

ART. VI.—*Geographical Notices*; by D. C. GILMAN. No. XV.

ARCTIC EXPLORATIONS.

1. *The Hayes Expedition*.—At a meeting of the council of the American Geographical Society, held November 15, 1860, Henry Grinnell, Esq., presented a letter from Dr. I. I. Hayes dated at Upernavik on the west coast of Greenland, Aug. 14, 1860, and reporting the progress up to that point of the Arctic Exploring Expedition under his command. It will be remembered that the particular object which Dr. Hayes has in view is to determine whether or not there is an Open Polar Sea, as Dr. Kane had good reason to believe. The opinions of Dr. Hayes on this subject are set forth in an article from his pen in this Journal, [2] xxix, 401, and more fully in a small volume entitled "An Arctic Boat Journey," (New York, 1859, 12°, pp. 375).

Dr. Hayes sailed from Boston, July 10, 1860, in a small vessel of 140 tons named the "United States," fitted out by the liberality of gentlemen in New York, Boston, Washington, Philadelphia, and other parts of this country, under the auspices, though not under the official responsibility of the American Geographical Society of New York. Every thing had been propitious up to the time of his writing from Upernavik, and Commander and crew were in excellent spirits in view of their long prospective seclusion from the inhabited world. Dr. Hayes still adhered to his plan of wintering at Cape Frazer (lat. 79° 42').

The following is his letter:—

Ex. S. United States, Harbor of Upernavik, }
North Greenland, Aug. 14, 1860. }

Gentlemen—I have the pleasure to report for the information of the patrons and friends of the expedition my arrival at this port.

We made a quick passage from Boston. The schooner proved herself to be a good sea boat, and behaved admirably during some very heavy weather. No serious accident occurred.

On the twenty-first day out we were off Godhaven, and on the 5th inst. we anchored in the harbor of Proven. That settlement or outpost in the Upernavik district is forty miles southward from Upernavik. We were there detained in restowing our cargo, so that we might put below, the deck-load of lumber intended for our winter housing, and otherwise better prepare the vessel for the ice encounters. We put to sea again at the earliest practicable moment, and entered this port on the evening of the 12th inst. We found here a Danish brig, belonging to the Royal Company. She will be ready for sea to-morrow, and I shall send my mail by the hands of Dr. Rudolph, the retiring Governor of Upernavik, who returns in her to Copenhagen, and who has politely offered to do me this favor.

Through the kindness and liberality of Mr. Hanson, the Governor of Upernavik, and of Dr. Rudolph, I have obtained at Proven and Upernavik all the dogs that I require, and such furs as are essential to my party. Mr. Hanson and Dr. Rudolph have generously placed at my disposal everything which their personal property or the public stores will afford, for the promotion of the interest of the Expedition.

I have also been fortunate in obtaining the services of an excellent interpreter, Mr. Peter Jonson. He has had much experience in the management of dogs, and is a good hunter. He resides at Tessinsak, sixty miles northward from Upernavik, at which place I shall halt to take on board his team of dogs, which will make, with those on hand, twenty-five.

It is my melancholy duty to report the death by apoplexy, of my carpenter, Gebesen Caruthers. He was found dead in his bunk last Sunday morning. His body was placed in the burial-ground adjoining the church at Upernavik; and I have directed a railing to be constructed around the grave, and a suitable inscription to be placed over it. The loss of Mr. Caruthers is deeply to be regretted. He formerly sailed under Capt. De Haven, in the first Grinnell expedition, and in addition to his experience among the ice and his skill as a workman, he was thoroughly devoted to the best interests of this expedition, and I had great hopes of his future usefulness.

It is impossible for me to predict anything with respect to the prospects before us.

The season has been backward, but the weather has been very mild during the past ten days, and the recent southerly gales have doubtless broken the ice. The wind now blows fresh from the northeast, and if there is much ice before us it will be driven to the southwest.

We shall leave here to-morrow, and attempt at once the Melville Bay passage, and shall hope to make Smith's Strait not later than the 1st of

Sept. If successful in this endeavor, we shall have abundant time to secure a convenient harbor on the coast of Grinnell's Land. You are already aware that I anticipate (from observations made by myself upon this coast in 1854) reaching Cape Frazer, lat. 79 degrees, 42 minutes, where I propose spending the winter. A degree lower, however, will place one within practicable reach of my proposed field of exploration. If the condition of the ice will permit, I will immediately—after a winter harbor has been selected—carry forward the boat which I intend using for next summer's labors, and some provisions, as far north as possible, and then leave them, secured against the bears, and return to the schooner after the winter has firmly set the ice. Early next spring, we shall push forward advance depots, and should we find either ice or water, we shall endeavor to accomplish with boats or sledges, or with both, the chief object of the voyage before the close of the summer. If this fortune awaits us, we shall then return home without unnecessary delay. I do not, however, anticipate this result, but I expect that we shall be detained two winters.

