

towers of the type found in the Puno region distinguishes the church at Guaqui, and scarcely less interesting is the structure at Laja, or the fine stone edifices at Machaca and Tiahuanaco, set within their picturesque atria. Once again, we are impressed by the fact that our knowledge of Hispanic colonial art is still in its infancy.

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*Los hospitales antiguos de la Española.* By ERWIN WALTER PALM. [Publicaciones de la Secretaría de Estado de Sanidad y Asistencia Pública.] (Ciudad Trujillo: Impresora Dominicana, 1950. Pp. 57. Illustrations, appendix. Paper.)

The Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia, our principal hospital of the colonial period, is celebrating this year its bicentenary. In 1953, the hospital of San Nicolás de Bari in Ciudad Trujillo will observe the four hundred and fiftieth anniversary of its foundation as the first of the great colonial hospitals of Latin America. It is therefore appropriate that the extremely interesting study of this institution and its building which Professor Palm first published in 1946 in a medical journal in Mexico should now appear as a separate volume, considerably revised and enriched with new material.

Attention was first called to this important ruined structure and to the significance of its plan by Martín S. Noël of Buenos Aires in 1932. Seven years later the Spanish art historian Diego Angulo published a plan of the building drawn in 1783 and in 1945 he printed the date of its termination in 1552. Professor Palm now has more to say concerning dating and a detailed analysis of the plan and structure of the hospital of San Nicolás.

From documents he proves that the present ruin could not have been begun before 1533 and thus can have nothing to do with the original structure commenced in 1503 by Nicolás de Ovando, from whom the hospital takes its name. Palm establishes the interesting fact that the Dominican institution became associated with the great Roman hospital of Sto. Spirito in Sassia, as did later other institutions in Mexico and South America in a fashion quite different from the non-religious association of the Pennsylvania Hospital with the Royal Infirmary at Glasgow. Like the cathedrals of Mexico, the Dominican hospital is the continuation in America of the architectural tradition of the mother country. San Nicolás follows the cruciform plan established for hospitals in Spain in 1499 by the Catholic Sovereigns. It lacks, however, as Professor Palm now points out, the vaulted chapel at the crossing, which is a feature of the great hospitals of Santiago de Compostela and

Toledo, founded in 1501 and 1504 respectively. In this place instead there was an additional ward equipped with a portable altar, as at the hospital in Granada. The chapel of the Dominican hospital had side aisles like that of the hospital in Valencia, built shortly after 1510. Palm draws convincing conclusions about the medieval vaulting of the chapel, the close relationship of the piers to those of the cathedral of Ciudad Trujillo, and the stylistic significance of the early Renaissance ornament among the ruins. He fails, however, to comment upon the degree of restoration which these ruins have recently undergone and which is clearly visible in the illustrations. The quality of the latter, unfortunately, as in many Latin-American publications, leaves much to be desired.

In conclusion, the author discusses, briefly, two other hospitals of the sixteenth century in Ciudad Trujillo, parts of which still survive; the unrealized project for another hospital in the capital city; and two more of the period in the interior of the country which no longer survive.

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*Historia colonial de la América española.* Vol. II, *Descubrimientos, conquististas y colonización del Nuevo Mundo.* By ALFONSO TORO. (Mexico City: Editorial Patria, S. A., 1949. Pp. 605. Illustrations, maps, index. Paper.)

This new volume is the second of a series by Alfonso Toro which on completion will form an extensive colonial history of Spanish America. Volume I, covering the background of the Age of Discovery and the career of Columbus, was reviewed in this journal several years ago (Vol. XXVIII, May, 1948).

Since Toro limits himself to Spanish America, the activities of the Portuguese in Brazil, except for early coastwise explorations, are omitted. Some will think this a regrettable omission, since we have already had too many compartmentalized histories of America. But even with allowance made for the absence of Brazil, the present volume is not accurately described by its title "Discoveries, conquests, and colonization of the New World." The narrative portion is confined to coastal exploration, the conquest of the West Indies, the establishment of the first mainland settlements, part of the conquest of Central America, the overthrow of the Aztecs, the conquest of Peru, and, finally, the voyage of Magellan. As yet untouched are such important matters as the explorations north of Mexico culminating in the Coronado expedition, the subjection of the Chibchas by Jiménez de Quesada, the conquest of northern Chile by Valdivia, and the beginnings of Spanish