

*Rosas ante la Historia.* By RAMÓN DE CASTRO ESTEVES. (Buenos Aires: J. Lajouane y Cía, 1931. Pp. 164.)

This collection of monographic essays is an interesting addition to the long list of books that concern the career and significance of the Argentine Dictator, Juan Manuel de Rosas. Castro Esteves had already performed a valuable service to students of the age of tyranny in Argentina by his work entitled *Inquisiciones acerca de Rosas y su Época*. After a prologue by Enrique de Gandía, the author proceeds to consider four problems or groups of problems concerned with the tyrant. First, he discusses the suggestive work of Ernesto Quesada entitled *La Época de Rosas* and gives an estimate of its significance. Second, he considers the historic proposals for a monarchical régime in La Plata as a foil for tyrannical tendencies. Here he takes the view that their ancestral inheritance inclined certain Platean leaders toward the establishment of a monarchical system. He reasons, however, that the Rosista tyranny, which in a sense took the place of a kingship, did not destroy the tradition of liberty and idealism in Argentine political life. Third, he discusses at length the historical significance of José Mármol's romantic novel *Amalia* which deals with episodes of the age of Rosas. Fourth, he considers critically various phases of Rosas's dictatorship.

This booklet is one that should not be neglected by any student who wishes to keep in touch with the ebb and flow of Argentine historical opinion with respect to the good and the evil in the rule of this enigmatical dictator. Students of the history of Argentina will await with interest the publication of the book which Castro Esteves announces to be in preparation concerning the historiography of Rosas.

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*Orosio o Centauro dos Pampas.* By GUSTAVO BARROSO. (Rio de Janeiro: Editora Guanabara, 1933. Pp. 196. 6 milreis.)

*Tamandaré o Nelson Brasileiro.* By GUSTAVO BARROSO. (Rio de Janeiro: Editora Guanabara, 1933. Pp. 219. 6 milreis.)

Sr. Gustavo Barroso is one of the best known literary figures of contemporary Brazil. His half hundred books include regional novels, historical romances, literary essays, studies in folklore, and last but not least a number of historical monographs and biographies. As

director of the Historical Museum of Rio de Janeiro he labored unremittingly for the collection and preservation of the mementos of Brazil's colorful past until it now houses one of the finest exhibits of its kind in South America. In recognition of his achievements in the literary and historical fields he was recently elected president of the Brazilian Academy of Letters.

The two books under review are biographies of a great soldier and a great sailor of the empire. Though admittedly popular in character they evidence wide reading and pains-taking research and are valuable additions to the biographical literature of the period. The first of our heroes, Manuel Luiz Osorio, the "Centaur of the Pampas", has become an almost legendary figure in Brazilian history. Born in 1808, he passed much of his boyhood fighting beside his father in the campaigns against the Portuguese and later against the forces of Artigas in Uruguay. He was present at the Brazilian disaster at Ituzaingó in 1828, and rose to the rank of major in the long civil war which desolated Rio Grande do Sul and was only brought to an end through the efforts of General Caxias in 1844. The value of this long apprenticeship in arms was made clear in the war against the dictator, Rosas, of Argentina which broke out in 1851. Once more Osorio, fighting under General Caxias, showed his rare military gifts. In the battle of Monte Caseros he won brilliant military laurels. He was now colonel in the imperial army.

To describe the activities of Osorio during the eventful years 1865-1870 would demand a survey of the entire Paraguayan War. There was hardly a major engagement in which Osorio did not take an important part. Dom Pedro created him Baron do Herval. Through Marshal Caxias he was raised to the rank of general. President Sarmiento conferred upon him the greatest distinction which the nation could bestow: citizenship of the Argentine Republic. Osorio died in 1879 in a blaze of glory. Shortly before his death he was made honorary marshal of the army. Next to Caxias he was the greatest soldier of the empire; and like many great soldiers he was utterly without pretense and simple and kindly in all his acts. It was literally true, as Sr. Barroso well says, that his religion was service to his country. He was a truly heroic and admirable figure.

The second of our two biographies is that of a great sailor. His career presents a certain parallel to that of Osorio. Less than four months separated their dates of birth. Both rose to eminence in the

Platine wars, at approximately the same time. The career of each admirably sums up the history of their respective branches of service during the most critical years of the empire.

Joaquim Marquez Lisbôa, the future Admiral and Marquis of Tamandaré, served as a mere boy under the great Cochrane who declared to Dom Pedro I. that the young naval ensign would some day be the Lord Nelson of Brazil. While Osorio was fighting in Uruguay, Marquez Lisbôa was gaining renown in the Brazilian navy. For a time after the departure of Cochrane it had suffered severely in prestige and effectiveness, but with the appointment of Marquez Lisbôa as commander of the fleet and vice-admiral in 1855 Brazil was once more supplied with a navy second to none in South America. He realized the supreme importance of steam as applied to navigation. Sr. Barroso goes so far as to style him "O creador da Nova Marina. He was created Baron de Tamandaré in 1860 and later raised to the rank of marquis. To this brilliant seaman the Paraguayan War brought undying renown. Brazil's most brilliant naval victories were due to his skill, and as in the case of Osorio an account of his exploits would mean the history of the period. Tamandaré lived on until 1897. Though intensely devoted to Dom Pedro he felt that his first allegiance was to Brazil and with the advent of the republic he continued to serve as a member of the supreme military tribunal, a post which he had held for many years. But it was thoroughly characteristic of the aged admiral that when Vice-President Floriano Peixoto in 1892 arbitrarily imprisoned or degraded the thirteen generals who had protested against his illegal acts, Tamandaré personally informed the vice-president that he wished to have the same punishment meted out to himself.

The world has found by sad experience that the real architects of a nation's greatness are not apt to be its soldiers and sailors. But whatever be the final verdict on the justice or wisdom of the imperial campaigns in the territory and waters of the Platine republics, Osorio and Tamandaré have left examples of skill, courage, and patriotism which are among Brazil's most priceless heritages.

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