

world from the Aztec biases expressed in ethnohistorical documents of the early colonial period and the Nahuatl name of “Huastec.” Isolation, although extremely detrimental to the Teenek in many ways, afforded in great measure the preservation of a rich cultural ethos that the author, Janis B. Alcorn, has explored with sensitivity and in great depth as well as detail in this publication.

The objectives of this study and the methodology of the author’s fieldwork among the Teenek communities in the states of San Luis Potosí and Veracruz are found in chapter one. The natural and social environment, economics, and world view of the Teenek follow in chapters two and three. These first three chapters, in effect, set the stage for a well-conceived and well-executed examination, in chapters four and five, of the use and management of native, imported, and domesticated plant species important to and existing within the ecology of the Teenek, or Huastec, world.

A noteworthy part of this study is an extensive and well-formulated ethnobotanical atlas of the Teenek world found in the appendix. This atlas lists botanical materials alphabetically and keys each entry according to life form, geographic distribution, anthropogenic restrictions, pertinent survey and interview data, and standard and alternate Teenek names, in addition to Teenek uses and derivative preparations of the individual plants. The ethnobotanical atlas is followed by a systematic listing of plants and a standard Teenek name key for the plants examined in this study. The extensive breadth, as well as depth and detail in scholarly execution, make this publication a valuable resource for ethnobotany as well as for research and studies of the Teenek in other disciplines.

University of New Mexico

DAVID BROWN

COLONIAL AND INDEPENDENCE PERIODS

Mercado interno y economía colonial. By JUAN CARLOS GARAVAGLIA. Mexico City: Editorial Grijalbo, 1984. Maps. Notes. Illustrations. Figures. Tables. Bibliography. Pp. 507. Paper.

It was not until the eighteenth century that Latin America constituted an important market for European manufactures. The great bulk of goods consumed before then—textiles, tobacco, foodstuffs—were produced by the colonists themselves. This thesis, which finds broad support among colonialists, is the basis for Juan Carlos Garavaglia’s study of the production and distribution of yerba maté. Beginning in the 1560s, the Spaniards entered the trade in Paraguay, and maté rapidly displaced sugar and wine as the region’s principal export. Facilitated by an

extensive riverine system of transport composed of the Paraná and its tributaries, the export of maté grew rapidly. At the end of the colonial era, 300,000 pesos' worth of maté were traded in Buenos Aires, and until 1778, only wheat sometimes surpassed it in value. Garavaglia's work indicates a geographically wide market, encompassing the River Plate, Peru, Quito, and even New Spain. The cultivation of maté shaped the economic and institutional evolution of the area upriver of Asunción, and the larger implications of this development are Garavaglia's central concern.

The distribution of the costs and benefits of supplying maté clearly reflected the colonial division of labor. In an absorbing analysis, Garavaglia demonstrates that the labor of the Guaraní subsidized the production of maté, and underwrote the profits of encomenderos, Jesuit fathers, and merchants in Santa Fe and Buenos Aires. For the Indians, the demographic consequences followed a familiar pattern. In the *reducciones* around Asunción and Xerez, population fell by 50 percent between 1555 and 1632. In the Guairá region, the decline exceeded 60 percent. Epidemic disease, the raiding of the *bandeirantes*, overwork, and forced migrations all took their toll. Many Indians simply fled their villages and, by the late eighteenth century, formed the nucleus of a landless Paraguayan peasantry. In his most interesting chapters, Garavaglia touches upon the formation of a peasant culture and upon the equivocal connection between the peasantry and the market. Historians interested in questions of acculturation will find this illuminating.

There are a few problems. The book is prolix, occasionally repetitious, and imperfectly integrated. There is a slight ideological overlay, which leads Garavaglia into a definition of capitalism that will amuse even advocates of marginal productivity theories of distribution. Some explicit consideration of the overall economic significance of the trade is also absent in an otherwise comprehensive investigation.

University of California, Berkeley

RICHARD J. SALVUCCI

Los escritos de Juan Pablo Viscardo y Guzmán: Precursor de la independencia hispanoamericana. By MERLE E. SIMMONS. Caracas: Universidad Católica Andrés Bello, 1983. Illustrations. Notes. Pp. v, 384. Paper.

Readers' responses to the ideas of Juan Pablo Viscardo y Guzmán and to the hoary subject of *los precursores* will largely determine how they assess this book. It strikes me as a case of not seeing the forest for the trees. As to Simmons's scholarship there can be no doubt. That this is the definitive clarification of the literary work of Viscardo there can be no doubt. The book is based on Simmons's discovery in the Rufus King collection of the Historical Society of New York of some 400 manuscript sheets of the writings of Viscardo—papers never before known, and published here in the original French in their entirety. The same collection con-