

turing. Murray makes clear in the Foreword that this is not a history of the Church, nor a "scholarly monograph"; nor will he be "objective," or "scientific." Rather it is an "exploratory study for the general reader, for students, and even for people teaching Mexican history or general church history" (pp. 9-10). Murray intended, then, to write a book of interpretive essays, not narrative history. Yet it is something of both. The essays reflect a partisan view which characterized conservative Catholic thinking during the long struggle against the liberals and the twentieth-century Revolutionaries. And despite the author's disclaimer, much of the book is a narration of the history of the Mexican Church.

The book fails, in the last analysis, because the essays are not completely convincing, and because the description of past events is colored by his religious viewpoint. Nonetheless, the student of Mexican history can find here much material for further study that would be unattainable elsewhere. It is the author's hope that the reading of his book "will serve as a stimulus" and will lead to a "general history of the Church in this area of the world which is so badly needed by us all" (p. 10).

R. E. Q.

Versión francesa de México. Informes diplomáticos, 1864-1867. Vol. IV. Edited and translated by LILIA DÍAZ. México, 1967. El Colegio de México. Index. Pp. xxiv, 568. Paper.

With a nice but unobtrusive sense of historical aptness the Colegio de México has celebrated the melancholy centenary of Maximilian's execution by completing its series of French diplomatic dispatches on the Intervention and the Empire. Like its predecessors, this volume is ably translated and edited. A list of the dispatches giving writer, date, and a brief statement of contents would have been useful, especially since the index is limited to names.

Shortly after the beginning of this volume the Marquis de Montholon, who had served as principal French representative during the establishment of

the Empire, was transferred to the Washington legation. Most of the dispatches, therefore, were the work of Alphonse Dano, who took his place. Dano played a less influential role than his predecessor, but his detailed commentary on events will probably be just as useful to the historian. His final dispatch, written from New York, ends with words which ring like the Lamentations of Jeremiah through the writings of nearly all nineteenth-century visitors to Mexico: "Meanwhile, what will become of Mexico? . . . No one has any confidence in the duration of the present state of affairs; when Congress convenes, discussions, disorder, and disunion will begin again; . . . anarchy and confusion will be such that only North American intervention can remedy them" (p. 554).

D. M. P.

Proceso de Fernando Maximiliano de Hapsburgo, Miguel Miramón y Tomás Mejía. Prologue by JOSÉ FUENTES MARES. México, 1966. Editorial Jus. Pp. 271. \$20.00 (Mex.).

In the year following Maximilian's downfall and execution some of the principal documents occasioned by his trial were gathered together and published. In its series "México Heroico" Editorial Jus now reprints this collection. While not a verbatim transcript of the proceedings, it contains several of the principal speeches of prosecution and defense. No effort has apparently been made to edit the documents, except for the addition of a brief summary before each one for easy identification. In his prologue Fuentes Mares sets the legal background of the trial, denying that Maximilian's case was parallel to that of Jefferson Davis, who went free some years after Appomattox.

D. M. P.

Nueva historiografía política del México moderno. By DANIEL COSÍO VILLEGAS. México, 1965. Editorial del Colegio Nacional. Index. Pp. 176. Paper.

In 1949 Daniel Cosío Villegas pub-