

SOME UNPUBLISHED LETTERS OF  
PEDRO DE LA GASCA  
RELATING TO THE CONQUEST OF PERU

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*Introduction*

The final episode in the conquest of Peru was the subjugation of the rebellion under the leadership of Gonzalo Pizarro by the Licentiate Pedro de la Gasca. This event took place between the years 1546 and 1550. The general details of this affair, as also the causes which led to it, are so well known that the merest outline of this chapter of South American history is all that need be presented here.

Gonzalo Pizarro, a brother of Francisco Pizarro the conqueror of Peru, headed a revolt against the Spanish Viceroy, Blasco Nuñez Vela in 1544. He was soon recognized by the Royal Council, and took possession of Lima. On the return of the Viceroy from a visit to Panama, he was defeated in battle by Pizarro near Quito on January 18, 1546. In the meantime, in order to re-establish the royal authority, the King of Spain selected the Licentiate Gasca as Pacifier of Peru, and on September 17, 1545, he was given a royal commission as President of the Council and Pacifier of Peru.

Pedro de la Gasca was born in 1492 in the Caballeria de Navarregadilla, a small village near the Barco de Avilá. After receiving a primary education he was sent to Salamanca, where he soon gave proof of his great talent and extraordinary application. He was

appointed a counselor of the Inquisition in Valencia in 1541, and was soon promoted to the office of Visitador. On receiving his commission from the King to go to America, he left Madrid about the middle of March, 1546, and, sailing from San Lucar on May 24, arrived in Santa Maria, Colombia, on July 10. On the 12th he despatched his first letter to the Council of the Indies. He soon sailed for Panama, where he remained until April 10, 1547. During his stay in Panama, where he made preparations for the voyage to Peru, he wrote and despatched many letters and opened communication with the authorities of Central America and Mexico, whom he advised of his mission, calling on them as loyal subjects of His Majesty to render assistance to aid him in carrying on his campaign against the insurgent Pizarro. Some of these letters to the authorities in Central America are the occasion for this paper.

On November 20, 1542, King Charles V, had authorized, in Barcelona, the laws presented by the Junta of Valladolid for the regulating of the Council of the Indies, and to create new audiencias in America, among others that of Los Confines, comprising Guatemala with Honduras and Nicaragua. This tribunal was charged to judge criminal and civil affairs, reserving to the Council of the Indies in Spain the final resolution of such judgments. The King in Valladolid, in September, 1543, appointed, as members of this Audiencia, the Licentiate Alonso de Maldonado (then Governor of Guatemala) as President, and as Oidores the Licentiate Pedro Ramírez de Quiñónez, Juan Roxel, and Diego de Herrera. They arrived in Comayagua, or Valladolid as it was otherwise known, in the beginning of 1544. The Audiencia was not installed in Comayagua, but in Gracias á Dios, in May of the same year. Under its jurisdiction were placed the provinces of Yucatan, Tabasco, Cotzumel, Chiapas, Soconusco, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Veragua, and Darien. It was during the

presidency of Maldonado in 1546-47 that Gasca sent to the Audiencia of Los Confines for assistance. Maldonado ordered the Oidor Ramírez de Quiñónez to proceed to Guatemala and raise the troops to be sent to aid Gasca. After making the necessary preparations, Ramírez de Quiñónez embarked at Iztapa en route to Panama. Arriving after the departure of Gasca and not finding him in Panama, he consolidated his troops with those of Gasca near Apurimac, Peru, and marched under his orders, the Guatemala forces taking part in the defeat of Pizarro in the battle of Xaquixaguana.

In May, 1548, Maldonado was superseded as President by the Licentiate Alonzo López de Cerrato, and about the middle of 1549 he removed the Audiencia to the City of Guatemala.

A modern historian of Guatemala, García Pelaez, asserts that Gasca himself went to Honduras in search of assistance. Milla writes that no other authority mentions the coming of Gasca to Central America, and it is not at all likely that Gasca could leave the theatre of his operations in Panama. It was undoubtedly one of Gasca's agents who came to Comayagua and was supplied by the Contador Vivar with the immense outfit of men, munitions, and provisions, which is mentioned in the auto cited by García Pelaez.

On his voyage to Peru, Gasca landed in Tumbez, the northernmost port of Peru, on June 13, 1547, with a strong force and equipment, and soon won over many of the rebels by peaceful means. Ten months later, April 9, 1548, he defeated Pizarro on the Plains of Sacsahuana, near Cuzco, and within a few days sentenced him to death, the execution by beheading taking place almost immediately. The President remained in Cuzco three months and then proceeded to Lima. He remained in the country until the beginning of 1550, when, leaving the government in the hands of the Council, he returned to Spain, arriving at the Rio Sevilla on the 12th of July of the same year.

Gasca was rewarded for his services by being made Bishop of Sigüenza in 1561, and died near the close of 1565.

The movements of the President and his successes were recorded by himself in extended reports to the Council of the Indies, which almost amount to official diaries, as well as in the numerous letters sent by him to various authorities and persons in America. He also left a History of Peru, which almost in its entirety was used by El Palentino in the first part of his excessively rare work printed in Sevilla in 1571. By far the most circumstantial and extended account of the rebellion of Gonzalo Pizarro is contained in the *Quinquenarios* or *Historia de las Guerras Civiles del Peru* (1544-1548) of Pedro Gutiérrez de Santa Clara, who was himself a participant in the civil war. This work has only recently appeared, the first four of the five books having been published in the *Colección de Libros y Documentos Referentes a la Historia de America*, Madrid, 1904-1910, under the editorship of Manuel Serrano y Sanz. The fifth and last book has not yet been printed. In the fourth book are incorporated several letters of Gasca, and it is possible that others may be found in the fifth, as yet unissued, of which José Toribio Medina has given chapters 20, 21, 28, and 50, in his *Colección de Historiadores de Chile*, vol. xxvii, 1901. The manuscript of this highly important history is in the Provincial Library of Toledo.

Another work of great importance is the *Rebelión de Pizarro en el Peru y vida de D. Pedro Gasca* by Juan Cristóbal Calvete de Estrella. It was written in 1565-1567, and remained in manuscript until 1889, when it was published in two volumes in Madrid by A. Paz y Mélia in the *Colección de Escritores Castellanos*. This work although voluminous does not contain any letters.

Prescott devotes the entire Book V of his *History of the Conquest of Peru* to the Gasca régime, it being the last section of his work, relating to the settlement

of the country. The document most frequently quoted by Prescott as "Relación del Licenciado Gasca, MS.," is an abridged and mutilated copy of the despatch of May 7, 1548, from the Muñoz Collection, and is conserved in Simancas. He also made use of the works of Zárate and El Palentino. These are the principal sources from which Prescott drew his material, as the numerous voluminous letters of Gasca have been published by various editors since his time.

Volume XLIX of the *Colección de Documentos Inéditos para la Historia de España*, published in Madrid in 1866, is composed entirely of Gasca letters under the title "Documentos relativos al Licenciado Pedro de la Gasca sobre la comision que le dió Carlos 5<sup>o</sup> en 1545 para ir á pacificar el Peru sublevado por el Gonzalo Pizarro y los suyos." Other letters are published in volume L of the same collection. In 1873 Barros Arana published in Santiago de Chile his "Proceso de Pedro de Valdivia í otros documentos ineditos concernientes a este conquistador, reunidos í anotados por Barros Arana," which contains a number of Gasca letters. It includes the long despatch to the Council of the Indies, dated at Cuzco, May 7, 1548, in which Gasca describes the rout of Sacsahuana, the execution of Gonzalo Pizarro and Carbajal, and the subsequent sanguinary assize at Cuzco.

