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Donald E. Chipman, Spanish Texas, 1519-1821

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mexicoamericana y anglosajona. El mismo admite: "entre los elementos importantes de transmisión cultural se incluían el lenguaje, la vida familiar, la religión, los procesos de trabajo y las expresiones culturales populares tales como la música, arte, danza, cuentos, curanderismo . . ." (p. 61). Nunca se detiene Ríos-Bustamante en definir claramente su terminología. "Novohispano" o "cultura novohispana" se utilizan profusamente en oposición a la cultura hispánica peninsular despreciada sutil o explícitamente a lo largo de la narración. En su afán por buscar las raíces históricas de la experiencia chicana en el pasado colonial, el autor presenta una raza mestiza forjadora de la cultura norteña mexicana. Esta nueva cultura es hija del mestizaje, un mestizaje que celebra lo indígena y desprecia lo peninsular como vergonzante. La cuestión es que muy difícilmente puede haber mestizaje si no hay una mezcla de dos culturas distintas. Sin el elemento peninsular no hay mestizaje por vergonzante que esto sea.

Sin embargo el esfuerzo por cubrir un período histórico ignorado hasta ahora merece elogio y la enumeración de fuentes y bibliografía lo convierten en una obra de consulta.

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Spanish Texas, 1519-1821. By Donald E. Chipman. (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1992. xiii + 343 pp. Illustrations, maps, appendixes, notes, bibliography, index. \$30.00 cloth, \$14.95 paper.)

Spanish Texas, 1519-1821 is a superbly crafted work of historical scholarship. Professor Chipman has provided a text that fills a gap in the literature dealing with the Spanish colonial period, and is characterized by clarity, attention to detail, and patient development of the major themes of the time. The author is dispassionate in his approach and measured in the tone with which he treats the many issues and controversies woven into this history. The extensive notes, bibliography, and appendixes are very helpful additions to the text.

Chipman begins with a detailed description of Texas geography and its pre-Columbian inhabitants. He makes the reader aware of the harsh landscape, the extreme climatic conditions, and the complexities of the hunting and gathering societies which the Spaniards encountered here.

Between 1519 and 1543 Spaniards increased their knowledge of Texas through sporadic explorations. Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Baca was arguably the most extraordinary of these explorers and Chipman retells the story of the

eight-year adventure (1528-1536) and its great significance for an understanding of early Texas history.

Chipman writes that after the first explorers there was a continuous flow of "adventurers, prospectors, ranchers, friars, and soldiers," (p. 43) moving northward towards the Rio Grande and beyond. Between 1643 and 1680 these Spaniards accumulated much knowledge about Texas. The Spanish response to the French threat in Louisiana in the late 1680s, then, was not a mere reflex but rather was based on a growing awareness of Texas and a firm advancement of the Hispanic frontier into what is today northern Mexico.

With masterful narrative skills, the author traces in subsequent chapters the various late seventeenth- and eighteenth-century land and sea expeditions sent by the officials of New Spain into Texas, the founding of the missions in East Texas, the growing French challenge on the eastern frontier, the virtual abandonment of Texas by Spain in 1693, and the extremely difficult permanent Spanish occupation of Texas. Full attention is given to the role of the Canary Islanders, the tragic fate of the Indians, and the role of missions and presidios. Chipman corrects an earlier historiography by pointing out the significant role of the soldiers and the presidios as well as the influence of the missions in the settlement of Texas. On a more poignant note, the understatement of the text emphasizes that the collapse of French interests in Louisiana brought Spain, and soon Mexico, into direct contact with the powerful, aggressive, and expansion-minded United States.

In *Spanish Texas, 1519-1821*, Professor Chipman has achieved a remarkable synthesis of his own research and the work of others. As he indicates, in terms of language, history, law, ranching and farming, the arts, and many customs, ". . . Spanish influences in Texas appear to be well out of proportion to the small number of Hispanics and Hispanicized settlers who were present in 1821" (p. 242).

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Two Hearts, One Soul: The Correspondence of the Condesa de Galve, 1688-96. Edited, annotated, and translated by Meredith D. Dodge and Rick Hendricks. (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1993. xv + 270 pp. Appendixes, bibliography, index. \$27.50 cloth.)

Meredith D. Dodge and Rick Hendricks have prepared a beautifully edited and presented collection of the letters of the Condesa de Galve, the wife of a viceroy of Mexico, from the years 1688-1696. The first thirteen of the