

**SOUTH AMERICAN LIFE; AN
ACCOUNT OF PAST AND
CONTEMPORARY CONDITIONS
AND PROGRESS IN SOUTH
AMERICA**

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South American life; an account of past and contemporary conditions and progress in South America by Ethlyn T. Clough

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ETHLYN T. CLOUGH

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South American Life

AN ACCOUNT OF PAST AND CONTEMPORARY
CONDITIONS AND PROGRESS IN
SOUTH AMERICA

Edited and Arranged by
ETHLYN T. CLOUGH

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PREFACE

OUR apology for presenting this book is not that so little has been written about Latin America, but that so much literature on this wonderfully interesting country exists that it is practically impossible to get in concise form, and brief enough to be of use to a student, the important information necessary to an intelligent understanding of the subject.

Many books have been written about South America—some of them by enthusiastic tourists who may have stayed but a night in each of its fascinating old cities, and have filled in their impressions thus formed with information gathered second-hand from other books and marvelous tales. Other volumes have been written by conscientious investigators like the late William Elroy Curtis, who prepared for his newspaper and magazine articles so much informing and interesting material about the countries of Latin America, more purely descriptive, however, than the student cares for. And still other volumes have been written by authoritative and long-time residents, which, while they are all that can be desired in the information they afford, are usually on a single Republic, in which the writer happens to have spent his life; and to get a comprehensive knowledge of all the Latin American Republics, one would have to read many books.

It is the object, therefore, in compiling this little volume to gather together from this bewildering mass

of literature all that is best of the past and present of South America, and to give some idea of its importance in the history and progress of the Western Hemisphere.

We have thought of no better method in the arrangement of these chapters that we have gathered together, than to supplement, if this were possible, the excellent book furnished the students of this course by the Honorable Mr. Bryce; and to go with him down the Pacific Coast, around the Cape and up the Atlantic Coast, pushing somewhat into the interior and dwelling more in detail, than has the author of *South America*, on the history, geography, government, and manners and customs of the people, leaving the education, art, music, and literature of the country to be developed in the magazine articles that will portray on a broader canvas the Latin life of our sister continent.

Some of these chapters have been especially prepared for the book, while others have been gathered from reliable sources, and a key-letter at the end of each refers the reader to the last page of the book where due credit is given. Liberty has been taken to revise and correct the material to date, to eliminate unimportant matter, and to edit the whole in the interest of a smooth and harmonious fabric.

ETHLYN T. CLOUGH.

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South American Life

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

IT is a significant fact in the world's civilization that the entire Western Hemisphere consists of a group of republics, twenty-one in number, the most important, of course, being our own United States of North America, the remaining twenty forming what is generally known as Latin America. Eleven of these twenty are South American republics, and it is with them that we shall directly deal in this volume, *South American Life*.

Discovered almost at the same time as its southern sister, in the last decade of the fifteenth century, the northern continent has progressed in many ways divergent with the progress of the southern continent. In all that has been written of the two continents, only one reason has been given for the great development of the one, and the retardation, in many ways, of the other, and it is this: "North America was settled by men who came to the New World seeking liberty; South America was exploited by adventurers hunting for gold. Our colonists cleared land, planted fields, and established homes; when the time came to sepa-