

In this first English translation, Keating has rendered the edition of Horacio H. Urteaga (Lima, 1920) into clear prose and has appended a full glossary of Quechua words. The work is unusually free of errors and is typographically attractive. A few defects may be noted. "Doctrina" is not a synonym for mission as the wording on p. xiii implies, for a new area may become, but is not initially a doctrina. It seems unlikely that Totopon (p. 81) is a town in Spain. Arriaga repeatedly mentions the burning of stone *huacas*, a point which the editor might have clarified, as it would seem that a hammer might have been a more effective means of extirpating this form of idolatry.

University of New Mexico

TROY S. FLOYD

William Augustus Bowles. Director General of the Creek Nation.

By J. LEITCH WRIGHT, JR. Athens, 1967. University of Georgia Press. Map. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. viii, 211. \$6.95.

In the twenty years between 1783 and 1803 William Augustus Bowles attempted to establish an independent Creek state in southeastern America and Spanish Florida. After the American Revolution the so-called director general of the Creeks hoped to influence England to accept his Indian nation as a British protectorate. Bowles' personal ambitions as well as his sincere concern for the natives were both involved in what became a triple-nation conflict for north central Florida and southern Georgia. England, Spain, and the United States all ultimately entered the borderlands struggle. After two decades of international competition for control of the Creeks and the disputed Southeast, Bowles was eventually seized by Indian enemies in 1803, subsequently delivered to Spanish authorities, and imprisoned in the Morro until his death in December 1805.

The Bowles story becomes a fine study of the southern frontier in this well-written biography by J. Leitch Wright. Indeed, this work offers a very revealing view of a colonial adventurer in the age of international rivalry for Florida, the Gulf coast, and the Caribbean Sea. It is also a fascinating account of Indian life and affairs in the late colonial period. As frontier history, moreover, this book is first-rate since it methodically scrutinizes the significant forces, nations, personalities, and Indian tribes which determined the course of borderlands events in the late eighteenth century. Wright's kind of chronicle really exposes everyday and local life in the era of colonial American empires. The biography of William A. Bowles therefore serves

us as a representative case study of the unusual men who emerged in the borderlands to make imperial and colonial history.

Only a couple of petty complaints must be mentioned along with the well-deserved praise of this useful book. Surely some readers will wish that the author had included more maps to help them follow Bowles' many activities and movements during his two decades of significance. The author should also have divided his chapters with some type of sub-heading or separation which would facilitate the study of lengthy sections. Except for these insignificant criticisms, scholarly readers will certainly recognize the importance of *William Augustus Bowles* to the historiography of the colonial borderlands.

State University of New York, Geneseo

ROBERT L. GOLD

Spanish War Vessels on the Mississippi, 1792-1796. By ABRAHAM P. NASATIR. New Haven, 1968. Yale University Press. Yale Western Americana Series. Notes. Index. Pp. viii, 359. \$10.00.

Abraham P. Nasatir has devoted a full, rich scholarly career to borderland history. This book makes still another contribution to that field.

The work is in two parts. In the first section Nasatir narrates the course of Spanish military and naval activities on the Mississippi, 1792-1796. In the second he has translated and annotated four documents written by participants in the events of the period. The first of these is the diary of Pedro Rousseau, who commanded a squadron of Spanish galleys plying the Mississippi from Natchez to New Madrid in late winter and early spring 1793. The second is the diary of Captain Juan Barnó y Ferrúsola of the Spanish galiot, *La Flecha*, sailing up river from Natchez to New Madrid and back to Nogales, 1793-1794. Governor Gayoso de Lemos' long account of his expedition to the Illinois country, April-December 1795, and his report concerning Spanish outposts on the northern reaches of the Mississippi conclude this section.

All of these have been published before. Lawrence Kinnaird translated the first in the *American Historical Review* in 1945; Jack D. L. Holmes published the other three in Spanish in his *Documentos inéditos para la historia de Luisiana, 1792-1810*. Why do them again? Nasatir argues that Kinnaird was not literal enough in his translation of the Rousseau diary, and that Holmes left out lines or corrected the original texts. Thus he has set the record scrupulously straight with his exact, literal translations and copious annotations. For Nasatir history is objective reality, the narrative record of what actually