

THE
UNITED STATES
AND MEXICO
1821 - 1848



G. LOCKHART

1

F1232
R62
v. 1



1020002342



103519

1913

George W. Cook

THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

1821—1848



THE UNITED STATES ✓
AND MEXICO

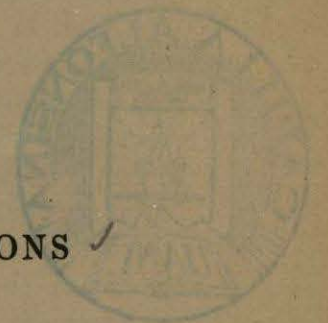
1821—1848

A HISTORY
OF THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES
FROM THE INDEPENDENCE OF MEXICO
TO THE CLOSE OF THE WAR
WITH THE UNITED STATES

BY
GEORGE LOCKHART RIVES ✓

VOLUME I ✓

NEW YORK ✓
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS ✓
1913



FONDO
FERNANDO DÍAZ RAMÍREZ

F1232

R62

V. 1

COPYRIGHT, 1913, BY
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

Published September, 1913



FONDO
FERNANDO DIAZ RAMIREZ



PREFACE

THE events which led up to the war between the United States and Mexico, with all its momentous consequences to both nations, have been very generally misapprehended. On the American side the war has been treated in histories of the United States as a mere episode in an all-embracing struggle over slavery, which it was not. Mexican historians have treated it as the unescapable result of American aggression in Texas, which it was not. But each of these views embodies a sort of half-truth, and it becomes therefore both difficult and important to disentangle the whole truth.

Until very recently a thorough study of the relations between the two countries from the time Mexican independence was achieved down to the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, was not possible.

In the first place, the mere fact of the existence of negro slavery in the United States imparted an element of intense bitterness into every discussion of the subject in this country. The North hated and dreaded the extension of slavery, and even before the Mexican War was over the fear that the newly acquired territories—New Mexico and California—might become slave states, gave rise to passionate debates which continued until the breaking out of the Civil War. Thereafter the prejudices and passions which were awakened or inflamed by four years of murderous warfare prevented an impartial view until the generation which had so effectually dealt with slavery had nearly passed away.

In the second place, no complete account could ever have been written without a knowledge of the diplomacy of those countries whose interests were chiefly affected; and it is only within a comparatively short time that the archives

of the United States, Mexico, Great Britain, and Texas have been thrown open freely for examination.

It has been my object to present a consecutive narrative of the events which culminated in war in 1846 and peace in 1848. In doing so it has seemed necessary to digress in various directions, as, for instance, in relating the French seizure of Vera Cruz and the controversy with Great Britain over Oregon. It also has seemed necessary to give the story of the Mexican War itself in some detail, although it has been far from my purpose to attempt the writing of a military history. That can hardly be well done by any but a professional soldier, and, moreover, the naval and military operations described in these pages—whether in the strife of Mexican revolutions, or in the contests between Mexico and Texas, or in the French bombardment of San Juan de Ulúa, or in the war between the United States and Mexico—were carried on with weapons and means of communication and transportation so completely obsolete at the present day, that it is doubtful whether a detailed study of such minor events could be of much real importance.

On the other hand, it is not doubtful that some lessons of extreme importance may be drawn from a study of our dealings with the nearest of our Latin-American neighbors. We have not always been fortunate in our conduct toward the other nations of this hemisphere, and our failures have, as I think, been chiefly due to our ignorance. We have not fully grasped the fundamental truth that our southern neighbors are of an utterly alien race, whose ideals and virtues and modes of thought and expression are so radically different from ours that we have lacked the sympathetic insight which comes only with perfect comprehension.

NEWPORT, R. I.,
June, 1913.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. THE FLORIDA TREATY	1
II. MEXICO ACHIEVES HER INDEPENDENCE	27
III. THE PEOPLE OF MEXICO	51
IV. THE PEOPLE OF MEXICO (CONTINUED)	77
V. THE NORTHERN FRONTIER OF MEXICO	103
VI. THE PERMANENT SETTLEMENT OF TEXAS	128
VII. MEXICAN POLITICS: 1824-1830	155
VIII. MEXICO RESOLVES TO TAKE ORDER WITH THE TEXANS	182
IX. SANTA ANNA IN CONTROL	205
X. PRESIDENT JACKSON'S OFFERS TO PURCHASE TEXAS	234
XI. TEXAS IN ARMS	262
XII. TEXAS STANDS BY THE CONSTITUTION	286
XIII. THE MEXICAN INVASION	311
XIV. SAN JACINTO	338
XV. AMERICAN SYMPATHY WITH TEXAS	362
XVI. TEXAS PROPOSES ANNEXATION	389
XVII. CLAIMS AGAINST MEXICO	417
XVIII. SANTA ANNA ONCE MORE	445
XIX. THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS	464

CHAPTER		PAGE
XX.	THE WHIGS AND MEXICO	495
XXI.	EFFORTS AT MEDIATION	525
XXII.	BRITISH PROPOSALS FOR ABOLISHING SLAVERY IN TEXAS	555
XXIII.	TYLER'S TREATY OF ANNEXATION	585
XXIV.	THE ELECTION OF POLK	618
XXV.	THE BANISHMENT OF SANTA ANNA	651
XXVI.	CONGRESS INVITES TEXAS TO ENTER THE UNION .	679
XXVII.	TEXAS ENTERS THE UNION	703

MAPS

	FACING PAGE
The Sabine River	10
The San Jacinto Campaign	346
The Kingdom of New Spain	<i>End of the Volume</i>