new Curate shall take the Parish by an inventory, signed in duplicate by himself and his predecessor, one copy of which shall be sent to the *Curia Ecclesiástica* and the other shall be kept in the archives of the Parish.

Let it be transcribed: Episcopal Palace, *San José*, the twenty-eighth day of the month of August, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four.

✠ BERNARDO AGUSTO,
Bishop of C. R.

Before me: Moisés Ramírez, N. M.

(On the margin it says:

Presbiter J. V. Krautwig, Curate of *Limón*.)

It is correct.

And for the legal purposes thereof, and at the petition of the Supreme Government, we extend the present, which we sign in the Episcopal Palace of *San José*, on the ninth day of the month of February, one thousand nine hundred and eleven.

✠ JUAN GASPÁR,
Bishop of C. R.

(There is seal which says:

Evangelizare Pauperibus Misit

Me Dominus: Fide et Pace.

Before me: Moisés Ramírez, N. M

We, the Doctor Don Gaspar Stork, Bishop of *Costa Rica*.

We certify in canonical form:

That in the Book of Resolutions (*Libro de Acuerdos*), existing in the archives of this *Curia*, and which includes the month of January, 1896, at folios 278 and 279, there appears and under No. 5 is registered the resolution, which reads literally:

"We, Bernardo Augusto Thiel, by the grace of God and of the Holy Apostolic See, Bishop of *San José de Costa Rica*:

"The Civil Government having granted a monthly subvention for the Mission of *Talamanca* and the Superiors of the Congregation of the Mission having permitted the Presbiter, Don J. V. Krautwig, present Curate of *Limón*, to take charge of the Mission of *Talamanca*, leaving the administration of *Limón*, by the present resolution we establish definitely the Mission of *Talamanca*, designating as its territory all the region that is known under the name of *Talamanca*, and we add to it the territories that are traversed by the River *Estrella* and the River *Chirripó* in their upper part, before uniting with the *Moravia*, the boundaries to be fixed with more exactness, as soon as the territory shall be better known.

"We designate as the compensation of the Missionary the monthly subvention of one hundred and fifty *pesos* designated by the Civil Government for the Missionary and Coadjutor of *Talamanca*.

"We grant to him all the powers that by law belong to incumbents of parishes, including that of performing marriages, and besides we renew in favor of the Mission of *Talamanca* all the special powers we have granted in his former capacity as Curate of *Limón*, dated August 28, 1894, November 8, 1894, and December 6, 1894.

"We charge the Missionary that he shall locate a central station in the neighborhood of the place where the civil authorities of *Talamanca* shall be situated, and also small stations auxiliary thereto in the different tribes of *Talamanca* and *Estrella* and *Chirripó*.

Let it be communicated.

Done in our Episcopal Palace of *San José*, on the twenty-seventh day of the month of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six.

✠ BERNARDO AUGUSTO,
Bishop of *Costa Rica*.

By order of His Worship Antonio del C. Zamora.

It is correct:

And for the legal purposes thereof, we extend the present at the petition of the Supreme Government, which we sign in the Episcopal Palace of *San José*, on the ninth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and eleven.

✠ JUAN GASPAR,
Bishop of C. R.

(There is seal which says:

Evangelizare Pauperibus Misit
Me Dominus. Fide et Pace.)

Before me: Moisés Ramírez, N. M.

Record of a Cabinet Meeting.

Doc. 537

PRESIDENTIAL PALACE. SAN JOSÉ, November 10, 1881.¹

At a meeting of the Honorable Señores, the Secretaries of State Guardia, Castro, Argüello and Lizano in Council, presided over by the Excmo. Señor Designated to exercise the Executive Power, there were considered the documents presented by Don Juan H. Lyon, in support of a claim for account of services rendered to the Government from the year 1867, in the capacity of Secretary of the *Jefatura Política* of *Talamanca*, for which he has received no remuneration; considering that Señor Lyon has actually rendered important services in those isolated regions, contributing in a large degree to the conquest and civilization thus far attained among the tribes which inhabit that portion of the Republic; and that although in the documents presented there are noted some informalities, the Government deems such claim a just one, in virtue of which it is agreed to remunerate Señor Don Juan H. Lyon with the sum of two thousand pesos for the services for which he claims payment, and that it shall be paid as follows: \$500 in cash; \$500 in three months; \$500 in six, and \$500 in nine months; and to assign to him, from this date forward, the monthly salary of forty pesos, as such Secretary of the said *Jefatura*, there being included in this assignment the expenses for satationery and office. Ended.

(A flourish).

GUARDIA-LIZANO-CASTRO-ARGUELLO.

Resolutions Relating to Talamanca.

Doc. 538

No. 543.

1881-1890.

Guillermo Vargas Calvo, Director General of the National Archives, Certifies:

That in the "*Libros de Acuerdos*" (Resolutions Books) of the office of Secretary of State, in the Department of Police, kept in the archives of this office and belonging to the years 1881 to 1890, the numbers of which are hereafter given, and at the folios also stated, there are found extended with the formalities prescribed by law, duly signed and marked by the high functionaries

¹National Archives of Costa Rica. Book of the Government Council No. 1318.

authorized to do it, the following governmental minutes which, with the public authority with which I am invested, I certify are authentic, and literally copied from the original with which I have compared them, they state:

I. *Book No. 1355.*

At Folio 24.

No. 9. NATIONAL PALACE, SAN JOSÉ, June 21, 1881.

