

A Note on Style

In doing the translations for this volume we have attempted as much as possible to remain true to both the flavor and meaning of the original text. We have tried to choose English words that are as close as possible to the Spanish counterparts, though translation is an inexact science. In instances where it seemed essential to provide some further explanation, we have used brief and unobtrusive brackets whenever possible. At times, however, a brief end-note was in order. With respect to proper names, we have made a practice of rendering these as they appeared in the original text. Some names—for example, Moctezuma—have many different spellings, and several of those spellings appear in the pages to follow. We hope readers will bear with us.

Many of the selected texts have been substantially abridged, and for this we offer apologies to the authors. In these cases, the pages of the original from which quotations have been selected appear in the “Acknowledgment of Copyrights and Sources” section.



Map of Mexico.