



Smithsonian Institution

Archives Center - NMAH

Leo Baekeland Diary Volume 29, 1920

Extracted on Apr-16-2024 03:51:34

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[[margin, red pencil, written vertically]] Rio Janeiro - Aqueduct [[/margin, red pencil, written vertically]]

April 9. Walked along aqueduct top to original place where water was collected. A set of solidly constructed reservoirs made of ~~gra~~ big granite blocks tightly cemented together and provided with a set of old sliding valves. so as to distribute better the different streams in the reservoirs. A pretty little garden around, all in some ravine ~~prov~~ in the woods, ~~encased~~ in woods with varied ~~vey~~ tropical vegetation all very pretty and very well situated. I notice that this aqueduct was constructed in 1744. At that time it must have been an ambitious piece of engineering and involved serious difficulties. The old aqueduct is very obvious everywhere along the road on which exists the electric car

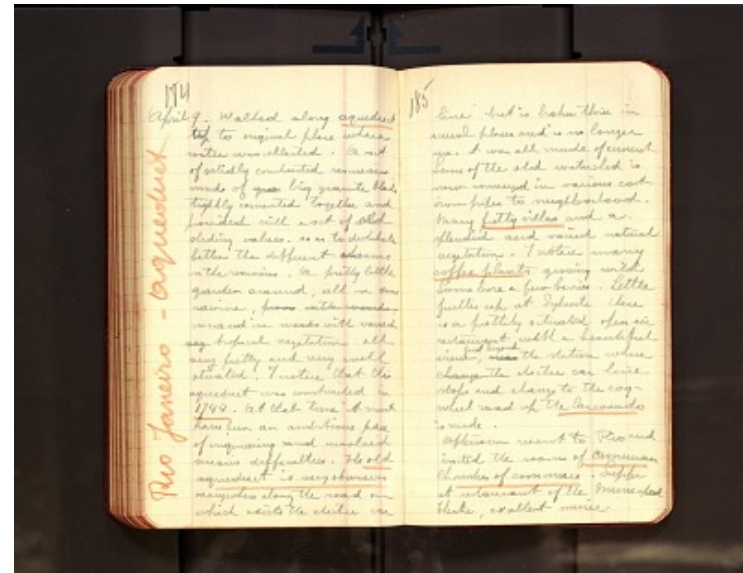
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line but is broken thru in several places and is no longer use. it was all made of cement Some of the old watershed is now conveyed in various cast iron pipes to neighborhood. Many pretty villas and a splendid and varied natural vegetation. I notice many coffee plants growing wild Some bore a few berries. Little further up at Sylvestre there is a prettily situated open air restaurant with a beautiful view, ^[[just beyond]] ~~near~~ the station where ~~change~~ the electric car line stops and change to the cogwheel road up the Corcovado is made.

Afternoon went to Rio and visited the rooms of American Chamber of Commerce. Supper at restaurant of the Municipal theatre, excellent music.



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