

hail and snow, that proved very uncomfortable to their sunburnt faces: this was supposed to be at an elevation of about fifteen thousand feet. Our gentlemen now felt the effects of the elevation in headache, difficulty of breathing, and excessive lassitude. The crest of the Cordilleras is at this place a league in width, the surface very uneven, containing small lakes without outlets sunk in deep hollows; beyond this, the streams which form the extreme sources of the Amazon were running to the eastward. After travelling two leagues on a gentle descent, they arrived at Casa Cancha about dusk.

Those of the party who first arrived witnessed a fracas with the cuchillo, so often appealed to here when a misunderstanding occurs; no injury, however, resulted from it.

Casa Cancha consists of three huts, and is nothing more than a muleteers' rendezvous; the place was in charge of two women, who in expression, if not in form, might have been taken for witches. The accommodations, if they may be so called, were an apartment common to all the inmates, with no fastening to the door or windows, without a fire, and nothing but the hard ground to lie upon.



COOKING AT CASA CANCHA, PERU.

At night, the thermometer frequently falls to the freezing-point, and the climate is like that of winter; there is not, however, a stick of wood nor any resinous Umbelliferæ, as on the Chilian Andes, to be had, and