

(pp. 261-265); and a list of old newspapers, magazines, directories, and printed articles (pp. 266-271).

This *Calendar* is the first step in an attempt by the Academy to gather in Washington, D. C., an adequate union catalogue of American Franciscana. The items calendared are not all originals. Some are photostats and transcripts and notes, obtained from some forty-one public repositories or private collections. Many items have appeared in print and many are in translation. All this pertinent information is contained in the present volume. The calendar of items, especially in the first three sections (by far the greater part of the volume under review), are full and adequate. There is a good index.

This *Calendar*, although of a relatively small archive, is nevertheless a good portent, and if the Academy of American Franciscan History will publish more volumes of this type on such a high standard of scholarship historians will indeed be very greatly aided.

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*El libertador: Documentos selectos de D. Agustín de Iturbide.* Colegidos por el P. MARIANO CUEVAS, S. J. (Mexico City: Editorial Patria, S. A., 1947. Pp. 480. Illustrations. Paper.)

Clio has not given to Agustín de Iturbide, the liberator who became the emperor of Mexico, the consideration which he deserves. Up to our own time no scholarly biography of Iturbide has been composed either by Mexican writers or by historians of other lands. No collection of his writings has been edited comparable with those published concerning Simón Bolívar, Francisco de Paula Santander, or José de San Martín. The volume under review is an ambitious attempt to bridge the twofold gap. Father Mariano Cuevas, S. J., who prepared this work, is known to students of Mexican history as the editor of documents concerning the colonial history of Mexico. He is the author of a history of that country as well as of a narrative of the Mexican Church. Although a Mexican named José J. Pesado wrote a biographical sketch of Iturbide in 1871, and Carlos Navarro y Rodrigo, a Spanish publicist, composed a more detailed study published in 1869, yet neither of these writers included a bibliography of the limited list of works which he had consulted.

Now Father Cuevas publishes a portly tome composed of a biographical sketch followed by numerous documents. Though his suggestive biography does incidentally mention certain works which he consulted, yet it is not equipped with footnotes. Perhaps the most striking statement is the unsupported assertion that José de Iturbide, the father of

Agustín, was born in Mexico, an assertion which runs contrary to the view taken by other writers. The tone struck throughout this sketch is that of an admirer of the liberator of Mexico. Illustrations, some of which are poorly reproduced, and instructive facsimiles of certain papers are scattered through the book. One of the pictures perpetuates the legend that Iturbide and the insurgent chieftain Vicente Guerrero dramatically embraced each other at Acatempan about the time that the famous Plan of Iguala was proclaimed.

The *pièce de résistance* is the documentary collection. It is mainly composed of documents dated from 1821 to 1824, dates which embrace the most important period of the career of Iturbide as a public man. In his prologue the editor mentions archival repositories which he visited in a search for material. He states that most of the documents which he publishes came from the Iturbide Papers in the Library of Congress that were purchased from a descendant of the liberator of Mexico. A few of the documents were secured, so the author tells us, from the widow of a descendant of the emperor. Cuevas states that he thus secured a photographic copy of the original Plan of Iguala. This was composed of a declaration of Mexican independence, a scheme of reform of conditions in Mexico, and a proposed frame of government. Some inedited documents printed in this book, so states the editor, came from the Archivo General de la Nación in Mexico City. He explains that other papers were secured from the manuscripts of Padre José Antonio López, a friar who was a companion of the former emperor during his exile in Europe, manuscripts which were preserved in a Catholic educational institution at Woodstock. Cuevas asserts that through a clerical friend who recently visited Leghorn he secured copies of some epistles which Iturbide wrote while residing there in 1823.

Besides the letters ascribed to Iturbide which this corpus contains, it presents a considerable amount of such stuff as proclamations. A good deal of that fugitive material had been printed in rare tracts or in the official gazette of Mexico. The most important single document printed in this volume is perhaps the *memoria* or *autobiografía* which the exile completed at Leghorn in September, 1823, and which has already been printed in several variant editions. Oddly enough, the editor inserts in that part of this autobiography which deals with the Plan of Iguala a facsimile of the official permit issued to Iturbide in November, 1823, by the government of Tuscany allowing him to reside in that Duchy for one month. Cuevas labels this document "Tomado del Original," but he does not mention that it was secured from a division of the archives of the University of Texas, namely the Hernández y Dávalos Collection, Expediente 16—Legajo 6—Documento 3,560.

This volume includes an incomplete catalogue of the published and unpublished documents which it prints. It does not contain a bibliography of works on Agustín de Iturbide. Although the tome will be useful as well as provocative to students of the rebellion in Mexico against Spain, its usefulness would have been greatly increased and the cause of learning much advanced if both the biography and the documentary collection had been furnished with scholarly footnotes which cited the chapter and the verse of the authorities used.

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*Bolívar en México, 1799-1832.* Edited by RAFAEL HELIODORO VALLE. [Publicaciones de la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, Departamento de Información para el Extranjero, Archivo Histórico Diplomático Mexicano, Segunda serie, Número 2.] (Mexico City: Imprentas L. D., S. A., 1946. Pp. xxiii, 141. Paper.)

Another addition to this series is always welcome by those interested in Mexican diplomatic history. This volume includes fifty-nine documents of which thirty have been previously published in collections such as Lecuna's *Cartas* and *La diplomacia mexicana*; of the total, ten are extracts from Mexican newspapers. The documents outline the story of Mexico's relations with the Republic of Colombia from 1821 until 1832. Many letters of congratulation respecting achievements of the Liberator and the Mexican leaders tend to lessen the intrinsic importance of the work.

The first thirty documents deal with the course of Mexican relations with Colombia respecting the treaty of union, league, and confederation, including the activities of Miguel Santa María, Colombian minister to Mexico, and preparations for the Congress of Panamá. Mention is made also of the little-known Mexican loan to Colombia and the proposed Mexican-Colombian expedition against Cuba.

The unedited documents constitute a contribution to historical knowledge. These are largely reports of Colonel José Anastacio Torrens, Mexican minister to Colombia during the latter part of the 1820's. In a somewhat detailed and untrained fashion, Torrens related bits of gossip taken from newspapers of Bogotá and from conversations with members of the Colombian government, the principal events occurring in the life of Bolívar and the general activities of the Colombian government. As a whole, the letters of Torrens add little that is of major significance to what is known of Mexican-Colombian relations during this period. They add substantiation, however, to existing knowledge of the daily life of Bogotá, the activities of Joel R. Poinsett in Mexico,