The monumental work *Cartas de Indias*, printed in Madrid in 1877, contains several letters, one of which is in facsimile. Finally, in 1879 Carlos Paz Soldan printed in Lima, in the *Revista Peruana*, volumes I, II, and III, other Gasca correspondence under the title, "Documentos para la Historia. Inéditos de Gasca." This series contains, among others, the sentence pronounced on Gonzalo Pizarro, taken from the original manuscript of Zárate's chronicle. Gasca's instructions to Lorenzo de Aldana, letters to Pizarro, and the detailed report of his agent Paniagua, are also contained in this publication. The invaluable original papers of the president Gasca are not preserved in the

Archives at Seville, but are in possession of his descendants.

So far as we have been able to trace Gasca letters the publications above noted are the sources in which this class of material relating to a most interesting period of Peruvian history are to be found. During the winter of 1917 the writer was engaged in archeological work in Guatemala for the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, and had the opportunity of spending some time in examining the wealth of historical documents now kept in the Municipal Archives. In a volume of these documents bound together in vellum are a number of letters of Pedro de Alvarado, Bernal Diaz, and Las Casas, as well as letters from other authorities of the period of the sixteenth century. In this volume we came across five hitherto unknown Gasca letters, and through the courtesy of the Alcalde of Guatemala we were allowed to make photographic copies of them. These we present in facsimile in the present paper, together with an English translation. We have carefully examined the other published letters, from the various collections in which they are found, and have arranged them in chronological order, interpolating the Guatemala letters in their sequence in the series. From the dates and places of the letters we may follow the President in his journey from Santa Marta to Peru, and the gaps in the dates of the correspondence would indicate that some of his letters are as yet unedited, and may perhaps be found later in Spain, Guatemala, Mexico, or Peru.

Of the five letters which we now publish for the first time, but two give the address to which they were respectively sent. The first two letters are from Panama and bear the date December 15, 1546. The third letter was written from the same place about three weeks later, being dated January 4, 1547; this was sent to the president and judges of the Royal Audiencia in Gracias á Dios, and it is to be presumed

that the first two were sent to the same authorities. The fourth letter, dated August 4, 1547, was despatched from Tumbes, the first landing place of Gasca in Peru, and is addressed to the authorities in Guatemala. The fifth and last is from Cuzco, dated April 18, 1548, a few days after the execution of Gonzalo Pizarro; it was probably sent to the authorities in Guatemala, but it bears no address other than "Magnificent Lords." All but the third letter are signed by the President himself, this one having the name of the Licentiate signed by the secretary who wrote the body of the letter, and written in quite a different manner from that of the other letters.

The first short epistle is one of recommendation of the messenger, one Juan de Mendoza. In the second despatch Gasca writes at length regarding the powers given him by the King and concerning the rebellion of Gonzalo Pizarro, and states that he has received word from Pizarro not to proceed to Peru but to return to Spain, as he was the Governor of that country and was willing to pay his fifths to the royal treasury only in case Gasca desisted from making the trip to Peru. Gasca then asks the authorities in Central America to send him men and supplies as soon as possible, in order to aid him to crush the rebellion, reminding them of their duty as loyal and courageous vassals of His Majesty, and that such aid was expected of them. He says that it should not be necessary for an army to come out from Spain to do this work, that the authorities had already been given notice of this matter, and that royal orders had been sent them.

In the third letter, written shortly afterward, Gasca relates what had transpired in the interim, and speaks of his plans for an early departure for Peru, urging the authorities to hurry their preparations for the assistance which he requires and calling attention to some of the things of which he was in most urgent need. This is the longest, as well as the most interesting and important letter of the Guatemala corres-

pondence. In the fourth letter, from Tumbes, Gasca calls on the council to cease making preparations for the sending of more troops to Peru, stating that there were enough people already in the land to put down the rebellion, and that the coming of more men would seriously embarrass both the expedition and the inhabitants, owing to a scarcity of food and other supplies. The fifth and last epistle is a mere note sent by a messenger who was to relate to the authorities more about the successes of the President in Peru, and asked them to help the bearer. It is from Cuzco, and dated about the time of the execution of Pizarro; but it makes no mention of this event, simply stating that God had been pleased to bring to a happy issue his negotiation, namely, that of putting down the rebellion.

The style of the verbose old chronicler is abominable, and it has been impossible to give a line-for-line translation of the letters, the first that have thus far been rendered into English. There is no punctuation, and in many instances the writing is labored and obscure. Gasca often repeats himself, hence a polished English translation is impossible if we are to preserve in any degree the style of the writer. At the same time we have made very free renderings of some of the involved sentences, while others have been made to read in very much the style of the original Spanish.

Here follows a chronological list of the titles and dates of the letters which we have found in the various publications cited above.

*Chronological List of Letters of the Licentiate Pedro de la Gasca Concerning the Subjugation of the Rebellion in Peru under Gonzalo Pizarro.*

Carta del Licenciado de la Gasca a. S. C. C. Mag. <sup>tt</sup>. Madrid, 14 de Noviembre de 1545. *Historia de las Guerras Civiles del Peru*. Pedro Gutiérrez de Santa Clara, book iv, pp. 28-31.

Carta del licenciado Pedro de la Gasca al Consejo de Indias, dando cuenta de su llegada al puerto de Santa Marta y de



las noticias allí recibidas sobre el estado de los asuntos del Perú. Santa Marta, 12 de Julio de 1546. *Cartas de Indias*, pp. 526-528.

Carta del Licenciado de la Gasca á los Prelados del Peru. Panama, 26 de Agosto de 1546. *Hist. de las Guerras Civiles del Peru*, Pedro Gutiérrez de Santa Clara, book iv, pp. 86-87.

Carta del Licenciado de la Gasca a los Pueblos y Cabildos del Peru. Panama, 26 de Agosto de 1546. *Ibid*, pp. 88-89.

Carta del Licenciado de la Gasca al Señor Don Antonio de Mendoza Visorrey de la Nueva España. Panama, 18 de Setiembre de 1546. *Ibid*, pp. 93-97.

Carta del Licenciado de la Gasca al Gonzalo Pizarro. Panama, 26 de Setiembre de 1546. *Ibid.*, pp. 117-131.

Carta del Licenciado de la Gasca al Licenciado Diego Vasquez de Cepeda. Panama, 26 de Setiembre de 1546. *Ibid.*, pp. 131-133.

Carta del Licenciado de la Gasca al Licenciado Cepeda. De Panama, á 26 de setiembre de 1546. *Colección de Documentos Inéditos*, tomo XLIX, pp. 5-7.

Carta que se escribieron á los pueblos del Perú. Panama, á 26 de noviembre 1546. *Ibid.*, pp. 18-21.

Carta del licenciado Gasca, para el capitan Calero, en Nicaragua. De Panamá, 26 de noviembre, de 1546. *Ibid.*, pp. 21-23.

Del Licenciado de la Gasca para el gobernador Benalcazar. De Panamá 26 de noviembre de 1546. *Ibid.*, pp. 23-26.

