

erences, mostly by Harold Sims. The author's goal is to survey "the massive voluntary displacement that in Latin America's case took place between the end of the nineteenth century and the Great Depression. The interregional and intranational migrations that occurred in Latin America during the twentieth century [are] outlined only briefly from a historical perspective" (p. 5).

Unfortunately, Mörner has taken on a task which cannot be accomplished in 130 pages. The result is superficial: the evidence presented is thin, and sources are haphazardly chosen and often peripheral to the subject matter. For example, in Mörner's discussion of Brazil, he ignores Dauril Alden's work on the colonial period; prefers the very general *História geral da civilização brasileira* to J. Fernando Carneiro's synthesis of 19th century immigration; and cites only Michael Hall's article in *New Approaches to Latin American History*, as if Hall had not written explicitly about mass immigration to Brazil. Immigration in a given nation is treated as monolithic. Thus, Mörner does not differentiate between the efforts of the imperial government to create a class of small landholders in southern Brazil and the efforts of Paulista planters to substitute immigrant for slave labor in the coffee groves.

Although Mörner's conclusions reflect the current state of knowledge in the field, they lack nuances and do not provide us with clear priorities for further research. This book is welcome evidence from a major figure in contemporary Latin American historiography that we are beginning to "recognize the fundamental importance of massive immigration for some Latin American countries" (p. 76). Nonetheless, Hall's essay, "Approaches to Immigration History," referred to above, is more useful in posing pertinent questions and delineating areas for study.

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Papers Concerning Robertson's Colony in Texas. Introductory volume. *Robert Leftwich's Mexico Diary and Letterbook, 1822-1824*. Compiled and edited by MALCOLM D. MCLEAN. Arlington: The University of Texas at Arlington, 1986. Illustrations. Appendix. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 611. Cloth. \$35.00.

In 1974, Malcolm McLean published volume I of the *Papers Concerning Robertson's Colony in Texas*, which related to the Texas Association and traced the development of that association and its Kentucky and Tennessee members between 1788 and 1822. Then the association commissioned Robert Leftwich and Andrew Erwin, two of its members, to go to Mexico to obtain a grant of land in Texas on which it originally offered to settle 200 families. The diary and letterbook written by Robert Leftwich and partially by Andrew Erwin while in Mexico between April 1822 and May 1824, were not known to exist until April 1983. It was

then decided rightfully to make it the introductory volume to the set that had grown to 12 volumes, of which volume II bears the subtitle *Leftwich's Grant*, and covers the period from 1823 through September 1826.

This book presents in facsimile the manuscript diary and letterbook, page by page, with a printed transcription at the bottom of each page. Of the 438 pages, only 373 are complete; 165 pages are completely blank, missing, or badly damaged. Nonetheless, the available material gives a good account of the activities of the two non-Spanish-speaking agents and their impressions of newly independent Mexico and its government officials, as well as their relations with other United States, European, and Mexican empresarios, among whom were Stephen F. Austin, James Wilkinson, James Barry, Tadeo Ortiz de Ayala, and Lorenzo de Zavala.

Understandably, the Mexican officials were more concerned about organizing their government and sustaining independence. However, it is important to note the courtesy of Agustín Iturbide, both before and after he became emperor of Mexico; of his minister, José Manuel de Herrera; and of members of the congress, in personally receiving these foreign empresarios, who apparently naively interpreted this reception to mean that their requests would be readily attended. The diary and letterbook reveal more about the maneuvering, thinking, and frustrations of the grant seekers than about Mexico and the crucial events occurring there.

The work is illustrated and carefully documented, and contains translations of some of the colonization laws considered and passed between 1822 and 1824. It also lists the grants (i.e. contracts) issued by the state of Coahuila and Texas during 1815–35. It is well worth consultation by anyone interested in the early colonization of Texas.

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México ante la crisis: El contexto internacional y la crisis económica. Coordinated by PABLO GONZÁLEZ CASANOVA and HÉCTOR AGUILAR CAMÍN. Mexico City: Siglo Veintiuno Editores, 1985. Notes. Tables. Graphs. Pp. 435. Paper.

México ante la crisis. Tomo 2: El impacto social y cultural/ Las alternativas. Coordinated by PABLO GONZÁLEZ CASANOVA and HÉCTOR AGUILAR CAMÍN. Mexico City: Siglo Veintiuno Editores, 1985. Graphs. Tables. Notes. Figures. Pp. 425. Paper.

These two volumes attempt a comprehensive examination of “the Mexican crisis” by gathering over 40 research articles and essays by leading Mexican scholars. Eight of the contributions—a mix of academic and political writing—approach the crisis in its global context; 12 concentrate on its economic dimensions; 11 are grouped under the rubric “society and culture”; and 11 purport to present