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OF
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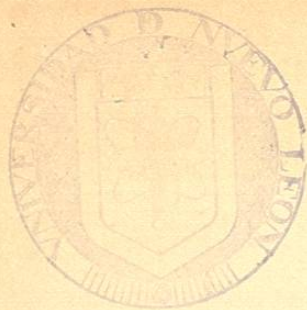




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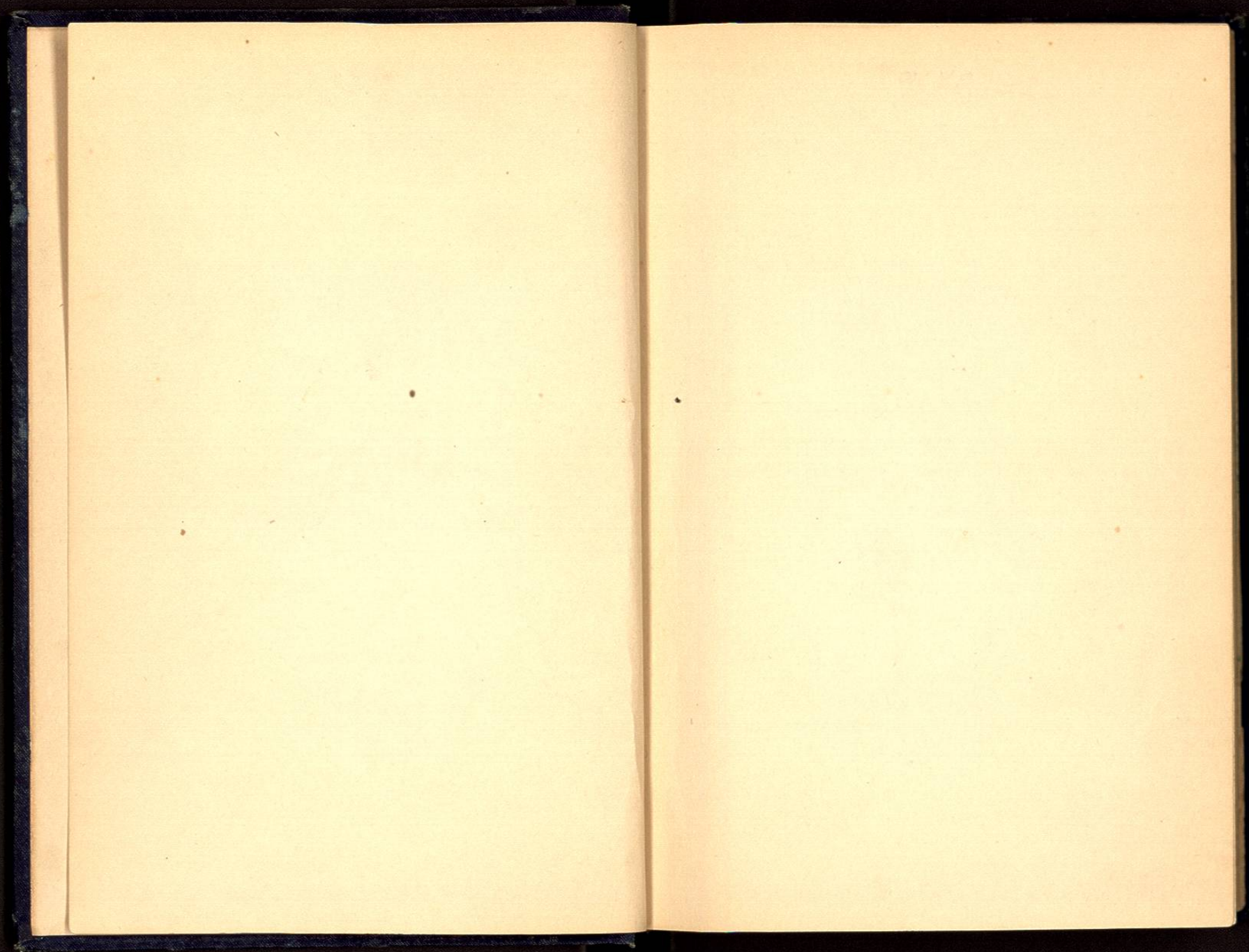


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"ALFONSO REYES"

Avdo. 1625 MONTERREY, MEXICO



A SHORT
HISTORY OF MEXICO

BY
ARTHUR HOWARD NOLL



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"ALFONSO REYES"

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PREFACE.

THE history of Mexico, subsequent to the conquest by the Spaniards early in the sixteenth century, is scarcely known outside of that country. General histories pass over the three centuries of Spanish rule, the long struggle for independence, the establishment of a short-lived empire followed by a nominal republic, and the rise and fall of a second empire, as subjects of but little interest, and without giving very accurate information regarding them. If any comprehensive history of Mexico exists in the English language, its name fails to appear in any of the long lists of books on Mexico which the present writer has diligently searched.

This brief history was prepared with the writer's own needs in view. Having accom-

plished what he had vainly hoped to find accomplished for him, he at first thought of offering his work to the tourists in Mexico to aid them in enjoying the sights of that country. This idea was abandoned after the manuscript was in the hands of the publishers, in deference to the opinions of others that the book would be beneficial to the public generally,—no less in need of such a history than the tourist.

The sources whence the information contained in the book is derived are so many and various that it would be a waste of space to enumerate them. The collation of material was made principally during a residence of eighteen months in the Mexican capital. It consists of Mexican books, large and small, new and old, as well as pamphlets and other documents in Spanish, relating to the different events hereafter related. The writer would acknowledge his especial indebtedness to two American authors: Mr. A. F. Bandelier, whose works on the ancient Mexicans are destined to modify all our notions about the

Aztec civilization; and Mr. Thomas A. Janvier, whose admirable Guide Book (edition of 1889) contains much local historical information by which many of the statements in this book have been verified.

A. H. N.

PORT GIBSON, MISSISSIPPI,
March, 1890.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

	PAGE
ABORIGINAL MEXICO. — THE DEVELOPMENT OF TENOCHTITLAN AND THE AZTEC CON- FEDERACY	13

CHAPTER II.

"THE CONQUEST OF MEXICO"	47
------------------------------------	----

CHAPTER III.

MILITARY GOVERNORS AND ECCLESIASTICS .	73
--	----

CHAPTER IV.

THE VICEROYS OF THE SIXTEENTH AND SEV- ENTEENTH CENTURIES, AND THE INQUI- SION	95
--	----

	PAGE
CHAPTER V.	
THE VICEROYS OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY	125
CHAPTER VI.	
THE LAST VICEROYS, AND THEIR STRUGGLES FOR INDEPENDENCE	142
CHAPTER VII.	
THE TREATY OF CÓRDOBA, THE REGENCY, THE EMPIRE, THE PODER EJECUTIVO, AND THE MONROE DOCTRINE	174
CHAPTER VIII.	
THE EARLY DAYS OF THE REPUBLIC, AND THE REVOLT OF TEXAS	188
CHAPTER IX.	
MORE PRESIDENTS, MORE REVOLUTIONS, AND THE WAR WITH THE UNITED STATES	217

	PAGE
CHAPTER X.	
STILL MORE PRESIDENTS, ANTI-PRESIDENTS, AND THE WAR OF "THE REFORM."	236
CHAPTER XI.	
THE FOREIGN INTERVENTION, THE FRENCH INVASION, AND THE RISE OF THE SECOND EMPIRE	254
CHAPTER XII.	
THE FALL OF THE SECOND EMPIRE, AND THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REPUBLIC	268
INDEX	
	289