

taking and scholarly fashion, he has marshalled the more or less familiar facts of the story, from the time of the arrival of the occupation forces and the complete evacuation of the more than six hundred Spanish inhabitants, to the creation of a provisional government and eventually of a full-fledged royal colony under Governor Johnstone. In this connection are recounted the steps taken to establish such features as the courts, the governor's council, and the assembly, as well as the preparation of the budget and the determination of financial responsibility of the colony and of London in support thereof, the land policy and the making of land grants, and the first laws of the assembly.

This and other useful information Dr. Howard has packed into the six short chapters of only forty-seven pages, together with nine appendices, chapter notes, maps, and bibliography. To the reader the result will reflect a careful and exact method and a clear and concise manner in the presentation of the facts. Nevertheless, in the opinion of this reviewer, the work presents serious shortcomings. Aside from questions already raised, it might be proper to ask why the entire period of English occupation was not treated rather than merely that from 1763 to 1769; also, why the author has not seen fit to present more graphically the actual conditions of town and plantation life in this remote frontier; and, finally, why the relationships of West Florida to East Florida, as well as to other nearby neighbors and the various English possessions in North America should receive but perfunctory attention. It is to be hoped that Dr. Howard will at some future date undertake to revise and to enlarge his study. For this task, it is already evident that he is well equipped.

VERNE E. CHATELAIN.

Washington, D. C.

Pichardo's Treatise on the Limits of Louisiana and Texas. Volume IV. Edited by CHARLES WILSON HACKETT. (Austin: The University of Texas Press, 1946. Pp. xiii, 514. \$6.50.)

With the publication of this fourth and final volume of Pichardo's discussion of the historical limits of Louisiana and Texas, the purpose of which was to disprove the claim of the United States that Texas was included in the Louisiana Purchase of 1803, Dr. Hackett, assisted by Dr. Shelby, has completed a voluminous and difficult but scholarly task and the University of Texas Press has produced a well-printed and handsome set of books.

Pichardo's Treatise was compiled because of the confusing claims of various nations to Texas. With the cession of French Louisiana to Spain in 1762, difficulties began; they were increased by its retrocession

to Napoleon in 1800; and they were immeasurably intensified by Napoleon's sale of the land in question to the young republic of the United States to prevent it from falling into the hands of powerful England. Then, as American frontiersmen pressed steadily westward and came into conflict with Spain in the Southwest, the United States became the enemy to be feared and the boundary a source of irritation and dispute between them. To support Spain's position in the controversy that ensued, the government ordered the compilation of all information bearing upon the subject. This task was finally finished by Father José Antonio Pichardo in 1812, after several years' devotion to it.

Although earlier volumes of this series have already been reviewed, it is of interest to note again that Part I of *Pichardo's Treatise* consists of an argumentative historical brief designed to prove "that Spain was the legal, sole, and absolute owner of all the domain in which the French founded Louisiana"; that Part II consists not only of a description of the land occupied by Spain but also of that she claimed; that Part III is devoted to "the territory that the French took on the plains of Cibola" (especially to a defense of the boundary between Spanish Texas and French Louisiana proposed by the French geographer D'Anville; and that Part IV contains a refutation of Anglo-American and Spanish objections to D'Anville's proposed boundary or to a reiteration of Pichardo's many earlier endorsements of this division.

This is a monumental work. The bibliography and index are good. The translations and editorial comment are of the highest order. Students of Southwestern history owe a debt of gratitude to Dr. Hackett for his painstaking and scholarly labor in bringing this "Treatise" to the attention of students of American history.

GEORGE P. HAMMOND.

University of California,
Berkeley.

Descubrimientos y exploraciones en las costas de California. By ALVARO DEL PORTILLO Y DíEZ DE SOLLANO. [Publicaciones de la Escuela de Estudios Hispano-Americanos de Sevilla, XX (Nº. general), Serie 2ª.: No. 7.] (Madrid, Blass, S. A. Tipográfica, 1947. Pp. 540. Maps and illustrations.)

This work is a published doctoral dissertation, prepared under direction of the Facultad de Filosofía y Letras de Madrid. The author's purpose in writing the work was to show the continuous development of knowledge of the California coast line, from the time of Cortés to the expeditions of Admiral D. Pedro Porter Cassanate.

This reviewer considers the particular value of the work to lie in its