

**Estevan Rodriguez's (1565 in Academia Real 1886)
La manera de su hablar, the first lexicon of the
Chamorro language, Mariana Islands, Micronesia**

Translated and annotated by

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Dangkolo na Saina Ma'åse!

SUMMARY

This report provides a translation and annotation of Estevan Rodriguez's brief glossary of 66 Chamorro words from his "A Narrative of the Circumstances of the Voyage that was made by the Armada de S.M. under General Miguel Lopez de Legazpi...". The glossary consists of 56 words or adjective-noun phrases of common objects and actions, as well as the numbers one through ten. At least 25 (38%) of the words resemble modern or known words in the Chamorro language. Rodriguez's narrative additionally includes a hand gesture, a 'sign of friendship', that is no longer in use. I hope that this list will prove useful in creating an updated and expanded dictionary of the Chamorro language.

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INTRODUCTION

Captain Don Estevan Rodriguez de Figueroa was born some time in the mid 1500's to Portuguese nobility in Africa (de la Concepcion 1788). As a young man, he came to Mexico, and from there, to the Philippines, where he rose in wealth and influence until 1596, when he was killed in Mindanao while planning to take the island militarily in return for a pledged governorship (de Morga 1907). His original voyage to the Philippines from Mexico began in late 1564, as a navigator aboard an armada commanded by Miguel López de Legazpi. The expedition had been commissioned to retrace the Magellan expedition across the Pacific in hopes of taking the Philippines for Spain (de Morga 1907).

Before reaching their destination, the ships anchored in the Mariana Islands to take on provisions. While there, Rodriguez thought to record a glossary of words of the indigenous language, Chamorro. In this report, I translate and annotate the Spanish from Rodriguez's short list, as well as what I can of the Chamorro. I hope that this list will prove useful in creating an updated and expanded dictionary of the Chamorro language.

ABOUT THE TRANSLATION

I worked from the digital edition of Rodriguez (1565) published by the Academia Real de la Historia in Madrid in 1886. The Academia edited and published between 1885 and 1932 numerous collections of original documents from the earliest days of Spanish conquest and colonial

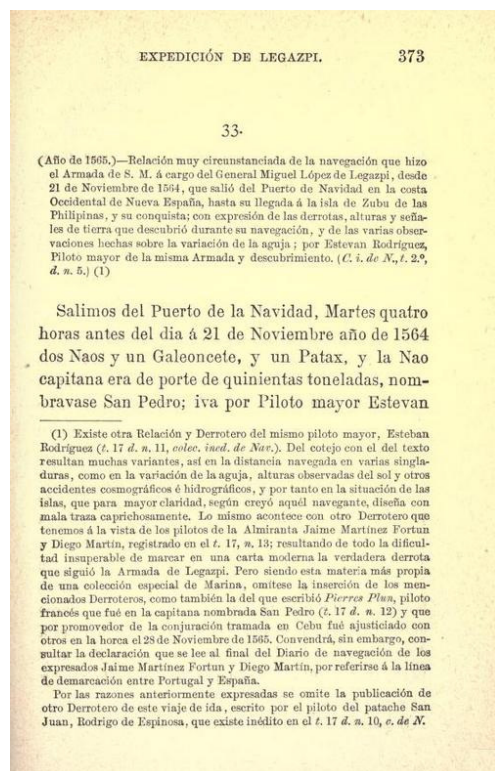


Figure 1. Document 33, Rodriguez's 1565 narrative, from the Academia Real (1886) edition (from www.archive.org).

expansion. Rodriguez's (1565) account is in a volume on the Philippines, itself part of a larger compilation of manuscripts relating to Spain's former overseas territorial possessions. The edition was downloaded from the Internet Archive (www.archive.org), whose copyright policy consents to reproduction in the service of research and education and hence, permits me to provide a facsimile version of the relevant selection as an appendix to this report. Translations were done largely with the aid of online translating utilities. Since my Spanish is *horridoso*, particularly suspect portions of my work were checked by several native speakers. Neither am I fluent in Chamorro (*sa' bâba ilek-hu*); hence, I am also grateful to have been able to consult Ms. Jovita Esteban Quenga, M.Sc. (Guam Public School System, retired). Any literature reference mentioned in this report is available online or from the author; please contact me via e-mail if you've trouble finding a copy.

