

tents of the bulk of the documents. His many difficulties and his continued persistence in the face of many obstacles are clearly exemplified. Bolívar had little sympathy for those demanding personal rights when their country was still fighting for its life. The proclamations and speeches here printed clearly justify Ybarra's sobriquet of "The Passionate Warrior." More than ever do they seem to justify the widespread opinion that South American independence could not have been won as easily without the psychological appeal and the resoluteness of purpose of Bolívar. Appropriately enough the last document of the collection is the appeal of December 10, 1830, to the Colombians to forget their personal and local interests and to dedicate themselves and all their energies to the preservation of the union.

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Alejandro Malaspina. Viaje al Río de la Plata en el siglo XVIII. Con prólogo y notas del Capitán de Fragata (R.) Héctor R. Ratto. [Biblioteca de la Sociedad de Historia Argentina, Vol. VII.] (Buenos Aires: Bernabé y Cía., 1938. Pp. xxxix, 390. Illustrated.)

The documents reprinted in this volume would possess a great deal of interest for historical students at any time, for they bring together much valuable information about the politico-scientific expedition of 1789-1794 which was sent to America by the Spanish government under the command of the Italian-born Alejandro Malaspina and which was one of the last and most significant manifestations of the eighteenth-century Bourbon renaissance in the Spanish empire. In the present world crisis, in which revolutionary forces are threatening to destroy long-established empires, these documents are exceptionally interesting because Malaspina's voyage occurred at a time when the flood of an earlier revolution was beginning to sweep over Europe and America and because he used the results of his long investigation in a valiant though futile effort to keep the Spanish empire from being engulfed by the flood.

In the year following his return to Spain, Malaspina fell victim to a conservative reaction at the Spanish court. His disgrace, which was sudden and permanent, was little short of a calamity for subsequent historians. It not only prevented the completion of his elaborate and voluminous report, which would probably have been even more valuable—because more comprehensive and franker—than the accounts of Spanish America written a few years later by Alexander von Humboldt; but it also led to the dispersal of most of the reports

already prepared by Malaspina and his companions and to the loss of many of them. Not until nearly a century later were the most important of the extant fragments brought together and published in one stout volume by Pedro de Novo y Colson (Madrid, 1885).

The present volume in turn contains only a relatively small part of the fragments published by Novo y Colson, namely, those which relate to the preparations for the expedition and to its activities and observations in the Plata region, together with Malaspina's illuminating "*Plan para escribir su viaje*" drawn up in 1795 for the rather revolting Padre Gil of Seville, who was to have done the writing. The only new material consists of the editor's very useful prologue and his chapter (pp. 343-348) on certain subsidiary expeditions. Nevertheless, since Novo y Colson's more comprehensive work is now rare, the editor has rendered an important service by publishing this volume. Interpreting "Rio de la Plata" so broadly as to include accounts of the vast region from Potosí to the Falkland Islands and from Montevideo around Cape Horn to Chile, he has republished enough of the original documents to give the reader a clear idea of the character and purposes of this expedition, which was intended to bring back not only scientific information, such as marine charts for the use of Spanish navigators, but also political information which would aid the Spanish court in steering the imperial ship of state.

Students of the political and cultural history of the Spanish empire in the eighteenth century will find many familiar names—such as José de Gálvez, Jorge de Escobedo, Tadeo Haenke, Felipe Bauzá, and Félix de Azara—in the record of the expedition. None of these names, however, is more interesting than that of Antonio de Ulloa, who was a protector and mentor of Malaspina and whose works (his confidential report of 1749 on Peru as well as his published works) were frequently cited in Malaspina's reports. Because it gives such evidences of the continuity of the Spanish colonial reform movement and the relation of that movement to the European enlightenment, as well as for many other reasons, the Malaspina expedition deserves far more attention than it has received from historians. Signs are not wanting that interest in this expedition and in other aspects of the reform movement is on the increase—witness the present volume, Justino Fernández's *Tomás de Surúa y su viaje con Malaspina, 1791* (Mexico City, 1939), Lesley B. Simpson's *California in 1792—The Expedition of José Longinos Martínez* (Huntington Library Publications, 1938), and Arturo Arnaiz y Freg's "D. Fausto de Elhuyar y de Zubice" (in *Revista de Historia de América*, No. 6, August, 1939). It is to be hoped that these publications mark the beginning of a systematic

study of the movement for reform within the Spanish empire, a movement which the European enlightenment first did so much to create and subsequently did so much to frustrate and destroy.

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Malaria and Colonization in the Carolina Low Country, 1526-1696.

By ST. JULIEN RAVENEL CHILDS. [Johns Hopkins University Studies in History and Political Science.] (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1940. Pp. xix, 292. \$2.50.)

This treatise is a good example of skillful coördination in two great fields, history and medicine, and the ability to transmute the material of associated fields of knowledge into an informing, logical, and comprehensive narrative. Though malaria is not a spectacular disease, few doctoral dissertations embrace so wide a range of major departments of knowledge and their branches. Here is one of the important examples of the broad scope of an author's versatility. He had to acquaint himself not only with the literature of the history of medicine, but had to familiarize himself as well with the clinical symptoms of malaria, the numerous varieties of malarial parasites, the simple and multiple infections, the vagaries of the inconsistencies of the parasite, the local variations exaggerated by idiosyncrasies of the different species, the detailed diagnosis, etc. The susceptibility of the disease to the influences of environment are noted, as climate and the weather, dryness and dampness, altitude and geographical location; the reactions of the disease to climate, to the density of population; the tolerance of the white man as contrasted with the Indian and the Negro; the intensity of the malady at the various ages of the victim; the part the mosquito plays in its spread; the biological details of the mosquito; the gestation and transmission of the plasmodia; all these lie within his ken. The treatise traverses zoology, biology, chemistry, medical lore, climatology, and geology, besides the social sciences.

The author had to overcome the lack of much desirable specific information and face the lack of contemporary scientific method by projecting the present day knowledge of the disease to the former period and draw his cautious conclusions indirectly from the inferences. In the sixteenth century malaria was not even known as a parasite disease and most of the medical practitioners were as much bewildered by its indications, and as helpless as to its treatment as were the victims themselves. Only within the span of our own gen-