

AMERICA THROUGH HINDU EYES

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would not leave without us. When I found that the car was actually waiting, I began to finish my drink in one gulp, but my Cuban friend asked me not to hurry. This state of things could never be imagined in India, much less in the United States. I think, however, that this indicates the good nature of the Cubans, much more than their easy-going ways.

The Cubans are a very hospitable people. The proprietors of all the tobacco plantations that we visited entertained us with sumptuous dinners. The Larrañaga Cigar Company is a very old one in Havana. The proprietors one day took us to their factory, and showed us round. They presented a beautiful wooden case containing several hundred choicest Havana cigars to Prince Victor. The present was worth several hundred dollars. Prince Victor very much appreciated it, and sent it as a birthday present to his father.

Cuba is very rich in natural scenery. Columbus appears to have been greatly impressed by the beauty of the island. It broke upon him like an elysium. In the words of



A group taken in the premises of the Por Larrañaga Cigar Factory, Havana. The figures beginning from the left are Don Antonio J. Rivero—the senior proprietor of the firm, Prince Victor N. Narayan, I. B. De Majumdar, and Don Ricardo Rivero—the junior proprietor of the firm.