

perhaps not elsewhere. James Mudie Spence included it in the bibliography of his *The Land of Bolívar*, published in London in 1878, with the comment: "This rare work is one of the oldest specimens of Venezuelan printing."

In 1865, Juan Vicente González quoted in his *Historia del poder civil en Colombia y Venezuela: Biografía de Martín Tovar* a long section from what he designated the "Resumen de la historia de Venezuela" of Andrés Bello. This quotation with few and minor differences is identical with pages 42 to 56 of Yanes. Other Venezuelan historians, among them Aristides Rojas, Angel César Rivas, and Gonzalo Picón Febres, have made use of this famous critique of colonial Venezuela attributing it to Bello; and it was included in the *Documentos para la historia de la vida pública del Libertador* of Blanco and Azpurúa as the work of Bello. But other Venezuelan historical authorities continued to uphold the authorship of Yanes. In the introduction to a revised edition of the *Compendio*, prepared by Yanes just before his death in 1841 and published by the Venezuelan government in 1944, the editors, Drs. Vicente Lecuna and Cristóbal Mendoza, discuss the question and, Grases states, hold an opinion in agreement with his own. The reviewer has not seen a copy of the 1944 edition.

In addition to a comparison of the González (Bello) and Yanes texts, Grases has presented much evidence in the fields of both internal and external criticism in support of his thesis. The publication of his study has the unanimous approbation of the members of the Venezuelan Academy of History.

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*Dos rebeldes españoles en el Peru: Gonzalo Pizarro ("El gran rebelde") y Lope de Aguirre ("El cruel tirano")*. By ROSA ARCINIEGA. (Buenos Aires: Editorial Sudamericana, 1946. Pp. 435. \$10.00 m./arg.)

This is the story of Gonzalo Pizarro and Lope de Aguirre, or, more particularly, the events which made these men rebels against the crown and leaders of the first Spanish revolts for independence in South America.

The first viceroy, Blasco Núñez Vela, arrived in Peru in 1544. He insisted upon immediate enforcement of the New Laws which abolished the *encomienda*. Consequently, the Spaniards in Peru faced the loss of all they had won in the conquest, for the great mines had not yet been discovered and without Indian labor their extensive landholdings were of little value. Moreover, Núñez Vela forbade appeal to the crown under penalty of death. Since Spaniards considered the right

of appeal to the crown an inalienable privilege, they turned to Gonzalo Pizarro, younger brother of Francisco Pizarro the late conqueror, as their natural leader. Thus force of circumstance made Gonzalo a rebel, for against such tyranny revolt seemed the only recourse.

The rigid application of the New Laws and the autocratic, unyielding character of Núñez Vela caused most of the Spaniards in Peru to join Gonzalo. The rebels triumphed over the royal forces, Núñez Vela was killed, and Gonzalo Pizarro was selected governor of Peru pending approval of the crown. The rebels had not considered their actions traitorous to the king, but the crown took the opposite point of view and gravely considered what was to be done. Pizarro controlled the territory from Chile to Panama and it was not deemed feasible to send military force against him. Instead, Pedro de la Gasca, a priest of great diplomatic ability, was appointed governor of Peru. La Gasca began operations from Panama. He notified the Peruvians that the New Laws would be withheld and those who had taken part in the rebellion pardoned. As a result La Gasca accumulated allies and many of Pizarro's men deserted. Pizarro was defeated, captured, and publicly executed.

Miss Arciniega considers the Pizarro rebellion one of greater boldness than that which won Hispanic-American independence at the beginning of the nineteenth century, for in Pizarro's time absolute monarchy was the accepted form of government throughout the western world. These early revolutionists had no such influences or precedents as had Simón Bolívar, who was influenced by the examples of the successful revolt of the English colonies, the French Revolution, and the general ideological trend toward liberalism of the eighteenth century.

Lope de Aguirre, the second rebel, was not so admirable as Pizarro, and his reasons for rebellion were of a more selfish nature. Aguirre had been a faithful soldier of the crown throughout the civil wars. He saw traitors rewarded while he remained poor and unnoticed. Embittered, he became a trouble maker. To keep him out of Peru, Viceroy Hurtado de Mendoza permitted Aguirre to join the Ursúa expedition down the Amazon in search of El Dorado. Aguirre's evil influence upon the members of the expedition caused them to murder their leader. When they had disposed of Ursúa, Aguirre convinced the men that they had been exiled from Peru and together they evolved a plan to attack and make Peru independent. On March 23, 1561 they drew up an act which pledged them to "union and brotherhood" against all royal power, and set out for Peru. Their expedition left a trail of blood, however, for Aguirre violently disposed of any man, enemy or follower, on the slightest provocation; and when he met his opponents in battle

his men, tired of his almost pathological brutality, deserted. Aguirre was taken prisoner and beheaded by one of his own band who thus hoped for pardon for his part in the revolt.

Two thirds of the book are concerned with Gonzalo Pizarro and the civil wars; the other third is dedicated to Lope de Aguirre. Although the incidents are almost twenty years apart they have the connecting link of being the first Spanish attempts at independence in South America. This work reflects the author's ability as a novelist and biographer, but it should be remembered that the men and events themselves possess dramatic quality, and the reader should note that the most extravagant phrases are direct quotations from the documents and chronicles.

The quality of the binding, paper, and printing is unusually good. There is an excellent bibliography and a useful index of names. The book is well worth reading because it correctly and, rather more concisely than other accounts, gives the causes, events, and results of the civil wars of Peru (1544-1547) and the Ursúa expedition (1560-1561) along with a modern interpretation of their place in history.

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*Areche y Guirior: Observaciones sobre el fracaso de una visita al Perú.*  
By VICENTE PALACIO ATARD. [Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Escuela de Estudios Hispano-Americanos de Sevilla, Publicaciones, XXX (N.º general), Serie 1.ª: Anuario, N.º 12.] (Sevilla: Imprenta y Litografía I.G.A.S.A., 1946. Pp. viii, 106. Paper.)

In an effort to repeat in South America the success that had been won by José de Gálvez's *visita* to New Spain, the Spanish court in March, 1776, appointed José Antonio Areche *visitador general* to Peru. Areche had served with Gálvez in Mexico. He opened his *visita* at Lima in August, 1777, and continued it until June, 1782, when he was supplanted by Jorge Escobedo.

In virtually all the many important matters confided to him by his instructions, and in others besides, Areche won initial successes; but in almost every case his success was transient. He carried out the required reforms in taxation and the administration of justice and in the reorganization of the Huancavelica mercury mine. When his innovations provoked strenuous opposition from the creole aristocracy, the local Spanish bureaucracy, and Viceroy Guirior himself, Areche won the first round and procured the summary removal of the viceroy. When the Indians, too, rebelled under Túpac Amaru, Areche took the field in person and suppressed the rebellion with exemplary ferocity.