

Don José Joaquín de Mora y el Perú del ochocientos. By LUIS MONGUIÓ. Berkeley, 1967. University of California Press. Illustrations. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 389.

A figure of many contrasts, José Joaquín Mora was born both a neoclassicist and an admirer of Lord Byron. Initially a liberal and implacable foe of Ferdinand VII's absolutism, Mora nonetheless was hostile to the French culture and centralism in which many Spanish liberals delighted. Born in Cádiz, 1783, he accepted service in the administration of Bernardino Rivadavia in La Plata during 1827 and later served the liberal cause in Chile (1828-1831), suffering exile as a result. Yet shortly after his arrival in Peru, Mora became a partisan of President Agustín Gamarra (symbol of the strong executive and detested by his country's liberals) and an intimate associate of such conservative ideologists as José María Pando and Felipe Pardo y Aliaga.

By the mid-1830s, regarding strong and enlightened presidents as the best instrument for achieving progress, Mora saw in Andrés Santa Cruz the real hope for Bolivia and Peru. Between 1834 and 1838 he faithfully served this controversial leader in La Paz, taking a major role in the complex political intrigues which marked Santa Cruz' briefly successful attempts to establish a confederation with Peru. Undertaking a special mission for Santa Cruz in England, Mora failed to gain that country's protection against Chile's military campaign to crush the confederation.

Leaving London in 1843, Mora returned to Spain where he was soon involved in the plots of Juan José Flores and Santa Cruz to establish kings, or at least temporary regencies in Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. As the author observes, Mora possessed a genius for associating himself with lost causes and doomed leaders.

Luis Monguió, eminent professor of Spanish at the University of California, Berkeley, has accomplished a formidable investigation in bringing to light the various activities of a little-known Spanish intellectual, poet, dramatist, politician, diplomat, journalist, and conspirator. Previously published works mention these activities only in passing, but they are important enough to merit the meticulous research which Monguió has devoted to them.

Mora was at least as important a literary as a political figure. Therefore a substantial portion of Monguió's book deals with his poetry and other literary works, widely read at one time in Spain and Spanish America. Probably Monguió's contribution in the field

of literary criticism is as important as the one which he has made to political history, although this reviewer will leave the matter to more competent critics.

The book awakens in the reader considerable curiosity to know something about Mora's personality. Probably the copious sources which Monguió utilized reveal little on this topic so that he was merely following the dictates of cautious scholarship in refusing to deal with what could at best be speculative. Finally, although the book provides far more information than the title promises, it tells us very little about *el Perú del ochocientos*.

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Royal Government in Colonial Brazil. With Special Reference to the Administration of the Marquis of Lavradio, Viceroy, 1769-1779. By DAURIL ALDEN. Berkeley, 1968. University of California Press. Illustrations. Maps. Tables. Figures. Notes. Glossary. Appendices. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xxvii, 545. \$15.00.

In this lengthy book Dauril Alden provides a series of informative essays on the military, economic, and political history of Brazil in the eighteenth century. He concentrates on the military history of the South, the area from Santa Catarina to Colônia do Sacramento on the Plata estuary. In the longest section of the book, 216 pages, he minutely chronicles Spanish-Portuguese rivalry in that strategic area, beginning with the penetration of Guairá by the Spanish Jesuits in the early seventeenth century and concluding with the Treaty of San Ildefonso in 1777. Economic matters are his second concern, and the shortest portion of the book treats political subjects.

One of the principal points which the author tries to make in his study is that the viceroys exercised scant power outside the captaincy in which they resided: "In theory they [the viceroys] were charged with the management of the king's domains throughout the length and breadth of the colony, but in reality they administered a small part of them" (p. 447). Much of what Alden writes seems to verify that conclusion, and yet he introduces so many exceptions throughout the text that one hesitates to endorse it fully. For example, the Marquis of Lavradio (the viceroy whose administration, 1769-1779, gives much of the continuity to the essays) complained that the governors depended too heavily on him for defense. In fact, he did "direct" the governors of São Paulo, Minas Gerais, Bahia, and Pernambuco to send troops to the South. At one point, the governor of Bahia