Copia de carta que se escribió al cabildo de Calí. De Panamá 26 de noviembre 1546. *Ibid.*, pp. 27-27.

Carta del Licenciado de la Gasca al Gonzalo Pizarro. Panama, 28 de noviembre 1546. *Historia de la Guerras Civiles del Peru*, Pedro Gutiérrez de Santa Clara, book iv, pp. 184-187.

Del licenciado Gasca á Gonzalo Pizarro. De Panamá 28 de noviembre de 1546. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.*, t. XLIX, pp. 28-30.

Carta del Licenciado Gasca. Panama, 15 de diciembre de 1546. Municipal Archives of Guatemala. 1 p.

Carta del Licenciado Gasca. Panama, 15 de diciembre de 1546. Municipal Archives of Guatemala. 2 pp.

Carta del Licenciado Gasca á los Señores del Consejo de las Indias. Panama, 21 de diciembre de 1546. *Revista Peruana*, tomo II, pp. 59-62.

Carta del licenciado Gasca á los señores del Consejo de las Indias. De Panamá, 28 de diciembre de 1546. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.*, t. XLIX, pp. 30-45.

Carta del Licenciado Gasca al Presidente y Oidores de la Audiencia Real que reside en Gracias á Dios. Panama, 4 de

enero de 1547. Municipal Archives of Guatemala. 3 pp.

Del Licenciado Gasca á Gonzalo Pizarro. De Panamá, 5 de febrero de 1547. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.*, t. XLIX, p. 208.

Instruccion de lo que el reverendo padre fray Pedro de Ulloa debe hacer. Fecha 11 de febrero de 1547. *Ibid.*, pp. 52-54.

Instruccion que el licenciado Gasca dió á Lorenzo de Aldana. Fecha en Panamá á 11 de febrero de 1547. *Ibid.*, pp. 54-62.

Carta del licenciado Gasca á los señores del Consejo de las Indias. De Panamá, 17 de febrero 1547. *Ibid.*, pp. 63-75.

Carta del licenciado Pedro de la Gasca á Miguel Diez Armentariz, dándole noticia de la expedicion que disponia contra Gonzalo Pizarro. Panamá, 27 de febrero de 1547. *Cartas de Indias*, pp. 529-534.

Carta del Licenciado de la Gasca al Visorrei de la Nueva España. Panama, 13 de marzo de 1547. *Revista Peruana*, tomo II, pp. 411-416, 478-487.

Carta del licenciado Gasca al Consejo de Indias. De Panamá á 18 de marzo 1547. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.* t. XLIX, pp. 76-80.

Carta del licenciado Gasca al Consejo. De Panamá á 24 de marzo 1547. *Ibid.*, pp. 80-81.

Carta del licenciado Gasca á S. M. De Panamá, 24 de marzo 1547. *Ibid.*, pp. 82-83.

Carta del licenciado Gasca ál Consejo. De Taboga á 12 de abril de 1547. *Ibid.*, pp. 83-86.

Carta del licenciado Gasca de Consejo. De Taboga, 12 de abril, de 1547. *Revista Peruana*, tomo II, pp. 338-343.

Carta del licenciado Gasca al visorey de la Nueva España. De Tumbes, 4 de agosto 1547. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.*, t. XLIX, pp. 155-161.

Carta del licenciado Gasca a los Senores Justicia y Regimiento de la Ciudad de Guatimala. Tumbes, 4 de agosto de 1547. Municipal Archives of Guatemala. 2 pp.

Copia de carta del licenciado Gasca al Consejo de Indias Tumbes 11 de agosto de 1547. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.*, t. XLIX, pp. 165-230.

Carta del licenciado Gasca á S. M. De Tumbes, 11 de agosto 1547. *Ibid.*, pp. 246-249.

Carta del licenciado Gasca al Consejo de las Indias. De San Miguel 27 de agosto 1547. *Ibid.*, pp. 250-257.

Carta del licenciado Gasca al Consejo de Indias. San Miguel, 27 de agosto 1547. *Revista Peruana*, tomo II, pp. 141-144.

Carta del licenciado Gasca al Consejo de Indias. De San Miguel 30 de agosto de 1547. *Col. de doc. Inéd.* t. XLIX, pp. 257-260.

Carta del Licenciado Gasca al Consejo de Indias. San Miguel, 30 de agosto de 1547. *Revista Peruana*, tomo II, pp. 145-146.

Carta del licenciado Gasca á Gonzalo Pizarro. De Xauxa, 16 de diciembre de 1547. *Col. de doc. Inéd.*, t. XLIX, pp. 260-276.

Carta del Licenciado de las Gasca lá Gonzalo Pizarro en repuesta de su carta de julio 20. Xauxa, 16 de diciembre de 1547. *Revista Peruana*, tomo II, pp. 625-627; tomo III, pp. 45-51.

Carta del Licenciado Gasca al Consejo de Indias. Xauxa, 25 de diciembre de 1547. *Ibid.*, tomo III, pp. 146-149, 231-233, 272-280, 535-540.

Del licenciado Gasca al Consejo de las Indias. De Juaxa, 27 de diciembre 1547. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.*, t. XLIX, pp. 281-320.

Del Licenciado Gasca á Su Alteza. De Jauja, 28 de diciembre de 1547. *Ibid.*, p. 327.

Carta del Licenciado Gasca á Su Alteza. Xauxa, 28 de diciembre de 1547. *Revista Peruana*, tomo III.

Del licenciado, Gasca á S. M. De Jauja, 28 de diciembre de 1547. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.* t. XLIX, pp. 328-329.

Del licenciado Gasca al presidente y oidores del Consejo de las Indias. De Andaguaylas 7 de marzo 1548. *Ibid.*, pp. 330-346.

Del licenciado Gasca á Gonzalo Pizarro. (Sin fecha.) *Ibid.*, pp. 347-350.

Carta del Licenciado, Pedro de la Gasca (á los autoridades en Guatimala). Cuzco, 18 de abril de 1548. *Municipal Archives of Guatemala*. 1 p.

Sentencia de Gonzalo Pizarro en Xaquixaguana á 19 de abril de 1548. *Revista Peruana*, tomo III, pp. 45-46.

Del licenciado Gasca á S. M. Del Cuzco á 5 de mayo 1548. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.* t. XLIX, p. 351.

Del licenciado Gasca al Consejo de las Indias. Del Cuzco 7 de mayo de 1548. *Ibid.*, pp. 359-394.

Relacion del Licenciado Pedro de la Gasca al Consejo de Indias sobre la Campaña de Pacificacion del Peru, fechada en el Cuzco el 7 de mayo de 1548. In *Proceso de Pedro de Valdivia i otros documentos ineditos concernientes a este conquistador*, reunidos i anotados por Diego Barros Arana, Santiago de Chile, 1873, pp. 131-158.

Del licenciado Gasca al Consejo. De Los Reyes 25 de setiembre de 1548. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.* t. XLIX, pp. 394-427.

Al Consejo de Indias del licenciado Gasca. De los Reyes á 25 de setiembre de 1548. *Ibid.*, pp. 428-429.

Relacion del Licenciado de la Gasca al Consejo de Indias sobre los asuntos del Peru. Fechada en la ciudad de los Reyes, 25 de setiembre de 1548. In *Proceso de Pedro de Valdivia*, etc., pp. 158-182.

