

of the very fabric of social experience in colonial Latin America which made up its history over three centuries.

The references are up to date, a running commentary for the specialist. The style of the work is austere, declarative prose which should be most welcome to non-German-speaking readers. This book is a landmark which will long be kept in sight.

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URSULA LAMB

COLONIAL AND INDEPENDENCE PERIODS

Cristóbal Colón. Siete años decisivos de su vida, 1485-1492. By JUAN MANZANO MANZANO. Madrid, 1964. Ediciones Cultura Hispánica. Notes. Pp. 531.

Manzano's purpose is to cover chronologically the time Columbus spent in Spain before the departure of his fleet from Palos in August 1492. This part of the discoverer's life is far less known than historians often confidently assume.

The author follows main lines traced by the late Antonio Ballesteros Beretta in *Cristobal Colón y el descubrimiento de América* though differing from the *maestro* (his own word) in some important particulars. Manzano says that non-Spanish writers have concentrated on the discovery voyages to the neglect of these preparatory years, and though this statement can be seriously disputed, he provides the best account so far of Columbus's years of waiting and disappointment, while hoping for royal backing. Although Columbus spent some time with the Duke of Medinaceli, Manzano is reasonable in supposing that he stuck as close to the court as circumstances and pecuniary resources would permit. The problem is thus to trace the movements of Ferdinand and Isabella's perambulating *ménage* in those years when Castile had no fixed capital and when the war with Granada and internal disturbances caused them to move frequently.

Manzano believes that the discovery project which Columbus presented to various royal agencies and finally to the sovereigns was the generally accepted one of opening a western route to Marco Polo's Cipangu and Cathay. Reasons for Spanish delay in backing the voyage, as he sees them, were also the conventional ones: the Granadan war dragged on longer than anticipated, the royal treasury was empty, geographical experts rightly considered Columbus's estimate of the earth's circumference incorrect, and the future admiral demanded a very high price.

Manzano hints, without quite saying so, that he believes the story of the anonymous pilot who reportedly crossed the Atlantic a decade before Columbus, and he promises an additional work on that subject. Samuel E. Morison and Edmundo O'Gorman have presented strong, if entirely different, arguments against this pilot's existence. Manzano elsewhere mentions both writers, though he cites Morison only on an unrelated matter and does not cite O'Gorman at all.

The author writes more positively of the Toscanelli map and what it contained than anyone today is entitled to do. The chart has disappeared and what we have is the reconstruction by Hermann Wagner in 1892. For the Atlantic and East Asia Wagner largely follows the Martin Behaim globe of 1492, and no one can be sure this is justified.

Utilizing the researches of José de la Torre and adding some of his own, Manzano traces the liaison between Columbus and Beatriz Enríquez de Harana, mother of his illegitimate son Ferdinand. He finds evidence, in a document long available and generally overlooked, that the discoverer legitimized Ferdinand during the latter's childhood. His failure to marry the girl is explained by his elevation to admiral's rank, which, by Castilian law then, made matrimony with the humble Beatriz impossible.

Manzano accomplishes his main purpose of adequately filling in the seven critical years of Columbus in Spain before the discovery. For certain topics he might have made profitable use of writings by non-Spanish scholars; Miss Alicia Gould, on whom he mainly relies for the ship musters of the first voyage, had become identified with Spain by the time of her death.

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CHARLES E. NOWELL

Don Hernando de Santillán y la fundación de la Real Audiencia de Quito. By FRAY JOSÉ MARÍA VARGAS, O.P. Quito, 1963. Editorial Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana. Pp. 173. Paper. Sucres 20.00.

Hernando de Santillán, oidor of Los Reyes and later president of Quito, played an important role in the history of Chile, Bolivia, Peru, and Ecuador between 1550 and 1568. Consequently he deserves a special study, for which there is a great abundance of documentation due in great part to the numerous and bitter enemies which he was able to create in a short time. His residencia as president of the Audiencia of Quito by itself fills seven legajos in the Archivo General de Indias.

The Spanish government appointed Santillán in 1563 as first presi-