

La emancipación de América y su reflejo en la conciencia española. By M. FERNANDEZ ALMAGRO. 2nd ed. Madrid, 1957. Instituto de Estudios Políticos. Appendices. Pp. 210. Paper. 100 pesetas.

To introduce his theme, Sr. Fernández Almagro asks the question: How did thinking Spaniards react to the independence movement in Spanish America? His evidence, extracted from the contemporary periodical press, official documents, pronouncements of statesmen, and literary works, leads him to conclude that they were unable to grasp the extent, depth, or significance of the disaffection in America. Their failure derived from ignorance of events overseas, preoccupation with peninsular affairs, doctrinaire obtuseness, and a simple refusal to believe that Spanish Americans could seriously want to separate themselves from the mother country. Both absolutists and liberals felt that Americans would be satisfied with concessions, the former advocating reforms from above, the latter implementation of the principles of the Constitution of 1812 in America. Neither was willing to, or indeed saw the necessity of adopting extraordinary measures to combat the revolution. Even Ayacucho was viewed as a temporary reverse and afterward it was still widely believed that a reconciliation could be effected. This work throws interesting sidelights on the Spanish American independence movement, but it is more in the nature of an introductory essay than a thorough exploration of the subject.

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História da independência do Brasil. Até ao reconhecimento pela antiga Metrópole, compreendendo, separadamente, a dos sucessos ocorridos em algumas províncias até essa data. By FRANCISCO ADOLFO DE VARNHAGEN. 3rd edition annotated by HÉLIO VIANA. São Paulo, 1957. Edições Melhoramentos. Illustrations. Index. Pp. 365. Paper.

Varnhagen's classic posthumous work is still perhaps the most comprehensive analysis of the foundation of the Brazilian monarchy even though parts of it have been made obsolete by later research. Lacking the skillfulness and even temper of Oliveira Lima's two volumes on independence and diplomatic recognition, it is more intensive and has the added feature that Varnhagen was almost contemporary with the movement, and had direct or indirect contact with some of the leaders, e.g. Antônio Carlos. Perhaps for these reasons, the adulation which is currently heaped upon José Bonifácio is missing. Also, at times, the author's treatment of the Portuguese is motivated by a hyper-sensitive nationalism.

The book upon which Varnhagen had worked so long and had died with it as yet in uncompleted form has been published twice previously in 1916 and 1940. It had been edited by the baron of Rio Branco who also died before it was published. The manuscripts were then turned over to the Instituto Histórico e Geográfico Brasileiro which appointed a committee to reedit it. Its annotations and those of Rio Branco were published in the *Revista*. Now Hélio Viana has added his notes. Herein lies the value of the present edition. Viana's meticulous annotations show a breadth of erudition and of understanding which is worthy of the text, and at times surpasses it.

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Miranda, Bolívar y Sucre. Tres estudios iconográficos. By ALFREDO BOULTON. Caracas, 1959. Imprenta Italgráfica. Illustrations. Indices. Pp. 105. Cloth.

Alfredo Boulton of Caracas, author of an authoritative work on the portraits of Bolívar, has here enlarged his investigations of the iconography of the heroes of Spanish American independence in a handsome volume with several color reproductions. The occasion for this publication was the