Carta del Licenciado Pedro de la Gasca al Consejo de Indias sobre la acusaciones hechas a Pedro de Valdivia i las medidas tomadas para llamar a Lima a este conquistador. Sin fecha. In *Proceso de Pedro de Valdivia*, etc., pp. 182-183.

Carta del licenciado Gasca al Consejo de las Indias. De los Reyes 14 de octubre de 1548. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.*, t. XLIX, pp. 430-435.

Testimonio original de informacion para el cargo y descargo de Pedro de Valdivia del gobierno que tuvo de Santiago de Chile, por los años de 1548 y anteriores. Pracióse dicha informacion ante el licenciado Pedro de la Gasca, el cual dió su sentencia en 19 noviembre por testimonio de Simon de Alzate, escribano de S. M. y de instancias del dicho Valdivia en Noviembre del Año 1548. *Ibid.*, pp. 451-571.

Del licenciado Gasca al Consejo de las Indias. De los Reyes á 26 de noviembre de 1548. *Ibid.*, pp. 436-451.

Carta del Licenciado Pedro de la Gasca al Consejo de Indias informándole particularmente acerca del proceso de Valdivia. Fechada en Los Reyes á 26 de noviembre de 1548. In *Proceso de Pedro de Valdivia*, etc., pp. 183-194.

Del Licenciado Gasca al Consejo de las Indias. (Los Reyes') 28 de enero de 1549. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.*, t. L, pp. 5, 37.

Carta del licenciado Pedro de la Gasca al Consejo de Indias, participando que enviaba á España, con personas de confianza, los hijos de Juan y Gonzalo Pizarro, para que cuidaran de su educacion los parientes que tenían en Castilla. Los Reyes, 15 de febrero de 1549. *Cartas de Indias*, pp. 535-537.

Carta del licenciado Pedro de la Gasca al Consejo de Indias, recomendando á Fray Pedro de Ulloa. Los Reyes, 22 de febrero de 1549. *Ibid.*, pp. 537-538.

Del licenciado Gasca al Consejo de las Indias. (De los Reyes) á 2 de mayo de 1549. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.* t. L, pp. 37-64.

Del licenciado Gasca al Consejo de Indias. De los Reyes á 17 de julio de 1549. *Ibid.*, pp. 65-88.

Carta del licenciado Pedro de la Gasca al Consejo de Indias, proponiendo doblar el salario á los oidores, para en todo pudieran proceder con rectitud é independenciam. Los Reyes, 20 de julio de 1549. *Cartas de Indias*, pp. 539-540.

Ordenanza del Licenciado de la Gasca por mandado de su señoría, Pedro de Avendaño, a todos los corregidores alcaldes

é justicias, etc., destes reinos é prouinçias del Peru. Fecha en la ciudad de los Reyes á 9 de agosto de 1549. *Ibid.*, pp. 664-666.

Carta del licenciado Pedro de la Gasca al Consejo de Indias, avisando las disposiciones que se habian adoptado respecto al repartimiento de coca, que tuvo Francisco Pizarro. Los Reyes, 16 de setiembre de 1549. *Ibid.*, pp. 541-544; facsimile Y, 4 pp.

Del licenciado Gasca al Consejo de Indias. De los Reyes á 21 de setiembre de 1549. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.* t. L, pp. 89-99.

Carta de licenciado Pedro de la Gasca al Consejo de Indias, remitiendo, entre otros documentos, la ordenanza que hizo sobre la presentacion de apelaciones interpuestas ante aquella Chancillería, avisando lo acordado respecto de la tasa de tributos, y del envio de un cargamento de barras de plata y dando cuenta de otros asuntos de aquella gobernacion. Puerto de la ciudad de Los Reyes, 8 de noviembre de 1549. *Cartas de Indias*, pp. 548-558.

Carta del licenciado Pedro de la Gasca á los príncipes de Hungría y Bohemia, Maximiliano y María, gobernadores de España, dándoles cuenta del estado de los asuntos en el Perú. Puerto de la ciudad de Los Reyes, 6 de diciembre de 1549. *Ibid.*, pp. 559-560.

Carta de licenciado Pedro de la Gasca al presidente y señores del Consejo de Indias, sobre lo conveniente que seria aumentar los repartimientos de la Corona en el Perú. Rio de Sevilla, 22 de setiembre de 1550. *Ibid.*, pp. 561-562.

Carta del licenciado Gasca al Consejo de Indias. Sevilla, 22 de setiembre de 1550. *Col. de Doc. Inéd.* t. L. pp. 100-177.

1. *Letter of the Licentiate Pedro de la Gasca. Panama, 15th of December, 1546.*

Señor Don Juan de Mendoza goes with despatches of His Majesty to the Viceroy of New Spain. I entreat Your Worships to order given [to him] whatever he may require for his journey, in order that he make his voyage with the greatest possible speed, because it is of much importance in the service of His Majesty that it so be made. Our Lord guard in his holy service the magnificent persons of Your Worships. From Panama the 15th day of December of the year 1546.

Servant of Your Worships

The Licentiate

GASCA

my mag<sup>ces</sup> omeras

el mayor don ju de mendoca via Con seoparhos de on mag. al año  
1540 Rey de la nueva España en p.º a vras mos le manden dar todo  
buen aduamento para q con la brevedad posible haga el viaje por  
yn porta mudo al orin de su mag. q dize q haga/mo menor guar  
de enon santo orin las my mag.º personas se vras / de pa  
nama d.º N.º dias de d.º de 1546 años

- 8.

fructo de vis. ms.

Alto  
gascas

Suma<sup>ca</sup> me embio a pacificar el Peru con evocacion de las ordenanzas y  
 poder de perdonar en lo sucedido y con otros muchos poderes en beneficio de los  
 de aquella herria y q<sup>o</sup> Pizarro lo ha tan poco bien confiado q<sup>o</sup> por su ambicion  
 y pensando de se poder sustentaz en la gobernation me ha embiado a desir  
 q<sup>o</sup> no piasse a aquellas partes sino q<sup>o</sup> me buelue desde aqui a spaña diziendo  
 q<sup>o</sup> el ha de ser gobernadore y q<sup>o</sup> no ha de aver justicia otra sino la q<sup>o</sup> el pusie  
 re y q<sup>o</sup> si desto fuere su mag<sup>ca</sup> seruido solo acudira con sus quintos y donde  
 no se le denegara todo E viendo tan desvergonzada infidelidad los cau  
 lleros y capitanes y gente armada q<sup>o</sup> aqui tenia se han publicado contra  
 el haciendo lo q<sup>o</sup> deven a buenos y leales vassallos convezna q<sup>o</sup> detoda  
 las partes de la yndia con su mag<sup>ca</sup> manda por sus cedula acudan a  
 favorecer su Real voz y aceto tornan vs mds special obligacion por se  
 quion son y tener el gran zelo e lealtad q<sup>o</sup> siempre al seruij de mo<sup>ca</sup> hey  
 han tenido y tienen E assi sup<sup>ca</sup> a vs mds q<sup>o</sup> conforme al o<sup>ca</sup> q<sup>o</sup> su mag<sup>ca</sup>  
 en sus cartas manda den favor para q<sup>o</sup> de la provm<sup>ca</sup> se provea de toda  
 la mas gente en su armada y en cavalgada q<sup>o</sup> se pueda e de cauallos  
 de los porq<sup>o</sup> los q<sup>o</sup> no lo estuvieren no sezan de proveer e de mulas por  
 cargas y soldados porq<sup>o</sup> son bestias de menos embaraco e mal trabajo  
 e de archileria e municiones e armas specialmente pual y arcabuzes  
 e armaduras de cuerpo y de muchos mantenimientos assi los q<sup>o</sup> par  
 sustentaz los q<sup>o</sup> de ay salieren como los q<sup>o</sup> de aqui son necesarios porq<sup>o</sup>  
 se teme q<sup>o</sup> los atrevidos han de alzar los mantonim<sup>ca</sup> de la costa por poner  
 en necesidad ala gente de su mag<sup>ca</sup> como tambien porq<sup>o</sup> se vengan a  
 vender aqui en tanto q<sup>o</sup> ened en herria estuviere mas porq<sup>o</sup> es en herria  
 e muy pocas de comida para tanta gente como ay y de cada dia se llyeran  
 e de los materiales q<sup>o</sup> ay huviera para municiones y en todo sup<sup>ca</sup>  
 a vs mds mandan dar el favor q<sup>o</sup> de vs mds su mag<sup>ca</sup> speza de alandole

