

New Mexico Historical Review

Volume 15 | Number 3

Article 4

7-1-1940

Book Reviews

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/nmhr>

Recommended Citation

. "Book Reviews." *New Mexico Historical Review* 15, 3 (). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/nmhr/vol15/iss3/4>

This Review is brought to you for free and open access by UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in *New Mexico Historical Review* by an authorized editor of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu, lsloane@salud.unm.edu, sarahrk@unm.edu.

BOOK REVIEWS

Narratives of the Coronado Expedition, 1540-1542, by George P. Hammond and Agapito Rey. (Albuquerque, The University of New Mexico Press, 1940. 420 pp., frontispiece, index. \$3.50.)

This is Volume II, but the first to be published, of the "Coronado Historical Series," authorized by the Coronado Cuarto Centennial Commission. As such, it sets a high standard, scientifically and typographically, for the other ten volumes which have been planned.

The arrangement and the sequence of the contents of this volume adapt it admirably to the general reader as well as the student of history who specializes in the annals of the Spanish Southwest. In the introduction, the authors present a well-written story, brought up-to-date, of the life of Francisco Vázquez de Coronado and of his epoch-making expedition. It brings together for the first time in attractive style many of the scattered details heretofore known and many others only recently revealed. One of the authors, Professor Agapito Rey, of Indiana University, tells in a recent number of *The New Mexico Quarterly* of the sources of this material when he writes:

"During the last two years the University of New Mexico has been adding to its rich collection of photostatic copies of original documents. Of this vast amount of source material, some twenty thousand sheets are directly related to the Coronado expedition. Most of these documents were photographed by Professor L. B. Bloom in the Archives of the Indies located at Seville, Spain. The gathering of these materials is being done by the University of New Mexico with the coöperation of the New Mexico Historical Society, the Historical Records Survey, and the Coronado Commission.

"Not all of these documents are new, as many of them have already appeared either in Spanish or in translations.

But by obtaining photostatic copies of the original documents already in print, we are able to correct errors and misreadings and to present now a text more accurate than has been possible in the past.

"By far the most voluminous documents hitherto unpublished, and little or not at all utilized, are the court records in connection with the inquiries into Coronado's management of his expedition and his administration as governor of New Galicia. The many thousand sheets of records comprise two legajos, which are divided into twelve sections of several hundred sheets each. The enormous bulk of the bundles has served as a deterrent to the study of these documents. We have waded through them, some twenty thousand sheets in all, to see if there were new materials that should be brought out in connection with our Coronado publications. As a result of this search we are able to present some documents for the first time. Coronado's testimony and that of his chief officer, López de Cárdenas, the charges filed against them, and their final sentences are most important. These depositions clarify many obscure points in Castañeda's chronicle of the Coronado expedition. Through these new documents, a more complete picture of the undertaking may be obtained."

From this work, the reader gathers far more than the biographical and other details of the Coronado Entrada. It presents a vivid picture of Spanish ideology, enterprise, jurisprudence, customs in the middle years of the sixteenth century. What could be more interesting to modern city planners, for instance, than the statement by the authors:

"Coronado promulgated a royal decree that all houses built thereafter must be of stone, brick, or adobe, and designed after the style of Spanish dwellings so that they might be permanent and an adornment to the cities."

To descendants of the "Mayflower" or pioneer mothers, there is the reminder that eighty years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock:

"At least three women accompanied the expedition,

Francisca de Hozes, wife of Alonso Sánchez, María Maldonado, wife of Juan de Paradinas, and the wife of Lope Caballero. Francisca de Hozes went with her husband and a son and accompanied the expedition from beginning to end. She later testified against Coronado, charging that he prevented her and other Spaniards from remaining in the new land to establish a colony. María Maldonado, wife of Juan de Paradinas (or Paladinas), was described by witnesses as nursing the sick soldiers on the expedition, mending their clothes, and doing other good works. Her husband was a tailor by trade. He was a good soldier and Coronado named him camp marshal and appointed him to other posts."

In these days of international ill-will, it is significant to learn of the cosmopolitan character of the members of Coronado's expeditionary force. It included the first Scotchman ever to enter the present United States, as well as Portuguese, Italians, Frenchmen, and Germans, the authors writing of the last named:

"The foreigner who played the most conspicuous role in the army seems to have been Juan Fioz, a native of Worms, Germany. As the bugler of the expedition, he was present at all the major actions, including the expedition to Quivira. He was accordingly, an important witness at the investigation of Coronado's management of the expedition and appeared as a defense witness for both Coronado and Cárdenas."

