

História dos descobrimentos portugueses. By DAMIÃO PERES. (Porto: Portucalense Editora, 1946. Pp. 515.)

This comprehensive study by Professor Peres, the well-known historian of Coimbra University, is welcome inasmuch as it offers a useful synthesis of the history of Portuguese discoveries. In recent years several bulky works have been published in Portugal on the matter. But they were collective, and though there were some excellent chapters in them, such undertakings always lack unity. Professor Peres' book has the advantage of this unity.

Chapters XIV to XVI (pp. 337-456) are of particular interest for Americanists. In the first the author studies the travels of João Fernandes Lavrador and Pedro de Barcelos to Labrador and Greenland, the discovery of Newfoundland by the Córte-Real brothers, the supposed voyage of Duarte Pacheco to the American coasts (1498). Of more direct interest for Hispanic-American history are the study of the discovery of Florida and that of Brazil by Cabral. Chapter XV deals with the reconnoitering of the Brazilian coasts, Chapter XVI with the discovery of the South Atlantic islands.

By discussing objectively, on every question, the diverse points of view of successive authors—up to the most recent ones—Professor Peres' work constitutes a valuable tool for the historian interested in Portuguese discoveries, since it affords him a consistent and useful summary of the present state of investigation in this field.

There is no index in this work—a much regretted lack.

G. DE REPARAZ-RUIZ.

The University, Bordeaux.

Les français en Amérique pendant la première moitié du XVI^e siècle. Introduction par CH.-A. JULIEN. Textes des Voyages de Gonneville, Verrazano, J. Cartier et Roberval, edites par CH.-A JULIEN, RENÉ HERVAL, TH. BEAUCHESNE. [Colonies et Empires, Collection internationale de documentation coloniale.] (Paris: Presses Universitaires de France, 1946. Pp. 223.)

Of the several texts this book contains, only one (pp. 25-49) deals with Iberic-America: the relation of the voyage made by Paulmier de Gonneville in 1503-1505 to the coast of Brazil. This text, already published and commented by d'Avezac in 1869, describes the navigation of the ship *L'Espoir d'Honfleur*, India-bound but diverted by a gale to the South American coasts.

The idea of the expedition came to Paulmier de Gonneville when, being at Lisbon, he saw the incredible treasures Portuguese ships were