

between Santa Fe de Bogotá and Quito. Friede finds no documentary evidence of the "peste de 1546" which, according to Cieza de León, devastated the native population, and he suggests that it is a canard.

The early chroniclers give only passing reference to the Quimbaya country and what information they offered seems often to have been second hand and wrong. Friede's work, which should stand as a landmark in Colombian historiography, is based almost exclusively on unpublished materials in the archives of Sevilla, Bogotá, and Popayán. A small part of the documentary material here employed has recently been made available in the 9 volumes of *Documentos inéditos para la historia de Colombia*, edited by Friede and published by the Academia de la Historia, Bogotá (1955-1960). Particularly detailed reconstructions of the life and economy, including Indian-Spaniard relations, have been made from the records of the trials and investigations that followed each of the several Indian uprisings in the area. In the first of these, in 1542, the victims surprisingly included *yanacona* Indians from as far away as Nicaragua and Peru.

The number and extent of the previously unknown or unused reports of *visitadores* and *oidores* which Friede has uncovered pertaining to the 90 year period of Quimbaya history under the Spaniards suggests the enormity of the untapped archival resources awaiting future workers in the economic and demographic history of other parts of the northern Andean lands. Such work would be most effective if tied to archeologic evidence and an intimate familiarity with local geography and ecology.

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*A History of New Mexico, Gáspar Pérez de Villagrà, Alcalá—1610.*

Translated by GILBERTO ESPINOSA. Chicago, 1962. The Rio Grande Press. Illustrations. Notes. Appendixes. Index. Pp. 308.

Gáspar de Villagrà's *Historia de la Nueva Mézico*, originally published in 1610, was first issued in English by the Quivira Society in 1933. Reprinted by the Rio Grande Press in 1962, it is not only the first history of New Mexico but also the earliest of any North American state. This thirty-four canto historical account of the Ácoma uprising and of Juan de Oñate's early conquest, was written as an epic poem patterned after Virgil's *Aeneid* within eleven years of the events' occurrence by a participant and eyewitness, Captain Villagrà. In spite of its historical significance, the *Historia* was overlooked or ignored by historians, and remained unnoticed for over two and one half centuries. Rediscovered in the 1880s by such outstand-

ing writers as A. F. Bandelier, Cesareo Fernández Duro, John Gilmary Shea, and Hubert Howe Bancroft, the conquistador-historian's epic did not receive its deserved recognition until the publication of Bancroft's *History of Arizona and New Mexico* in 1889.

Like other conquistadores and soldiers, both ancient and modern, Villagr  wrote his account to immortalize the momentous events of which he was a participant. That he was a successful narrator, despite his lack of poetic talent, is evident. Villagr , however, did more than immortalize the conquerors and their deeds. Notwithstanding his occasional indulgence in poetic license and exaggeration, he wrote an authoritative contemporary history of the conquest of New Mexico. Moreover, Villagr , basing his work on documentary materials, treated more than just conquest. His observations on the Pueblo Indians contain data that is important to students of the Southwest; his descriptions of fellow Spaniards give insight into late sixteenth-century traditions, beliefs, religious devotion, and intolerance.

Fortunately for both Villagr 's reputation and for the English-speaking students of Hispanic history, the Quivira Society selected Gilberto Espinosa's translation for publication. Espinosa rendered a highly readable and flowing prose translation of some exceedingly difficult material. His vocabulary and judicious punctuation merit recognition.

The annotation of the text, representing the scholarship of the 1930's, was written by Frederick Webb Hodge of the Southwest Museum; it suffers because it omits the results of recent research. Hodge's knowledgeable Foreword, however, compensates to a large extent for this drawback.

The Rio Grande Press is to be congratulated for making available this scarce classic of the Spanish conquest of the Southwest. The book's value, however, could have been enhanced by the addition of several maps.

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*Cr nica de la provincia de Santiago de Xalisco, 1719-1722.* By FR. NICOL S ANTONIO DE ORNELAS MENDOZA Y VALDIVIA. Guadalajara, 1962. Instituto Jalisciense de Antropolog a e Historia. No. 2. Notes. Appendices. Indices. Pp. 226. Paper.

This volume is a welcome addition to printed documentation concerning colonial New Spain. It is the result of a project undertaken in the first decades of the eighteenth century by a Franciscan, the Reverend Father Nicol s de Ornelas. Father Ornelas, despite ad-