I shall endeavor by every means to avoid a third year's absence. We carry with us, however, food and fuel for that period, and in the event of our being so long detained I do not fear adverse results. With the fresh supplies we have on board I believe we can resist the scurvy.

I do not hesitate to express my belief that, although we are late, we are in season. Capt. Inglefield left this port on the 16th of August, 1852, and the important results which he achieved during the following month in Smith, Jones and Lancaster Sounds, are well known.

I am informed by Governor Hanson that the whaling fleet did not succeed in passing Melville Bay this year, but you are aware of the fact that after a certain period it would be useless for them to succeed; August is the most open month of the year.

I shall however avoid every unnecessary risk of being caught by the winter in the middle of the ice. Should the prospects of success appear to be peculiarly discouraging, I shall return southward and winter at one of the Danish settlements.

My party are in excellent spirits, and earnest in the performance of their duties, and you may rest assured that no effort will be spared to accomplish the object of our undertaking in the shortest possible time. To favor this, we have every facility which experience has indicated.

Our camp equipments are of the most compact and portable description. The food prepared expressly for the expedition by the American Desiccating Company in New York, consisting of soup, beef and potato, is excellent, and fully equals my expectations. Of this food we have three thousand pounds—equal to about thirty thousand pounds of the raw material. I have tried it during the passage, and consider the several articles united preferable to the ordinary pemmican. Pemmican of the finest quality may at any time be made of our beef by the addition of lard, of which we have an abundant supply. With good and sufficient food, with every essential for the promotion of health and comfort, with united and earnest companions, and with a vessel well suited for the service, I have, upon leaving this last outpost of christian settlement, every reason to feel greatly encouraged and to expect success.

Trusting our lives and fortunes to the keeping of Him who alone is omnipotent, we sever in a few hours our connection with the civilized world, and enter upon our work, looking hopefully to the future.

With the best wishes for the prosperity of you and yours, and with many sincere thanks for the liberality which you and your associates have displayed in our outfit and preparation, I beg you to believe me,

With great regard your obedient servant,

ISAAC I. HAYES.

To Henry Grinnell, Esq., of New York; Richard Baker, Jr., Esq., of Boston; Prof. A. D. Bache, of Washington; Wm. Parker Foulke, Esq., of Philadelphia, and others who contributed to the Expedition.

Almost simultaneously with the receipt of this letter, Dr. William Longshaw, Jr., of East Cambridge, who had left this country with Dr. Hayes as Surgeon to the Expedition, arrived in Boston, having been compelled to return on account of injury to his eye-sight which rendered him nearly "snow-blind." He brought intelligence from Dr. Hayes a few days later than the date of the above letter, and has also communicated to the newspapers of Boston, many interesting details respecting the early part of the voyage, which the limits of this Journal will not allow us to reprint. The expedition sailed from Upernavik, August 14th, for Tessinsak where it had arrived on the 23d of that month. It was here that Dr. Longshaw parted from the company. Dr. Hayes found a small village of Esquimaux at Tessinsak (the home of his interpreter,) some of whom were employed to make up into clothing the furs purchased at Upernavik.

2. *Hall's Search for the Relics of Franklin's Expedition.*—A short time previous to the departure of Dr. Hayes, Mr. C. F. Hall of Cincinnati, conceived the project of searching for further remains of the Franklin expedition. About the first of June, 1860, he set out from New London, in a whaling vessel named the "George Henry" belonging to Messrs. Williams & Haven of that port. A letter just received from him dated at Holsteinberg, Greenland, July 17th, was communicated to the American Geographical Society by Mr. Grinnell, at the meeting above referred to. In respect to the plans and outfit of Mr. Hall we are happy to publish the following information, communicated in a private letter from Henry R. Bond, Esq., of New London, in answer to enquiries which were addressed to him on the part of this Journal.

"New London, Nov. 20, 1860.

