

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.

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

and Arranged by PHILIP WAYNE POWELL. Paleographic transcriptions by MARIA L. POWELL. Madrid, 1971. Ediciones José Porrúa Turanzas. Colección Chimalistac de Libros y Documentos Acerca de la Nueva España, 32. Illustrations. Index. Pp. xxvii, 276. Paper.

Como se nos advierte en la introducción (pp. xvi & xxiv) este volumen y los que le sigan de la misma serie—hasta el presente hay programados tres—constituyen en la intención del autor un apéndice documental a su obra *Soldiers, Indians and Silver. The Northward Advance of New Spain, 1550-1600* (Berkeley and Los Angeles, University of California Press, 1952; reimpresso en 1969). Es importante que se tenga esto en cuenta, pues evitará posibles especulaciones sobre el criterio de selección; se trata únicamente de publicar algunas de las fuentes que fueron utilizadas en dicha obra. Al parecer, no hubo investigación fresca ni estudio nuevo del tema.

Aun así, la edición de estos documentos no resulta inútil, pues contienen muchos detalles históricos que la obra no pudo recoger. La presentación del volumen es muy buena, según norma de la Colección Chimalistac; la parte editorial no se halla, lamentablemente, a la misma altura, tal como suele suceder también con muchas publicaciones de la misma serie. A estas alturas, ciertas racionales normas de edición debieran ser indispensables. No tiene sentido esa fidelidad a los errores o imperfecciones de los originales, que carecen de otro significado que no sea el de la ignorancia, la prisa o el descuido de los escribanos o funcionarios que los escribieron. El uso correcto de mayúsculas en los nombres de personas y lugares, cierto grado de puntuación y algunas notas que esclarezcan los pasajes más difíciles, me parecen tres requisitos absolutamente mínimos en las ediciones ordinarias de documentos. En el presente caso se falta gravemente respecto al primer punto y se ignoran por completo los dos últimos. Los textos incluidos pierden por esta causa mucha de su utilidad.

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*In Search of Gulf Coast History.* Edited by ERNEST F. DIBBLE and EARLE W. NEWTON. Pensacola, Florida, 1970. State of Florida: Historic Pensacola Preservation Board. Proceedings of the First Gulf Coast History and Humanities Conference. Illustrations. Pp. 127. Paper.