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HISTORICAL APPENDIX.

THE CONGRESS OF 1826, AT PANAMA,

AND SUBSEQUENT MOVEMENTS TOWARD A CONFERENCE OF
AMERICAN NATIONS.

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PANAMA, *June 22, 1826.*

This day may be called the day of America. From this day the people enjoy freely their political liberty and each individual conforms to his social compacts. A strict and eternal bond unites the four Republics of Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru. All engage mutually to assist each other against their foreign oppressors and against those who may attempt to infringe the rights they have recovered.

To preserve a perfect equality the presidency was decided by lot, as was the order of signatures. The names of the Most Excellent Señors Pedro Gual, minister of state and of exterior relations of Colombia; Antonio Larrazabal, plenipotentiary of the Holy Cathedral Church of Guatemala; Don Manuel Lorenzo de Vidaurre, president of the supreme court of justice of Peru and decorated with the medal of Bene-meritos of his country; Don José de Michelena, brigadier-general in the armies of Mexico; Pedro Briceno Mendez, brigadier-general in the armies of Colombia and of the liberators of Venezuela and Cundinamarca; Pedro Molina, plenipotentiary from Central America; Don Manuel Perez Tudela, attorney-general of

the supreme court of justice of Peru, and Don José Dominguez, regent of the tribunal of justice of Guanaxuato, will be repeated forever with respect as the most eminent defenders of our liberty and independence.

Blessed be the God of Justice, who, in recompense of our toils and slavery, has vouchsafed to us forever the means of being happy.