In the following text, I present in bold Chamorro words, either as Rodriguez spelt them or when mentioning modern words in currently accepted Guam orthography (Kumision i Fino' Chamorro 1983). Other non-English words are italicised. In the tables, Chamorro words are also rendered in bold, retaining Rodriguez's spelling. Table I provides a Chamorro-Spanish-English listing; Table II, the English-Spanish-Chamorro; and Table III, the Spanish-English-Chamorro. Short annotations are also provided for selected entries in a Remarks column.

DISCUSSION

As the chief pilot or navigator, Rodriguez (1565) provided the expedition's official description of the voyage in his "A Narrative of the Circumstances of the Voyage that was made by the Armada de S. M. under General Miguel López de Legazpi...". From this account, we know that after 93 days of sailing, having seen, but sailed passed, atolls in the Marshall Islands, the expedition landed at Guam, the southernmost of the Mariana Islands in western Micronesia (Hezel 1983). While they were ashore but 11 days to resupply and claim the archipelago for Spain (and, by turn, wreak considerable havoc), Rodriguez, nevertheless, must have found extended time to sit with at least one

speaker of the indigenous language, Chamorro, for he included amongst his detailed descriptions of the island, its agricultural products and its people, a list of words and phrases in the language. He does not relate how or from whom he acquired the majority of his terms. He merely prefaces the list, "... the manner of their speaking is the following".

One speculation that meets with little support is that Rodriguez was guided by an at least partially bilingual speaker, a not unprecedented personage even at that nascent stage of Chamorro-European contact. The previous Spanish visitors to Guam in 1526, aboard a fleet commanded by García Jofre de Loaísa, were startled upon their arrival to be greeted in perfect Castellan Spanish. The bilingual 'islander' was in fact Gonzalo de Vigo, a young crewman who had been left behind in 1521 during Magellan's first circumnavigation of the globe (de Morga 1907). Hence, while de Vigo had left Guam some three decades before with Loaísa's expedition, he may have taught some islanders at least a smattering of Spanish and who could have then best served as Rodriguez's informant(s). Still, Rodriguez records that upon their arrival, they were only greeted in Chamorro (see below and Appendix I). Hence, Rodriguez likely had no interpreter and, thus, includes in his vocabulary the misunderstandings and outright mistakes general to vocabularies recorded by later European visitors to the Marianas and elsewhere who *did* have the benefit of multilingual speakers (Hervás 1784, 1804; Chamisso 1821a, b; Gaimard in Arago 1822, 1823, in d'Urville 1834).

The list was the only vocabulary collected by Rodriguez on his Pacific crossing. They had sailed through the Marshall Islands without dropping anchor, and the armada's next stop was their intended destination, the Philippines. The glossary is short, consisting of 66 indigenous words. While the list contains considerably more Chamorro words than the 16 given in Hervás's (1784; see also Hervás y Panduro 1804) later comparative multilingual account, it still provides rather fewer than those from the two largest glossaries, each collected in about a week's time on Guam - one in 1817 by Chamisso (1821a, b) and the other in 1819 by Gaimard (in Arago 1822, 1823; in d'Urville 1834). These contain 181 and 218 words, respectively. Nevertheless, Rodriguez's account is

still important in several ways. Not only was his list the first glossary of words of the Chamorro language, it is also the oldest surviving vocabulary from any language originally spoken in the islands of the oceanic Pacific (Abalá 2000).

Rodriguez's vocabulary suggests he compiled the words that he reasoned most profitable in barter and future contact with the Mariana Islands. Later vocabularies of Oceanic islands, such as those collected on Captain Cook's voyages, were compiled when comparative linguistics was blossoming and fed by the voyages of discovery. These lists began to be based on a core set of words with suspected cognates across the Pacific, as first proposed by Hervás (1784; see also Hervás y Panduro 1804). Rodriguez's vocabulary seems somewhat different. The short list includes terms for items of interest to a flotilla seeking reprovision: *salted fish*, *dried coconut*, *rice*, and the preferred medium of exchange amongst the Chamorro, *nails* and *iron*. Further, Estevan Rodriguez was a practical man, rather than a scholar, someone who would later lead his own expeditions in the Philippines. Hence, it is likely that the list was collected to facilitate future exchange with the islanders.

