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SOURCES AND STUDIES FOR THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS: VOLUME I

KINO WRITES TO THE DUCHESS

Letters of Eusebio Francisco Kino, S. J.,
to the Duchess of Aveiro

An Annotated English Translation,
and the Text of the Non-Spanish Documents
Edited by Ernest J. Burrus, S. J.

Jesuit Historical Institute
Via dei Penitenzieri 20, Rome (6), Italy
St. Louis University, St. Louis (3), Mo., USA

— 1965 —

IMPRIMI POTEST

Romae, die 27 novembris 1964

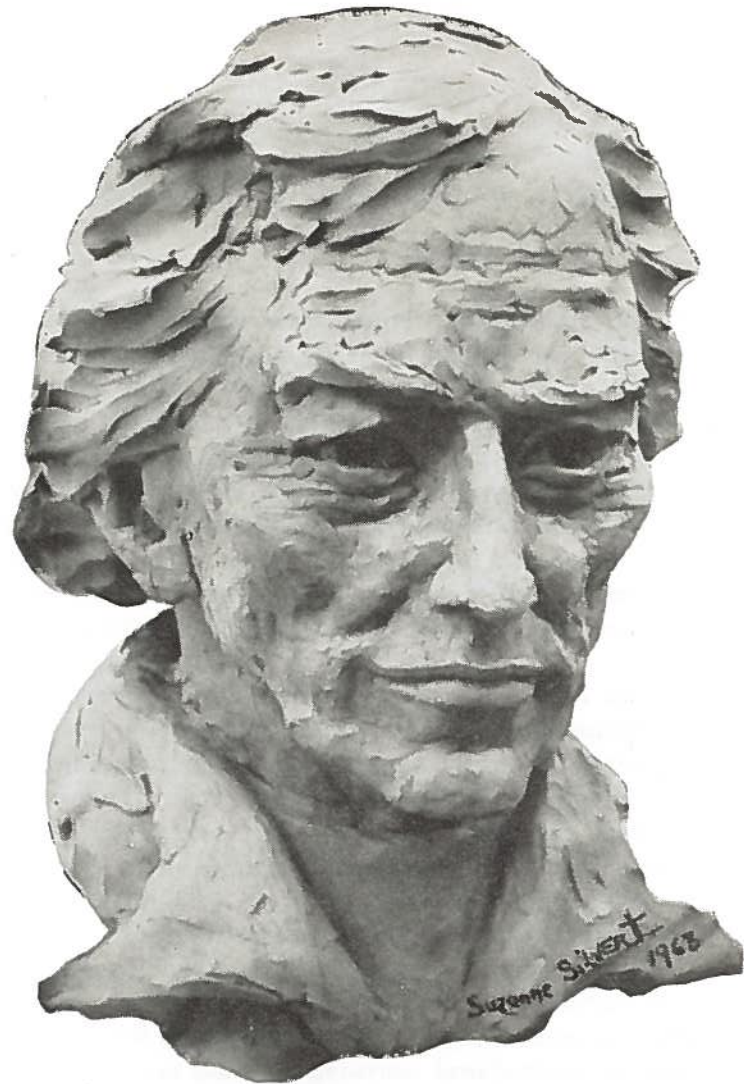
P. PAULUS DEZZA, S. J.
Delegatus Praep. Gen. S. J.

IMPRIMATUR

Verulis, die 20 decembris 1964

† JOSEPHUS MARAFINI
Episcopus Verulanus-Frusinatensis

To the memory of my devoted sister Lucy (b. El Paso, Texas, December 17, 1904): in Religion, Sister Louise, a Daughter of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul (d. Los Angeles, California, July 16, 1963).



1 — Model of the statue of Father Kino by Mrs. Susanne Silvercruys Stevenson, photographed by Mrs. Byron Ivancovich.

INTRODUCING A NEW SERIES

The title of a new series, Sources and Studies for the History of the Americas, indicates its scope and nature. The term Americas is taken in its widest connotation to include both continents of the New World and the regions once linked with it culturally and economically, such as the Philippines and the Marianas. The word Sources emphasizes the unpublished nature of the documents to be edited. The term Studies not only reminds the reader that an important aspect of the series is the editorial commentary and analysis accompanying the texts, but that some of the volumes will consist mainly of essays or studies with a minimum reproduction of verbatim source material.

The characteristic common to both groups in the series is the unpublished nature of the sources on which the authors and editors are to draw, and hence the reader will know that the greater part of the content of these volumes is appearing in English for the first time. A brief outline of the volumes ready for publication or in an advanced stage of preparation will make this clearer.

The first volume offers in translation the letters written by Father Kino to the Duchess of Aveiro and by others to her concerning the renowned missionary of northern Mexico and southern Arizona. In the general introduction some 200 letters of other correspondents are briefly summarized. The Portuguese Duchess residing in Madrid was the most generous benefactress in colonial times of the foreign missions throughout the world. At the decisive moment when the Patronato lands, Spain and Portugal, could no longer offer sufficient economic assistance to the missions of the Americas, Africa, the Philippines and the Marianas, and the Far East, the Duchess donated unprecedented sums to assure their foundation and continued maintenance. Her home in Madrid, with its staff of secretaries and copyists, was the clearing house and information

center of the world-wide missionary activity during nearly half a century (before 1670 to her death in 1715). Her generosity set an effective example to the founders of the Pious Fund of the Californias. No less important was her encouragement of the publication of significant scientific, historical, and literary books.

The second volume reproduces the complete Latin text with an English translation of the earliest extant university lectures in the New World. They were delivered in the school year of 1553-1554 in Mexico City by the Augustinian Alonso de la Vera Cruz, former pupil of Francisco de Vitoria of international-law fame, and intimate friend of Bartolomé de las Casas. These lectures are a sustained defense of the native Indians' twofold dominion: their right to self-government and their exclusive ownership of the land taken over by the Spaniards. Although the arguments used by Vera Cruz often resemble those set forth by his mentor, the treatise as a whole is very different, inasmuch as it was written and delivered in the light of the author's long experience among the Tarascan and Aztec natives.

The third volume contains some dozen studies and as many key documents on Kino and the Mexican savant, Sigüenza y Góngora, some of which appeared in various historical reviews, and the others to be published in this series for the first time.

The fourth lists a glossary of ecclesiastical terms of particular interest to the student of Latin American literature and history.

The fifth is the life and work of Miège, pioneer Jesuit bishop of the vast Indian territory east of the Rockies.

The sixth is devoted to a dictionary of Sonoran missions and missionaries.

The seventh recounts the history of the Jesuit missions in northwestern New Spain during the post-Kino period, 1711 to the expulsion of the Jesuits in 1767.

The eighth studies an outstanding colonial Mexican Jesuit historian, Clavigero.

Several volumes are devoted to calendaring manuscript and archival material pertinent to the more complete story of the Americas.

The repositories of the sources to be edited in this series are well-known manuscript collections (in archives and libraries) and private collections (of individuals and institutions), principally in Europe, the United States, and Latin America.

Readers most interested in this new series will be students of the literature and history of the Americas, especially of colonial Latin America.

Sources and Studies for the History of the Americas is being edited by the American Division at Saint Louis University, of the Roman Jesuit Historical Institute, in the conviction that untapped materials can best enrich our knowledge of American history and culture.

It is hoped that the American Division can soon announce publication of analogous volumes on other areas, especially Europe and the Far East.

Saint Louis and Rome, October 12, 1965.

Ernest J. Burrus, S. J.