

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

another; he records the mounting friction and animosity between creoles and *chapetones* during the French occupation of Spain; he describes the election of representatives to the Cortes of Cádiz, underscoring the general desire among colonials for enlightened reforms; and he discusses Delgado's ambitions to advance in the church hierarchy as well as the aspiration of San Salvador to become the seat of a bishopric, free from the control of authorities in Guatemala City—a harbinger of the contention between Salvadoreans and Guatemalans in subsequent decades.

Historians initially heralded in 1811 incident as the first step toward independence and praised its heroic leaders. But later writers have been critical, even to the point of accusing Delgado of betraying the insurgents or of charging that he played only a secondary role. Barón Castro denies these allegations categorically and argues that they stem from the failure to consider the event in its proper context—the reform movement of the times and not in the framework of eventual independence. In this respect, as well as in the characterization of General Bustamante, the book is “revisionistic.” Be that as it may, it represents commendable scholarship by a well-known demographic expert and student of Central America's colonial past.

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Tres estudios sobre Don José María Morelos y Pavón. By LIC. D. CARLOS MARÍA DE BUSTAMANTE. México, 1963. Biblioteca Nacional de México. Instituto Bibliográfico Mexicano. No. 9. Notes. Illustrations. Pp. 121. Paper.

In the historiography of Mexican independence, the contribution of Carlos María de Bustamante was great. An active participant in the revolutionary events about which he later wrote, he became a staunch supporter of the cause of independence and a great admirer of its leader, José María Morelos. If Bustamante's writings are partisan in tone and frequently inaccurate in cer-

tain details, if used cautiously and judiciously, they comprise some of the most important sources available for a study of the period. Specialists in the field will therefore welcome these reprints in facsimile of three rare Bustamante publications from the Lafragua Collection of the Biblioteca Nacional de México, printed in this attractive brochure with a scholarly introduction by Licenciado Antonio Martínez Báez.

The first study is Bustamante's *Elogio histórico del General Don José María Morelos y Pavón*. Published in 1822, it contained some biographical material which Bustamante did not use in either of the two editions of his celebrated *Cuadro histórico de la revolución Mexicana*. Though spirited and flamboyant in approach and containing numerous inaccuracies, as Juan Hernández y Dávalos noted when he incorporated it into the sixth volume of his famous documentary collection, the twenty-six page *Elogio histórico* nevertheless remains as Bustamante's chief biographical work on the leader he so much admired.

About September 1, 1823, Bustamante published the first number of the periodical *El Centzontli*, the second study reproduced here. It contained the testimony of Morelos before the Inquisition, beginning on November 23, 1815, extending over a three-day period, and involving twenty-three charges and the replies of the accused. This text, published by Bustamante also in his *Cuadro histórico*, as well as by Juan Hernández y Dávalos in his *Colección*, contained numerous errors and omissions, as Martínez Báez has noted in his excellent introductory remarks. Although Henry Charles Lea later made use of a more accurate text of the testimony, a complete text has come to light only recently.

The third reprint is the testimony which Morelos gave at his trial before the viceroy's military tribunal, published by Bustamante in 1825 under the title *Historia militar del General Don José María Morelos*. For three days, in answer to twenty-one charges, Morelos recited an extraordinary amount of detail about his revolutionary career