

in that of a priest who dared from his pulpit to denounce the Jesuits as the "Company of the Devils" and went scot-free, as the order was, just at that moment, expelled from the Spanish dominions. Popular satire, well exemplified here, aroused persistent but unsuccessful efforts to stamp it out, as ideas were advanced, under that cover, which encouraged revolution and later independence.

The Appendix presents a hair-raising "Act of Contrition" of a parish priest, and an autobiographical sketch and four letters—one to his mother who had denounced him—by José Antonio Rojas, after he escaped from the Inquisition. Described as "more like an *entremés* than a trial in the Court of the Faith," the sketch is a formidable indictment, in a passionate literary style, of colonial life and religious servitude in Mexico in the early nineteenth century.

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Martín López. Conquistador Citizen of Mexico. By C. HARVEY GARDINER. Lexington, 1958. University of Kentucky Press. Illustrations. Bibliography. Glossary. Index. Pp. ix, 193. \$6.00.

The author's stated objective, to focus "attention on a minor figure to give perspective to the human factor operating within the framework of certain Spanish institutions and cultural patterns present in the sixteenth-century New World," seems, at first glance, laudable enough—and Professor Gardiner works at it with courage and obvious enthusiasm. Unfortunately, the figure of Martín López is simply too minor (thus inducing a plethora of "padding" in an attempt to round out the story) and, even more unfortunately, the skeletal biographical material is rendered opaque by the weak portrayal of Spanish-Mexican "cultural patterns" and institutions. A number of other conquistadores might have served Gardiner's objective better, but López was obviously selected because of an attachment growing out of the author's

earlier volume, *Naval Power in the Conquest of Mexico*. Possibly one can sympathize with this way of selecting a protagonist for such a purpose, but it has put far too great a burden on poor old shipbuilder López, who apparently had enough troubles as it was.

The initial error (for thus I consider it) of selecting López for such a rôle seems to have made the achievement of Gardiner's stated objective virtually impossible. The result is neither satisfying biographical portrayal nor is it a very penetrating cultural picture. There is far too much wrapping of the commonplace, or the perfectly obvious, in grandiosity of phrase—and the abundance of perilous platitudes and somewhat naive generalizations finally makes the reader (this one, at least) quite impatient. Selection of a more significant conquistador-colonist (and several of them certainly demand the careful attention of historians and biographers) might have mitigated faults which one does not ordinarily expect to find in an author of Professor Gardiner's standing.

When all this is said, however, the author must be given due praise for putting some accent on the complexities of the post-conquest period in New Spain. It is still commonplace (even among the otherwise well-educated) to view Spanish occupation of the New World as simply a destructive military invasion; hardly more, and certainly without significant sequel. Insofar as Gardiner's present volume tends to modify this simplicity of view, it will indeed contribute to needed enlightenment of the uninitiated and perhaps stimulate the interest of beginning students in things Hispanic. Possibly this is all that we should demand of such a book on such a framework.

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Spanish Explorers in the Southern United States, 1523-1543. The Narrative of Alvar Nuñez Cabeça de Vaca. Edited by FREDERICK W. HODGE. *The Narrative of the Expedi-*

tion of *Hernando de Soto*. Edited by THEODORE H. LEWIS. *The Narrative of the Expedition of Coronado by Pedro de Castañeda*. Edited by FREDERICK W. HODGE. New York, repr. 1959, c. 1907. Barnes & Noble. Original Narratives of Early American History. Edited by J. FRANKLIN JAMESON. Index. Pp. xiii, 413. \$5.75.

Spanish Exploration in the Southwest, 1542-1706. Edited by HERBERT EUGENE BOLTON. New York, repr. 1959, c. 1908. Barnes & Noble. Original Narratives of Early American History. Edited by J. FRANKLIN JAMESON. Index. Pp. x, 486. \$5.75.

The comparative scarcity and especially the worn condition of the original copies of this great series make the reappearance of these two volumes most welcome. Unfortunately, they are merely new printings, and therefore they do not embrace in their introductions and notes the valuable results of the research which has been done on their subject during the last half-century. Furthermore, and much less pardonable, the maps of the original editions are not reproduced.

The first-named volume contains Cabeza de Vaca's own narrative of his North American peregrinations; the Gentleman of Elvas version of the De Soto exploration; and Pedro de Castañeda's report on the Coronado expedition. The second consists of the *relaciones* of Cabrillo, Ferrello, Vizcaíno, and Asensión on the Pacific coast; of Rodríguez, Espejo, and Oñate in New Mexico; of Bosque, Larios, Mendoza, López, De León, and Massanet in Texas; and of Kino in Sonora and Arizona.

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The Spanish Settlements within the Present Limits of the United States, 1513-1561. By WOODBURY LOWERY. New York, 1959. Russell & Russell. Illustrations. Appendices. Map. Index. Pp. xiii, 515. \$13.50 for set.

The Spanish Settlements within the Present Limits of the United States, Florida, 1562-1574. By WOODBURY LOWERY. New York, 1959. Russell & Russell. Illustrations. Appendices. Index. Pp. xxi, 500. \$13.50 for set.

The re-issuance of Woodbury Lowery's minor classics makes more accessible to several generations of students the scholarship of a wealthy eastern lawyer who employed the last years of his life (1853-1906) in laying these cornerstones of Spanish American colonial historiography.

Well-connected (among others, to the Duke of Arcos), Lowery made the personal use of European archives which was forbidden to Prescott. His work is a worthy complement to that of his great predecessor, in range of research, in attention to detail, and in its objectivity and dignity of style.

Lowery's first volume is divided into three books, of which the first (116 pp.) deals with the physical and human aspects of what were to become the southern and southwestern regions of the United States, and with the condition of Spain at the close of the fifteenth century and the colonization of Hispaniola. Book II (254 pp.) follows "Discoverers and Adelantados" from the Carolinas to California. Book III (46 pp.) describes "The Missions." Appendices occupy fifty pages.

The second study describes the French colony in Florida in a booksized 204 pp., the Spanish colony there (126 pp.), and the Guale and Virginia missions and the last visit of Menéndez de Avilés to Florida in the third section of 47 pp. There is a seventy-nine page appendix.

Not all of this extensive historical diet is as fresh as when it was first prepared. Later monographs have taken a toll, especially in the ethnographic and geographic portions. For example, Lowery follows Bandelier's identification of the route of Cabeza de Vaca, and Bandelier was probably wrong by the width of the state of Texas. There is no bibliography, and neither type nor maps have improved with age. Yet the books are histori-