At least 25 (38%) of the words are identical to or at least resemble, to my eye anyway, modern words in the Chamorro language. This is considerably fewer than from the lists of Chamisso (1821a, b) and of Gaimard (in Arago 1822, 1823; in d'Urville 1834), who's practically entire lists are of recognisable modern words. Still, even words from Rodriguez's list recognisable as relatively unchanged from their modern equivalents have been spelt quite differently, a manifestation of the writer's unfamiliarity with the language or, additionally, genuine differences between 16th-century Chamorro and its modern form, spoken a half millennium later. For example, the modern **maolek** (= 'good') was recorded as **mauri**. Today's **guihan** (= 'fish') was recorded as **bian**, while **pugua** (= 'betel nut') was recorded as **puga**, and **mana** (= 'green coconut with soft flesh') is similar to that in northern Guam's dialect **manha**, but identical to the unaspirated form of the word still prevalent in the other Mariana islands.

Rodriguez (1565) also records the earliest mention of the original Chamorro numerical system. This counting system was interesting in that it had different ways of counting depending upon the set of objects being counted. Safford (1904) writes that the Chamorro originally had variant systems for counting units of time, living things, inanimate objects, as well as other measurements. The numbers in Rodriguez's list correspond most closely to those listed by Safford (p. 97) as used to indicate time, e.g., number of days, with the possible exception that **manete** (= 'ten') appears closest to the form used for counting inanimate objects.

Part of the difficulty in identifying words in Rodriguez's list are the apparently systematic differences in the way Rodriguez recorded (and presumably heard) the Chamorro words. For example, he consistently uses the letter **r** where modern speakers place the glide **l**, initial **g**'s are written **b**, the glotta ' is not recorded, while terminal consonants, e.g. **k**, appear dropped when compared with modern Chamorro. Similar changes are seen in other Spanish-Oceanic vocabularies, as well (e.g., Day 1991). I'm certain that a systematic mapping of these differences would lead to a better understanding of exactly what Rodriguez heard, and what changes to Chamorro may have occurred since his visit.

By far, most words in Rodriguez's vocabulary, 42 or 64%, are totally unrecognisable as modern words, bearing no resemblance to those recorded in any other expedition vocabulary through the 19th century or those in later Chamorro-English dictionaries (von Preissig 1918; Topping et al. 1975; Kumision i Fino' Chamorro 2009). This, again, rouses curiosity at the relative contributions of the Spaniard's unfamiliarity with the language versus the genuine changes in the language that have occurred since the 16th century, beyond the incorporation of Hispanic loans. For instance, he records 'water' as **ami**; quite different from today's **hãnom**. "Come here" is written **hembean**, while today's speakers invariably use variations of **maila'** or **maila' mągi**. "Large" is **riso**, although speakers today would probably use **dąngkolo**.

Certainly, some of these unrecognisable words constitute records of words no longer spoken, words for example that have been replaced exclusively by Hispanic loans. Chamorro is a member of the Western Malayo-Polynesian (WMP) subfamily of languages, while most other languages in Micronesia belong to the Oceanic subfamily. I am not aware of reconstructed WMP terms for any of the words recorded by Rodriguez. As well, Ross et al. (1998; 2003) provides only one Proto-Oceanic (POc) word that bears some resemblance to my eye to the early Chamorro recorded by Rodriguez: **tupotipor** (= sugar cane) seems similar to the POc term **topuin*. Whether this is more than a superficial similarity, and whether there are more possible cognates with other WMP or Oceanic languages, I remain unqualified to say.

Other unrecognisable words, perhaps lacking in support by reconstructed proto-Austronesian terms, may still record original Chamorro meanings. In modern Chamorro **batbas** is a Spanish loan meaning 'beard'. Rodriguez's vocabulary instead gives **mimi** as having the same meaning.

In addition to the 66 words recorded by Rodriguez, he also records a single hand gesture that appears to no longer be used in the Mariana Islands or elsewhere in Micronesia. When they arrived near Guam, they

... set the bow to [Guam's southern highlands], coming within two leagues of them, while sixty-one outriggers came out to us, coming aboard, saying "*chamurre, chamurre*", which means "friend, friend", and bringing the hand across the belly, which is a sign of friendship....

In sum, Rodriguez's (1565) glossary consists of 66 words or adjective-noun phrases of common objects and actions, as well as the numbers one through ten. The list represents many implicit layers of transcription and signal transduction that make difficult straightforward interpretations of much of his glossary. In addition to the undoubted and manifold legitimate changes that have occurred to the Chamorro language over the last 500+ years since Rodriguez recorded the terms, we must peer

through the writer's choice of terms, the objects he used to represent them, the signs by which he indicated his requests, the islanders' interpretation of those signs and objects, their choice and annunciation of the terms, the writer's hearing and interpretation of sounds not present in his native Spanish, his consignment of those sounds to the written word, and any transcription errors by the Academia Real in bringing his notes into print. Yet, despite all these challenges, over one-third of the terms are recognisable. With further study, the list may well reveal more links with modern Chamorro, as well as terms no longer in use, such as those replaced by European loans.

