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978-1-107-04357-2 - The Spanish Atlantic World in the Eighteenth Century: War and the Bourbon Reforms, 1713–1796

Allan J. Kuethe and Kenneth J. Andrien

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The Spanish Atlantic World in the Eighteenth Century

This volume elucidates Bourbon colonial policy with emphasis on Madrid's efforts to reform and modernize its American holdings. Set in an Atlantic world context, the book highlights the interplay between Spain and America as the Spanish empire struggled for survival amid the fierce international competition that dominated the eighteenth century. The authors use extensive research in the repositories of Spain and America, as well as innovative consultation of the archives of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs to bring into focus the poorly understood reformist efforts of the early Bourbons, which laid the foundation for the better-known agenda of Charles III. As the book unfolds, the narrative puts flesh on the men and women who, for better or worse, influenced colonial governance. It is the story of power, ambition, and idealism at the highest levels.

An *académico correspondiente* of the Spanish Royal Academy of History and *acedémico correspondiente* of the Royal Academy of Buenas Letras of Seville, Allan J. Kuethe has published extensively on eighteenth-century Spain and America both in the United States and in Europe. His work began with monographs on military reform, then extended to commercial policy and, as expressed in the present volume, has advanced to a comprehensive overview of Bourbon Madrid's struggle to modernize and to sustain its vast holdings in the Western hemisphere. He is Paul Whitfield Horn Professor at Texas Tech University, to which he has dedicated his entire academic career.

Kenneth J. Andrien specializes in colonial Latin American history, focusing specifically on the Andean region from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries. Most recently he has broadened his focus to place the history of colonial Latin America within the context of the early modern Atlantic world. He is author of *Crisis and Decline: The Viceroyalty of Peru in the Seventeenth Century* (1985); *The Kingdom of Quito, 1690–1830: The State and Regional Development* (1996); and, most recently, *Andean Worlds: Indigenous History, Culture, and Consciousness Under Spanish Rule, 1532–1825* (2001). He has also published numerous articles in journals such as *Past and Present*, *Hispanic American Historical Review*, *Colonial Latin American Review*, and *Journal of Latin American Studies*. He is the Edmund J. and Louise W. Kahn Chair in History at Southern Methodist University.

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Contents

Introduction: War and Reform in Spain and Its Atlantic Empire	<i>page</i> 1
I. ALBERONI, PATIÑO, AND THE BEGINNINGS OF ATLANTIC REFORM, 1713–1736	
1. Alberoni and the First Stirrings of Reform, 1713–1721	31
2. Alberoni and Colonial Innovation	68
3. José Patiño and the Revival of Reform, 1726–1736	98
II. THE SECOND WAVE OF REFORM, 1736–1763	
4. War and Reform, 1736–1749	133
5. Clerical Reform and the Secularization of the <i>Doctrinas de Indios</i>	167
6. The Downfall of Ensenada and the Pause, 1750–1763	194
III. PINNACLE OF THE BOURBON REFORMS, 1763–1796	
7. The First Phase of Reform under Charles III, 1763–1767	231
8. The Reorganization of Spain's Atlantic Empire, 1767–1783	271
9. Adjustments and Refinements in the Reformist Agenda, 1783–1796	305
Conclusion: War and Reform in the Spanish Atlantic World	346
<i>Timeline for the Spanish Atlantic World in the Eighteenth Century</i>	357
<i>Bibliography</i>	361
<i>Index</i>	387
<i>Color plates section appears between pages 40 and 41.</i>	