* * * Mr. C. F. Hall is a printer who has resided at Cincinnati. He has had no experience whatever as an Arctic explorer, but has always felt interested in northern voyages of discovery and has particularly turned his attention to the various expeditions sent out in search of Sir John Franklin. On the return of M'Clintock's Expedition, he conceived the idea of fitting a

small vessel and sailing for King Williams Land (where the various Franklin relics were discovered) with the hope of finding some of Franklin's men, still living among the Esquimaux of that region. Being unable to secure funds sufficient for this purpose, he changed his plans and after an interview with Capt. Buddington of this place who was about to sail north on a whaling voyage, he decided with the consent of the owners, to take passage on the "George Henry," (Capt. B.'s ship) and pass the coming winter at that vessel's winter quarters in Cumberland Inlet—there to accustom himself to the climate, and as far as possible, to acquaint himself with the Esquimaux language, and habits of living, which latter he intends to adopt. In the spring he proposes to start in a boat (which he had prepared, and took with him for that purpose) with half a dozen or more picked natives, and plenty of dogs, for King Williams Land. His boat is so arranged, that it can be placed on sledges, so that he can make his way along, by land or water, as required.

After leaving Cumberland Inlet, he will either follow up the east coast of Fox Channel (yet unexplored between $66^{\circ} 30'$ and 70°) to the Straits of the Hecla and Fury, and thence southward and coastwise, until he reaches King Williams Land;—or he will cross Fox Channel at about 66° , thence across Rae Isthmus, by sledges to Committee Bay, and so on by water to his destination. He does not expect to have any white companions, but hopes to be able so to *Esquimaux-ise* himself as to be able to communicate personally with, and make himself at home among, such natives as he may meet. He intends to be absent two or three years, during which time he expects to examine carefully King Williams Land, and the main land south, about Great Fish river, for relics of Franklin's Expedition, as he thinks it was not thoroughly explored by Rae or M'Clintock; and he will make particular search among all the natives of that region, for such of Franklin's men as may be still living. Hall takes with him such scientific instruments as he may need, a quantity of provisions, articles of trade for the natives and a full supply of ammunition on which latter he will mainly depend for his subsistence. His expenses are paid by contributions from individuals in Cincinnati, Philadelphia and New York. Messrs. Williams & Haven give him his passage in their "George Henry" to the whaling ground and he expects to make his way back to that point and return home in some whaler when his mission is accomplished.

Hall is physically rather a fat, heavy man, but is full of enthusiasm pluck and spirit. His enterprise is a very daring one; still if he finds himself able to endure the climate, and the Esquimaux mode of living, he may accomplish something. If he reaches King William's Land in good condition, his chances of discovering other relics seem good." * * *

From Mr. Hall's letter to Mr. Grinnell we present a few extracts.

Holsteinberg, July 17, 1860.

"Our voyage thus far has been attended with calms, fogs and head winds, thus prolonging it to 39 days. The usual time may be set down at from 25 to 30. We arrived here in Holsteinberg harbor on the morning of July 7. The Rescue, of your first expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, in 1850, arrived at midnight of July 11. The George Henry and Rescue parted company the third night out, during a heavy wind; but Holsteinberg being the rendezvous, each vessel made its course direct here.

My health is excellent—better than ever. I enjoy myself beyond measure.

In this connection, I must speak to you of the coöperation I receive from Capt. Buddington, who has the command of both the George Henry and Rescue. If I could have had the choice of 10,000 men, excellent navigators in the waters of the north, and withal good and true men, I could not have selected a better one than Capt. Sydney J. Buddington. The house of Messrs. Williams and Haven, whose generosity in behalf of my voyage to the north should ever be remembered, know well that their interests in the George Henry and Rescue are in the hands of one of the most careful seamen that comes here in the Arctic seas.

It gives me pleasure, also, to communicate respecting the attention and hospitality extended to me by Gov. Elberg of Holsteinberg.

He, in company with the European ladies of Holsteinberg, have spent several hours on board the George Henry, and in nothing do they seem more interested than in examining the records of the first and second Grinnell Expeditions of 1850-'51, and 1853-'54-'55, as written and illustrated by the lamented Kane. Happily, I had these volumes with me. The Governor was also interested in the work of Captain (now Sir) F. L. McClintock. At a tea-party given by the Governor on the evening of July 10, I was invited to give a general statement of the accomplishments by McClintock, in his last voyage here to the Arctic regions. All were much amazed with the jovialness of Gov. Elberg, in reading before the whole company present McClintock's account of his gift of some coals to "the priest's wife, who was blue with cold." "The priest's wife," Mrs. Kier, was one of the party and seemed to enjoy the joke quite as well as any of us.

