

A Brazilian I am: Rui Barbosa memoirs

A Brazilian I am; and, because I am Brazilian, I do not leave my homeland for no international friendship, no matter how high, no matter how glorious, however goodworking it may be. I was born in the same among mine, and among them I grew up with the same admiration, the same wellwishing and the same worshipping for the two nations, from whose history the modern constitutions issue. I studied their lessons and institutions with the same love. I noticed that these two nationalities come from one another, but that, due to the passing of ages, linked together by a mother-daughter relationship, they are, by the substantial identity of their laws and customs, under different political formats, in fact, sisters in freedom and democracy. When, therefore, from a regime where all statesmen graduated from the English school, we move, without changing the essence of things, to the North American forms of freedom and democracy, I did not imagine that we would change the kernel of our evolution, exchanging the London model for that of Washington, but that we would widen the bed of our progress by completing the two models with each other, nor that we abandon the historical current of our European relations by North American ones, but that, without renouncing the old friendship, let us also consecrate the new one with the same sincerity." (BARBOSA, Rui, 1919, p. 244)

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Pictures of the death mask

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Pictures of the constitution

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