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Table 1. Chamorro-Spanish-English glossary from Rodriguez (1565).

| Rod's Chamorro | Rodriguez (1565) | English gloss | Gloss of Rod's Chamorro | Remarks |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| aca | uno | one | | |
| achi | esto | this (one) | ini | ini (Safford 1904) |
| achulu | cangrejo | crab | ayuyu | ayuyu |
| achumpa | pierna | leg | | |
| afuipuri | papel | paper | | |
| agu | peaca | ? | | |
| ãgua | nueve | nine | | |
| ami | agua | water | | hanom |
| asinor | agengibre | ginger | | hasngot |
| ataon | sol | sun | atdao | atdao |
| atripe | honda | sling | | atupat |
| azibi | sal | salt | asiga | |
| azuiban | pescado salado | salted fish | | |
| baqui-maqui | daca | give | | na'i |
| bian | pescado | fish | guihan | guihan |
| botus | Navio | ship? | | |
| burgay | bocal | jar | | |
| catecha | manos | hands | | kannai |
| chamor | amigo | friend | achatma'? | gachong |
| churu | Señor | boss | | ma'gas |
| chuzo | cabellos | hair | | |

| Rod's Chamorro | Rodriguez (1565) | English gloss | Gloss of Rod's Chamorro | Remarks |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| coca | calabaca | pumpkin or guord | | |
| enft | tamal | tamale | | |
| eri | no | no | ahē' | ahē' |
| farfur | quatro | four | | |
| frintin | siete | seven | | |
| gua | ocho | eight | | |
| gua | dos | two | | |
| guafal | petate | backpack | | |
| guanán | seis | six | | |
| hembean | ven acá | come here | | maila' |
| jeta | plantano | banana | aga' | aga' |
| jo | toma | take | | chule' |
| juay | arroz | rice | | neksa |
| macha | ojos | eyes | mata' | mata' |
| mana | coco fresco | fresh coconut | manha | manha |
| mana | comer | to eat | | cho'cho' |
| manete | diez | ten | | |
| mani | sabroso | delicious | munngi' | munngi' |
| mauri | bueno | good | maolek | maolek |
| micha | coco seco | dried coconut | | |
| mimi | barba | beard | | batbas |
| ngmicha | pie | foot | | addeng |
| nica | batata | yam | nika | nika |

| Rod's Chamorro | Rodriguez (1565) | English gloss | Gloss of Rod's Chamorro | Remarks |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------|----------|
| nifi | dientes | teeth | nifen | nifen |
| nimi | cinco | five | | |
| O | botija | jar | | |
| perucha | orejas | ears | | talanga |
| pian | cesto de mimbre | woven basket | | |
| puga | bellota | (betel?) nut | pugua' | pugua' |
| ragua | red | net | lagua | lagua |
| rana | Azeite | oil | lana | laña |
| rapia | piedra | stone | | acho' |
| reben | ella | she | | |
| regue | plantano verde | green banana | | chotda |
| riso | grande | large | | dankulo' |
| ruro | clavo | nail | lulok | lulok |
| segu | pequeño | small | | dikiki' |
| tagayaya | madera | wood | | hayu |
| tana | tierra | land | tano' | tano' |
| tero | tres | three | | |
| triacabo-tali | papel pintado | painted paper | | |
| tupotipor | caña dulce | sugar cane | | |
| Uran | Luna | moon | pulan | pulan |
| vitan | estrella | star | | puti'on |
| yrizo | hierro | iron | | lulok |

Table 2. English-Spanish-Chamorro glossary from Rodriguez (1565).

| English gloss | Rodriguez (1565) | Rod's Chamorro | Gloss of Rod's Chamorro | Remarks |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| ? | peaca | agu | | |
| (betel?) nut | bellota | puga | pugua' | pugua' |
| backpack | petate | guafal | | |
| banana | plantano | jeta | aga' | aga' |
| beard | barba | mimi | | batbas |
| boss | Señor | churu | | ma'gas |
| come here | ven acá | hembean | | maila' |
| crab | cangrejo | achulu | ayuyu | ayuyu |
| delicious | sabroso | mani | munngi' | munngi' |
| dried coconut | coco seco | micha | | |
| ears | orejas | perucha | | talanga |
| eight | ocho | gua | | |
| eyes | ojos | macha | mata' | mata' |
| fish | pescado | bian | guihan | guihan |
| five | cinco | nimi | | |
| foot | pie | ngmicha | | addeng |
| four | quatro | farfur | | |
| fresh coconut | coco fresco | mana | manha | manha |
| friend | amigo | chamor | achatma'? | gachong |
| ginger | agengibre | asinor | | hasngot |
| give | daca | baqui-maqui | | na'i |
| good | bueno | mauri | maolek | maolek |

