

ing the reign of Dom Pedro I. Mme. Dalbian asserts that France exercised considerable political influence over Brazil. She maintains, pp. 139-141, that one of the causes of Dom Pedro's fall in 1831 was the forced abdication of Charles X less than a year before.

French archival sources have been quoted frequently throughout the biography. Many of the comments and observations of French diplomatic personnel at the court in Rio are penetrating and informative. For example, commenting on Don Pedro's lack of experience when he ascended the Brazilian throne, the author quoted on page 38 a report of Baron Roussin saying, "He (Dom Pedro) never permitted the royal prince to learn any notion of affairs, to question a minister, or to speak with a diplomatic representative." Another interesting diplomatic insight on page 44 gives the prophetic words of the French consul in 1821 concerning the character of Dom Pedro, "For the tranquility of this region and the well being of its inhabitants, this prince will have to moderate the natural impetuosity of his character."

In addition to the French archives, the author has consulted the Portuguese archives and has used English, Portuguese, and French newspapers of the period 1831-1834. An extensive bibliography is given.

Paris, France

E. BRADFORD BURNS

*George Canning e o Brasil (Influência da diplomacia inglesa na formação brasileira)*. 2 vols. By CAIO DE FREITAS. São Paulo, 1958. Companhia Editôra Nacional. "Braziliana," vols. 298, 298-A. Illustrations. Bibliography. Pp. 401, 470. Paper.

This is the best, and by far the fullest, account by a Brazilian scholar of the decisive role played by the diplomacy of Canning in the creation of the independent state of Brazil. Much of volume one, the most valuable part of the whole work, deals with events between 1807 and 1810—the transfer of the Portuguese court to Brazil, the opening of the ports, and the negotiation by Lord Strangford of the political and commercial treaties of 1810. The greater part of the book is concerned with Canning's second term as Foreign Secretary (1822-27): the fruitless negotiations in London between Portugal and Brazil, the mission of Sir Charles Stuart and Portuguese recognition of Brazilian independence, and the commercial and slave trade treaties of 1827, which were Canning's price for invaluable diplomatic assistance.

Very little is omitted, and the whole story is expertly and lucidly told. Yet despite six years in the London archives (and, as the author

disarmingly tells us, “seis anos de estudo e de pesquisas representam um esforço enorme”) there is disappointingly little on this later period that could be called an original contribution to our knowledge of the independence period. The bibliography gives no indication of the unprinted sources used, but, from the not very numerous footnotes, it appears that the author has relied mainly on British Foreign Office material already widely used, most notably by Alan K. Manchester. The only Brazilian primary source mentioned is the printed *Arquivo Diplomático da Independência*, also used by Manchester. It is not surprising, then, that both the resulting narrative and the interpretation of Canning’s aims follow well-established lines, though there is more detail given than hitherto. Very little more can now be added on this important subject until new sources of information are exploited, in Portugal and Brazil, and also in England, where the private papers of Canning have now been made available.

University College, London

LESLIE M. BETHELL