

the pertinent passages of the text. The bibliography seems to cover about everything of a secondary nature; it might very well have been shorter and more selective.

This book is a commendable effort at historical synthesis, and to a considerable measure achieves its object. The first four chapters hang together very well, as do the last three, since they are all on closely related political or economic subjects. The chapter on the Enlightenment, excellent as it is, does not fit so well. It seems somewhat apart from the rest of the book; the author has not quite succeeded in achieving the "whole piece" unity between this chapter and the others. The reader is not brought quite to feel that the men of the Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, the Diplomatic Revolution and the Enlightenment were all of the same intellectual generation. This fault might have been avoided, in part at least, by the inclusion, at the end, of a chapter drawing all the threads together.

It is an excellent book, nevertheless, quite up to the high standard of the other volumes in this excellent series.

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The Triangular Struggle for Spanish Pensacola, 1689-1739. By LAWRENCE CARROLL FORD. (Washington: The Catholic University of America Press, 1939. Pp. 175. \$2.00.)

The bay and region about the present "Annapolis of Aviation" have a history as old as any part of continental United States beginning with the earliest Spanish explorations of the New World. The most interesting chapter, perhaps, of this long record relates to the tri-cornered race for the effective possession of Pensacola during the last decade of the seventeenth and the early years of the following century, and it is this story which is recounted in the work under review. During the period indicated this beautiful bay occupied a place in the discussions of the councils of Europe and New Spain out of proportion to its actual importance because it then appeared that the nation occupying this port held the key to the entire lower Mississippi valley and the northern Gulf region. Consequently, Spain and France rivaled each other's efforts to establish and hold an outpost there while England, the third contestant, sought to gain possession by more devious methods. The first phase of this international struggle was adequately described by W. E. Dunn in his *Spanish and French Rivalry in the Gulf Region, 1686-1702* (Austin, 1917), a thoroughly documented account from Spanish records of the events set in motion by La Salle's ill-starred attempt to plant a French colony at the

mouth of the Mississippi. These included belated Spanish efforts to occupy Texas and West Florida between which France had driven a definite wedge in Louisiana by 1702. The present work, while focusing attention on Pensacola's part in the international drama, carries the story well beyond Dunn's account and, in this respect, is an important contribution to the history of the Spanish borderlands.

The first two of the five chapters of Dr. Ford's book are essentially a reworking of the material discovered and used by Dunn, and approximately the same number of pages in both works is devoted to the story of Pensacola from the inception of the idea of a settlement to the final establishment of a weak Spanish outpost there. Though the reworking is skilfully done, to the reviewer the allotting of nearly equal space to a retelling of this part of the account can only be justified by additional material discovered subsequently or by a fresh interpretation derived from data previously used. Neither justification is apparent, however. In writing the sixty-odd pages of these two chapters Dr. Ford seems to have made use only of the transcripts in the Library of Congress originally obtained by Dunn, with some incidental consultation of photostatic material owned by the Florida State Historical Society. These sources are of basic importance and supply all essentials, yet a few further details might have been obtained in readily available documents. In the New York Public Library, for example, are a report and a long letter bearing on Pensacola within the period studied, neither of which was utilized by Dunn or Ford. The report is a copy of the Pez memorial urging the occupation of the bay, dated June 2, 1689; the long letter is by Sigüenza y Góngora, dated May 9, 1699, and throws considerable light on the Pensacola controversy with Andrés de Arriola. This latter document has been used in secondary works and its text is available in printed form in Francisco Pérez Salazar, *Biografía de D. Carlos de Sigüenza y Góngora, seguida de varios documentos inéditos* (Mexico City, 1928). Some curious details of the planting of the post at Pensacola and the life of its garrison are contained in an incomplete *testimonio* in the Archivo Histórico Nacional in Madrid bearing the notation: "Son asuntos relativos a los Franceses y Escoseses en el Darién. Está incompleto" (*Papeles de estado*, legajo 2315). A few of these documents were utilized in a short study "Don Andrés de Arriola and the occupation of Pensacola Bay" included in *New Spain and the Anglo-American West* (Lancaster, Pa., 1932), pp. 81-106.

In the matter of interpretation there is little departure from Dunn, though perhaps more stress is placed on English activities. In dwelling on French interests, however, Dr. Ford fails to make plain that

one of the chief purposes of Iberville's voyage to the Gulf was to threaten by way of Pensacola or Louisiana the rich mines of northern Mexico. "La grande affaire est la découverte des mines" ran the Frenchman's orders (*cf.* Pierre Margry, ed., *Découvertes et établissements des Français dans l'ouest*. . . . Vol. IV, p. 352).

The remaining three chapters offer an excellent account of the less studied period from 1702 to 1739 and Dr. Ford is here most successful in disentangling the complicated maze of intrigue, shifting policies and changing ownership of the feeble yet valued outpost at Pensacola as the French, English, and Indians seek to wrest it, sometimes successfully, from the Spaniards by direct assault or by more subtle methods. These efforts are well described against the background of European diplomacy as the story is brought to a somewhat abrupt conclusion with the "Convention of El Pardo," dated January 14, 1739, whose character is not clearly defined.

There are a few misprints the most important of which is, perhaps, "seventy" for "twenty" (p. 100, l. 5). The author contradicts himself in stating on page 10 that the Pez memorial "was probably drawn up by Barroto" and asserting on page 83 that Pez himself was the probable author. The document in question was actually drawn up by Sigüenza y Góngora. It is doubtful that any real missionary work was done at Pensacola, as the author believes (p. 62, n. 87), for, as the documents clearly reveal, the Spaniards were greatly disappointed in finding no Indians to evangelize. But these are unimportant matters in a doctoral thesis which is well written and which forms a substantial contribution to the colonial history of an area now within these United States.

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Diplomacy and the Borderlands: The Adams-Onís Treaty of 1819.

By PHILIP COOLIDGE BROOKS. [University of California Publications in History, Vol. 24.] (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1939. Pp. x + 262. Cloth, \$2.50; Paper, \$2.00.)

The main purpose of this book, as stated by its author, is "to weigh the comparative influences of frontier conditions and of political considerations upon the diplomats" who were concerned in the negotiation of the treaty of 1819 between the United States and Spain. "The rôle played by Spain," he continues, "forms the core of this narrative. Accordingly, the central theme is the career of Don Luis de Onís as Spanish minister in [the United States] from 1809 to 1819." The narrative begins with the Louisiana Purchase of 1803,