| English gloss | Rodriguez (1565) | Rod's Chamorro | Gloss of Rod's Chamorro | Remarks |
|------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| green banana | plantano verde | regue | | chotda |
| hair | cabellos | chuzo | | |
| hands | manos | catecha | | kannai |
| iron | hierro | yrizo | | lulok |
| jar | bocal | burgay | | |
| jar | botija | O | | |
| land | tierra | tana | tano' | tano' |
| large | grande | riso | | dankulo' |
| leg | pierna | achumpa | | |
| moon | Luna | Uran | pulan | pulan |
| nail | clavo | ruro | lulok | lulok |
| net | red | ragua | lagua | lagua |
| nine | nueve | ãgua | | |
| no | no | eri | ahe' | ahe' |
| oil | Azeite | rana | lana | laña |
| one | uno | aca | | |
| painted paper | papel pintado | triacabo-tali | | |
| paper | papel | afuipuri | | |
| pumpkin or guord | calabaca | coca | | |
| rice | arroz | juay | | neksa |
| salt | sal | azibi | asiga | |
| salted fish | pescado salado | azuiban | | |
| seven | siete | frintin | | |

| English gloss | Rodriguez (1565) | Rod's Chamorro | Gloss of Rod's Chamorro | Remarks |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| she | ella | reben | | |
| ship? | Navio | botus | | |
| six | seis | guanán | | |
| sling | honda | atripe | | atupat |
| small | pequeño | segu | | dikiki' |
| star | estrella | vitan | | puti'on |
| stone | piedra | rapia | | acho' |
| sugar cane | caña dulce | tupotipor | | |
| sun | sol | ataon | atdao | atdao |
| take | toma | jo | | chule' |
| tamale | tamal | enft | | |
| teeth | dientes | nifi | nifen | nifen |
| ten | diez | manete | | |
| this (one) | esto | achi | ini | ini (Safford 1904) |
| three | tres | tero | | |
| to eat | comer | mana | | cho'cho' |
| two | dos | gua | | |
| water | agua | ami | | hanom |
| wood | madera | tagayaya | | hayu |
| woven basket | cesto de mimbre | pian | | |
| yam | batata | nica | nika | nika |

Table 3. Spanish-English-Chamorro glossary from Rodriguez (1565).

| Rodriguez (1565) | English gloss | Rod's Chamorro | Gloss of Rod's Chamorro | Remarks |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| agengibre | ginger | asinor | | hasngot |
| agua | water | ami | | hanom |
| amigo | friend | chamor | achatma'? | gachong |
| arroz | rice | juay | | neksa |
| Azeite | oil | rana | lana | laña |
| barba | beard | mimi | | batbas |
| batata | yam | nica | nika | nika |
| bellota | (betel?) nut | puga | pugua' | pugua' |
| bocal | jar | burgay | | |
| botija | jar | O | | |
| bueno | good | mauri | maolek | maolek |
| cabellos | hair | chuzo | | |
| calabaca | pumpkin or guord | coca | | |
| caña dulce | sugar cane | tupotipor | | |
| cangrejo | crab | achulu | ayuyu | ayuyu |
| cesto de mimbre | woven basket | pian | | |
| cinco | five | nimi | | |
| clavo | nail | ruro | lulok | lulok |
| coco fresco | fresh coconut | mana | manha | manha |
| coco seco | dried coconut | micha | | |

| Rodriguez (1565) | English gloss | Rod's Chamorro | Gloss of Rod's Chamorro | Remarks |
|------------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| comer | to eat | mana | | cho'cho' |
| daca | give | baqui-maqui | | na'i |
| dientes | teeth | nifi | nifen | nifen |
| diez | ten | manete | | |
| dos | two | gua | | |
| ella | she | reben | | |
| esto | this (one) | achi | ini | ini (Safford 1904) |
| estrella | star | vitan | | puti'on |
| grande | large | riso | | dankulo' |
| hierro | iron | yrizo | | lulok |
| honda | sling | atripe | | atupat |
| Luna | moon | Uran | pulan | pulan |
| madera | wood | tagayaya | | hayu |
| manos | hands | catecha | | kannai |
| Navio | ship? | botus | | |
| no | no | eri | ahe' | ahe' |
| nueve | nine | ãgua | | |
| ocho | eight | gua | | |
| ojos | eyes | macha | mata' | mata' |
| orejas | ears | perucha | | talanga |
| papel | paper | afuipuri | | |
| papel pintado | painted paper | triacabo-tali | | |

