

*Historia de la imprenta en los antiguos dominios españoles de América y Oceanía.* Vols. I & II. By JOSÉ TORIBIO MEDINA. Prologue by GUILLERMO FELIÚ CRUZ. Complemento bibliográfico by JOSÉ ZAMUDIO Z. Santiago, 1958. Fondo Histórico y Bibliográfico José Toribio Medina. Illustrations. Pp. cxli, 542; xv, 540. Paper.

In compiling these exceedingly valuable volumes Guillermo Feliú Cruz, the curator of the Medina Collection which is housed in the National Library of Chile, has brought together in orderly fashion the various writings of José Toribio Medina on the history of the press in colonial Spanish America and Oceania, together with collections of documents on the subject published by him. Some of these writings first appeared as introductions to his works on the press in various countries and cities, others were printed as pamphlets or periodical articles; but all are scattered through works now so rare as to be largely unavailable to many scholars. In the prologue the editor outlines the plan of the work which follows the chronology of the establishment of the various presses, cites the original location of the selections included, and reviews the early interests, travel and research which led Medina to the field of bibliography and specifically to the history and bibliography of the press. Bibliographical items which complement the work of Medina are brought up to date by the Director of the Library of Congress of Chile. The Chilean government is to be congratulated not only on having entrusted the preparation of these volumes to such a competent scholar as Feliú Cruz but on having provided for their publication; in so doing, Chile is honoring a native son who is internationally recognized as the greatest bibliographer Spanish America has produced.

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