Surprising to many will be the statement that only three residents of Mexico went with the expedition. Delightful are some of the incidents and facts which are incidental to the narrative and brought out by the authors in the introduction as well as in the thirty documents carefully translated and edited. It is, of course, the latter which are of particular interest to students and research workers, who owe gratitude to Professors Hammond and Rey for their laborious, painstaking, and accurate work, which has been a labor of love on their part.—P.A.F.W.

Diplomacy and the Borderlands: The Adams-Onís Treaty of 1819. By Philip Coolidge Brooks. University of California Publications in History, Volume 24. (Berkeley, University of California Press, 1939. x, 262 pp. \$2.50.)

The standard works on the Adams-Onís Treaty, such as H. B. Fuller's *The Purchase of Florida* (1906), have been based almost exclusively on American sources. By supplementing these materials with others equally illuminating in the British, the French, and particularly the Spanish archives, Mr. Brooks has been able to achieve a better rounded account of the issues involved as seen by both Spain and the United States, of the tortuous course of the negotiations, and of the several reasons for Spain's delay in ratifying. A major contribution is that Luís de Onís is at last given the credit due him for his important share in bringing this treaty about. He is depicted as a wily and resourceful diplomat, a worthy adversary for John Quincy Adams, long hailed as the ablest of our secretaries of state.

Mr. Brooks heartily endorses Bemis' phrase, "The Transcontinental Treaty." The term "Florida Purchase," though it is used in the latest history of American diplomacy, he rejects as both inadequate and inappropriate. Ultimate control of Florida by the United States was taken for granted throughout the treaty negotiations, and although the United States assumed responsibility for claims against Spain up to \$5,000,000, it was for all the Spanish concessions, not just for Florida.

The main problem was to decide on a line from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific. As to this line the author concludes that the treaty-makers decided wisely and fairly. Texas, to which the United States' claim was most flimsy, was properly left to Spain. On the New Mexico frontier the line was purposely placed several hundred miles from Santa Fé so that this Spanish province would be adequately insulated. Finally, in the transfer to the United States of Spanish claims on the Pacific slope north of the forty-second parallel, there was a tangible American gain which assuaged any

immediate disappointment that Texas had not been acquired.

This reviewer would upbraid the publisher for clustering the notes in Jim Crow sections following each chapter, the more so since in several of these notes, as well as in the annotated bibliography, the author indulges in sprightly sallies on sundry standard histories. Furthermore, it is an unkindness and an injustice to a work of this caliber to dress it in a cheap paper cover.

A few minor errors are noted. The suffix in "captaincy-general" (p. 30) has migrated from noun to adjective. The name of the New Mexico explorer, Sergeant Juan de Uribarri, is garbled (p. 44). It is an exaggeration to say (p. 46) that Father Garcés opened a trail from New Mexico to California in 1775-76. Such matters, however, are marginal to the real theme of the book and do not impair it as an important contribution to American diplomatic history and a significant chapter in the annals of the Spanish borderlands.

JOHN WALTON CAUGHEY.

University of California at Los Angeles.

The Religious Architecture of New Mexico, in the Colonial Period and since the American Occupation. By George Kubler. (The Taylor Museum, Colorado Springs, May 1940. Quarto: xxi+232 pp.; 220 illus., including folded map; bibliog., index. n. p.)

Prepared as a doctoral dissertation at Yale, this volume is the fruition of study which has been both extensive and intensive. The research and writings of others, especially historians and archaeologists, are given generous recognition in a very complete list of sources and also throughout the text; but the author has himself been in the field repeatedly and the book everywhere shows the results of his independent investigations.

The study has been developed in four Parts, of which the first is a brief survey of "The Missionary Enterprise," with especial emphasis on the seventeenth century. Part

Two (about half the volume) deals with the principal subject of the study, namely "The Architecture," under such sub-titles as location, materials, plan, structure, mass, lighting effects, and secondary buildings. While much of this is technical, it is not difficult reading and anyone who skips or skims through these chapters will miss many illuminating explanations of this kind of colonial architecture.

In Part Three is discussed all the historical information which Dr. Kubler has assembled regarding the buildings which have yielded architectural data: and this somewhat encyclopedic treatment closes with an interesting "chronological table of the churches." A supplementary table of known mission churches which have wholly disappeared would be of value—but would have added nothing to the theme of this study.

