

they transcend the usual orations of such occasions and are of real historical value in their account of education and culture in a colonial town, the history and description of the city itself, and a most useful survey of the economy of the province. Of special interest, and humor too, is the author's review of certain lawsuits of the period, chosen as revelations of some of the more unhappy ways of life, and not only those limited to colonial times.

MADALINE W. NICHOLS

State University College,
Geneseo, N. Y.

Tratado de derecho aduanero uruguayo.

Vol. I. By ARIOSTO D. GONZÁLEZ. Montevideo, 1962. Universidad de la República. Biblioteca de Publicaciones Oficiales de la Facultad de Ciencias. Charts. Indices. Pp. 925. Derecho y Ciencias Sociales. Section III. CXIX. Maps. Illustrations. LX. Paper.

Like the author's friend, Prof Jarach, I too have waited a bit before commenting on this treatise because I wanted to give it more than a fleeting glance ("una fugaz mirada") n. 1, p. 6. As the first of a three-volume work on Uruguayan customs law it deserves the same high praise given its 1946 predecessor by Jarach. It combines the best of technical competence in one of the most difficult fields with a proper historical method. Thus he can extract the general rules of commercial policy without becoming lost in the often extraneous, transitory detail of tariff schedule, fixing the place of customs and tariffs within the general framework of tax law (Ch. I & II). In the following section he discusses world development of tariff legislation, Uruguay's tariff policy in both bilateral and multilateral negotiations and treaties (Ch. III-V), and concludes with a history of customs in Uruguay and the content of substantive tariff law of that country (Ch. VI-VII). Especially noteworthy is the early history of the Plata river settlements (pp. 83-86, pp. 623-686). For U.S. readers

modification of some views of the author on the 1949 Treaty of Peace, Commerce and Economic Development (U.S.) is also of interest (pp. 377 et seq., 140 and 620). It is not only worth more than a fleeting glance, it is worthy of careful study by specialists as well as general historians.

DAVID STERN

University of Miami

Los restos mortales del Doctor José Gaspar Rodríguez de Francia. Asunción, 1962. Imprenta Nacional. Ministerio del Interior. Pp. 77. Paper.

Among the controversies over issues in Latin American history, few indeed are those which have elicited more attention than questions related to the location and authenticity of the mortal remains of founding fathers. To mention but a few examples, reference need only be made to the bones of Columbus, of Hernán Cortés, and of Cuauhtémoc, the last of the Aztecs. Only the status of Francisco Pizarro, whose mummy exists at Lima, has resisted doubt and controversy.

Certainly not the least of such enigmas, but easily among the least known, is the unresolved fate of the bones of Dr. José Gaspar Rodríguez de Francia, one of Paraguay's founding fathers and its famed *El Supremo*. Though agreement on the circumstances of his demise in 1840 is reasonably general, speculation has persisted regarding the whereabouts of his remains. Controversy has developed especially through the existence of two purported collections of his bones: one in a private Asunción museum and one in Argentina's *Museo Histórico Nacional*.

Scholars interested in La Plata and especially in Paraguay's history will thus find this brief volume published by the Ministry of the Interior to be of exceptional background value. Comprised of reports compiled by many of Paraguay's most prominent historians, it suggests that the authenticity of the existing two collections of *El Supremo's* remains cannot be accepted without doubt, that at least one of the collections must be spuri-

ous, and that the truth may well be that the founding father's bones were given a permanent resting place in the Paraguay River. Aside from the considerable light which this work thus casts upon Dr. Francia and his era, the several reports are themselves indicative of the remarkable skill and research ability which characterize Paraguay's modern school of historians.

CHARLES J. KOLINSKI
Florida Atlantic University

Cien vidas paraguayas. By CARLOS ZUBIZARRETA. Buenos Aires, 1961. Ediciones Nizza. Indices. Pp. 201. Paper.

This book—which is, as promised by the author, the first of a work in two volumes—should be considered as a biographical dictionary, although the names included therein follow no alphabetical sequence. An alphabetical index, however, makes it easily manageable.

No doubt Dr. Zubizarreta, a member of the third generation of a line of distinguished intellectuals in Paraguay, renders an important service to the student of Paraguayan history. *Cien vidas paraguayas* is not the first book of its kind in Paraguay, because it has been preceded by similar endeavors of a larger scope, but the concise way in which the historical personalities are presented serves its purposes very efficiently. Paraguay, in spite of being the cradle of Spanish civilization in the Río de la Plata area, has passed through such harrowing historical experiences that it is safe to say that, not until the turn of the century, did she really come to partake in the intellectual movement of the rest of Spanish America. The first Paraguayan historians worthy of the name appeared in the 1890's. Before that time Paraguayan historiography was actually a blank page.

Not all the persons listed by Dr. Zubizarreta were born in Paraguay, but they contributed to the advancement of the country in such a way they left indelibly their imprint in

the history of the country.

Dr. Zubizarreta does not restrict himself to writing the lives of the figures of his book. In addition, he makes critical remarks about some important aspects of the role they played in the life of the country.

Cien vidas paraguayas is a commendable manual for any student of Paraguayan history. The well-selected bibliography which is appended to each biography is very useful for further investigation.

PABLO MAX YNSFRAN
The University of Texas

BRAZIL

Domingos José Marques Fernandes. A primeira história gaúcha. Rio Grande do Sul, 1961 Universidade do Rio Grande do Sul. Pesquisas. V. No. 15. Instituto Anchietao de Pesquisas. Map. Index. Pp. 92. Paper

This work is an unedited manuscript from the Military Archives in Lisbon, Portugal. It was dedicated to the Portuguese Prince Regent, later João VI, by the author on September 10, 1804, under the following title: *Descrição Corográfica, Política, Civil e Militar da Capitania do Rio Grande de São Pedro do Sul.*

The author, Domingos José Marques Fernandes, was a Portuguese officer who had served in southern Brazil. Convinced of the economic and strategic importance of the *Capitania* to Portugal, and foreseeing its possible loss to Spain, he urged that the defensive capability of the region be strengthened. He also proposed administrative reorganization, and a vigorous program of economic development, including improved communications and augmented immigration. In 1808, following the personal presentation of his work in Portugal, the author returned to Brazil.

The following topics are treated in the four chapters which comprise the study: (1) geography and natural resources; (2) agriculture, stockraising,