

The author is so concerned with the royal bickering and sterility of the king that he fails to note that this part of Spain was not *ALL* of Spain; little is said about the people except that they were invariably hungry. Nothing is said about Spain's American possessions during the reign of Carlos II; perhaps the author cares little about such minor matters. After all, what he is concerned with is the private life of Carlos II. He adds but little to the subject, but his flair for an ironic phrase makes up for his superficial analysis of Spain under Carlos II.

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Zéspedes in East Florida 1784-1790. By HELEN HORNBECK TANNER. Coral Gables, 1963. University of Miami Press. University of Miami Hispanic American Studies. No. 19. Notes. Illustrations. Tables. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 253.

This might not be the most important book published on the borderlands but it is a fine book. Dr. Tanner has a great ability to make the product of original research into a most readable story—she combines wit with scholarship. The fourteen chapters give a vivid picture of Governor Vicente Manuel de Zéspedes y Velasco's term as the first Spanish governor of the second Spanish period (1783-1821) of Florida. Dr. Tanner has a wealth of information about the social life and the customs of this period in Florida, something no one had yet sketched; most books of this period deal with the international conflicts and military raids into Florida. Her chapter entitled "Romantic Springtime, 1785" brings the reader some delightful true love stories which include Spanish boy-English girl situations and vice versa and their complications—and all taken from real Spanish documents never used before.

This was originally a Ph.D. dissertation directed by Dr. Irving Leonard. Every Ph.D. candidate should read this book and note how a history thesis can be made readable without destroying

scholarship. Those of us who (as the reviewer has) have studied with Dr. Leonard know his great stress on style and on making a written product full of life and beauty. Dr. Tanner can only be commended for this book which will also add new data to Spanish Florida history.

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MEXICO AND THE CARIBBEAN

José Matías Delgado y el movimiento insurgente de 1811. By RODOLFO BARÓN CASTRO. San Salvador, 1962. Ministerio de Educación. Biblioteca José Matías Delgado. No. 3. Bibliography. Indices. Pp. 243. Paper.

For twenty-eight days, beginning on November 5, 1811, a handful of creoles held on to the government of San Salvador in the name of Ferdinand VII. Heading the insurrection were such future leaders of Central American independence as Manuel José de Arce and José Matías Delgado, the major religious figure at the Salvadorean capital. A complete failure from the start, the movement was unable to attract support from other localities in the intendancy or provinces of the Guatemalan kingdom. Moreover, Governor General José de Bustamante disarmed the coup by appointing a peace commission which included two prominent creoles from Guatemala City. Welcoming the opportunity to save face, the insurgents reaffirmed their loyalty to Spain; Father Delgado cooperated with the commissioners and subsequently delivered a sermon in which he regretted the uprising. He maintained, nevertheless, that the insurgents had been prompted by a sincere concern for constitutional reform—a common objective throughout the Spanish world since 1808.

Based heavily upon documents from the Archivo General de Indias in Seville, the monograph paints an excellent background to the incident. Among other things, the author reveals the extraordinary degree of self-government and influence enjoyed by colonials in Central America for one reason or