Part Four is devoted to a brief "Historical Summary and Conclusion," with some discussion of developments and trends of recent years.

In our first scanning of this very excellent study we find nothing of importance which calls for adverse criticism. Yet we might again remark that evidence does not support the founding of Santa Fé earlier than 1610 (p. 133). Also the spelling "Sebogeta" is unfortunate; probably it would trace to a textual misreading of "Seboyeta," but "Cebolleta" is the usual spelling—as shown on the folding map. Many will wish that the book had been given a more substantial binding.

The numerous illustrations are a very fine part of this volume, adding throughout to the interest and understanding of the reader.—L. B.B.

The Last Will and Testament of Hernando Cortés, Marqués del Valle. Edited by G. R. G. Conway. (City of Mexico, privately printed, 1939. xxi, 73 pp.; index.)

Last year was the four hundredth anniversary of the introduction of the art of printing in the New World. Commemorative of that fact, we have in this beautifully pre-

pared volume "a facsimile and paleographic version, together with an English translation of the original testament, dated Seville, the 11th day of October, 1547," edited with an introduction and notes by Mr. Conway. We thus have, for the first time in printed form, the correct Spanish text of this most interesting and important document.

Of interest in New Mexico history is clause xxxiii of the will: "I direct that my natural daughters, Doña Leonor and Doña María, shall receive as dowries each ten thousand ducats from my estate, . . ." And Mr. Conway supplies the following note.

"Doña Leonor was the daughter of Isabel, the eldest legitimate daughter of Moctezuma II, who in her own tongue was called *Tecuichpotzin* but baptized Isabel by the Spanish Friars. Doña Isabel Moctezuma was married when a mere child to her cousin Cuauhtemoc, the nephew of Moctezuma. At a later date she married Alonso de Grado, a conquistador who came with Cortés . . . After Alonso de Grado's death she married again in succession, Don Pedro Gallego de Andrade and Juan Caño de Saavedra who survived her. If we are to believe the evidence of the conquistador Bernaldino Vázquez de Tapia taken at the *residencia* of Cortés in 1529, Isabel's daughter by Cortés was born five or six months after her marriage to Don Pedro Gallego. Doña Isabel Moctezuma's last testament was executed in Mexico, 11th July, 1550, and her death occurred almost immediately afterwards . . .

"Doña Leonor Cortés Moctezuma, a desirable lady of royal blood, married soon after her mother's death, one of the conquistadores of Zacatecas, Juan de Tolosa, who opened up the rich mines in that province. Leonor's daughter, Doña Isabel de Tolosa Cortés Moctezuma, married Juan de Oñate, the discoverer and governor of New Mexico." (pp. 37, 61-62.)—L.B.B.

Ensayos históricos hispanoamericanos. By Francis Borgia Steck, O.F.M. (Mexico; bajo el signo de "abside," 1940. 74 pp.; \$0.50.)

Father Steck of the Catholic University, in Washington, has thus issued three of his studies which it would be desirable to have available also in English. The first, on "Juan Pablos: the American Gutenberg," is of interest on the introducing of printing into America in 1539. The second discusses "The first fifty years of Spanish domination in Mexico (1522-1572)," and the third, "The Franciscan missionary colleges in Spanish America."

In the last of these, the author points out that the missionary work of the Franciscan Order was conducted during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries through religious "provinces." Such was the "Province of the Holy Gospel," known to students of New Mexico history. A "second era" of missionary work began in 1682 with the creating of the first missionary college,—that installed in the Franciscan convent in Querétaro. Four others were added in the viceroyalty of Mexico: Guatemala (1692), Zacatecas (1704), that of San Diego in Pachuca (1733), and that of San Fernando (1734) in Mexico City. It was by missionaries from Querétaro, Zacatecas, and "San Fernando" that Franciscan work was started in Texas, California, and Arizona.

In the United States, natives formerly under the care of missionary colleges of Mexico "are now in care of three Franciscan provinces, whose sees are in Cincinnati, Chicago, and Santa Bárbara After two and a half centuries, the Franciscan missionary colleges are today no more than a sacred memory." (p. 65) In other words, Father Steck might have said that, from the middle nineteenth century, a "third era" began with the change back from missionary operation through colleges to that through provinces. As he suggests, the function of a college or seminary was not exclusively missionary; that of a Franciscan province was.—
L. B. B.