I must take the only copy of McClintock I have with me, as there are many statements in it that I wish to investigate personally, when on King William's Land next year.

I have visited various mountains of Greenland during our stay here, and know of no part of the world where there is better opportunity for the geologist to investigate the stratification of the earth's crust than here in the north. By the by, Gov. Elberg has presented me with numerous specimens of fossil fish, from North Strom Fiord, the only place where they can be obtained. Mr. McClintock says they are interesting as being of unknown geological date.*

Before me, on the table in my cabin, where I am writing this, is a beautiful bouquet of Arctic flowers, in great variety, sent me by several young Esquimaux ladies of Holsteinberg. I am astonished at the profuseness of Nature's productions here.

* See this Journ. [2], xxi, 313-338 and xxvi, 119, for age of Arctic rocks.—Eds.

July 18.—It is intended that we leave here at the earliest moment. Yesterday, by the assistance of Gov. Elberg and Capt. Buddington, I purchased an excellent team of sledge dogs. Next winter will find me half Esquimaux, I doubt not. Capt. Buddington intends finding good quarters for the George Henry, then proceeding with me through Frobisher's Straits and Fox Channel. Circumstances will decide as to penetrating also Repulse Bay. I shall learn much practical information this winter.

July 23, 1 o'clock, A. M.—A fresh breeze now prevails. We are now off for the west side of Davis's Straits."

P. S.—Since the foregoing was in type, a later letter has been received by Mr. Grinnell from Mr. Hall. It is written from his proposed winter quarters, lat. $62^{\circ} 51' 30''$ N., long. $65^{\circ} 04' 45''$ W., but the day and month are not specified. Hall had lost his expedition boat, but was in good spirits, hoping to prosecute his journey early in the spring. He claims to have discovered that Frobisher's Strait is not a strait but an inlet.

3. *Capt. Parker Snow's Proposal to Search for the Franklin Relics.*—A brief allusion has already been made in this Journal to the desire of Capt. Parker Snow of the British Mercantile Marine, to go in search of the records and other memorials which it is hoped may still be in existence, as relics of the lost Franklin expedition. At the Oxford meeting (1860) of the British Association he presented his views at some length, and his paper together with a report of the comments which it called out, an introduction and an appendix, has been recently published in a pamphlet form. (London, E. Stanford, 1860, 90 pp., 8vo.) Capt. Snow argues with much earnestness that all the information thus far gathered in respect to the fate of Franklin's party indicates that further traces of the expedition must still be in existence near King William's Land, and the peninsula of Boothia. He even thinks that survivors of the party may still be found. Holding these opinions, he desires to go on the search, and appeals to the British public for aid to the amount of £3500, which he thinks will be sufficient to equip a small vessel (say from seventy-five to ninety tons) and maintain a sufficient crew during a period of two years. He states his desire to enter the Arctic seas, through Behring's Straits, hoping to reach King William's Land the first summer.

A writer in the Tribune informs us that on account of inability to raise the funds which he hoped for, Capt. Snow now proposes a well-equipped boat-party, to leave England in the early spring, and reach King William's Land from the East, the sum already collected being sufficient to fit out such a party.

4. *McClintock's Arctic Soundings.*—The London Athenæum for November 17, 1860, contains the following letter from Capt. McClintock, giving some particulars in respect to his attempt to

make a line of deep sea soundings from Cape Farewell, the southern point of Greenland, to Ireland.

