

The Independence of Spanish America, ISSN 0068-6689, 274 pages, 9780521626736, Cambridge University Press, 1998, 1998, Jaime E. Rodríguez, Jaime E. Rodríguez O., Jaime E. Rodríguez

Spain, Mexico, Argentina, Spanish America, Historiography, Independence, Public Opinion. Palabras clave: Iglesia católica. From limiting the scope of the book to the study of European Spain, Preaching Spanish Nationalism also includes a thorough analysis of similar problems in New Spain, a part of the Spanish Monarchy. This Atlantic approach allows the author to highlight both similarities and differences at two sides of the Spanish Empire. Few historians have made similar contributions. This concise, readable book makes a powerful contribution to scholarship on the Declaration of Independence. From a global perspective, it seems, the document's significance lies less in its second paragraph ("all men are created equal") than in its conclusion, where it declared independence. David Armitage's concise and penetrating book, *The Declaration of Independence*, exemplifies the potential strengths of a truly transnational approach to the writing of history...By looking beyond the borders of the USA, Armitage alters our perspective on the meaning of the Declaration...David Armitage has shed new light on some of the most important questions about the foundations of the modern world. The Americans were the first to revolt against the tyranny and selfish policies of imperial Britain. This roused hopes and aspirations among all nations seeking liberty and freedom. In the 17th century, France, Holland, Spain and England had established their respective colonies in North America. Britain recognised the independence of its 13 colonies, which merged to form the United States. The new nation, endowed with a vast stretch of land stretching from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi, soon became one of the greatest powers of the world. George Washington became the first President of the USA in 1789.