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Tesla, Nikola
New York, 10 Jun 1902
To Robert Underwood Johnson
a.l.s., 3 p. (with cover and clipping)

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onichelson@post.harvard.edu

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Scientist Declares He Can Apply Atmospheric Current Without Motive Force.

WAS SIMPLE DISCOVERY

Senor Clemente Figueras, Engineer, of Canary Isles, Inventor of the Method.

[SPECIAL CABLE TO THE HERALD.] The Herald's European edition publishes the following from its correspondent:—
London, Monday.— A most remarkable claim, the genuineness of which it is as yet claim, the genuineness of which it is as yet impossible to test, says a cable despatch published by the Dally Mall from its Las Palmas correspondent, has been made by Señor Clemente Figueras, Engineer of Woods and Forests in the Canary Islands, for many years professor of physics at St. Augustine's College at Las Palmas.

College at Las Palmas. It seems that for many years he has been working stiently at a method of directly utla lizing atmospheric electricity—that is to say, without chemicals or dynamos and making a practical application of it without the need

of employing any motive force.

A true revelation might rob him of his re-

ward, and even now, while he claims to have succeeded, he is silent concerning the exact principles of his discovery.

He asserts, however, he has invented a generator by which he can collect electric fiuld so as to be able to store it and apply if the contract of the c

nection with shops, railways and manufactures.

He says he expects its effect will-be a-tremendous economic and industrial revolution. He will not give the key to the invention, but declares that the only extraordinary point about it is that it has taken so long to discover a simple scientific fact.

He intends shortly going to Madrid and Berlin to patent his inventions.

In addition to the discovery, the Daily Mail says that, according to letters received in London from his friends in Teneriffe, Senor Figueras has constructed a rough apparatus by which in spite of its small size and defects, he obtains a current of 550 voits, which he utilizes in his own house for lighting purposes and driving a motor of twenty horse power.

His inventions comprise a generator, and a sort of governor or regulator, the whole apparatus being so simple that a child could work it.

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October 23, 1991

Mr. Oliver Nichelson Communications System Division Eyring, Inc. 1455 West 820 North Provo, Utah 84601

Dear Mr. Nichelson:

In reply to your letter of October 19, I am pleased to say that you have our permission to publish the two documents from the Tesla collection in your forthcoming article. Please acknowledge the Columbia University Libraries' ownership of the documents in the publication as follows: Nikola Tesla Collection, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University.

All best wishes for the success of your work.

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Lohf
Librarian for Rare Books
and Manuscripts