“ Bulldog, near Rockall, Nov. 6. }

“ Closed at Killybeg's, Nov. 11. }

“ *My dear Collinson*,—We have nearly brought to a close about as *tough a job* as usually falls to the lot of the most hardworking—even of *surveying ships*. I have been up (in the ship) to the head of Hamilton Inlet, but South Greenland we found enveloped in an unusual amount of pack, so much so that I had to go up to Godthaab (64° north) before I could get into any harbor. On the 29th of September I succeeded in getting into Julianshaab, where I expected to find the Fox, but could obtain no intelligence whatever respecting her. Our vessel was the *earliest* to arrive there this season; the ice having been impenetrable. The Fox (with Capt. Allan Young, Col. Shafner and Dr. Rae on board) had not arrived at Hamilton Inlet on the 17th of September, and I fear she has been detained by ice on the east coast of Greenland, although in a letter Young left for me at Reikiavik he says he intended going *first* to Julianshaab, to obtain an interpreter for the east coast. We have had desperate weather since the beginning of October. A gale on the 8th of October almost crippled us; we lost two boats, had our bowsprits snapped off by a sea, but as the gammoning held it fast, he has since been ‘righted,’ and at least *looks* shipshape. The iron tiller was also broken, and a vast deal of damage done to the sponsons, paddle-wheels, bulwarks, &c., lying to under bare poles for thirty hours, sleet aloft, and seas coming over us below, unable to cook, &c., disagreeable enough even for a ‘*Polar*.’ To accomplish a line of soundings from Cape Farewell to Rockall, has proved rather beyond our powers at this late season, and with such continued severe weather; yet we have sounded at intervals the whole way, and I think sufficiently for ordinary purposes. Southwest of Iceland, where we expected 2,000 fathoms, we only found 748 fathoms, and in 1,260 fathoms we brought up a living star-fish! I tried in July, August, September and October, yet could not approach Cape Farewell from the southwest, within forty-five miles, the intermediate space being close pack; but at the same time the present is such a bad year that the Danes in Greenland say that they have not had one like it for nearly thirty years. It has been very favorable in Labrador, and very little ice is seen there. In Iceland also, the summer has been very fine. We have had much more icework than I expected, and the ship has suffered accordingly; paddle-arms bent, cutwater chafed away, and copper bolts standing out; the ship rolls very heavily, and is now quite *eager* for a good caulking. I think we have done our work well; at least we have done all we can. Instead of a deep channel leading into Hamilton Inlet, I doubt if forty-five fathoms can be carried inside the outer Islands, and would reduce the width of the main channel to about five miles, and there is an exterior bank along that part of the coast, having between 100 and 200 fathoms water on it. * * I have completed the soundings across to Rockall, but they are at long intervals, and not as straight in line as they would have been under more favourable circumstances of weather. I obtained deep water again inside of the Rockall Bank, 1,310 fathoms about mid-

way. * * The same southeast wind is still blowing which has scarcely ceased since the 18th of October.—Most sincerely yours,
“ F. L. McCLINTOCK, R. N.”

HEUGLIN'S SEARCH FOR DR. VOGEL, IN CENTRAL AFRICA.—The fate of Dr. Edward Vogel, who set out in 1853, under the patronage of the British Government, to coöperate in the explorations of Central Africa then already undertaken by Richardson, Barth, and Overweg, has remained until the present time shrouded in complete mystery. This brave young man, the third son of Dr. Charles Vogel, a distinguished School Director in Leipsic, landed at Tripoli on the 7th of March, 1853, (his twenty-fourth birth-day) and began his African researches. On the first of January, 1856, he set out from Kuka, on the western shore of Lake Tsad intending to return to Europe by way of Wadai, Darfur, Kordofan and the Nile. The items of intelligence which have since been gathered from various sources give reason to believe that he reached the capital of Wadai, *Wara*, and that he was beheaded by the Sultan of that land, although indeed there is a possibility that he is still imprisoned in that country. Every effort to gain more definite information has hitherto failed.

By the kindness of Dr. A. Petermann, of Gotha, the editor of the *Geographische Mittheilungen*, we have been informed of a noble project, recently put forth, for enlisting the people of Germany in a special expedition, of which the object will be to determine if possible the fate of Dr. Vogel, to recover any remains which may be in existence of his journal and observations, and to prosecute those geographical and scientific inquiries to which his life has in all probability been an offering.

Fortunately the right man is known for this bold and difficult enterprise. Mr. Theodore von Heuglin, for seven years Austrian Consul at Chartum on the Nile, a traveller and observer whose writings are well known in geographical literature, stands ready to go forth in search of tidings of his countryman. A committee of which the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha is the President, Justus Perthes the Treasurer, and Dr. Petermann the Secretary, has recently been organized, and is diligently engaged in enlisting the sympathies and securing the aid of liberal Germans in promoting researches which the dictates of humanity as well as the interest of science so loudly call for.

From the various circulars which this committee have put forth, we gain the following additional particulars. Mr. von Heuglin is said to be qualified for his proposed task in all the most important requisites of an African explorer. He is accustomed to the climate, acquainted with the languages and habits of the natives, skilled in astronomical and geographical observations,—a good draughtsman, and by his previous residence and travels in Africa known to many influential persons.