| Rodriguez (1565) | English gloss | Rod's Chamorro | Gloss of Rod's Chamorro | Remarks |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------|
| peaca | ? | agu | | |
| pequeño | small | segu | | dikiki' |
| pescado | fish | bian | guihan | guihan |
| pescado salado | salted fish | azuiban | | |
| petate | backpack | guafal | | |
| pie | foot | ngmicha | | addeng |
| piedra | stone | rapia | | acho' |
| pierna | leg | achumpa | | |
| plantano | banana | jeta | aga' | aga' |
| plantano verde | green banana | regue | | chotda |
| quatro | four | farfur | | |
| red | net | ragua | lagua | lagua |
| sabroso | delicious | mani | munngi' | munngi' |
| sal | salt | azibi | asiga | |
| seis | six | guanán | | |
| Señor | boss | churu | | ma'gas |
| siete | seven | frintin | | |
| sol | sun | ataon | atdao | atdao |
| tamal | tamale | enft | | |
| tierra | land | tana | tano' | tano' |
| toma | take | jo | | chule' |
| tres | three | tero | | |
| uno | one | aca | | |
| ven acá | come here | hembean | | maila' |

Rodriguez, Estevan. 1565. "Relación muy circunstanciada de la navegación que hizo el armada de S. M. á cargo del General Miguel López de Legazpi....", vol. 2, pp. 373-427 in *Colección de documentos inéditos relativos al descubrimiento, conquista y organización de las antiguas posesiones Españoles de ultramar, Series 2*. 13 vols. La Real Academia de la Historia: Madrid 1885-1932.

Title page and extracts pertaining to his visit to Guam, pages 387 – 393.

Downloaded from <http://archive.org/stream/colecciondocument02seririch#page/392/mode/2up>.

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RELATIVOS AL DESCUBRIMIENTO, CONQUISTA Y ORGANIZACIÓN

DE LAS

ANTIGUAS POSESIONES ESPAÑOLAS DE ULTRAMAR.

SEGUNDA SERIE

PUBLICADA POR LA REAL ACADEMIA DE LA HISTORIA.

TOMO NÚM. 2.

I
DE LAS ISLAS FILIPINAS.



MADRID:

EST. TIPOGRÁFICO «SUCESOES DE RIVADENEYBA»,
IMPRESORES DE LA REAL CASA,
Paseo de San Vicente, 20.

1886.

18. Jueves á 18 del dicho anduvimos veinte y cinco leguas á la mesma derrota: tomé el sol en 10 grados largos.

19. Viernes á 19 del dicho anduvimos veinte y cinco leguas al U-este, aqui nos nordesteava el ahuja una quarta: tomé el sol en diez grados y medio.

20. Sabado 20 del dicho anduvimos 26 leguas á la misma derrota.

21. Domingo 21 del dicho anduvimos 20 leguas á la mesma derrota.

22. Lunes hasta medio dia que tomé el sol anduvimos 20 leguas: tomé el sol en treze grados: estas 20 leguas las haviamos andado al U-este quarta del Sud:este: acabado de tomar el sol vimos una Isla alta y de muchas serranias á la vanda del Sur, hacia unos vermejales en unas sierras: demoravamos quando la vimos al Norueste: fuymos la proa en ella, llegando como dos leguas dellas, nos salieron sesenta y un Paraos, allegaron á bordo, diciendo: *chamurre, chamurre*, que quiere decir: *amigos, amigos*; y trayendo la mano por la barriga que es señal de amistad; nos decian por señas, que fuesemos del ó (*sic*) la Nao, y iriamos á su Pueblo; y viamos dos pueblos; devian ser aquestos Paraos de ambos Pueblos, por que otros nos hacian de señas que arribasemos y iriamos á su Pueblo. Estos Indios venian todos desnudos en carnes, sus verguenzas de fuera, los cabellos largos hasta la cinta: los

