

Adams declined to enter into further discussion of the merits of the case or to see the documents.¹⁵

Nevertheless, Pichardo's information appears to have been of use to Heredia in the preparation of his great state paper in 1817, and it is interesting to know that it actually did serve for the purpose originally causing its production.

With the independence of Mexico in 1821 that new republic assumed the obligations of Spain, and lived up to them as far as the boundary was concerned. Pichardo's treatise saw further use, however, in the affairs connected with the treaty of 1828, confirming the limits defined in the Adams-Onís treaty.¹⁶

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BERNAL DIAZ DEL CASTILLO DIED IN 1584

There has been considerable confusion among historians of Spanish-America in regard to the date of the death of the great chronicler of the conquest. In the new and excellent edition of the *True History of the Conquest of New Spain*, recently published by the Sociedad de Geografía e Historia of Guatemala,¹ Eduardo Mayora, author of the *Prólogo* to the first volume, shows that various writers have placed the date anywhere from 1568 to 1582. Mayora inclines to the latter date, as a recently discovered document bears the signature of Bernal Díaz with the date of August 18, 1580. Mayora further states (p. xi) that Bernal Díaz, in the declining years of his life, enjoyed the distinction of *regidor honorífico* of the cabildo de Guatemala.

Acting on the above hint during my recent visit to Antigua, Guatemala, I perused the *Actas del Cabildo* and found, indeed, that Bernal Díaz had been elected yearly to the cabildo from 1553 (the earliest volume of the *Actas* now extant) to 1584, and that subsequent to this latter date there is no mention of him whatever. His last signature is in the *acta* of January 1, 1583, and is that of a palsied

¹⁵ Adams to Onís, October 31, 1818 (*American State Papers, Foreign Relations*, IV. 530-531).

¹⁶ Bolton, *op. cit.*, pp. 234-236.

¹ Bernal Díaz del Castillo, *Verdadera y notable Relación del Descubrimiento y Conquista de la Nueva España y Guatemala*. [Biblioteca "Goathemala", vols. X-XI.] Guatemala, 1933-1934.

old man. Possibly it is the last time he signed his name for, two days later, the *acta* of January 3 bears the legend: "por Bernal Díaz, Juan de Torres". But the old conquistador was not yet defeated. He was elected again, and for the last time, to the cabildo on January 1, 1584, and his name appears no more in the *actas*. I conclude, therefore, that his death occurred between January 1, 1584, and the end of that same year.

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EL INSTITUTO SANMARTINIANO

In recent years the number of associations and other entities devoted to the study of the lives and activities of the protagonists of Hispanic American independence has grown enormously. Especially has this been true of Venezuela where the admiration of Bolívar has become almost a national cult. San Martín on the other hand has suffered a relative and unmerited neglect. But during the past two years, the great Argentine hero has nobly come into his own. On April 5, 1933, the anniversary of the Battle of Maipú, was solemnly inaugurated "El Instituto Sanmartiniano" dedicated, according to the founding act to "la enseñanza y a la glorificación permanente y metódica de la personalidad del Libertador Don José de San Martín". The sponsor of the movement and the president of this association is quite appropriately Dr. José Pacífico Otero, the author of the scholarly four volume work on San Martín, to which reference has already been made in this REVIEW. In addition to the officers of the Instituto there are twelve "vocales" and thirty "miembros de número", including a goodly number of eminent historians and high patents in the army and navy. Provision is also made for a certain number of corresponding and honorary members.

In April, 1934, the Instituto issued a *Memoria*, describing its activities during the first year of its existence. These included an "Homenaje a San Martín", and "Homenaje a Mitre", the initiation of a campaign for a paved highway between Buenos Aires and Cuyo to be known as "El Camino del Libertador", and the creation by executive decree of a "Día de San Martín" during which suitable exercises were held including absolute silence for the period of five