

tion, which is controlled by an intimate knowledge of the social, religious, and political life of the period in question. Human frailties rather than heroic deeds supply much of the material which is often enlivened by ironical skepticism, Voltairean wit, and salty maliciousness.

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Viajeros, obras, y documentos para el estudio del hombre americano. Tomo I. *Una narración fel de los peligros y desventuras que sobrellevó Isaac Morris.* Edited by MILCIADES ALEJO VIGNATI. Buenos Aires, 1956. Imprenta y Casa Editora Coni. Illustrations. Index. Pp. 172. Paper.

This is a Spanish translation of the narrative of Isaac Morris, midshipman in Anson's fleet of 1741. After being shipwrecked off Chile, Morris relates his adventures of the next five years, during which he sailed to Argentine Patagonia and was enslaved by Indians. The narrative is valuable for descriptions of Indian life and southern Argentine fauna. The editor includes 45 pages of explanatory notes as well as the diary of Fr. José Cardiel, Jesuit missionary who visited the same area in 1748. These additions supplement and correct Morris' work. Written from memory in English, his chronicle is one of several published accounts by Anson's men.

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REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD

Artigas y su ideario a través de seis series documentales. Part I. By EUGENIO PETIT MUNOZ. Montevideo, 1956. Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas. Ensayos, Estudios y Monografías Numero III. Universidad de la República Oriental del Uruguay. Illustrations. Index. Pp. 232. Paper.

Another of the publications coming out of the centenary of the death of Artigas, this first of two volumes by

one of Uruguay's most popular teachers of history, Eugenio Petit Muñoz, deals with the evolution of Artigas' political ideas in the years 1811 to 1813. Ostensibly a collection of documents central to Artigas' thought, the volume is really an extended commentary by the author who explains that his original purpose was "... hacer los indispensables llamados de atención sobre algunos de los rasgos salientes que no pueden quedar descuidados por el educador llamado a despertar el interés, la admiración y el amor de los niños sobre los tres o cuatro ideales máximos que debemos acostumbrar a nuestros hombres a venerar desde la infancia dentro del ideario del héroe." Nevertheless Petit Muñoz is a historian and within the limits permitted by his goal he advances certain interpretations, especially on the influence through translations of Thomas Paine, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution of the United States on Artigas. Artigas' famous Instructions of 1813 turn out to be largely verbatim copies of Paine, and Artigas' evolving plans for the political organization of the Río de la Plata are seen to be designed to pass through a period of confederation and culminate in a federal union.

When the vast amount of research and publication on Artigas, spurred by the centenary and assisted by government subvention, is completed, how much of the man will be allowed to obtrude upon the hero? Petit Muñoz may have unconsciously asked this question in his first chapter when he criticizes the historians of an earlier generation who, for patriotic reasons, antedated the emergence of a desire for independence from Spain.

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La diplomacia española en México (1822-1823). By J. M. MIQUEL I VERGES. Mexico City, 1956. El Colegio de México. Illustrations. Index. Pp. 195. Paper.

The author of *La independencia mexi-*