2. *Letter of the Licentiate Pedro de la Gasca. Panama, 15th of December, 1546.*

Very Magnificent Lords

His Majesty sent me to pacify Peru, with revocation of ordinance and powers of pardon for all that had happened, and with many other powers to the benefit of that country; and G. Pizarro has understood it so little, that on account of his ambition and thinking that he could sustain himself in the government, he has sent me word that I should not go to those parts, but should return from here to Spain, saying that he has to be the Governor, and that if this should please His Majesty, he should be pleased to pay his fifths, and if not, all should be denied. And seeing such shameless infidelity, the gentlemen, captains and soldiers and fleet which he had here have declared themselves against him, doing that which good and loyal vassals should do. It would be convenient that from all parts of the Indies, as His Majesty ordains in his royal orders, all should come to favor his royal will, and for this Your Worships will have special obligations, for being those who are, and have, the great zeal and loyalty which you always have had, and have, in the service of our King. And this I entreat Your Worships, in accordance with that which His Majesty orders in his letters, to give aid so that from this province should be provided the most people, and the best fleet, and the mounted men which can be had, and of fit horses, because those which are not (fit) cannot be of use or service: and mules for loads and soldiers, because they (mules) are beasts of less trouble, and do more work; and artillery, and munitions, and arms, especially pikes and arcabuses, and body armor, and many provisions, as well in order to sustain those who come out from there as for those who leave from here; they are necessary, because it is feared, that the rebels are going to take away the provisions from the coast, in order to place in straights



the people of His Majesty, as well as also, because they might come here to sell, while we are over there, because the country is very poor in provisions for so many people that are there, and are arriving every day; and also material which be there for munitions. And in all this I entreat Your Worships to favor that which His Majesty expects from Your Worships, distinguishing yourselves in a thing which is of so much importance to the royal authority, that all should obey to its call, the same as if his royal person were present. And thus it is just, that in general, and in particular, Your Worships should distinguish yourselves, giving to understand to His Majesty, and to all Spain, that there are so many, and so courageous and loyal vassals in the Indies, that in order to crush those who are not so, it is not necessary that an army should come from Spain, and that they obey not less here, than in Spain, where the good ones obey with their person and their properties to assist His Majesty in similar journeys, as for instance that of Vienna at the time of the Turks, and in that of the galley and Algier, and others which have been seen, and which we see every day. And because the Lords of this Royal Council have been written to at length, and royal orders of His Majesty have been sent, whereof Your Worships will have such long notice, I shall not be any longer in representing the great deal in which His Majesty has, and esteems, this important negotiation, and the service which by it you will do him. Our Lord guard and improve the very magnificent person of Your Worships in his service. From Panama the 15th of December, 1546.

Servant of Your Worships  
The Licentiate  
GASCA

3. *Letter of the Licentiate Pedro de la Gasca, to the President and Judges of the Royal Council in Gracias á Dios. Panama, 4th of January, 1547.*

Illustrious and Very Magnificent Lords

After the departure from here of the Contador Juan de Guzman and Nuño de Guzman, that which should be related to Your Worships is, that there have come here eight vessels from Peru, and that they are awaiting under contract, and that the Bishop of Los Reyes, and of Santa Maria, and the Provincial Tomas de San Martin, and Gomez de Solis, master of the house of Gonzalo Pizarro have also come, because as Gonzalo Pizarro has no news of that which has happened here, nor does he think that His Majesty has given order for the pacification of the rebellious, but that only by peaceful means, I should undertake the pacification of that country, it must have seemed to him that he should stay here, in order that His Majesty should understand that this good way was of no avail with him, nor with the others of his stamp, and he should provide for the remedy with great vigor. Probably so much time has passed that the ships which he had detained in Lima could come and take all that was here to be had, and he could provide for himself and those of his opinion like men who were expecting a siege, it has pleased God that he was mistaken in his calculations, as it happens to those who make their plans without God and virtue, and since Gomez de Solis has learned that no news could be given of that which happened here, he is on the Isla de Perlas, since those who come from Peru are known there; and there is a galleon, a vessel, and a frigate of war with two captains in order to bring the vessels from Peru up to this port.

It has seemed and seems to all the gentlemen and captains who are here, that it is of great importance and convenience to start from here and go to Peru during the whole month of February, and the begin-

ning of March, with a fleet and people who are at the present time in this city and Nombre de Dios, and who meanwhile arrive by way of Caya. Meanwhile Gonzalo Pizarro, seeing that no ships arrive, he will understand that the fleet is against him, and he will take measures to fortify himself, making artillery, which now he has not, because it has been taken away by the fleet which he had here; and he could construct some galleys in order to go against the fleet, and that which is more, he could, as it is believed, gather all the people of the country, which would be of great inconvenience, on account of the greater facilities which he could have on those who might wish to obey the call of His Majesty, having them there close to him, and mixed with those who are favorable to his rebellion, and who would not be so, if the fleet were separated from him, and from them, and also because to the contrary, he would give the knife to those whom he would suspect that they would obey the will of His Majesty, because even now, considering himself to be the Lord of the sea and land, he does it in order to insure himself, and how much more would he do it, understanding that he finds himself in the necessity with which the withdrawal of the fleet puts him; and also in order to take away the provisions and aid to those of the fleet, he would work towards the depopulation of the coast, to the great damage and destruction of the country, and of the Spaniards and natives living there, especially if we should not go out from here at this time, we would be forced to wait another year because in the month of August, the navigation from this part to that country down there, is so uncertain, that it would not be possible to venture the fleet on such an uncertainty, and to such variable weather which occurs during this time.

