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THE GREAT MEN OF A LITTLE REPUBLIC.

Cecil L. Charles Writes of the Public Men of Costa Rica, Who Are, in His Opinion, Men of Whom His Country May Well Be Proud.

[Special Correspondence] SAN JOSE DE COSTA RICA, Oct. 7.—No where, perhaps, on the entire American hemisphere is to be found a more admirable combination of mental, moral and physical excellence than in this wonderful bit of country, forming the southern extremity of North America. There is a disposition the world over to sneer at a man if any one accuse him of good looks. Now it must be set down as a fact that the handsome men of Costa Rica are far from being fools. Beginning with Presi-



DON RICARDO JIMENEZ, DON MORIA.

Don Maximo Fernandez, ex-secretary of public works, and a few days since appointed to the supreme court, is a very pure Spanish type as to appearance. He has the regular yet softly molded features, the dark, dreamy eyes, the courtly and chivalrous bearing of the old Castilians.

Don Camilo Mora, governor of the province of San Jose, is a handsome man of 33. During the past year civil marriage has become an institution in Costa Rica. Don Camilo, as governor of the province, is the gentleman who performs all such civil ceremonies. It is said in this connection that more than one bride has almost wavered in allegiance to her fiancé and half way repented and hesitated on catching sight of Don Camilo, who, by the way, is a bachelor.

Don Pedro Perez Zeledon is the Costa Rican minister in Washington. It is he who has been lately compelled to refute certain statements made concerning Costa Rica's attitude in the canal matter. Senor Zeledon is an able representative of his country. It may be said that his pictures do not do him strict justice. He, too, I believe, is a bachelor.



MAXIMO FERNANDEZ, PRESIDENT SOTO.

Don Soto and scanning closely all the figures prominent in public life, one cannot fail to comprehend these as the product of good birth, right living for generations back and education of the best sort. President Soto is but 33 years of age. He is the son of Gen. Don Jesus Soto, a fine looking man of fifty odd.

President Soto, whose administration comes to an end in December, has made a very satisfactory executive. Were it not that the constitution forbids the immediate re-election of any president, it is very probable that he would remain in office for a second term. Gen. Soto is rather quiet, but exceedingly shrewd and far seeing. He was married a few years since to the daughter of the then president, Gen. Don Prospero Fernandez, and has one beautiful little child.



MANUEL J. JIMENEZ.

Don Manuel J. Jimenez resigned from the cabinet last May, at the time when President Soto's health compelled him to call Senor Esquivel to assume the presidency. He is therefore ex-minister of foreign affairs and religious matters. Soon after resigning he was appointed to the supreme court. Senor Jimenez is tall and straight. He has beautiful hair and beard, chiseled features and melancholy dark eyes. Don Ricardo Jimenez, his brother, is the shining light of Costa Rica who was chosen for president of the Central American congress some months since. Both these gentlemen are bachelors. Don Ricardo is said to have a law practice worth \$20,000 per year. The brothers both have something repelling in their bearing—a mixture of sadness and shyness, possibly. Get used to them, however, and you find them extremely lovable.



ANDRES VENEGAS, MANUEL J. JIMENEZ.

Don Andres Venegas, the new minister of public works and government affairs, is what the Spanish call simpatico—a word signifying everything that is "nice," as women folks say, a kind of combination of all attractive qualities. Handsome in appearance, of brilliant intellect and ranking high in the legal profession, kind, courteous and cordial in his manner, Senor Venegas is much admired and beloved by acquaintances and friends.

Don Manuel and Don Ricardo Jimenez are sons of ex-President Don Jesus Jimenez. Don Manuel J. Jimenez resigned from the cabinet last May, at the time when President Soto's health compelled him to call Senor Esquivel to assume the presidency. He is therefore ex-minister of foreign affairs and religious matters. Soon after resigning he was appointed to the supreme court. Senor Jimenez is tall and straight. He has beautiful hair and beard, chiseled features and melancholy dark eyes. Don Ricardo Jimenez, his brother, is the shining light of Costa Rica who was chosen for president of the Central American congress some months since. Both these gentlemen are bachelors. Don Ricardo is said to have a law practice worth \$20,000 per year. The brothers both have something repelling in their bearing—a mixture of sadness and shyness, possibly. Get used to them, however, and you find them extremely lovable.

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