

SUMMARY OF CLAUDIO DELGADO LETTER TO FINLAY

Gijón, January 26, 1901.

Dr. Carlos Finlay.  
Havana.

My very dear friend:

The triumph of the scientific truth that you maintained, the premium granted to the faith and perseverance with which you, in spite of a thousand obstacles, fulfilled the difficult task of penetrating the mysteries of yellow fever and of clearing problems for a long time held to be without solution, has, believe me, my good friend, filled me with joy, and from this corner of the old world I send you my enthusiastic salutation and join my modest congratulations to the meritorious and hearty ones extended to you by fellow countrymen and foreigners on the memorable and happy night of last December 22<sup>nd</sup>, granting you the palm of victory.

You have been, in truth, the Christ of the saving doctrine of yellow fever.— Doctors and pharisaical detractors have not been wanting, nor the persecutions of envy, nor the mocking and buffeting of vain and pretentious charlatans (see Dr. Gibier) nor the scourging and thorns of acrid criticism, nor the bile and vinegar of annoying controversy; in fact you have suffered a whole Calvary with philosophic resignation, and even with evangelic patience. I had the honor of being at your side as the Cirineus of this passion, and of being always your faithful disciple, as addicted to the doctrine as to the person of the master.

It has at last pleased Divine Providence that the hour of Resurrection should arrive, and the sympathetic personality of Dr. Finlay be offered to the contemplation of the world glorified as it deserved, surrounded by all the prestige won in a humanitarian combat, surrounded by a brilliant nimbus of light, the rays of which wound the eyes of the

unbelievers of yesterday.—Well deserved is this honor rendered to the inventor of the fortunate culex theory, who, with a clear intelligence and well directed energy, was abble with the help of the said dípteras to discover a truth of such importance, a truth today proclaimed by foreign scientists and accepted as a positive basis for future advances in the prophylaxis of the most terrible scourge of foreigners in the West Indies.

I send you a hearty embrace.

(Firmado) C. DELGADO.