Paraos que traian son los mas ligeros de vela que hay en el mundo; ni Galera, ni Bergantin, se les compara: son muy angostos y largos, la proa tienen como la popa, que de proa sirve todo: trae un contrapeso de la una vanda por no sozobrar, un palo grueso liviano botado con unas barras fuera, y va tocando en el agua; este contrapeso llevanlo de barlovento, que siempre el un bordo sirve de barlovento y el otro de sotavento; por eso hacen de la una vuelta á un cabo la proa, y de la otra vuelta al otro: las velas son latinas, cortadas en triangulo, tanto del entena como la de cayda, como el gatil (1) de abaxo: traen la vela en dos entenas, la una por arriba y la otra por abaxo; con la de abaxo hacen la vela grande, ó pequeña, que si hay mucho viento arrollanla por la entena de abaxo todo lo que quieren: las velas son de palma delgadamente hechas que parecen de angeo: venian en cada Parao ocho, y diez Indios, uno viene siempre echando el agua fuera; porque estos varcos no son estancos, no los calafatean, ni los clavan, son amarrados unas tablas con otras con bejucos, y ponenles un betume de tierra colorada, y cal y aceyte de cocos, hecho, con aquel betume los brean, y no hacen agua, la que les entra es poca. Esta gente es dispuesta, y lijeros, diestros en estos varcos: Quisimos entre estos Pueblos arriba dichos surgir, llegamos muy

(1) Por *gratil*, ó sea relinga ú orilla de la vela.

cerca de tierra y no hallamos fondo para surgir, y por esta vanda es la brisa travesia, determinamos de pasar de la parte del U-este desta Isla: arribamos y fuymos con poca vela que era ya de noche para aguardar el dia.

23. Martes á 23 del dicho surgimos en esta Isla llamada Guan, que es de los Ladrones á la vanda del U-este, en un buen Puerto: por esta vanda es muy poblada y de mucha gente: terná por esta vanda como diez leguas, é correse Nornorueste Susueste, tiene á la vanda una Isleta pequeña media legua desviada, y sale un arrecife della hasta la grande: por esta vanda del U-este la costeeé toda con una Fragata, y en ella hallamos buenas Bahias tres ó quatro de buen fondo, limpio, y buenos rios que salen á la mar de agua dulce: toda la costa poblada y llena de palmares y cocos: las armas de estos Indios son unas varas tostadas, que con ellas pasaban una rodela; y hondas, y un esportilla de palma llena de piedras, echás á mano como huevos: esto traían aquellos con sus piedras y las varas en las manos: quando venian á pelear hincavan las varas en el suelo, y con las hondas de lexos y cerca tomavan las varas y con grande animo peleavan: del arcabuz temian, y sino le acertavan, se venian á el como una xara (1). En cada pueblo que ivamos con la Fragata nos rescivian con las hondas á pe-

(1) Está usado el vocablo en su acepción de saeta ó palo arrojadizo.

dradas, que no nos dexaban saltar en tierra, que llovian piedras en la Fragata: todavia saltamos en algunos pueblos, y tuvimos algunas refriegas con ellos, mas siempre ellos llevaron lo peor; como nosotros llevabamos buenas rodelas, y buenos arcabuzeros, y los cuerpos bien armados, veinte hombres que ivamos, mas de quinientos Indios huyeron de ellos, en que al principio acometieron con grande animo, y des que gustaron de los arcabuzes, se retiraron sin orden al que mas podia correr; todavia nos descalabraron á dos compañeros, al uno le abollaron la celada, y le descalabraron con una piedra, y al otro que era un Lombardero, estando asestando un verso para tiralles, vino una piedra y diole en la boca y derribole los dientes, y rompele el beso: á otro pasó la rodela una piedra, y le atormentó el brazo; mas ellos lo pagaron bien, y artos perdieron las vidas; y con esto nos volbimos á las Naos, y hallamos que havian herido de muerte á un soldado con una vara tostada, y della murió, y á un mozo del capitan Martin de Güeyte mataron y le quebraron los dientes con piedras, y le sacaron la lengua, y le hicieron pedazos, que fué una lastima grande de vello, y lo truxeron á la vera de la mar porque lo viesemos, que cuando lo mataron estava durmiendo que havia ido el Batel á tierra por agua, y el mozo se quedó durmiendo, y se fué el Batel sin él abordo, y por eso lo mataron sobre pazes, que el General tenia hecho pazes con ellos, y

