

morals, of taxes and graft, of Indian raids and contraband trade. They illustrate the despotism which a corregidor might exercise in his small realm, while the *desacato*, now usually associated with the Perón regime in modern Argentina, emerges from these documents as a tradition hoary with the contrary respect of years.

Among the more interesting contributions of these volumes are their data on an apparent increase in Indian raids after the mid-eighteenth century; the records on contraband, dating from the 1730's; and the report of the sudden expulsion of previously unmentioned Portuguese settlers, in 1746 and 1754. That one must read the documents with their possible omissions in mind, is indicated in the extraordinary defense made by one harassed official in 1732: "... no son tan graves los cargos que se le imputan, pues en poco más de un año que fué Corregidor . . . , sólo se introdujeron diez y nueve cargas de ropa de comercio ilícito, siendo que en 1726 y 1727 . . . introdujéronse ciento veinte y nueve." (P. 632.) This earlier contraband had passed unrecorded.

Preceding the documents is a brief history of Cuyo from the first *entrada* in 1551 to its integration in the province of Tucumán in 1776.

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REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD

Cartas y mensajes del General Francisco de Paula Santander. Compiled by ROBERTO CORTÁZAR. Vols. II, III, and IV. Bogotá, 1953, 1954. Indexes. Pp. 485, 492, 549. Paper.

The present volumes bring Dr. Cortázar's edition of the papers of Santander to the end of 1824, or roughly the halfway point of his administration as Vice-President of Gran Colombia. Since the first volume, corresponding to the years 1812-1819, has already been reviewed in the HAHR by Professor Robert Gilmore (May, 1954), it is unnecessary to repeat what was said then concerning the plan and general characteristics of the series. It is worth pointing out, however, that the three later volumes are likely to prove even more valuable to the historian of Gran Colombia. They naturally present a more complete picture of Santander's activities and of the time in which he lived, since they refer exclusively to a period when he was no longer on campaign but sitting at a desk with pen in hand, composing messages by the score as Vice-President first of Cundinamarca and then of all Colombia. Furthermore, whereas the contents

of Vol. I were taken predominantly from material already published, the reverse is true of Vols. II-IV.

To be sure, not all of the messages now printed for the first time are of any great intrinsic importance. Many of them, especially in Vol. II (1820) and Vol. III (1821), consist merely of a line or two in which the addressee is informed that certain documents (not always specified) are being forwarded by the same mail. Yet there are others that throw important new light both on the policy and attitudes of Santander and on the general domestic scene of Gran Colombia. This observation applies above all to the correspondence of Santander with the regular Congresses of Gran Colombia, which begins to appear in Vol. IV (1822-1824), and of which very little had previously been published. Nothing escaped the meticulous attention of the Vice-President; and whether he was discoursing to Congress on the Colombian tax system or suggesting that it take measures to prevent the *sociedades patrióticas* from degenerating into "Jacobinism," his legislative messages must surely become required reading for all students of the period.

The job of editing is on the whole excellent, although it is still possible to question a few practices on such grounds as those outlined by Professor Gilmore in his earlier review, and a few technical defects can be found. It is curious to find a single letter appearing under two widely separated dates (Nos. 715, 843)—the date found on the original and that given in the *Archivo Santander*. The error of the latter is pointed out in a note, but the fact that the duplication ever occurred suggests that to correct *all* the shortcomings of that famous collection would require more than human skills and resources. Then, too, the English-speaking reader might wish that more had been done to rationalize the handling of Anglo-Saxon names: thus Forsyth, which is misspelled as Foreyth in a letter by Santander, appears inexplicably as Foreight, something else again, in the index (II, 465). But it is scarcely necessary to add that such minor defects are unlikely to lead the serious investigator far astray; nor do they detract from the debt of gratitude which is due to Dr. Cortázar and to all who have aided him in his present labor.

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Espejo de justicia, esbozo psiquiátrico-social de Don Simón Rodríguez.

By ARTURO GUEVARA. Caracas, 1954. Imprenta Nacional. Illustrations. Pp. 632.

Señor Guevara presents in an excellently printed and beautifully illustrated volume the career of Simón Rodríguez as a reflector and