And on this account, as I say, it has seemed convenient and it is necessary to go out at the time already stated, and that we await the favor of Your Lordships, which favor is, and will always mean, a grate deal

Deo puer Qualm tior Jorde Hugonin y mmo deugmond e cony  
 par tieron lo q ay de la dar cuenta m. s. et qm venido o cho  
 rindos de lperu y q se es tam d guardando q trabas es q vienen el  
 obispo selbi q se y el y el de con amasta y el con yncial frax tomal  
 de san myn y qomez de solis mnestre salade q pigrato, por q con qoz  
 a lo puz ero no tiene d besso de lo q d ay pda ny piensa q ay d dno  
 su may cobisional para el allinami de los alherados, sino q sola men  
 te por vnder paz yo en tendiese, e nel so siego de aquella tiora de xele  
 se aver puzesado queda d qui d q su m en tendiese como este buen samino  
 no d p rouchina con el m con los otros de su dalia y qoberese del Re  
 medio con rigor pasaria tanto tiempo q los rindos q en una temade tem  
 qub puzesen venga y lleuar lo solo q d cabiese y puzese el y lo  
 de su opion como habies q ay un d dno ay ay ay ay d dno q se  
 q p d dno en esta cuenta como suelen hazer lo q fue yn tiora  
 no lo pumen d dno y en la vicia, y por q lo mudo lengua qomez de  
 solis de lo q d ca ay no se boluere d dno d dno d dno q se  
 lo y d dno q se puzer q los que vienen de lperu q se ay con un q d dno  
 y d dno y un q d dno de armada con d dno capitani para hazer  
 a los rindos de lperu a passar d delante de este puzer  
 y en resado y puzese a los d dno forallez y capitani que d qui es tam  
 que d dno y un d dno ay q con viene salta de ay y ay ay ay  
 en lo q d dno de d dno q p m ay q d dno ay ay ay ay ay ay ay  
 q ay  
 medio tiempo se allegare para vnder ay d dno medio puzer q se ay ay ay

en vnacsa q̄ tanto importa a su Real auctoridad e ynteresse y que  
 entonto la tiene q̄ manda q̄ todos acudan a ella como si su Real persona  
 se hallasse en ella. Vn si es fuydo q̄ en comun y en particular es mdo  
 se señalen d̄n̄do a entender a su maḡ e a toda España q̄ ay tñtos  
 y tan valerosos e leales vassallos en las yndias q̄ para allanar a  
 los q̄ no lo sean no ay para q̄ venga de España exercito q̄ no menos  
 se ayde aca q̄ en España acuden los buenos consules personas y Sañes  
 das a ayudar a su maḡ en semejantes jornadas como en la de vicia  
 quando la del Barco y en la de la goleta y Alger y orat se ha visto  
 y cada dia venos y por q̄ a los 25. de esta Real auidencia se scrib  
 largo y embian las cedulas de su maḡ por donde es mds ternan  
 de todo lo q̄ se ha hecho no me alargo a mas en Representar lo mu  
 cho en q̄ hebre e ofensa su maḡ esca importante negociacion y  
 el seruy q̄ en ella se le hiziere. Nos. las m̄y maḡ las personas  
 de vs mds guarde sacro te en su seruy. De Panama a 10. de  
 de Diciembre 1546

Juan de  
 Pedro de vs 1546  
 Ellie do  
 f. r. sch.

q'nd mandado En tenera q' armada es la unida y se q' unida por la  
firmando en tierra q' no se tiene p' lo aver se lo tomado en el armada q'  
a que teni y por un hora. Si embargo no se f' mas en azar por un lado  
armada, y lo q' mas el poder q'ntos se q'nd esta tiempo lo d'alo gente de la tierra  
q' seria de gran y un con d'amente por el mal fa al buando q'po d'ria tener f' las  
lo q' d' e' casen si a dia d' laboz se surti temendola q'ntos consigo y mezcla  
q'os con lo d' f' comados. Deu de delin queno f'ica tu biese quando el ar  
mada f'iese aguz, f'agos del y sellot y tambien por q' En tenera h'ossa q' un  
viada poner d' ca' f'ullo los q'os p' f'ase / q' aduande d' uida en la voz q' de  
sumas por q' a un ora con tenera se por sena de l' mae y heral f'ase por  
d' e' g'ararse que un toma o es de o'ceal h'ua En tendiendo q' d' a' en h'ua  
a q' d' ad que la p'ce la Redu'cion de la armada y en si mismo por d' u' h'ua  
man teni m'onta y e' azu'go d' los del armada traba q' uide de q' d' h'ua h'ua  
En m' f'io d' u'no y d' e' f'ag'nd de la hora y e' p' d' e' l' y u' a' u'ala de la e' p'  
a' al monte que a' u' s' a' h' e' s' e' m' d' e' d' i' q' u' e' n' e' f' e' tiempo se r'ia f' r'ado q' u' a' d' u' a'  
No lo d' u' no por q' u' e' l' m' e' s' de q' u' d' o' es la nauega' q' n' de la h'ua d' i' a' q' u' e' a'  
t' a' n' y n' e' c' e' r' t' a' q' u' e' n' o' se r'ia co' s' a' d' e' a' d' e' n' t' u' e' r' a' e' l' a' r' m' a' d' a' a' l' a' y n' e' c' e' t' i' d' m'  
f' e' y p' o' a' f' e' r' m' e' z' a' d' e' l' t' e' m' p' o' q' u' e' n' d' o' n' e' a' b' e' r' y /  
En p' o' r' e' l' c' o' m' d' i' g' o' h' a' p' o' r' e' a' d' o' q' u' e' c' o' n' b' i' e' n' e' y' e' s' n' e' c' e' s' a' r' i' o' s' a' l' h' a' e' n' e' l' t' i' e' m' p' o' y n'  
a' d' o' y' q' u' e' a' g' u' a' r' e' m' o' s' e' l' f' a' b' o' r' d' e' d' e' q' u' e' l' y' a' d' e' s' e' a' m' m' i' h' a' p' a' r' e' p' o' r' e' l' a'  
b' i' e' n' d' e' l' a' n' e' g' o' q' u' e' a' l' a' n' d' a' y' q' u' e' n' t' a' r' t' i' n' t' o' q' u' e' s' i' e' n' d' o' c' o' n' s' e' l'  
armada se no' a' d' e' l' a' m' i' n' p' o' d' r' e' m' o' s' t' o' l' e' r' a' s' e' g' u' i' a' d' e' c' o' r' r' e' q' u' e' n' d' o' l' o' g' e' n' t' e' q'  
a' l' o' p' e' l' l' o' s' d' e' s' u' m' i' g' d' i' u' i' d' e' z' e' d' a' d' o' s' e' l' f' u' e' r' e' d' e' q' u' e' s' e' a' s' i' a' n' l' o' s' p'  
y' o' r' a' d' e' s' e' s' u' m' a' s' y' n' o' f' e' r' e' s' a' d' e' m' o' s' d' e' l' o' a' l' e' r' a' d' o' y' q' a' s' i' m' o'  
m' o' o' i' m' p' r' a' c' i' o' n' e' s' d' e' q' u' e' n' o' s' e' p' a' r' a' q' u' e' n' o' t' e' n' g' o' t' i' e' m' p' o' d' e' h' i' z' e' r' l' o'  
a' s' i' e' s' e' o' b' e' d' i' e' n' t' e' y' d' a' d' e' m' o' s' a' m' m' o' a' l' o' s' i' n' p' r' e' s' e' n' t' e' q' u' e' s' e' q' u' i' e' n'  
y' l' l' e' u' a' n' d' o' p' a' s' a' s' u' s' t' i' t' u' y' s' e' h' a' g' a' n' l' u' e' z' p' a' r' a' s' u' d' e' s' e' n' a' y' h' e' n'  
d' e' l' n' e' g' o' q' u' e' n' o' y' s' e' p' o' r' u' m' b' a' r' z' e' o' t' o' s' e' f' e' l' i' t' o' q' u' e' l' a' d' e' s' p' u' e' s' u' m' d' e'  
l' o' s' a' s' i' a' s' p' o' d' r' i' a' n' m' e' d' i' a' r' t' e' m' e' n' d' o' s' u' e' p' o' n' e' /  
e' l' o' s' d' i' s' p' u' s' a' m' o' s' e' n' d' e' q' u' e' l' o' s' l' o' s' q' u' e' n' o' s' e' f' a' l' l' e' g' a' z' e' s' f' e' l' i' c' i' t' a' s' y' p' m' i' o'  
s' e' m' e' n' t' e' c' o' n' l' o' m' a' n' t' e' m' o' n' t' o' s' y' c' o' n' s' u' e' n' e' s' y' a' p' a' r' e' s' e' p' a' r' a' n' a' u' e'  
y' m' m' j' o' r' a' d' e' s' i' n' t' e' l' e' s' e' l' e' s' e' l' e' g' a' n' d' a' c' o' p' i' a' d' e' h' i' s' t' o' r' i' a' s' e' a' l' e' d' o' n' p' a' r' a'

