

portant question is whether the internal commerce of the colony rested to a large degree upon coercion and force rather than upon classical market incentives. Could the internal market of the viceroyalty, outside of major "growth poles" such as Potosí, function without such coercion? What happened to that internal market following the elimination of the corregidor and the commercial network of which he was the terminus after political independence? To attack these questions, we must go beyond case studies of single institutions, even of institutions as basic to the colonial system as the *reparto de mercancías* seems to have been, and undertake to reconstruct the relations of production and distribution in colonial society as a whole. In this task, we will all rely heavily upon the work of scholars like Dr. Moreno Cebrián.

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Africans Abroad: A Documentary History of the Black Diaspora in Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean during the Age of Slavery. By GRAHAM W. IRWIN. New York, 1977. Columbia University Press. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xvi, 408. Cloth. \$20.00. Paper. \$7.50.

A source book of possible interest to Latin Americanists, this volume delivers more than the title promises. Contrary to most volumes on the black diaspora or comparative slavery, which tend to feature the North American experience, this one explicitly omits North America and Europe. This leaves about forty-four percent of the space for Egypt and Asia and fifty-six percent for Latin America and the Caribbean. The English-speaking Caribbean may be a little overrepresented in relation to present-day population, but the selections give a generous representation to Brazil and Cuba as well. This is possible through the writings of English-speaking visitors to those two countries; if any linguistic region is neglected, it would be the French and Dutch-speaking Caribbean. But even here the editor made an effort to include them, and several authorities are translated for the purpose of this publication—one from French, one from Dutch, one from Portuguese, and four from Spanish.

The Caribbean-Latin American section is arranged topically to deal with the slave experience at greatest length, then with maroons, slave revolts, and free blacks in these societies. The total of forty-one selec-

tions means that they are mainly very short, averaging a little less than three pages each, but some of the more important selections run on for ten pages or more, such as Wurdeman's description of a Cuban slave plantation in 1844. The vast majority are travelers' descriptions of societies they visit. Most are therefore original sources, with only six from the Caribbean-Latin American section drawn from secondary authorities, and these in circumstances that justify the departure from the purity of uncontaminated source material.

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Bolívar. By DONALD E. WORCESTER. Introduction by J. H. PLUMB. Boston, 1977. Little, Brown and Company. Index. Pp. viii, 243. Cloth. \$8.95.

This latest addition to the already vast bibliography on Simón Bolívar is a volume in the Library of World Biography, a series aimed at a general rather than scholarly audience. There are no footnotes for the numerous quotations and the bibliography consists of six works in English. Worcester offers a straightforward narrative biography with very limited analysis or discussion of the context in which Bolívar operated. Three chapters, or over one-third of the text, are devoted to the period up to the convening of the Angostura Congress and the victory at Boyacá. Two more chapters, or just over one-fourth of the book, are devoted to the military campaigns culminating in victory at Ayacucho. The last four chapters, or one-third of the book, relate Bolívar's efforts to create a grand confederation or at least preserve Gran Colombia.

This book does not shed new light on the life of Bolívar. In fact, it owes a heavy debt to Daniel F. O'Leary's *Narración* or Robert F. McNerney's translation of the same, the biographies of Bolívar by Gerhard Masur and Salvador de Madariaga, and Victor W. Von Hagen's biography of Manuela Sáenz. Works of synthesis are often appropriate, but some sections of this work come closer to paraphrase than synthesis. Compare, for example, the second and fourth paragraphs of page 164 with pages 336 and 340 of McNerney, *Bolívar and the War of Independence*.

There are other problems as well. There are a number of factual errors such as the reversal of reality (p. 78) as the patriots are awarded the victory at El Semen which historians have previously credited to