

Spain and her Rivals on the Gulf Coast. Edited by ERNEST F. DIBBLE and EARLE W. NEWTON. Pensacola, Florida, 1971. State of Florida: Historic Pensacola Preservation Board. Proceedings of the Second Gulf Coast History and Humanities Conference. Illustrations. Appendix. Index. Pp. vi, 143. Paper.

The Gulf Coast History and Humanities Conference, held annually in Pensacola, Florida, was inspired by scholars and archivists who felt the need of an interdisciplinary organization devoted to the history and culture of the Gulf Coast region. The organizers designed the First Conference (1969) to summarize documentary and artifactual resources for the study of the area from New Orleans, Louisiana, to St. Marks, Florida, in the colonial era. Jack D. L. Holmes explored materials outside the United States and research opportunities for Spanish West Florida, and Robert Right Rea similarly examined British West Florida. Samuel Proctor discussed bibliographical resources in the United States for Gulf Coast studies. Lucius F. Ellsworth and Donald H. Bragaw urged the use of artifacts by historians in their research or classrooms. Water Rundell, Jr., spoke on building research collections.

The Second Conference (1970) explored the struggle for hegemony between Spain and her rivals along the Gulf Coast during the colonial period. John J. TePaske compared the Indian policies of France, Spain and England; J. Preston Moore described a 1768 uprising of French settlers in Louisiana; Hale Smith surveyed European artifacts; and Samuel Wilson, Jr. considered the region's architecture. Alfred B. Thomas's "overview" of Gulf Coast colonial history was offered as an antidote to the dominant "Anglo" approach to colonial American history.

The sponsors of this Conference want to stimulate the study of Spain and her rivals in the Southeast as did Herbert E. Bolton for Spain in the Southwest. Ultimately they plan to extend their interest from 1500 to the present and to the full circumference of the Gulf Coast from the Florida Keys to Yucatán. In making interested scholars aware of abundant if widely scattered source materials and heretofore neglected research opportunities in Gulf Coast studies they have made a promising beginning.

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Sucesos de las islas filipinas. By ANTONIO DE MORGA. Translated and edited by J. S. CUMMINS. London, 1971. Cambridge University Press for the Hakluyt Society. Hakluyt Society Second Series, 140.

Maps. Illustrations. Figures. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xi, 347. Cloth. \$16.00.

Dr. Antonio de Morga (1559-1636) was an energetic, gifted and versatile bureaucrat who served under three kings in the audiencias of the Philippines, Mexico, and Quito. Pious and sensual, petty and gifted with vision, his career represents some of the strengths and weaknesses of that incipient professional bureaucracy that bore the main responsibility for governing the empire. His career ended in disgrace in 1636 during a turbulent *visita general*. Dr. Morga as President of the royal audiencia of Quito was convicted of a whole series of infractions ranging from his weaknesses for the ladies to illegal mercantile interests to smuggling Chinese silks disguised as his personal library. Whatever may have been his personal shortcomings, Dr. Morga was a vigorous and able administrator.

Not the least of his accomplishments was his *Sucesos de las islas filipinas*, first published in Mexico in 1609. The Hakluyt Society published the first English edition, edited by Baron Stanley of Alderley, in 1868. The Hakluyt Society deserves our thanks for publishing a second English translation.

James S. Cummins, the editor of a previous Hakluyt volume on *The Travels and Controversies of Friar Domingo Navarrete*, was a happy choice as the editor of the new Morga edition. Dr. Cummins has provided us with an accurate, graceful and entirely new translation of the Spanish text with a host of appropriate footnotes. If only for this reason the new edition should be in the library of all scholars of Iberian expansion overseas. Furthermore, the new translation could be used to advantage as supplementary reading in a colonial history course for undergraduates.

What lends special usefulness to this edition, however, is Dr. Cummins' lucid, concise and wide-ranging introductory essay outlining Dr. Morga's empire-wide career. Demonstrating an easy mastery of all the secondary sources, the editor adds some new primary information from his own research in the archives of Manila and Seville.

Antonio de Morga's *Sucesos de las islas filipinas* is a classic account of the first decades of Spanish expansion into the Philippines—the only such account written by a Spanish layman until the nineteenth century. Dr. Cummins deserves much credit for a model job of scholarly editing and interpretation.

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