

suspended during the insurgents' occupation of Oaxaca, and re-instituted in 1814; at independence it disappeared. Hamnett sees in the combination of intendancies, *comercio libre* and new *consulados* a further development, the formation of "Mexican Creole Liberalism," the growth of regionalism, and consequently "the weakening of Mexico City's traditional dominant role."

Hamnett's presentation is regrettably flawed by many infelicitous phrases which editorial care might have removed and, more seriously, by a repeated tendency to present viewpoints of eighteenth-century observers without his own critical evaluation and analysis. More often than not the contradictions implicit in by no means impartial testimony are simply left unresolved.

A number of questions emerge from Hamnett's short yet ambitious study. They concern the motivations, goals, and impact of the colonial strategies of "Spanish enlightened despotism." At the core of Hamnett's study is the Spanish government's effort to tamper with a major mechanism of the colonial economy, *repartimiento*. The multiple objectives of the strategies—to increase the flow of revenue to the Spanish state, to incorporate Indian producers via market inducements, to offer more Spaniards greater access to economic opportunity in the colonies—were contradictory, which may explain Hamnett's reluctance to offer a new synthesis at this point. Although this study does not resolve the contradictions, his data and that of other researchers will be invaluable in achieving a more accurate and more balanced synthesis of the Spanish empire at the end of the eighteenth century.

Princeton University

STANLEY J. STEIN

Las industrias durante el Virreinato (1776-1810). By PEDRO SANTOS MARTÍNEZ. Buenos Aires, 1969. Editorial Universitaria de Buenos Aires. Colección Argentina. Tables. Maps. Illustrations. Pp. 160.

This study of Dr. Pedro S. Martínez should be included in the list of fine works from the school of Argentine economic historians which developed from Álvarez and Levene. It is based upon sound research of archival material and upon a thorough canvassing of all available bibliography.

The first section of the book is an essay in itself. It analyzes the industrial policy of the Spanish Bourbons during the eighteenth century. Philip V and his successors, particularly Charles III, attempted to counter the remarkable upsurge of Great Britain as an expansive industrial power by an increase of Spanish productivity and concentra-

tion of capital. However, Spain's contribution to the Industrial Age was minimal, due to the failure of capital and lack of know-how. Therefore, the Crown turned to a policy of protectionism, adapting its monopolistic structure slowly to the impact of economic liberalism. As has been proved by John Lynch, this policy was first applied in the new vicekingdom of the Río de la Plata, which became a real test-tube experiment for the new economic and political reforms. However, in the colonial realm this reform policy was not aimed towards the creation of industrial development. Rather, it became a part of this policy to suppress any industrial project in Spanish America, where only the production of primary materials was encouraged in order to feed the needs of the industry of the Peninsula at a low cost. As a result, any industrial development was produced *despite* the influence of Spain.

In the second part of his book, Professor Martínez presents a very detailed and complete description of all industrial accomplishments in the vicekingdom, particularly in the fields of textiles, sugar, spirits, animal subproducts, shipbuilding and transportation. The section concerning the mining industry is partially based upon the author's own archival research. It is of significant value to the researcher, and it has since been reproduced, with slight modifications, as a chapter of the book *La minería hispana e iberoamericana—contribución a su investigación histórica*, published by the Cátedra de San Isidro, León, Spain, in 1970, vol. I, 399-450. Martínez not only presents a regional analysis of the mining industry, but also discusses ore processing, mining legislation, technological improvements introduced by Europeans, and the socio-economic condition of the mining community.

The last section is an elaborate study of the consequences of the free trade, which began at the turn of the 19th century, upon the industry of the Río de la Plata. Martínez blames the rapid disappearance of local industry immediately after independence exclusively on British competition and the resulting lower prices. What he, and other scholars, conclude is that the British trade alone was responsible for this annihilation. However, what these writers do not realize is that, even with protective measures, these local industries could never have achieved the standards of productivity and costs necessary to compete with machine-made goods of any nationality.

University of New Mexico

GERMÁN TJARKS

War and Peace on the North Mexican Frontier: A Documentary Record.
Vol. I: *Crescendo of the Chichimeca War, 1551-1585.* Collected