

in making available documents from private archives which would otherwise remain inaccessible or become lost, as well as for his reproduction of rare printed sources not generally handy to the average student.

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CARLOS E. CASTAÑEDA.

*Justo Sierra el maestro de América.* By GABRIEL FERRER DE M. [Vidas mexicanas, 30.] (Mexico City: Ediciones Xochitl, 1947. Pp. 191. Paper.)

Justo Sierra is, without question, the outstanding figure in the modern history of Mexican education. What Sarmiento was to Argentine education, and what Horace Mann was to education in the United States, Sierra was to Mexican education. Justo Sierra, like Mann and Sarmiento, inspired and directed the educational reorganization and reorientation of his country.

Contributing to Sierra's greatness as an educator were his accomplishments as an orator and as a writer. He was a poet, a historian, a philosopher at one and the same time that he was a teacher and an administrator. These talents, his distinguished personality, and a fine and kindly character endeared him to his contemporaries and, in the midst of the iron-fisted conservatism of the Díaz regime, enabled Sierra to undertake radical reforms in education—with the approval and support of Porfirio Díaz himself!

Gabriel Ferrer de M., the author, has written other historical works of merit, including one (1944) on *El maestro Justo Sierra*. The present volume is part of the collection "Vidas mexicanas," and it is a worthy addition to that series. The style is pleasingly smooth and easy, the biography reading like a good novel. There are no citations and no bibliography.

This is an authentic description of Justo Sierra, his life, his works, his associates, and his times.

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GEORGE I. SÁNCHEZ.

*Fundación del pueblo de Lares.* By G. E. MORALES MUÑOZ. (San Juan de Puerto Rico: Imprenta Venezuela, 1946. Pp. 329. Paper.)

*Estampas coloniales: Primera serie.* By ROBERTO H. TODD. [Biblioteca de autores puertorriqueños.] (San Juan de Puerto Rico: Imprenta Venezuela, 1946. Pp. 231. Paper.)

*Rememorando el pasado heroico.* By MARÍA CADILLA DE MARTÍNEZ. (San Juan de Puerto Rico: Imprenta Venezuela, 1946. Pp. 667. Paper.)

The three books reviewed here are all concerned with the history of Puerto Rico. They stress the need for a diffusion of historical knowl-