

that is entirely free from blame. He has made too much, I think, of Ameghino's now antiquated notion of the *homo-americanus*. He is not always as careful as he might have been. Some of the books quoted in the footnotes are not given in the bibliography at the end of the volume. His critical apparatus leaves a good deal to be desired. There is often little uniformity in the matter of names; the same man may be called "Juan" or "João." It seems to me that the book might have gained through compression, and possibly through a rearrangement of its chapters. Snr. Porto gives us such an abundance of information that the average reader will probably find it difficult to cope with all of it.

Yet the book, even in the light of these observations, is a welcome addition to historical studies; and future historians of the Jesuits in South America will not be able to dispense with the work that Snr. Porto has so painstakingly done. Our congratulations will therefore go to the author, and also to Dr. Rodrigo de Melo Franco de Andrade, director of the Serviço do Patrimônio Histórico e Artístico Nacional of Rio de Janeiro, under whose auspices the volume was printed.

MANOEL DA S. S. CARDOZO.

The Catholic University of America.

A vida gloriosa e trágica de Bartholomeu de Gusmão. By AFFONSO DE E. TAUNAY. (São Paulo: Imprensa Oficial do Estado, 1938. Pp. viii, 524, vi.)

Bartholomeu de Gusmão e a sua prioridade aerostática. By AFFONSO DE E. TAUNAY. (São Paulo: Imprensa Oficial do Estado, 1938. Pp. viii, 544, vi.)

Dr. Taunay writes two volumes totalling over a thousand pages to prove two major theses: (1) that Bartholomeu de Gusmão was a great man to whom Portugal and Brazil may, and should, point with pride, and (2) that this Brazilian colonial at the court of Dom João V was the first to invent a lighter-than-air machine. Both theses have been the subject of debate for more than a century and a half, the volume and heat of the controversy being in direct ratio to the progress of travel by air. Quite obviously, priority in the invention of the flying machine is now a matter of the most serious national concern.

Dr. Taunay entered the lists early in the 1930's with a series of articles published in the *Jornal do Commercio*. In 1934 the purely

biographical part of these articles appeared in the *Annuario* of the Escola Polytechnica de S. Paulo; in the following year the same publication presented the evidence substantiating the priority of Gusmão's invention. The two monographs, considerably enlarged in volume and somewhat modified in opinion by the appearance of new material, are again made available under the same titles.

As is his wont when dealing with controversial matters, Dr. Taunay engages battle with obvious gusto, confident that his lusty pen will carry the day. And in truth, he is a formidable antagonist: his extensive knowledge of the bibliography of Brazilian and Portuguese historical literature, both printed and manuscript; the long years of intensive research; the fame which has paid large dividends in material transmitted to him by scholars, material otherwise inaccessible to him—or to one less eminent than the master; the impassioned conviction that Truth rides at his side: these are sturdy weapons.

They are used in these volumes. The author surveys the field from 1783 when the attempt to vindicate Gusmão began on the day when he revised the galley proof. The twenty-six page bibliography at the end of the second volume, despite the frequent omission of desirable data such as the place and date of publication, is nonetheless serviceable not alone to the student interested in Gusmão, but—perhaps of more importance—to one seeking material on the first quarter of the eighteenth century. The paraphernalia of historical criticism is patent to even the embryo scholar, who may read in minute detail how the author secured, evaluated, and adopted evidence supporting his theses. The volumes abound in long quotations from a variety of sources. And Dr. Taunay is so sure of his position that he can demolish an opponent by "repelling with nausea" the opinion advanced.

The monographs are written by a crusader, and yet they are of value to one whose interest in the controversy may be purely academic. Gusmão is an intriguing figure, vague and shadowy for want of authentic detail, but arresting as a pioneer in the field of science and practical invention. While he was yet a student in Bahia, he invented a pump by which water was raised some one hundred meters to the Seminary; and he obtained a patent for his invention. His balloon did rise to the ceiling of the audience chamber, and he had ideas about using hydraulic pumps to clear the water from the holds of ships. He amazed Lisbon with the exhibition of his learning; he obtained the degree of doctor of canon law at Coimbra; he was one of the fifty members of the newly created Royal Academy of Portuguese His-

tory; and he served his king in diplomatic posts at home and abroad. His position at court was unassailable until his unfortunate habit of maintaining friendly relations with Brazilian Jews brought to Lisbon by the Inquisition and a curious intrigue promoted by the questionable ladies of the Convent of Odivellas ruined him. A sudden flight to Spain in September, 1724, ended with his death at Toledo two months later when he was not yet forty years of age.

The North American scholar who has the patience to search for them will find nuggets of information on the social and intellectual history of early eighteenth-century Brazil and Portugal. Nuggets of this kind for this period are compensation for long hours of labor.

ALAN K. MANCHESTER.

Duke University.

Pioneer Jesuits in Northern Mexico. By PETER MASTEN DUNNE, S.J. (Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1944. Pp. x, 327. Illustrations. \$3.00.)

This is the third in a series of studies on the Jesuits in Spanish North America, Father Dunne's second contribution, and a worthy successor to his first, *Pioneer Black Robes on the West Coast*. These studies appear to have been inspired by Professor Herbert E. Bolton's publications on one of the greatest of the Black Robes of the border, Father Eusebio Kino.

After a sweeping survey of the global scope of the Jesuit missions, the author devotes himself to their activities on the eastern slope of the rugged Sierra Madre Occidental, northwestward from Durango, and eastward into the plains around Parras in the Laguna district. The period covered is from the founding of the missions in the 1590's to their restoration after the Indian uprising in 1616.

Although the author is primarily concerned with the Jesuit missions, he includes considerable information on various phases of frontier history. He knows the geography well and he describes it well. The mission movement in this area was closely linked with the advance of the ranching and mining frontier. There could be exceptions, but the author found considerable material to support his statement that "the Spaniards well knew that progress could not continue until their personal safety and that of their developments and investments should be rendered secure by the Christian submission of the savage to his padre" (p. 164). The uprising of 1616 also