Mr. von Heuglin proposed to leave Europe last autumn, and since in Cairo and Chartum he is acquainted with trustworthy servants and has a supply of scientific instruments, he will make the Nile lands the basis of his enterprise, endeavoring at the same time, to have reserved supplies at Bengasi, a town on the North African coast which has direct commercial relations with Wadai. He proposes, if pecuniary resources allow, to secure the services of a botanist as a companion. It is thought that three or four years will be occupied by the expedition, and that its entire cost, in addition to the private resources of the explorer, will fall between twelve and twenty thousand thalers. At the date of our last advices about one third of the necessary amount had already been secured, wholly from the German compatriots of Heuglin and Vogel. As the enterprise is regarded in "the fatherland" as an expression of national union in the advancement of science, we cannot but hope that among the adopted citizens of this country from Germany, so many of whom have acquired ample fortunes, there will some men of liberality be found ready and eager to aid in carrying forward a project which is full of promise.

MEDICAL STATISTICS OF THE U. S. ARMY.—The Surgeon General of the U. S. Army, Gen. Thomas Lawton, has recently presented to Congress a statistical report on the sickness and mortality of the United States Army, between Jan. 1855, and Jan. 1860, prepared by Dr. R. H. Coolidge, Assist. Surg. U. S. A. Although this document is chiefly devoted to sanitary discussions, it is of great value to the student of the physical characteristics of this continent, from the light which it throws on the geographical distribution of various forms of disease.

Two such reports have previously been printed, the first covering a period of twenty years, from 1819 to 1839, and the second a period of sixteen years, from 1839 to 1855. This may be considered accordingly as a supplement or continuation, the general arrangement before adopted being still adhered to, that is, the details being arranged in geographical divisions and regions having similar climatological features.

The volume is accompanied by an outline map of the United States, on a scale of 1:10,000,000, being unincumbered with the ordinary topographical details, and political divisions,—it presents to the eye in a very clear and satisfactory manner the limits of the seven military departments of this Government, the East, the West, Texas, New Mexico, Utah, Oregon and California, and also indicates the site of all military posts, both forts and arsenals throughout the entire country.

SQUIER'S COLLECTION OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS CONCERNING THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA.—Mr. E. G. Squier, well known

for his archæological attainments and his printed works in reference to the early history of America, has announced the publication of a series of papers, chiefly from the Spanish archives, concerning the discovery and conquest of America, which he proposes to issue in the original, with translations, illustrative notes, maps and biographical sketches. The materials for the series have been collected, partly from the Spanish archives, and partly from Central America, during a period of ten years' study of American archæology. The scheme is deserving of the utmost encouragement, as under any circumstances it must appeal to a limited circle of students. The collection will be indispensable to the geographical or historical student, and an honorable companion and supplement to the great collections of Ternaux-Compan, Munoz and Navarrete. The proposal of Mr. Squier to print the original document as well as the translation in every case, will meet with universal acceptance. The first volume of the series, containing Palacio's description of Guazacapan, Izalco, Cuscatlan, Chiquimula, in 1576, has already appeared. Subscriptions for this and the subsequent volumes may be addressed to the Editor, Mr. E. G. Squier, 205 East Tenth Street, New York.

Among the manuscripts collected for publication are the following :

I. Carta dirijida al Rey de España por el Licenciado Don Diego Garcia, de Palacio, Oydor de la Real Audiencia de Guatemala, año 1576.

Report on the Provinces of Guazacapan, Izalco, Cuscatlan, and Chiquimula in the ancient Audiencia of Guatemala, with an account of the languages, customs, and religion of the aboriginal inhabitants, and a description, the first ever given, of the Ruins of Copan. *Original Spanish, Translation and Notes, with a Map.*—(Ready.)

II. Relacion del Descubrimiento y Conquista de las provincias de Nicaragua, dirijida al Rey de España, por el Capitan Gil Gonzalez Davila, desde la Ciudad de Santo Domingo de la Isla Española, 6 dias del mes de Marzo, de 1524 años.

Gil Gonzalez Davila was the first discoverer and conqueror of Nicaragua, and this is an account, under his own hand, of the circumstances of its reduction, and of the character of the country and its inhabitants. Although largely used by Oviedo, Peter Martyr, and Herrera, it has never been published.