Present: General Don Víctor Guardia, Secretary of War and Marine, Don Saturnino Lizano, Secretary of Government, Worship and *Beneficencia*; Licenciante Don León Fernández, Secretary of the Treasury, Commerce and Police; Licenciante Don Bruno Carranza, President of the Grand National Council; Don Braulio Morales; Don Luis Sáenz; the Presbyter Don Ramón J. Cabezas; Don A. de Jesús Soto; Don Pedro Zamora and Lic. Don Jesús Solano, Councilors; under the Presidency of the Most Excellent Don Salvador Lara, Vice-President in exercise of the Executive Power;

With the purpose of considering and deciding the proceedings begun to ascertain the authors, accomplices and abettors of the revolution attempted on the 30th of April last past in this Capital, as well as the assassination perpetrated upon the person of Colonel Don Raimundo Jiménez, connected with the revolution:

The process being read and duly discussed, H. E. the Vice-President in the exercise of the Executive Power, in conformity with the vote of the Grand National Council and of the aforesaid Secretaries of State, it is agreed:

1. That the criminals Rudesindo Segura, Francisco Abella, Santiago Granados and Vicente Brizuela, together with the others guilty of the crime of assassination, shall be subject to the Communal Tribunals, attesting therefor all that is proper:

2. That Don Demetrio Tinoco, Don Angel Miguel Velázquez and Don Rafael Iglesias, shall be confined until further order at *Talamanca* and placed under the guard of the *Jefe Político* of that place, first giving bonds to the satisfaction of the attorney of the Republic that they will not violate their confinement, the first in the sum of ten thousand pesos and the two latter for one thousand pesos each, in default of which they shall remain in prison.

3. That Don Francisco María Iglesias and other persons who are detained on account of said revolution, be set at liberty.

S. Lizano, V. Guardia, B. Carranza, León Fernández, A. de Jesús Soto, Ramón J. Cabezas, J. Solano, Braulio Morales, Pedro Zamora.

The Councillor of State who subscribes states that his vote as to what should be done with Don Demetrio Tinoco, Don Angel Miguel Velázquez and Don Rafael Iglesias was that they should be compelled to leave exiled from the country and not be kept in any place whatever in the Republic.

He conforms to the rest stated in this document.

LUIS D. SÁENZ.

II. *Book No. 1353.*

At Folio 65.

No. 210.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, December 10, 1883.

In view of the matters stated by the Governor of the District of *Limón*, in official document No. 829, addressed to this Secretaryship, dated the 6th of the current month, it is Resolved:

Let the said Governor be authorized, so that during the time of the next holidays he may appoint in the settlement of "*Estrella*," two Police Agents, for the purpose of keeping order in the said locality. The salary earned by the said Police Agents shall be charged to the contingent fund of the Bureau.

Let it be communicated: Marked by H. E., the President of the Republic.

GUARDIA.

III. *Book No. 1353.*

At Folio 17.

No. 31.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, July 3, 1884.

The Governor of the District of *Limón*, having reported in official communication No. 781, of June 10th last, that the natives of *Talamanca* are exploited and barbarously treated by some

bandits who have come into that territory, and that the authority of the *Jefe Político* and his Secretary is powerless to repress such actions; H. E. the President of the Republic, Resolves:

To send to *Talamanca* an armed expedition of eight to ten soldiers, under the command of General Don Federico Fernández and an officer, so that in accord with the police authorities of the locality he may proceed to remedy the evils from which those natives suffer; arresting, so that they may be tried according to the laws, all the evil doers that are found in *Talamanca* and the immediate localities. The expenses caused by the execution of this commission shall be charged to the general account of the Police Bureau.

By order of H. E., the General President:

Soto.

At Folio 21.

No. 37.

NATIONAL PALACE,
SAN JOSÉ, July 19, 1884.

The Executive Power, Resolves:

Let General Don Vicente Vargas be confined in the settlement of *Talamanca*, and in the city of *Liberia* the sub-lieutenant Don Manuel Antonio Gallegos.

Let it be communicate: Marked by His Excellency, the General President.

Soto.

At Folio 26.

No. 44.

NATIONAL PALACE,
SAN JOSÉ, August 21, 1884.

H. E., the General President of the Republic, Resolves:

Let there be paid from the police contingent fund the sum of twenty-four pesos, which, according to the statement of General Don Federico Fernández, in a communication of this date, are due to Señor Roberto Campbell of *Limón*, for provisions which he provided in 1881 for the expedition which went to *Talamanca* in the said year under the command of the same Señor Fernández.

Marked by H. E., the worthy General President.

Soto.

At the same Folio:

No. 45.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, August 21, 1884.

H. E. the General President of the Republic, Resolves:

Let there be paid from the Police contingent fund, to General Don Federico Fernández, the sum of sixteen pesos and fifty centavos, for balance due of the expenses to which the foregoing item refers.

Marked by H. E., the General President.

Soro.

At Folio 138.

No. 108.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, September 1, 1885.

H. E., the General President of the Republic, Resolves:

To pay from the Police contingent fund the sum of Twenty-nine pesos and eighty-five centavos (\$29.85), value of provisions taken from the store of Señor W. B. Unckles, by Doctor Don José María Castro Fernández, for the expedition to *Talamanca* which was entrusted to him. The respective account is marked with No. 74, and dated August 26 last past.

Let it be communicated. Marked by H. E., the General President.

DURÁN.

At Folio 151.

No. 125.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, September 26, 1885.

H. E. the President of the Republic, Resolves:

To remunerate with the sum of Three hundred pesos (\$300.00) from the contingent fund of this Bureau, Doctor Don José María Castro Fernández, for his professional services given to the inhabitants of *Talamanca*, by special commission from the Government, by reason of the plague to which the people of that territory were recently subject.

Let it be communicated. Marked by H. E., the General President.

DURÁN.

At Folio 163:

No. 135.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, October 15, 1885.

H. E., the General President of the Republic, Resolves:

To pay from the contingent fund of this Bureau the sum of One hundred and fifteen pesos and seventy-five centavos, to cover the expenses incurred by Doctor Don José María Castro Fernández, on the commission that he executed in *Talamanca*, according to proved account No. 90.

Let it be communicated. Marked by H. E., the General President:
DURÁN.

IV. Book No. 1352.

At Folio 153:

No. 67.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, September 1, 1886.

The General President of the Republic, Resolves:

From the Contingent Police Fund let there be paid to Señores Soto and Bonnefil the sum of Fifty-eight pesos, twenty-five centavos, for medicines furnished for the Colony of *Talamanca*, according to account presented.

Let it be communicated. Marked by the General President:
DE LA GUARDIA.

V. Book No. 1357.

At Folio 1.

No. 81.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, June 27, 1887.

In view of the fact that Señor Temístocles Peñaranda, *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca*, was authorized by the Government to appoint two policemen in said Colony, with the monthly salary of Twenty-five pesos each; and that these employees completed on the last day of the current month four months and a half of service, which has in part been paid by the said *Jefe Político* with the proceeds of the sale of some oxen and a cart of the

national property, leaving unpaid the amount of Seventy-two pesos to satisfy the said compensation until the day mentioned. The President of the Republic, Resolves:

That there be paid to Don Temístocles Peñaranda the said sum of Seventy-two pesos, from the Police Contingent Fund.

Let it be communicated: Soto.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Police:

GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ.

At Folio 2.

No. 82.

NATIONAL PALACE,
SAN JOSÉ, June 27, 1887.

In view of the fact that the preservation of order in the Colony of *San Bernado* in *Talamanca* demands that the services be continued of the two policemen appointed by the *Jefe Político* of that Colony on the 15th of February last past, with the authority of the Government, whose salary has been ordered to be paid up to the last day of the current month, the President of the Republic, Resolves:

That said employees are to be included from the month of July next, in the service list of Police of the District of *Limón*, with the salary of Twenty-five pesos monthly, each one, which shall be paid from the contingent fund of this Bureau.

Let it be communicated. Soto.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Police: González Víquez.

At Folio 6.

No. 93.

NATIONAL PALACE,
SAN JOSÉ, August 4, 1887.

The Vice-President in exercise of the Presidency of the Republic, Resolves:

From the Police contingent fund, let there be paid to the order of the 1st Principal of Police, the amount of Eleven pesos (\$11.00), for the transportation of four persons indicted for vagrancy, to the territory of *Talamanca*.

The Sub-secretary in charge of the Department of Police:

JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

At Folio 48:

No. 210.

NATIONAL PALACE,
SAN JOSÉ, March 17, 1888.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

From the contingent fund of this Bureau, let there be paid to the order of Don Domingo Carranza, the sum of Fifty pesos (\$50.) for his services rendered at the inquest held in *Talamanca* against Don Temístocles Peñaranda, for abuses of authority.

Let it be communicated: By order of the President of the Republic and by the Minister of that Branch; The Sub-secretary,
JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

At Folio 52.

No. 221.

NATIONAL PALACE,
SAN JOSÉ, April 6, 1888.

In view of the fact that the Government had sent to the Colony of *San Bernardo* in *Talamanca* a garrison of military, with instructions to render their assistance to the *Jefe Político* of the same in the exercise of the authority, the services of the sub-altern agents of Police, employed in that place, are no longer necessary, the President of the Republic, Resolves:

To abolish the said positions, and that this provision shall be in effect from the fifteenth day of this month. SOTO.

The Sub-secretary of Police in charge of the Department:
JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

At Folio 53.

No. 224.

NATIONAL PALACE,
SAN JOSÉ, April 17, 1888.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

From the contingent fund of this Bureau let there be paid to Don Francisco Estrada, the sum of Fifteen pesos (\$15.00), which shall be delivered to Señor Antonio Berch for his travelling expenses in returning to *Talamanca*.

Let it be communicated. SOTO.

The Sub-secretary of Police, in charge of the Department.
JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

At Folio 59.

No. 242.

NATIONAL PALACE,
SAN JOSÉ, June 16, 1888.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

From the contingent fund of this Bureau, let there be paid to the *Jefe Político* and Commandant of the Colony of *Talamanca*, the sum of Eighty-five pesos, seventy-five centavos, for various expenses incurred in the Commandancia of said Colony during the months of April and May last past.

Let it be communicated:

SOTO.

The Sub-secretary of Police in charge of the Department:

JOSÉ ASTÚA AGUILAR.

At Folio 65.

No. 257.

NATIONAL PALACE,
SAN JOSÉ, July 25, 1888.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

From the Police contingent fund, let there be paid to the order of the Ex-Commandant of the Colony of *Talamanca*, the sum of One hundred and forty-eight pesos and fifty centavos, for expenses incurred on a commission to *Holjaba*, forwarding a prisoner to this Capital, and transportation of the garrison that was sent to that Colony according to accounts presented.

Let it be communicated: Marked by the President of the Republic,

PÉREZ ZELEDÓN.

At Folio 67.

No. 259.

PALACIO NACIONAL,
SAN JOSÉ, July 28, 1888.

In view of the fact that in a memorial presented to this Secretaryship, it is declared that Señor Don Temístocles Peñaranda, a resident of *San Bernardo* in the territory of *Talamanca*, destroyed without authority a building designed for a Catholic Church, erected there at the expense of the Bishopric of this

Diocese, and used the materials obtained therefrom by such demolition, to build a house of his property:

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

To commission Don Jacinto Mora Castro to proceed to the Colony of *San Bernardo*, and in the capacity of special Principal Agent of Police to hold the necessary inquest there concerning the fact stated and take the proper legal proceedings as shall be required by the papers.

Marked by the President of the Republic:

PÉREZ ZELEDÓN.

At Folio 73.

No. 11.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, August 23, 1888.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

That the contingent fund of this Bureau shall pay to the order of the *Jefe Politico* of *Talamanca* the sum of Twenty-five pesos (\$25.00), amount of the rental of the quarters occupied by the garrison of *Talamanca*, during the month last past.

Let it be communicated: Marked by the President of the Republic,

FERNÁNDEZ.

At Folio 117.

No. 8.

NATIONAL PALACE,

SAN JOSÉ, April 23, 1888.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

That from the contingent fund of the Bureau of Police there shall be paid to Don Mateo Molina the amount of one hundred pesos in virtue of a commission that the Government has conferred upon him and which he should carry out in *Talamanca*.

Let it be communicated: Marked by the President of the Republic: The Minister of Police,

FERNÁNDEZ.

At Folio 166.

No. 123.

NATIONAL PALACE,
SAN JOSÉ, October 16, 1889.

The President of the Republic, Resolves:

That from the contingent fund of this Bureau there be paid to the order of Don Nicanor Sánchez the amount of Twenty-five pesos, as remuneration for services rendered on a commission to *Talamanca* which the Government entrusted to him.

Let it be communicated. Marked by the President:

GERARDO CASTRO, Under Secretary.

At Folio 192.

No. 201.

NATIONAL PALACE,
SAN JOSÉ, January, 1890.

Having seen the memorial submitted to this Secretaryship, by Don Leonidas Anderson, to the effect that there may be recognized to him the third part of his salary as policeman in the Colony of *Talamanca*, on account of illness, and having seen the legal medical certificate, it is Resolved:

To allow Señor Anderson the third part of his salary during the months of December last and January of the present year.

Let it be communicated: By order of the Señor Designated: The Secretary of State in the Department of Police:

ALVARADO.

It conforms:

Given in the city of *San José, Costa Rica*, at 1 p. m. of July 12, 1911, at the request of the Secretary of State in the Department of Foreign Affairs of this Republic.

GUILLERMO VARGAS

(A seal which says:

“Archivos Nacionales. San José
Republica de Costa Rica.”)

Carlos María Jiménez Ortiz, Secretary of State in the Department of Government, certifies:

That the foregoing signature of the Director of the National Archives, which literally reads: "Guillermo Vargas," is authentic.

San José, July 31, 1911.

CARLOS M. JIMÉNEZ.

(A seal which reads:

"Secretaría de Gobernación.
República de Costa Rica.")

Doc. 539

Report of the Governor of Limón.

No. 799.

To the Minister of Government and Police,
San José.

LIMÓN, September 30, 1882.¹

I take pleasure in complying with my duty by informing Yr. Hon. that during the month which ends today the most noteworthy occurrences are the following:

The arrival at the port of some steamers of new lines. The return from *Talamanca* and from the South Coast of the District of the Illustrious and Rev. Sr. Bishop of the Republic, on his official visit and continuation of this visit by the same Señor, in company with the undersigned Governor, to the District of *Parismina* and *Tortuguero*. The Illustrious Prelate of the Costarican church, occupied in his noble and holy evangelical mission, wherever he has been, filling with joy the inhabitants of the District with his example and his presence. This important visit of the Ill. and Rev. Bishop will terminate with an excursion along the railway, with stops at the various centres of population that are found there.

After the Bishop had arrived at this Port, the *Jefe Politico* or "King of *Talamanca*," came here, and various other Indians of that jurisdiction, on their way to your Capital, with a view of becoming acquainted with it and also with the persons of the Supreme Government. The public health of the District, at the beginning of the month, was bad, by reason of two cases of small pox which occurred, and of which you already have been informed. Fortunately no other cases have occurred, and the two

¹National Archives of Costa Rica. Secretaryship of Government. Year 1882.

parties attacked are now perfectly well, the quarantine consequently to which these persons were subject has been raised. The District physician, Dr. Ulloa, has vaccinated more than 100 persons, children and adults, there being included in this number all the Indians from *Talamanca* who has arrived at this Port at this time. So that, it appears, that with this foresighted measure the epidemic of small pox which at first threatened us in an alarming manner has been prevented. Otherwise the sanitary condition of the District is now fair, although I can not say that it is very good because there are some cases of billious fever on the railway line, which are attributed to the clearing of woods and the dryness of the season, which changed in the last two days of the month and we are having abundant rains.

The generality of the inhabitants of the District continue to apply themselves to their agricultural tasks, hoping for the next Summer season to reap the benefit of the business that promises in the next coffee harvest which is exported through this Port.

Separately I will have the honor to forward to you a special report concerning my official trip to *Parismina* and *Tortuguero*.

With the greatest consideration I have the honor to subscribe myself your very obedient servant,

ALBERTO MOYA.

Report of the Governor of Limón.

Doc. 540

No. 954.

To the Minister of Government,
San José.

LIMÓN, November 16, 1882.¹

Duly advised by the interesting note of Yr. Hon. of the 10th instant, No. 42, which I received today, in which you are pleased to transcribe for me the report, dated the 8th instant, by the Ill. and Rev. Señor Bishop to the Hon. Minister of Worship, concerning his official visit to the territory of *Talamanca* and to this Coast, I am pleased to acknowledge their receipt and at the same time to advise you that as soon as the Ill. and Rev. Sr. Bishop brought to my knowledge the acts referred to in his report of the immoral custom of some of the Indian women of *Talamanca*,

¹National Archives of Costa Rica. Secretaryship of Government. Year 1882.

tending to prevent succession, I wrote officially, on the 5 of last month, in a strict and energetic manner to the *Jefe Político* of *Talamanca* with the purpose of preventing any further progress of so grave an evil.

Regarding what is mentioned in the said report referring to Emeterio, I will say that this Indian when I heard of his bad actions in *Estrella*, I ordered his arrest and he escaped from the prison, but recently his mother sent a commission of natives to beg this Government that he be permitted to return to his own country, as he was in the neighborhood of *Bocas del Torro*. I said to the commission that Emeterio can be presented to this Government and afterwards he could go back to his family; but when that individual is presented here I will send him with all security to your Capital.

It would really be very desirable if the District Physician would make a monthly visit to *Talamanca* and *Estrella*. Although it is not possible to fix the expense of it because it depends upon the time that it take for the physician to make the trip to those places.

The bad weather does not permit me at present to make an official visit to *Talamanca* and *Estrella*; but I reserve such visit to be made as soon as the bad weather passes.

With the greatest consideration, I subscribe myself of Your Honor the very obedient servant,

ALBERTO MOYA.

Doc. 541 Relation of the Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Visits Made to Talamanca by Dr. Don Bernardo Augusto Thiel, Bishop of Costa Rica.

1882-1890.

We, the Dr. Don Gaspar Stork, Bishop of *San José de Costa Rica*, certify in due form: That in Books 3 and 4 of the Holy Visits (*Santa Visita*) which are kept in the archives of this *Curia*, at folios 266 of Book 3 and folios

144 and 201 of Book 4, there are registered the documents which literally state:

Book 3. Page 266.

"1882. Visit to the territory of *Talamanca, Estrella, River Banana, Limón*. Coast of *Parismina*, and *Tortuguero*, and the line of the railway as far as the River *Sucio*.

This visit, so necessary and difficult, was begun on August 21. At * * * in the morning of this day the Ill. and Rev. Sr. Bishop, accompanied by the Prebs. Don Luis Hidalgo and the Father José Badilla, mounted their horses on the way for the River *Sucio*. At 12 o'clock they arrived at *Laguna*, where they breakfasted, and from there proceeded, reaching the River *Sucio* at 2.30 p. m. At 3.30 the undersigned, Curate of *Limón*, came to meet them, having to accompany them on their journey.

The next morning the Padre Luis bade us farewell and the rest took the special train which left for *Limón* at 8 in the morning. Nothing special happened on this trip, except that Señor Smitt, in charge of the house of "Uncles" did not accept any pay for the breakfast that he served us at River *Jiménez*. The owner and the Overseer are Protestants. We arrived at *Limón* at 4 and right at the corner of the Plaza the Governor came to meet H. W., with some employees, who asked if he desired to stop in the Government Building, and the offer being accepted we went to that house, where there was no indication that our visit was expected; however, the dinner was entrusted to a hotel and at 5 p. m. it was served in a corridor of the Government Building, with two invited guests: Señor Ramírez, Treasurer of the District, and Señor Castro Carrillo, the only *Alcalde*, one of them giving a toast in praise of H. M. and stating a heated dispute concerning the religious indifference which prevailed in *Limón*, to which the Curate put an end explaining the causes which produced that indifference, the principal being the bad example shown by employees in that place, who did not take part in the religious ceremonies on holidays. The Captain of the Port, Sr. Brealey, took charge of the necessary equipment for the boat, which was to take us to *Oljaba* and this was so well done that at seven in the evening we were all ready on the wharf

for departure. The Padre Don José Badilla bade farewell to H. W.; the servants were despatched by land for *Sipurio* and the baggage was put in the boat. At 7.30 we were under way, with a calm sea, carried along by the breeze and by 11 the calm was so complete that it was only with oars that we were able to reach *Cahuita* by 6 in the morning. A cup of coffee in the house of Sr. Schmitt soon put us all right after the bad night and at 9 we left for *Oljaba*, where we arrived at 2 p. m.

This port is the one called *Puerto Viejo* (Old Harbour); and it has all the requirements for receiving small vessels and steam-vessels, for it is very open for the departure of large vessels when the North wind is strong, which happens almost always. The beach is of very fine black sand, a yard or more in depth. As it threatened to rain and no laborers were to be seen anywhere we carried the baggage to a hut near where we landed, and where we dined and breakfasted. Thus our strength being regained, the Sr. Bishop determined to go to the house of Don Horacio Magus (Horecio), distant a half mile; some remained caring for the baggage and the others went in his company. We did not meet the Indians here who were to carry the baggage, so that we could march at once, and the night coming on the Sr. Bishop decided to wait there and determine what to do. The family of Don Horacio was absent and so we had to content ourselves with the attentions of a bashful boy in charge of the house, who even hesitated to give us a bed to rest on. At last some in the hut near the beach and others in the house, we slept, not so badly as we had thought to in the beginning. Here we met Chico Costa Rica and his wife, who accompanied H. W. to *San José* on his first journey.

At dawn on the 24th, Thursday, the Señor Bishop celebrated the Holy Sacrifice and at the moment of the elevation the sun came out of the Sea which we had before our eyes. God in the most holy Sacrament showed us his love and as the Holy Sacrifice was lifted up how our hearts were warmed with Divine fervor. The sun gives life to the earth with its heat and the Creator and the creature in that moment are face to face in the fulfillment of their destinies. I will warm you with rays of charity, so that carrying my Gospel to the most distant lands they may become civilized, said the one. I will veil my rays, so that you

may not be hindered in your enterprise, said the other. And so it happened. God gave us assistance and the elements favored our expedition.

This is a very healthful place, where the said Indian Horecio lives, married the year before by His Rev. to a creole mixed with Indian of *Talamanca* and Colombian. He has a usual clearing, with yuca, cane and maize, all of a very good class and a mill which he operates with horses and makes sugar that he sells to the *Talamanca* Indians. It is at this particular place that the clearing and the road that leads to the river, at the point called *Surecta*, it was ordered to be built many years ago by the Political Chief of *Moin* at the cost of the district, in order to facilitate communication with *Talamanca*. After breakfast the Bishop went to the River *Sixaola* with a guide to investigate the reason why the Indians did not come and not finding any one continued on in a canoe as far as *Sipurio*, where he arrived in the morning of the 25th.

I remained in *Oljaba* until the last of the baggage was taken away by different parties of Indians who were arriving and on Saturday, the 26th, at 7 a. m., I left with the rest of the expedition for the river, where we arrived in three hours. I found a large canoe and having loaded the baggage we went up as far as *Sibube*, reaching that point at 1 p. m. This is a place worthy of a better fate. It is very healthful, located on a table-land more than fifty feet above the level of the river which here is very smooth. There are only two houses: one of Señor Peñaranda and the other of one Serapio living with an Indian woman who abandoned him about that time. The former kept up a trade with the interior, on account of the convenience of transporting all kinds of products from *Bocas del Toro* and the second has cattle, gathers rubber and sarsaparilla. Here there must have existed during the period of the Spanish domination a settlement of the 14 who made up the district of *Talamanca*, for there are various clearings, some covered with forage and others with younger trees than the rest of the mountain. There is much game, especially fowls and wild turkeys. Here it may be said that the traveller takes breath, for the rest of the river is of hard work and dangerous. Navigation is easy to here for vessels drawing five feet.

We continued our journey at 2 p. m. by a river which is indescribable. Sometimes it appeared like an immense lake, at other times it was a dangerous rapids; sometimes the borders are immense walls covered with and overshadowed by trees that seemed as if suspended from the heavens by magic or an invisible cord; at other times there were beautiful shores of gravel, covered with bushes or wild cane suitable for the food of cattle, while at other places it was barren, which showed the frequent overflowing of the river. It is winding and presents at every turn the most charming vistas which make one forget the danger of the ascent by pushing with a pole and insupportable heat at certain hours. The Bishop traversed it in the night, but I preferred to die of heat than to be drowned by some neglect of the boatmen. It was impossible to reach *Sipurio*, and so as the night was already coming on we landed at a farm called *Hedi*, where we breakfasted and slept well.

Sunday the 27th broke rainy and with the idea of saying mass at *Sipurio* I made haste to embark. However much the boatmen tried it was not possible to reach before 10 a. m. the union of the Rivers *Thu* and *Urén*, which form the *Sixola*. We left the revolting waters of the T... and we took the crystal stream of the *Urén*, which we sailed for two hours, being able to reach at 12 the Church of *Talamanca*.

Here the Bishop was installed in the parish house and all the baggage was carried there from the river, a distance of hardly fifteen minutes. We began already to arrange for the trip to *San José Cabécar*, the ancient headquarters of the district and now the residence of the *Usecra* or Grand High Priest of the Indians. We remained, however, all of the 28th at *Sipurio* and we celebrated the Holy Sacrifice at different hours, at which were present the Secretary of the Political Chief, Sr. Lyon, who had been baptized and married during the first journey, and various Indians taught by the Sr. Curate Manuel Hidalgo.

Here we were informed of the difficulties that are met with in the teaching of the Indians and we were pleased with the moral and material progress of that parish. Difficulties were presented by the influence of the Grand High Priest (*Gran Sacerdote*) and of the Under-Priests, Chanters or inferior ministers. These petitioned the *Usecra* that he would blow upon the Padre Hi-

dalgo, so that he might be driven out of the country or become ill. It is necessary to explain this in order that it may be understood. According to their beliefs the *Usecra* has a great cave (which no one has seen and he only knows the place where it is); in it he prays asking God for what they need and then takes the *Flor de la Balsa* or some other poisonous herb, or also by means of a *Guacamayo* (macaw) or deplumed cock if it is not possible to give the poison to the person. After this is done, whether it happens or not as he pretends, he collects from each resident what they can give, such as clothing, animals, bead-work, and other things which they have been able to get together with great labor. When once in a thousand times what he prays for happens by natural means, this strengthens their belief until they have in this impostor a **blind faith and fear the harm** that may come to their house or family from his incantations. In this case the Padre Hidalgo was afflicted with rheumatic pains and very soon the *Usecra* came to *Sipurio* to collect for his work, for which his initiates religiously paid him. He was present in the house of the Political Chief and there they ate their presents, taking home only some clothing and some pieces of *mastate*, for the Indian never keeps anything to eat until tomorrow; if he cannot finish it, he excites his appetite by a gathering of friends. They give poison in the cacao and it is very rare that it has effect. Withal the Padre maintained himself in the country and thanks to the care of Mr. Lyon was able to maintain himself until our arrival and even to make some progress in the teaching and civilization of the Indians. There were baptized 260 persons and he celebrated 25 marriages, it being now very easy to find *peones* and carry on conversation in their language with those who are already Christian.

In the evening of the same 28th the Rosary was recited in the church and the word of God was declared to the congregation and many Indians who were present.

In the morning of the 29th, after the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice, we started on horseback for our journey to *San José Cabécar* at 8 a. m. We reached the house of the Chief at 9.30 a. m. This road is level, very clean and wide, shaded from one side to the other by fine trees that show by their size that they are young. Here Professor Hübach found an orchard unknown

to science. At 10 a. m. we proceeded on our way, accompanied by the Chief and some Indians. We crossed the River *Lari* with some difficulty and after crossing it we found some two miles from the river a large hut, deserted, but surrounded by extensive plain plantations which they told us had belonged to the Chief Santiago, assassinated in some contentions over succession some years ago. Here was encamped the army of 500 Indians, while Señor Lyon the representative of the Government of *Costa Rica*, with 60 followers, was able to maintain himself. These contentions have completely disappeared, for the Indians are not lovers of strife but of a life without action and indolent, in which they can provide for their few wants with plantains and wild hogs' flesh, so abundant in that country.

At 11.30 we arrived at *Naibla*, where there is a hut on which an Indian lived named Bron, not yet a Christian, but he manifested a desire to be one, as well as his wife. The latter was painted with two spots of dark cinnamon color on either side of each cheek, a paint which they make from the juice of a bark of a tree and red earth. Here we breakfasted and proceeded on our way through deserted pasture fields of thick grass. We also passed by narrow pathways quite covered with reeds, which made it very difficult for a horse to get through. At one o'clock we arrived at a hut which is near the River *Coén*, where we left the horses and we met the *peones* who carried the baggage and who were to serve us as guides in order to proceed on our journey.

Serious difficulties confronted us at the crossing of the river, but at last we reached the other bank without anything happening, continuing on up to the top of the mountain. Here we found a large hut and differing from the rest in its oblong shape. More than four families were living there, who received us without any fear; and it being 3 p. m. the Bishop determined to pass the night in this place. Each one put his load under cover from the rain that threatened to fall and the Bishop met a *Cabécar* Indian, to whom he gave instruction in that language, passing in this way the time till 9 p. m., when we recited the Holy Rosary and retired. In the afternoon the *peones* made an altar looking to the East, outside of the hut, with canes and decorated with branches of trees. He who was born in a poor gateway, in order

to teach the world the virtue of humility does not disdain the pure flowers of the mountains nor the virgin branches of the forest which formed on that occasion his throne.

The 30th of August had not yet dawned, on which day is celebrated the festival of Santa Rosa, the principal Patroness of the whole of America, when the Bishop called us all to be present at the Holy Sacrifice. The rain during the night had drenched the floor and the Indians very quickly cut a quantity of plain-tain leaves which served as a carpet. The lights on the altar did not waver and all Nature was hushed in order to contemplate for the first time the august mystery of the Altar. When the mass was ended the daybreak had already come and after taking a light breakfast we took up our march at 6 in the morning. In an hour we reached the last hut in that section called *Sioriñoc*, where we were treated with cacao and *chicha* (a beverage of the country).

The road here began to be more difficult: the river *Coén* which we had to cross five times discouraged us and it covered us several times with its rapid and abundant waters. Those were not roads: the Indian does not build highways, so that he may not be molested and he passes as if he were the last one and it was the last time that he should pass that way. He goes along the bank of the rivers and when an obstacle presents itself he crosses to the other side, and if he cannot proceed there he climbs the ridges and scales walls, for such certain broken places of this road can only be described, until he descends on the other side, again seeking the bank of the river. Worn out we arrived at 1 p. m. at the crest of a ridge that was 2,000 feet above the level of the sea. Here we took breakfast and renewed our strength in order to go down as we had come up. At last overcome, after having traversed extensive canefields, muddy quagmires and wide, very wide plain-tain plantations, we reached at 6.30 p. m. the hut of Valentín, at the place called *Cucute*, where we dined and without any care as to our beds we slept soundly.

It was already light when we awoke. In a short time the sun lit up the crests of the Cordilleras which we had before our eyes. "There is *Coctu*," said the Indians, pointing out a peak intermediate between the Andes and ourselves. Immense pasture fields surrounded it and in the highest we could see a hut that

they said was the habitation of the *Usecra*. After breakfast we descended to the river by a narrow path, which could only be compared to a steep cliff. It was 7 a. m. on the 31st of August when we crossed for the last time that day the tiresome river *Coén*. Once on the other bank we all proceeded on our journey, until we came to a hut where the unfortunate Dr. Gabb stopped and suffered for three days with fever some years before when he made his trip of exploration to *Talamanca*. According to what we were told by an old woman whom we found there, she was the same one who took care of him and the hut was in the same condition as then. From the time that we arrived she did not cease offering us "*chicha*," cacao and ripe roasted plantains, which some accepted and she told us that the night before three men and two women had gone by, escaping that way, saying that all should flee because many people were in pursuit of them: that as she harmed no one she did not fear anything from any one. We then began to be afraid that the *Usecra* would prevent the *Cabécars* being seen, as it so happened.

This old woman is worthy of a slight description. She is tall, very dark, so thin as to have almost no flesh on her, having no other clothing than a *bona*, a small girdle that covered her private parts, her hair was black without any gray, scanty by a quarter it covered her face so that to walk she uncovered one eye a little. She must be eighty years old and had a certain sprightliness and activity which we admired. She lived alone with a grand-daughter, whom we did not see, being on the mountain in care of the pigs. We asked her if she would like to receive baptism and she said "No," because she would die. It is the same obstacle that the Indians of *Estrella* brought forward, which indicates the communication between the *Usecra* and *Biterio*.