havian venido á bordo á rescatar arroz y pescado, ñames y platanos, harto mejores que los de la Havana, y cocos, y agengibre, y otras frutas de la tierra: todo lo davan á trueque de un clavo. Visto el General que havian quebrado las pazes hordenó de hacerles quanto mal pudiese: saltó el Maese de Campe, y el Capitan Martin de Güeyte con ciento y cinquenta soldados y saquearon dos pueblos y los quemaron: ahorcaron muchos Indios por los arboles: quemaronles los Paraos que pudieron tomar, y prendieron quatro Indios: mataron muchos. De los quatro que prendieron el uno se echó á la mar con grillos, y estava un Parao abordo y lo tomó y se fué con él: otro se ahorcó de la jareta el propio; y uno largamos y otro truximos con nos, que nos pareció ladino, para aprender la habla de la tierra. En esta Isla tomamos arroz y pescado, y agua y leña, y muchos cocos: estuvimos en ella surtos onze dias: tomose la posesion della por el Rey Don Felipe: cada dia se decian Misas en esta Isla: todo el tiempo que aqui estuvimos tomamos el sol en tierra dos veces todos los Pilotos, en que por la mar diferenciavamos en el tomar del sol los de la Almiranta y los de la Capitana en un quarto y tercio; aqui se vino á verificar todo, y hacianlo los regimientos de España, y nosotros en la Capitana lo haciamos por regimientos hechos en Mexico, enmendados de los de España lo que tarda el sol en llegar á Mexico: y tomamos el sol aqui en treze grados y un ter-

cio. Esta Isla es muy buena, y bien poblada, tiene muy buenos llanos para sementeras, y muy buenos rios de agua, y muy buena presencia de tierra: la gente dispuesta y desnudos en carnes: las mugeres tapan sus verguenzas con una hoja de palma, y no mas, lo demas en carnes: las casas tienen buenas hechas de madera cubiertas de palmas, y son todas altas, en lo alto hacen su vivienda: su comer es tamales hechos de arroz, unos tostados y otros recientes, los tostados son para durar mas tiempo: ñames grandes y batatas pequeñas y plantanos, y pescado, y cocos; de estos cocos hacen aceyte para alumbrarse con el, y para comer: aqui hay mucho agengibre, y otras frutas que yo no se el nombre dellas: tienen en esta Isla cantidad de Paraos grandes y pequeños, que un dia vide abordo de las Naos mas de quinientos, todos venian á rescatar, traian comida de la que arriba tengo dicha, y todo su apellido era por clavos; la manera de su hablar es la siguiente:

Amigo, chamor=bueno, mauri=daca, baquimaqui=sabroso, mani=toma, jo=Azeite, rana=arroz, juay=tierra, tana=coco seco, micha=Señor, churu=coco fresco, mana=hierro, yrizo=botija, O=calabaca, coca=Navio, botus=clavo, ruro=sal, azibi=caña dulce, tupotipor=pescado, bian=no, eri=pescado salado, azuiban=batata, nica=pequeño, segu=madera, tagayaya=plantano verde, regue=agua, ami=tamal, enft=plantano, jeta=bellota, puga=red, ragua=papel

pintado, triacabo-tali=ojos, macha=piedra, rapia=orejas, perucha=papel, afuipuri=dientes, nifi=petate, guafal=cabellos, chuzo=agengibre, asinor=manos, catecha=ella, reben=pie, ngmicha=cesto de mimbre, pian=barba, mimi=honda, atripe=pierna, achumpa=cangrejo, achulu=esto, achi=petaca, agu=bocal, burgay=ven acá, hembean=estrella, vitan=Luna, Uran=sol, ataon=comer, mana=grande, riso.=Su manera de contar: uno, acha: dos, gua: tres, tero: cuatro, farfur: cinco, nimi: seis, guanan: siete, frintin: ocho, gua: nueve, água: diez, manete.

Febrero. Estuvimos en esta Isla onze dias, como arriba tengo dicho: salimos Viernes en la noche á dos de Hebrero.

3. Sabado á 3 de Hebrero hasta medio dia, andariamos diez leguas, governamos al Hueste.

4. Domingo á 4 del dicho anduvimos veinte y cinco leguas á la mesma derrota.

5. Lunes á 5 del dicho anduvimos veinte y cinco leguas á la misma derrota: tomé el sol en treze grados y medio.

6. Martes á 6 del dicho anduvimos veinte y seis leguas á la misma derrota.

7. Miercoles á 7 del dicho anduvimos veinte y cinco leguas á la mesma derrota: tomé el sol en treze grados y medio.

8. Jueves 8 del dicho anduvimos treinta leguas al U-este quarta del Sudueste: aqui nordesteava el