The Historical Society of New Mexico
(INCORPORATED)

Organized December 26, 1859

PAST PRESIDENTS

- 1859 — COL. JOHN B. GRAYSON, U. S. A.
1861 — MAJ. JAMES L. DONALDSON, U. S. A.
1863 — HON. KIRBY BENEDICT
adjourned sine die, Sept. 23, 1863
re-established Dec. 27, 1880
1881 — HON. WILLIAM G. RITCH
1883 — HON. L. BRADFORD PRINCE
1923 — HON. FRANK W. CLANCY
1925 — COL. RALPH E. TWITCHELL
1926 — PAUL A. F. WALTER

OFFICERS FOR 1940-1941

- PAUL A. F. WALTER, *President*
JAMES F. HINKLE, *Vice-President*
MIGUEL A. OTERO, II, *Vice-President*
LANSING B. BLOOM, *Cor. Sec'y-Treas.*
MISS HESTER JONES, *Recording Secretary*

FELLOWS

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| PERCY M. BALDWIN | EDGAR L. HEWETT |
| RALPH P. BIEBER | FREDERICK W. HODGE |
| WILLIAM C. BINKLEY | ALFRED V. KIDDER |
| LANSING B. BLOOM | J. LLOYD MECHAM |
| HERBERT E. BOLTON | THEODOSIUS MEYER, O. F. M. |
| AURELIO M. ESPINOSA | FRANCE V. SCHOLLES |
| CHARLES W. HACKETT | ALFRED B. THOMAS |
| GEORGE P. HAMMOND | PAUL A. F. WALTER |

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF NEW MEXICO

(As amended Nov. 19, 1929)

Article 1. *Name.* This Society shall be called the Historical Society of New Mexico.

Article 2. *Objects and Operation.* The objects of the Society shall be, in general, the promotion of historical studies; and in particular, the discovery, collection, preservation, and publication of historical material, especially such as relates to New Mexico.

Article 3. *Membership.* The Society shall consist of Members, Fellows, Life Members and Honorary Life Members.

(a) *Members.* Persons recommended by the Executive Council and elected by the Society may become members.

(b) *Fellows.* Members who show, by published work, special aptitude for historical investigation may become Fellows. Immediately following the adoption of this Constitution, the Executive Council shall elect five Fellows, and the body thus created may thereafter elect additional Fellows on the nomination of the Executive Council. The number of Fellows shall never exceed twenty-five.

(c) *Life Members.* In addition to life members of the Historical Society of New Mexico at the date of the adoption hereof, such other benefactors of the Society as shall pay into its treasury at one time the sum of fifty dollars, or shall present to the Society an equivalent in books, manuscripts, portraits, or other acceptable material of an historic nature, may upon recommendation by the Executive Council and election by the Society, be classed as Life Members.

(d) *Honorary Life Members.* Persons who have rendered eminent service to New Mexico and others who have, by published work, contributed to the historical literature of New Mexico or the Southwest, may become Honorary Life Members upon being recommended by the Executive Council and elected by the Society.

Article 4. *Officers.* The elective officers of the Society shall be a president, two vice-presidents, a corresponding secretary and treasurer, and a recording secretary; and these five officers shall constitute the *Executive Council* with full administrative powers.

Officers shall qualify on January 1st following their election, and shall hold office for the term of two years and until their successors

Article 5. *Elections.* At the October meeting of each odd-numbered year, a nominating committee shall be named by the president of the Society and such committee shall make its report to the Society at the November meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor and the Society shall, in open meeting, proceed to elect its officers by ballot, those nominees receiving a majority of the votes cast for the respective offices to be declared elected.

Article 6. *Dues.* Dues shall be \$3.00 for each calendar year, and shall entitle members to receive bulletins as published and also the *Historical Review*.

Article 7. *Publications.* All publications of the Society and the selection and editing of matter for publication shall be under the direction and control of the Executive Council.

Article 8. *Meetings.* Monthly meetings of the Society shall be held at the rooms of the Society on the third Tuesday of each month at eight P. M. The Executive Council shall meet at any time upon call of the President or of three of its members.

Article 9. *Quorums.* Seven members of the Society and three members of the Executive Council, shall constitute quorums.

Article 10. *Amendments.* Amendments to this constitution shall become operative after being recommended by the Executive Council and approved by two-thirds of the members present and voting at any regular monthly meeting; provided, that notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given at a regular meeting of the Society, at least four weeks prior to the meeting when such proposed amendment is passed upon by the Society.

Students and friends of Southwestern History are cordially invited to become members. Applications should be addressed to the corresponding secretary, Lansing B. Bloom, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico.