

Asuncion Jan 16. 18<sup>90</sup>

Dear friend. I am extremely glad to get one more letter from you before leaving Paraguay. Yours of Nov. 17 reached me this morning just as I was packing up my things for our long delay trip up the Pilcomayo. We start this Sun. about 4 o'clock - expect to be gone <sup>several months</sup> & I shall not have opportunity to write you again for that time. Go with a well armed party of 20 men, 8 of them N. Americans & Europeans. Hope to have good success. Shall upon return go immediately to B. Aires, & thence by steamer to Chile.

Please communicate to Prof. B. H. Bailey the fact that I have enclosed a small box of seeds for him in my last box of specimens (the 9<sup>th</sup>) to Dr. Britton which will leave here Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>. - & should reach the States in 3 or 4 months afterwards.

Also tell Coulter that the Act in Paraguay no. 2, but not the number containing part 1<sup>st</sup> has reached me. Quite a number of verbal mistakes in it, of course, but you need not tell Coulter that - typographical errors, I presume.

Please deliver the enclosed photograph taken on one of my films, & Mr Barnard. Ask him to at several points of it, as good as he can make, give one dozen & one to Mrs Murray. Shows me with long hair & beard which I wear to keep off mosquitos. Shall have them cut in more civilized fashion when I return. Further I find that my film work better, but the trouble has been mainly in my manipulation, & partly in the developer. So a good photographer has served me. He says that this particular photo negative will work first rate in printing, he thinks.

Excuse further writing, as I am in a hurry.  
Yours very truly Murray.

find a pile of letters from you & others. Of course, I shall get no more here, & it will be a long, busy time before I know anything about home affairs.

I am quite anxious to get away from Paraguay, as we are threatened with a revolution here, & you know what a bloody thing a revolution is in So. America. All foreigners would go to the wall at once, as the people dislike & suspect them. The opposition to the present Government is very strong, & incendiary appeals in the opposition newspapers of Asuncion are quite numerous & violent. The only idea which the people have of a change in the Govt. is by force - & elements of dissatisfaction & discord are rapidly accumulating here. So I urge my commander of the Pilcomayo expd. to get away as soon as possible. I have closed up my <sup>Argentine</sup> Paraguayan work, & got off all my collections & the State, except one box. They are safe, therefore, whatever comes to pass. In the Argentine Republic, they are also in a great flurry financially & many mercantile failures are reported there. Gold had at the last accounts, gone up to \$2.81, worse than it was in the worst days of our civil war. I am told that

in consequence many of the poor people are suffering badly, as the cost of provisions has gone up enormously. This state of things has come about, apparently, by the enormous over-issue of paper money by the Government banks, & the drainage of gold from the country to pay foreign creditors. I want much, therefore, to escape from Paraguay to the Arg. Rep. into Chile where things are more stationary and substantial. Still, we hope that the crisis political in Paraguay & the crisis financial in Argentina will pass by without revolution & popular disturbances. The foreigners here, however, are much alarmed. & await the issue with much anxiety. Paraguay has been at peace internally & externally since the Lopez war which ended in 1869, & has been slowly recovering from her terrible losses in that war. If her people are foolish enough now to plunge into a revolution, it will put back her progress for 10 years at least. I sincerely hope that the next Presidential election, which occurs a year from next March, will pass over peacefully, but present appearances indicate a revolution of more or less magnitude.

I know that the present Govt. is arming itself & taking other precautions, but the great question is which way will the soldiers go? & they are as likely to go against the Govt. as with it. Quien sabe? - Don't have any fears for me, however, as I am likely to be away from here in a few weeks, at farthest. Glad to hear of all the continued improvement in health. With kind regards to her

I am very cordially yours,

Thomas Moray.



Morong, Thomas. 1890. "Morong, Thomas Jan. 6, 1890." *Thomas Morong letters to Walter Deane*

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