

*Güemes Documentado*. Vol. I. By LUIS GÜEMES. Edited by FRANCISCO M. GÜEMES. Buenos Aires: Editorial Plus Ultra, 1979. Notes. Pp. 511. Paper.

*Güemes Documentado* represents the fruition of more than a century's effort on the part of the Güemes family to bring together all available manuscripts relating to their famous ancestor, Martín Güemes. The first volume deals with Güemes's life from his birth to 1813—the period most difficult to document since he was, at most, a figure of secondary importance.

Historians always welcome the appearance of a collection such as this because it makes their task much easier. All of the standard phrases such as “a must for any researcher,” “a welcome addition to any library,” and so forth, certainly pertain to this collection. Yet, to me, the editors deserve more than the standard accolades and for two reasons. The first is that Güemes was not a habitual correspondent; when he did write something it was usually terse and devoid of any discussion of problems. Second, the editors have avoided using this collection as an apology for their distinguished ancestor; their conclusions on points where documentation is lacking are objective.

To solve the problem of a lack of correspondence concerning Güemes's activities, the editors have included manuscripts of all types in which Güemes is either mentioned or that pertain to activities in which he was known to have been a participant. The result combines data from numerous private collections and archives in Peru, Chile, and Spain, as well as from those in Argentina.

Little is known of Güemes's education. He was sent by his family to Buenos Aires to be schooled. The editors refuse to credit him with more education than can be proved by available documents; they conclude that he received at most two years of training in Buenos Aires. Another area where the documents leave latitude for interpretation concerns Güemes's disaffection from Balcarce's command before the battle of Huaqui. Again the editors refuse to ascribe lofty motivation to Güemes, concluding that he disagreed with the truce and returned to Salta.

*Güemes Documentado* is a superb and surprisingly objective collection, and one can hope that subsequent volumes will be as welcome as the first.

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*Francisco P. Moreno: Arquetipo de argentinidad*. By AQUILES D. YGOBONE. Buenos Aires: Editorial Plus Ultra, 1979. Illustrations. Notes. Bibliography. Pp. 415. Paper.

This study of one of Argentina's most eminent ethnohistorians and archaeologists joins a collection of twenty-six other volumes by Aquiles D. Ygobone dealing with the discovery and development of the national territory of the Río de la Plata.

Based upon the diaries and published accounts of the explorations of Francisco P. Moreno (1852–1919), this volume chronicles the scientist's early years and education, the pioneering explorations of Patagonia, and his contribution to the Chilean-Argentine boundary dispute and its settlement in 1902. Moreno's career as director of the National Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology is briefly reviewed, as is his support for the idea of a national park system and progressive educational reforms. Ygobone presents his narrative within a nationalistic framework, praising Moreno not only for his scientific endeavors, but for his sense of *patria* and dedication to the state.

While the topic is intriguing, the study leaves much to be desired. Concentrating upon Moreno's southern explorations to the extent of an excessive use of excerpts from the original travelogues, the book fails to present sufficient insight into either the man or his times.