



Smithsonian Institution

Archives Center - NMAH

Leo Baekeland Diary Volume 36, 1923

Extracted on Mar-29-2024 01:00:04

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[[left margin in red]] Cordoba [[/left margin]]
 the [[red underline]] Cathedral, [[/red underline]] better know as the [[red underline]] Mesquita [[/red underline]] (or Mosque) as it is an old [[red underline]] Moorish Mosque [[/red underline]] plastered over with gothic so as to use it as a Catholic Cathedral (See Baedeker). The Government is cutting out now most of the incongruousness gothic addition so as to set free as much as practicable the old Moorish building. Near the old Bridge over the Guadalquivir is the old [[red underline]] Alcazar [[/red underline]] formerly the abode of kings now a prison for which it ~~seems~~ is not even fit. Am told it was there that Columbus received from Isabella the promise of assistance for his exploration westward, but he should wait till Granada was conquered from the Moors.

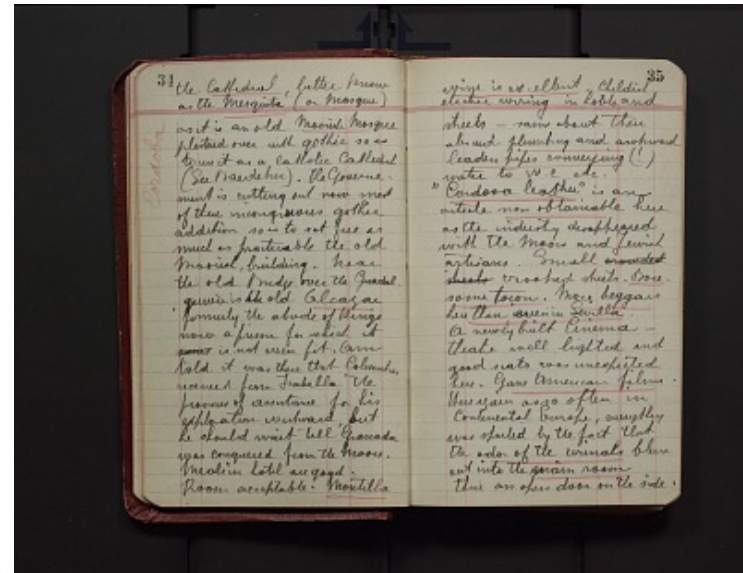
Meals in hotel are good. Room acceptable. [[red underline]] Montilla [[/red underline]]

[[end page]]

[[start page]]

[[red underline]] wine is excellent [[/red underline]] Childish electric wiring in hotels and streets - same about their absurd [[red underline]] plumbing and awkward leaden pipes conveying (!) [[/red underline]] water to w.c. etc.

[[red underline]] "Cordova leather" [[/red underline]] is an article [[red underline]] non obtainable [[/red underline]] here as the industry disappeared with the Moors and Jewish artisans. Small ~~crowded streets~~ crooked streets. [[red underline]] Bore some town. More beggars here than are in Sevilla. [[/red underline]] A newly built Cinema - theatre well lighted and good seats was unexpected here. [[red underline]] Gave American films [[/red underline]] Here again as so often in Continental Europe, everything was spoiled by the fact that the [[red underline]] odor of the urinals [[/red underline]] blew out into the [[red underline]] main room [[/red underline]] thru an open door on the side



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