

Fuenclara en Méjico. El libro termina con un repertorio bibliográfico, e índices alfabético y de capitulos.

GUILLELMO CÉSPEDES
Universidad de Sevilla.

Dibujos de Gregorio Vázquez Arce Zeballos. 1638-1711. Introduction by F. GIL TOVAR. Bogotá, 1955. Ediciones de Información y Propaganda del Estado, República de Colombia. 89 Drawings.

Gregorio Vázquez de Arce y Ceballos was the typical provincial painter of his age, but in addition to the great number of paintings associated with his name there has survived a unique legacy of one hundred and five drawings, now in the Museo de Arte Colonial de Bogotá. These drawings are of great interest, not only in the oeuvre of the painter, but for their implications about the habits of colonial artists. Presented here in a de luxe portfolio, at about half size, they form a real addition to the available material on colonial art.

The drawings appear to be studies such as the master of an active workshop would keep on hand for his own use and that of his assistants in fabricating the religious paintings which were his stock in trade. All are figure drawings, none seem to be from life; one suspects that most could be traced to European originals (two are studies after Raphael's Madonna of the Chair, for example). Many show a curious dotted line which suggests that they were even made from pricked transfers. The text, excellent in its generalizations, makes no attempt to deal with such specific problems; but it is clear that there is rich material for research in this group of drawings.

ELIZABETH WILDER WEISMANN
Austin, Texas

The Discovery and Conquest of Mexico, 1517-1521. By BERNAL DIAZ DEL CASTILLO. New York, 1956. Farrar, Straus and Cudahy. Appendices. Illustrations. Maps. Pp. xxxiv, 478. \$6.50.

This new, first American edition of a great classic is based upon Alfred P.

Maudslay's 1908 translation of Genaro García's copy based on the original manuscript located in the Archivo de la Municipalidad de Guatemala. Irving A. Leonard's excellent introduction plays up his theme of the *Books of the Brave*. The original introduction and notes of Genaro García and Maudslay are included, although the former is abridged. The brief index is helpful, but too general and incomplete to be of real value. Likewise, to one who has seen the colorful codices and their magnificent plates, the few sketches by Marshall Lee are pale in comparison. A work like this which is destined to have an even wider circulation than ever before will bring many a reader into past adventures, and no doubt the salty language of Bernal Díaz del Castillo will be sufficient illustration for even the unimaginative novice.

JACK D. L. HOLMES
University of Texas

The Explorers of North America. 1492-1806. By JOHN BARTLET BREBNER. Garden City, New York, 1955. Doubleday & Company. Maps. Index. Pp. viii, 431. Paper.

This new edition of Brebner's highly readable story of the men who opened the doors of the North American continent will be a welcome addition to the libraries of those readers, rapidly increasing in number, who are looking to paper-backs to supply the classics which they have hitherto been unable to afford. The original edition, published in 1933 as one of the Pioneer Histories, has here been fully reproduced except for the maps. Due to technical considerations, the detailed folding maps of the original edition have been replaced by smaller, simpler maps covering the same areas and illustrating the text quite satisfactorily.

One criticism inevitably arises with regard to a reprint such as this. In the decade since this work was first published many excellent biographical and documentary studies relating to these explorers have appeared. While it is doubtful that these would have altered the story materially, the author