

of the loan question, but Hoenigsberg should also include a reassessment of the church question and Santander's generally neglected 'second administration.'

The author's rambling style leaves the reader to struggle with repetition at times and with incomplete presentation of ideas at other times. His propensity to go too far into background material sometimes obscures the train of argument and at times even Santander is lost. For example, in refuting the allegation that Santander prevented Francisco Xavier Guerra y Mier from giving an elegy at the anniversary of the death of Nariño, Hoenigsberg spends some fifty pages detailing the tense religious atmosphere, Nariño's religious life, the conflicts between Guerra y Mier and the Dean of the Cathedral of Santa Fé, Andrés Rosillo y Meruelo, on whom Hoenigsberg places the blame. While all this is important, the role of Santander in the religious controversies of the time, which is also significant, and of which the author could have written with authority, is ignored. Chapters three and four deal with the execution of General José María Barreiro which many serious historians no longer condemn as unjustifiable and with Santander's early years as vice-president under the Cúcuta constitution.

The absence of a bibliography is regrettable and the footnote style may be unclear to the North American reader. The appendix contains a list of Santander's descendants, his *hoja de servicios*, the names of the thirty-eight Spaniards killed after the battle of Boyacá, a list of educational institutions founded by the government when Santander was at its head, and some documents relative to the expulsion of Nicolasa Ibañez de Caro in 1829.

In spite of some weaknesses, serious students of Colombian history will recognize Hoenigsberg's work as a useful contribution to the campaign to place Santander in a more balanced perspective and will look forward to the publication of the second volume.

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Alzaga, 1812. By ENRIQUE WILLIAMS ALZAGA. Buenos Aires-Barcelona, 1968. Emecé. Index. Pp. 306. Paper. US \$2.60.

Enrique Williams Alzaga has presented Argentine specialists with the first complete study of the conspiracy of 1812 in Buenos Aires. His motive is to prove once and for all that the conspiracy did exist and that it was a threat to the patriot government. In both aims he succeeds in making his case.

The book is divided into three sections. The first is a detailed study

of the various aspects of the conspiracy. The second, a year by year analysis of the activity of Juan Alzaga. The third an appendix which contains many of the documents which the author considers the most important to his presentation.

The first section covers the conspiracy. Ample documentation is offered to convince the reader that Diego da Souza and Gaspar Vigodet were conspiring to launch an invasion of Buenos Aires to coincide with an internal uprising of the *penisulares* led by Alzaga. Here little new information is offered pertaining to the conspiracy directly; however, secondary information is presented, e.g., the position and role of the Lautero Lodge, which is new.

The second section is the weaker of the two. Basically an attempt to justify Alzaga's action on patriotic grounds, the argument fails due to Alzaga's ambitions for power. Much is made of creole peninsular rivalry; but the Alzaga which emerges is one with only one real political commitment, his own desire for complete political power. As presented by the author, Alzaga is understandable, but an unconvincing patriot.

The appendix is valuable for the documents which it contains and, on balance, the study is a welcome addition to the historical studies of Argentina's independence movement.

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NATIONAL PERIOD

Race and Class in Latin America. Edited by MAGNUS MÖRNER. New York, 1970. Columbia University Press. Institute of Latin American Studies. Tables. Charts. Index. Pp. viii, 309. \$10.00.

This is a collection of thirteen papers stemming from a joint Cornell University—Columbia University conference held in 1965. Mörner is well known for his concern with the general topic, and his brief introductory notes and contributed essay (on research on the topic during the national period) are apt. He notes that “. . . the contributions contained in this volume present only a very fragmentary picture of the evolution of society and socioracial relationships in the immensely vast and heterogenous region of Latin America.”

Part I, “The Abolition of Slavery and Its Aftermath,” (Gonzalo Aguirre Beltrán on Mexico, Carlos Rama on Uruguay, and Richard Graham on Brazil) is strong, and the three essays fit well together: the major theme is that while slavery tended to disappear for common economic reasons, the subsequent integration of the Negro into the