

historical data in a clear form discussing both the Colombian and Peruvian points of view. The author has performed a valuable service in making some documents of the Spanish archives referring to the question for the first time accessible in print; and the book contains a reproduction in facsimile of the royal Spanish cédula dated 1802, which is considered the most important document for a thorough understanding of the period corresponding to the first demarcation of the territories of Colombia and Peru. The cédula refers to the administration of the province of Mainas, where the town of Leticia is situated, and Dr. Lozano points out clearly its ecclesiastical character, while, among Peruvian writers, there is a tendency to consider it as having a juridical basis for the civil sovereignty of the territory.

In the opinion of the author, the treaty of 1922 definitely settled every territorial question between Colombia and Peru, without it being possible for any question of boundaries to arise. However, he admits the opportunity for a new agreement between Colombia and Peru concerning commerce and navigation, in order to facilitate the market of the Peruvian products of western Peru. The volume contains also a careful analysis of the economic interests of Peru in the Amazon provinces.

The reader interested in further research on the subject can avail himself of the very full documentation of the book, as well as the extensive bibliography. There is also an accurate and useful index. The limpid style of the text and its convincing logic are highly commended.

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Balduino Enrico: Asedio de la Ciudad de San Juan de Puerto Rico por la Flota Holandesa. By FERNANDO J. GEIGEL SABAT. (Barcelona: Editorial Araluce, 1934. \$1.25.

This casual but delightful and valuable contribution to history is the fruit of an hour's visit to an old book shop in Barcelona. There the young Puerto Rican lawyer who is its author found "the unexpected book"—*Historie ofte Iaerlijck Verhael Van de Verrichtinghen der Geoctroyeerde jaer seshienhondert ses-en-dertich (The History or Annals of the Deeds of the Privileged West India Company, from its Beginning to the End of the Year 1636)* written by Jan de Laet,

historian of the Company and published in Leyden, by A. Elzevir, 1644.

Finding after due investigation no available translation of this meaty record, Sr. Geigel Sabat proceeded to put into Spanish the account which it gives of Bowdoin Hendrick's siege of San Juan in 1626. It is that translation which we have before us, greatly enriched by additional material. The story of the siege, one of the boldest of innumerable bold attacks on El Morro, then as now one of the most impressive strongholds in the world, is completed by the Spanish official account, matching it day by day, written by Diego Larrasa within the threatened fortress. The little book has also an introductory sketch by Sr. Geigel Sabat, giving the background; reproduces in the appendix relevant material from Fray Iñigo Abbad's history of Puerto Rico; and in addition to contemporary sketches and other illustrations, contains the detailed plan of El Morro made in 1765 by Field Marshal Alexander O'Reilly.

The psychologist and the lay reader as well as the historian will find it interesting to compare points of view of attacker and besieged as revealed in the respective diaries. Both paint for him in swift vivid strokes a picture of that valiant, arrogant Spaniard, Don Juan de Haro, who replies contemptuously to Hendrick's invitation to surrender: "I've spent thirteen years in Flanders and know what a siege ought to be. Go ahead and give me one!" And answers three weeks later (October 21, 1625) to a second demand that he surrender in order to save the town: "If you burn down the town, we have sticks and stones enough in our mountains to build it up again!" Convinced at last that El Morro could never be taken, Hendrick sailed away with as many ships as escaped Spanish cannon.

The hardihood and superior military genius of Haro—who had been governor barely a month at the opening of the siege—probably saved Puerto Rico from becoming a buccaneer stronghold, a second Tortuga, affirms Sr. Geigel Sabat; and gives good reason for his opinion.

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