

for the day, marched sturdily up mountains and down again. He tells of the people who dwell in Chocó:

which lies along the western coast [of northern Colombia] and within the San Juan watershed. . . . It has been rarely visited by naturalists on account of its inaccessibility; and the few who have succeeded in forcing their way within its inhospitable borders have found it impossible to remain any length of time. Malarial and yellow fevers are endemic among the natives, but quickly sap the vitality and life of newcomers; rain falls daily—four hundred inches being the average precipitation for one year—and the heat is so intense when the sun appears during the interval between showers the whole jungle is converted into a steaming inferno. Small wonder, then, that the fabulous wealth in gold and platinum of the Chocó has been little more than touched.

Of the dwellers in the village of Juntas de Tamaná, in Chocó, he says:

They suffer from lack of food, for the simple reason that they are too indolent to grow in sufficient quantities the plantains, yuccas and other plants that thrive with a minimum of attention in so favorable a location. Instead of making clearings and cultivating the fertile ground, they prefer to lounge in their hammocks and take a chance of starving to death.

This suggests that the real cause for their indolence, and for that of others whose laziness he, and many others, mention as characteristic of the peoples of tropical America, may be hookworms, mosquitos, and other planters of diseases.

EDWARD PERRY.

*Carlos Augusto Salaverry.* BY ALBERTO URETA. (Lima: Cas<sup>a</sup> Editora Sanmarti y Cia., 1918.)

Unlike most doctoral dissertations, this book is more a source of information simply presented and unpretentiously marshalled than a bibliographical exhibition. In many cases of doctoral theses, the footnotes overbalance the text. In this case the text is the main consideration of the author, not his desire, if he had any, to impress his readers with the extent of his knowledge.

Carlos Augusto Salaverry (1830–1891) was one of the most pathetic and brilliant figures in nineteenth century Peruvian letters. It is not, I think, generally known that the poet Salaverry was a natural son of General Felipe Santiago Salaverry by one Vicenta Ramírez, a resident of the upper Chira Valley in the Department of Piura. The boy was born in the city of Piura on December 4, 1830. Later on, his father,

who seems always to have had a sincere affection for him, married Doña Juana Pérez e Infantas of Tacna, and, from an early age, young Carlos Augusto was accustomed to regard her as his mother, having a tender regard for her which was cordially returned.

Salaverry was destined to undergo much unhappiness during his life, largely due to his unfortunate love affairs. His first wife was Mercedes Felices, the sister of a Lima actor. She was unfaithful to him. His later irregular manner of life was one of the causes for his ill success in his suit of Ismena Torres, a young woman of social prominence. Ismena responded to his feelings, but her parents, reasonably enough perhaps, had no desire to own Salaverry as their son-in-law. This affair took place about 1858, and was the inspiration of the *Cartas a un angel* which are among the poet's best work. Ismena was soon taken to Europe by her family, which effectually put an end to the love affair.

By this time (1858), Carlos already enjoyed considerable reputation as a poet and as a dramatist. He was turbulent and rather swash-buckling in character. On one occasion he shot at an actor because the latter's interpretation of one of his dramas did not satisfy him. On another occasion he got into a rather discreditable row with don Tomás Gutiérrez, then a high official in the army, and later Minister of War. Only the intervention of President José Balta and his secretary don Ricardo Palma saved Salaverry from serious trouble. In 1869, the year in which his first volume of verse, *Diamantes y Perlas*, was published in Lima, he set out with don Pedro Galvez for the United States and France. Balta had given him the post of attaché in the Peruvian legation to France and England.

Reaching Paris in February, 1870, Salaverry began to make the most of his new opportunities. Meeting his old friend the now famous poet, Luis Benjamin Cisneros, who was then consul-general of Peru in France, Salaverry entrusted to him the task of seeing his new volume, *Albores y Destellos*, through the press. It was printed at Havre in 1871. Salaverry, meanwhile, found it possible to make a short trip to Rome, but most of 1871 and 1872 was spent in Paris, studying and otherwise improving his knowledge of his art. Toward the end of the latter year, however, his post was suppressed by the Peruvian government, and he was left stranded in Europe without sufficient funds to return to Lima. It was not until 1876, that a sonnet of his attracted the favorable attention of President Mariano Ignacio Prado, that the Peruvian State Department enabled him to return to his native land.

Salaverry now reëntered upon his life as a favorite poet of Lima. He went out a good deal into society, meanwhile, however, continuing his poetical labors with his accustomed fervor. About this time he fell in love with another young woman of social prominence, a certain Señorita Rey de Castro. Her parents objected, as had the Torres family, to the match, and in 1883 they went to Europe, whither Salaverry shortly followed them. More fortunate however, than in the former instance, the poet was ultimately successful in his suit, and married Señorita Rey de Castro as his second wife. The remainder of his life was passed in Europe, the last years of it being darkened by a severe illness caused by paralysis. He died in Paris on April 9, 1891.

All this, and a great many highly interesting comments on the poet's work are set forth by Señor Ureta. Besides the two volumes mentioned, Salaverry published at Lima, in 1883, a second edition of *Diamantes y Perlas* and *Misterios de la Tumba*.

Sr. Ureta's style is delightful. The reader, even though he may have a prejudice against Salaverry on account of his tendency toward the threadbare oratorical effects of the politician and toward the lackadaisical misery of the rejected lover who rather revels in his rejection, finds himself borne on from page to page. It is a pity that the volume, fairly well printed as a whole, should be marred by a number of absurd misprints. On page 24 we find *socaial* for *social* and *D. Dicardo Palma* for *D. Ricardo Palma*. In footnote 2 on page 58 we find *opcsúulo* for *opúsculo* and *dicatoria* for *dedicatoria*. It is so easy, in the case of a phonetic language like Spanish, to avoid such errors, yet it is unfortunately true that almost every book printed in Peru contains numerous instances of gross carelessness in proofreading.

PHILIP AINSWORTH MEANS.

Piura, Peru,  
August 10, 1919.

*South America and the War: being the Substance of a Course of Lectures delivered in the University of London, King's College, under the Tooke Trust in the Lent Term.* By FREDERICK ALEXANDER KIRKPATRICK. (Cambridge, University Press, 1918. Pp. vii, (1), 79. 4 shillings, 6 pence.)

The author's purpose, as expressed in the preface, was "to perform a war service by drawing attention to the activity of the Germans in 'Latin' America and particularly to the ingenuity and tenacity of their efforts to hold their economic ground during the war, with a view to