me fha / para qd de qmbo dnm alavda de pua v lo q no cad hieca pmo  
 para heny luego se ca pte y no sigua y de va aynta qe ay no otko en  
 la castid de pua por q por do fueron de xacoma lengua de mi se fha v mudo  
 par tueron y pasafemo de xacoma d'vso para q lo aynta no se pudie e  
 vemy aynta qui nos supia qm hazer lo en hesta del pueru d' donde no  
 con hieca qlegue yntel qieno otkob por lo ay zantes dar un vso s' o r e l  
 q fero q se haza llegando no otko qmbo o vntel qz v de n' ay p'ersona de  
 qm uadito e y n' p'atania para un d'iaz al o del pueru lo a ordanah by  
 de su m' q como el r' d' qm h' ay p' aynta q se ynd'essa / vel ma  
 r'ical al se al unido y lo zeno de cal d' una y otko auant' e ca p'atania he  
 nen tanto uadito e p' a q' uent' e u' q' uent' e u' d' o por lo o de caen' e q' uent' e  
 h' an hego y h' ay n' ay nos caum q' u' ay n' ay d' ca' u' s' a q' uent' e u' y n'  
 q' u' e' ca' la se q' u' ay n' ay e y o' n' si p' a' e' u' m' p' a' h' i' m' i' h' a' l' i' m' i' d' e' t' e' o' u' e' r'  
 t' u' e' n' e' n' u' n' d' i' e' q' u' e' s' u' e' e' g' i' d' a' s' e' a' d' e' h' o' p' r' i' m' e' r' a' t' p' a' r' e' s' f' u' e' r' u' n' d' i' e' r' e' n' e' f' u' l' a' e' s' e'  
 h' a' t' u' e' r' a' n' t' e' d' a' l' u' n' h' e' g' a' d' a' d' e' o' t' r' o' s' n' o' p' o' d' r' i' a' n' t' a' n' t' o' a' l' a' z' h' a' e' a' l' a' d' a' s'  
 y a' d' a' l' / y e' n' e' l' s' u' p' m' a' d' a' r' e' s' m' u' n' d' e' p' o' n' e' r' l' a' d' i' l' i' g' e' n' c' i' a' y' s' o' b' i' g' a' d' o'  
 q' u' e' n' e' g' o' s' e' t' a' n' t' a' y' n' p' a' t' a' n' i' a' a' l' p' u' y' d' e' s' u' m' p' s' e' y' o' e' n' s' e' s' e' e' p' a' r'  
 y' o' t' r' o' s' a' l' q' u' e' s' a' m' p' a' r' a' l' e' l' s' e' n' a' l' i' s' o' d' e' f' e' r' e' s' e' h' i' m' e' d' a' e' p' a' n' a' y' p' a'  
 r' a' d' i' o' n' d' e' m' u' n' d' o' a' i' m' u' n' d' e' n' e' n' d' i' a' a' l' i' m' a' n' s' i' r' a' y' a' l' i' g' e' n' c' i' a'  
 q' u' e' r' e' f' o' r' s' i' l' l' e' / m' i' s' l' a' z' l' l' e' y' m' i' n' i' m' i' s' p' e' r' s' o' n' a' l' e' n' s' e' q' u' e' r'  
 e' a' f' u' s' a' n' t' e' l' l' e' m' c' o' n' a' u' m' e' n' t' o' d' e' m' i' s' v' o' r' e' s' t' a' d' o' a' m' o' d' e' f' e' r' e' n' y'  
 q' e' s' e' d' e' p' a' n' a' m' / 24 de hieca 1547

de n' s' f' u' e' r' o' q' u' e' s' o' m' e' h' e' r' e' r' e'

(el h' e' n' g' e' l' e' r' e)

Alzle y m' m' g' e' s' s' e' p' e' y' o' v' a' d' e' d' e' h' a' u' d' h' e' l' e' r' e' s' i' d' e' n' c' i' a' n' d' o'  
 m' s' f' e' r' e' n' t' e'

in favor of the safety of navigation on the coast, and that while it is forthcoming, the fleet being as it is mistress of the sea, we can safely sail coastwise, gathering the people, who at the call of His Majesty should be willing to come, giving them great assurances to which the servitors of His Majesty are entitled, and that they should not perish at the hands of the rebels. And in the same way we shall keep Gonzalo Pizarro so busy, that he has no time to do the above mentioned things, and we will encourage the suppressed over there that they should gather and rise up for His Majesty and the welfare of the negotiation. And other operations might be effected which the disposition of things would show, having them before us.

We all pray Your Lordships, that all that which at the time of the arrival of this, should have been already done, should be sent us, together with all the necessaries, and provisions, and apparatus for ships, and munitions, among which there should be sent a large quantity of cotton thread for the match cords of firing ordinances, so that we can all go together to the coast of Peru. And that which should not be ready to come, should at once be provided and follow us, and should join us on the coast of Peru, because, wherever we go, we shall leave word of our route, and when we leave and pass on we shall leave notice, in order that that which now is not able to join us here, should follow us to do so on the coast of Peru, where it is not convenient that it should arrive before us, because should it go ahead, it would give notice without the effect it would make arriving with or before us, because from here there go people of great importance and renown, who are to invite those of Peru that they obey the call of His Majesty as they themselves have done, because the General Pedro de Ynojosa and the Marshal Alonso de Alvarado, and Lorenzo de Aldaná, and other gentlemen and captains, enjoy such great esteem in that country, that understood by those of there what these have done and



do, they will understand how just is the cause which we bring, and how unjust is the one of Gonzalo Pizarro, and so for that, as well as on account of the many friendships which they have over there, it is convenient that their arrival be of the very first, because if at the time of their arrival that country should be in rebellion, with the arrival of the others they could not so well work out the above-mentioned conditions, and therefore we entreat that Your Lordships exercise the diligence and solicitude, which a negotiation of so much importance in the service of His Majesty requires, and which is expected of Your Lordships, and that the letters which go forth to the Lord Viceroy of New Spain and for Juan de Mendoza, should be sent with the greatest possible despatch. Our Lord, the Illustrious and very Magnificent Persons of Your Lordships, guard in his holy service, with increased well being, such as you wish and I desire. From Panama the 4th of January, 1547.

From Your Lordships servant who kisses your hands.