III. Cartas del Adelantado Don Pedro de Alvarado, escrita al Rey de España y al Capitan Hernando Cortez, sobre la Conquista y Pacificacion de los Reynos de Guatemala, y la Expedicion que hizo desde el Puerto de Iztapa á Peru, etc.

These letters of Don Pedro de Alvarado, the celebrated Lieutenant of Cortez in Mexico, the Conqueror and afterwards Royal Governor of Guatemala, are seventeen in number, of which three only have been printed. They give an account of the reduction of the rich and powerful Kingdoms of the Zutugils, Quichés, and Kachiquels of Guatemala, and also of his campaign against the Pipils of Cuscatlan (now San Salvador), and his Expedition to Peru.

IV. Relacion muy circunstanciada, escrita al Rey, de los sucesos de Juan Vasquez de Coronado, en las Provincias de Nuevo Cartago y Costa

Rica en la Pacificacion y Descubrimiento de ellas, por el Cabildo de la Ciudad y Provincia de Costa Rica, en 12 de Diciembre, 1562.

A very circumstantial relation to the King of the proceedings of Juan Vasques de Coronado, in the Provinces of New Cartago and Costa Rica, and in their reduction and pacification, by the Municipality of the City and Province of Costa Rica, December 12th, 1562.

V. Relacion dirigida al Rey por Pedrarias Davila, de las Tierras, Costas y Puertos que estaban descubiertos en el Mar del Sur, desde la Villa de Bruselas que estaba poblado en el Golfo de San Lucar, hasta Neguepio que por otro nombre tambien se llamaba Cuzcatan, distancia de 200 leguas; año 1529.

Relation to the King of Spain, by Pedro Arias de Avila, concerning the lands, coasts, and ports which have been discovered in the South Sea, from the city of Brussels in the Gulf of San Lucar, to Neguepio, called also Cuzcatan, a distance of 200 leagues. Dated in the year 1529.

VI. Relation que en el Consejo Real de las Indias hizo el Licenciado Antonio de Leon Pinelo, Relator de su Alteza, Sobre la Pacificacion y Poblacion de las Provincias del Manché i Lacandon, que pretende hazer Don Diego de Vera Ordoñez de Villaquiran, Cavallero de la Orden de la Calatrava, etc.; año 1638.

This is an account drawn up by the celebrated Antonio Leon Pinceo, author of the "Tratado de Confirmaciones Reales, etc," in his capacity of historical Secretary or reporter to the Council of the Indias, on the remarkable and even now but little known district, occupied by unconquered Indian tribes, which lies between Guatemala, Chiapa, Tabasco, and Yucatan. It gives a comprehensive summary of all that was known of this wide region and its inhabitants, at the time Pinelo wrote, and seems to have been compiled from original, and, as yet, unpublished, documents in the Archives of the Indies. These *relaciones* or Briefs were for the use of the Council exclusively, and only enough were printed to give a copy to each member. Probably no copy of the present document exists, except the one under notice, which seems to have belonged to Pinelo himself, as may be inferred from the MS. corrections and emendations which it bears, and which appear to have been made by his own hand.

VII. Carta dirigida al Rey de España sobre la Conquista y Pacificacion de la Provincia de Yucatan y sus poderosos Reyes, por el Fray Lorenzo de Bienvenida; año 1548.

VIII. Relacion de la Provincia de Honduras é Higueras, por el Obispo Don Cristoval de Pedraza, Obispo de Honduras, dirigida al Emperador, desde el puerto de Truxillo, con fecha de primero de Mayo, año 1547.

IX. Descripcion de las Islas Guanajas; parte de un Informe hecho en 1639, de orden del Presidente de Guatemala, por Don Francisco de Avila i Lugo, Gobernador i Capitan General de Honduras.

X. Relacion de la provincia y tierra de la Vera Paz, y de las cosas contenidas en ella, como son montes, fuentes, animales, aves, y plantas y arboledas, del numero de los pueblos y distancia de la Iglesias y fundacion de ellas, y de lo que cada uno tiene; y finalmente del numero de gente, sus lenguas, su policia y Xpiandad, desde el año de 1544, hasta este de 1575.

XI. Discurso de Felipe de Aniñon, sobre las utilidades y ventajas que resultarian de mudarse la Navegacion de Nombre de Dios y Panama al Puerto de Cavallos y Fonseca, año 1565.

Etc., etc., etc., more than one hundred in number.