A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE LEACH BERMEJO EXPEDITION OF 1899, WITH SOME REFERENCE TO THE FLORA, FAUNA AND INDIAN TRIBES OF THE CHACO

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A. A. G. DOBSON

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Trieste



Arthur Austin Greaves Dobson

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BY

H. H. G. Dobson

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Illustrations by Messra. Holmberg and Garino.

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"Han llegado los valientes exploradores encabezados por el intrépido Mr. Walter Leach, venciendo las mil dificultades amontonadas allí por la naturaleza, suficientes para abatir y rendir el ánimo del más fuerte, pero incapaces para detener el sentimiento del valer superior que poseen en grado eminente los hijos de Inglaterra." "La Libertad", Corrientes. Abril 1899.

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CHAPTER I.

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INTRODUCTORY

The Messrs. Leach are owners of a sugar factory, canefields, and coffee plantations, in the province of Jujuy in the Argentine Republic, and the river Bermejo has its source in the same province, in the Zenta mountains, traversing the great wilderness called the Gran Chaco, and finally flowing into the river Paraguay.

For a long time the Messrs. Leach had considered the possibility of being able to send their produce down the river Bermejo, and thereby save the railway freight for over a thousand miles.

Now with regard to the river Bermejo, not very much was known. Several expeditions had navigated portions of its waters : and it is certain

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