The Licentiate GASCA

To the Illustrious and very Magnificent Lords, President and Oydores of the Royal Council which resides in Gracias á Dios  
Our Lord. Lords.

4. *Letter of the Licentiate Pedro de la Gasca to the Lords of Justice and Administration in the City of Guatemala. Tumbes, 4th of August, 1547.*

Magnificent Lords

It has pleased God to bring to such a good end this negotiation, that today all of the towns of Peru are in accord with the will of His Majesty, and the fleet which was sent ahead with Lorenzo de Aldaná, Hernan Mexia and Juan Alonso Palomino is in Callao, and after it entered, Gonzalo Pizarro abandoned Lima,

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e se fue arriba solo se teme la guerra que nosotras...   
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tumbos a m. de agosto de 1547

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and went up into the country, and it is feared that before we should arrive, there might be a rupture with Diego Centeno, and with the others who are up there together in the service of His Majesty, and that the suffering which the longer road has to give us, he having gone up there, it would not give us if he had remained in Lima, especially when one considers that it might be possible that he has the intention of penetrating into one of those mountain fastnesses, where he might live without being surprised, and it would be necessary to go out to hunt for him. Matters being in the condition in which God has placed them, there are many people here to overcome them, and this will be accomplished shortly, so that it would be impossible that the people who have already left there should arrive in time; therefore it seems useless that they should come, unless to suffer or make trouble to this country, and augment the great confusion which already, the too great number of vagrants which are here, already cause to the service of His Majesty, and the destruction of the country and people, and the perdition of more people here, where there are already today, more lost than anywhere else, because although it seems easy for men to be able to live, yet in comparison with the means for living, in order to sustain themselves, and that those provisions should already be so short in those realms, no more (men) can be placed until matters change for the better, and some of those vagrants who are around here are employed: and it is therefore that we write to the President and Judges of the Royal Council, asking them to kindly revoke the order, and stop the coming of more soldiers from those provinces, or from any other parts there is that they should come from and embark; and meanwhile that they provide for what has to be done, and Your Worships should detain all soldiers, that none should pass nor embark from these parts, because with this, you would not only serve His Majesty, and do good to this country,

but also to those who were to have come, because on account of the fatigue, and lack that there is in this country on account of the great destruction while it is reformed and restored, and the people who are there are employed, those who come could not help, but would suffer great privations, and even make it greater for those who are here. May Our Lord protect and augment the magnificent person of Your Worships in his holy service as you may desire and as it is my wish. From Tumbes the 4th of August of 1547.

To the service Of Your Worships  
The Licentiate

GASCA

[Endorsements]

Carta del Señor President  
Gasca to this cabildo  
received on September 8  
of 1547

To the Magnificent Lords  
The Lords of Justice  
and Administration of the  
City of Guatemala

5. *Letter of the Licentiate Pedro de la Gasca.  
Cuzco, 18th of April, 1548.*

Magnificent Lords

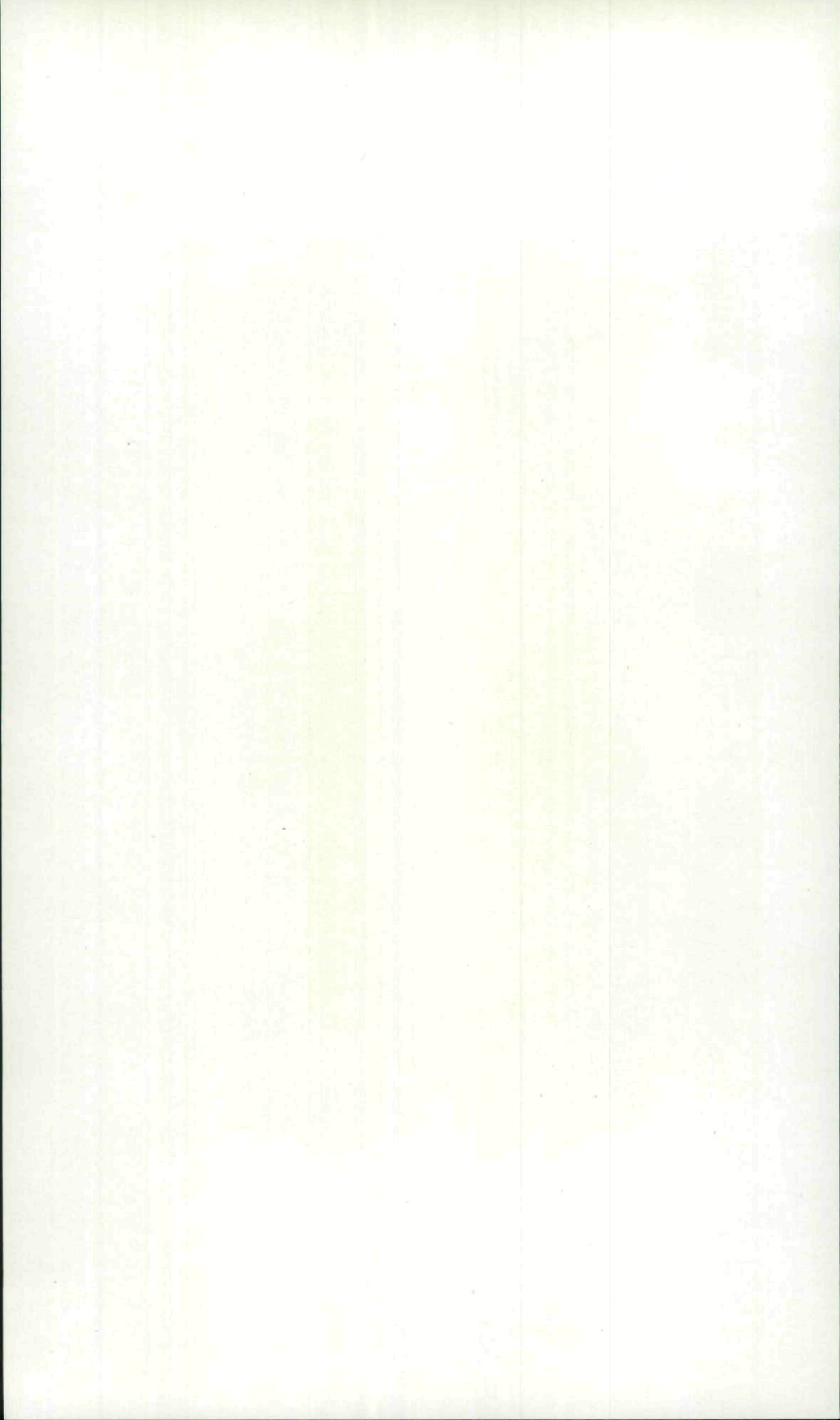
Because the messenger is Bartolomé Marroquin I refer to him in that place. I have no more to say than that it pleased Our Lord to bring to a good end the negotiation, as he (Bartolomé Marroquin) will tell you, and to supplicate Your Worships that therefore that which relates to the distribution of Indians you have there, as well as in other things that might occur to him, that you will help him in every way possible, since the faith and zeal which he has had and has in the service of His Majesty deserves it, and in so doing I shall be much favored. Our Lord guard and improve in his Holy Judgement the magnificent persons of Your Worships according to your wishes and as I desire. From Cuzco the 18th of April of 1548.

To the service of Your Worships  
The Licentiate GASCA

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