At 8.30 we set out on our march and we crossed the ancient pasture lands that the Spaniards opened up more than two centuries ago, and climbing up a ridge entirely cleared and covered with forage, we reached the crest that we had seen in the morning, the habitation of the *Usecra*, or Grand Priest. It was 1 p. m. There we threw ourselves in the hammocks while our breakfast was being made ready, to rest a little, seeing the end of our journey. The Indians call this place "*Coctu*," so that not

even the name is left of *San José Cabécar*, after the Spaniards were driven away in 1709 from the fourteen villages who were in that neighborhood. In *San José Cabécar* or *Coctu*, then, we found ourselves installed at 1,800 feet above the level of the Sea, at an equal distance from the Atlantic and the Pacific, our view shut off by the great Cordillera in every direction. There was not a *manzana* (a measure of land) around the neighborhood that could be called level; but its slope does not stop the breeding of cattle of all kinds. The climate is delightful and although the location is so elevated the quick changes in temperature that were experienced at *Sipurio* were not met with. At night the thermometer did not go below 17° Réaumur, nor in the shade did it in the daytime go above 20°. The habitation of the *Usecra* which we occupied had a rather strange shape,—being an equilateral triangle, the sides of which make the roof and at the same time the wall of the dwelling, its base being the peak of a hill slightly inclined to the East and West and prolonged to the North and South.

In this house we found only two Indians, very wild and nephews of the *Usecra*, though, what was uncommon, completely clothed and with red handkerchiefs wound about their heads. Both had the keen look, the hair cut just below the ears, very flat on both sides of the face and shorter in front like the style of the young women of our most cultivated communities. They told us that their Uncle was in *Estrella* but that they expected him momentarily. According to what we were told afterwards in *Estrella* he was hidden and watching all our movements from a distance. He was the one that we sought, in order to advise him, and all our effort was useless because we could get none of the rest to present themselves.

The Bishop went down to a hut that was half a mile distant to attract some of the Indians and to show that no harm would be done to them, and two *Talamancas* who knew the way were directed to inform the Indians thereabout that they should come to visit us and on the following day there came four, very much in fear, clothed and the hair cut in the same manner as those that we had seen. The rest of that day the Bishop employed in studying the *Cabécar* language, Professor Hübeck in herborizing, Dr. Bovallius in hunting beautiful and strange humming birds and I

was with the Indians preparing an altar. In the evening by dint of presents the Bishop succeeded in getting into conversation with one of the nephews of the *Usecra*, who explained to him some of their religious beliefs.

The world, he said, was formed by a great bat which rose daily to the heavens to get its food and the excrement which it deposited upon a rock went rolling and enlarging the earth which began to produce everything. God sent to the earth his son who planted the bananas in Talamanca and taught their ancestors to cultivate the maize and make chicha. The mother of this son of God is in the heavens praying for them. The soul is believed to be immortal and they have gatherings of under-priests or priests upon the death of one, so that the soul may find the way to heaven. At these gatherings they spend what was left by the deceased, eating, drinking and dancing near the body, which they put in a stockade, after having wrapped it in *mustate* and dried plaintain leaves. When there is *nothing left to eat* they give to each *Sucur* (under-priest) three or four pesos, according to the days that they may have been engaged and *he declares that the soul has already found the road.* They are not very much attached to their beliefs, except that which they have in their *Usecra*, that he is in communication with God and that everything that he asks for, breathing into the mysterious cave, as we said, is granted, they defended it and it is difficult to get them to give it up entirely. The Bishop explained to these, as well as to the *Talamancas*, who listened with interest, the true creation of the world by God, the immortality of the soul, the reward or punishment for our good or bad deeds at the moment of death and the true mission of the Catholic Priest.

We constructed the altar at the foot of a tree, near the house, and here we recited the Holy Rosary before we went to sleep. A little before the rising of the sun of the 1st of October, His Worship celebrated the Holy Sacrifice upon that modest altar, which for its covering had the sky and for its pavement the carpet which had been provided by nature. How much occurred to us in those moments! Two centuries before all was animation in those localities and perhaps in the same place the sacrifice had been held of the Franciscan Fathers who directed those peoples. So much blood, so many assassinations and we imagine a great

settlement of Indians and Spaniards * * * and now, thirteen houses of poor, savage and unhappy Indians, where the Spaniards found so much wealth that they gave the name of "*Costa Rica*" to the State.

The Bishop directed his talk to the congregation, recalling the date when the Padre Margil passed that way, and calling our attention to the punishments which God sends upon peoples for their sins, for the hand which punished the lawlessness of conquerors and the conquered is yet seen hanging over this deserted country; he urged also upon those present that comprehending the delicacy of the mission upon which they came they will conduct themselves as good Christians, since by the sin of one God often makes the labors of the rest unfruitful. We all retired in silence to the dwelling where we took breakfast.

His Worship determined to visit the place where there still were left some remains of an ancient Catholic church and he went with some others, to the North of the hill lower down, where they found about two miles the ruins referred to. Really, heaps of debris, like *adobes* that had tumbled down, but which the Indians declared had been very large houses, were left in that location. On the way they encountered a funeral which the Indians had prepared to make a holiday. As has been stated, this was a stockade, very strong and protected from the rains by an ordinary roof. Inside the body was placed, already almost dried, upon cross pieces of wood. The *peones* wanted to uncover it and the Indians were much offended, but coming up to the house we directed two companions that with great solemnity they should take the skull to examine it afterwards and this was done, keeping it with great care in order to carry it to the capital.

Nothing more happened that day. It was already near evening when three Indians appeared to see the Bishop, almost trembling. He treated them with kindness, presented them with clothing and rings and they left agreeing that they would go to *Sipurio* with their families and other companions. That night His Worship continued his studies in the language and he explained to them several points of religion, to which they gave much attention, especially one of the nephews of the *Usecre*. After the Holy Rosary we slept until the following day, when His Worship celebrated the Holy Sacrifice very early and we