



LATIN AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE: NINETEENTH CENTURY POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL PAMPHLETS

From the British Library, London

Editors: Dr Charles Jones, Director, Centre of Latin American Studies, University of Cambridge and Geoff West, Hispanic Section, the British Library

In 1968, the British Library's Department of Printed Books acquired at auction a collection of 534 Latin American pamphlets and broadsides — the majority of which were printed in the 19th century. Of these, many date from the early years of independence and were published in the River Plate Region.

The greater part of *Latin American Independence: Nineteenth Century Political and Official Pamphlets* was formed by the Argentinean writer Luis López Domínguez (1810-98). He was a political journalist and historian, and like many Latin American intellectuals he served also as a politician and ambassador. Other pamphlets in the collection belonged to the Argentinean Lorenzo López († 1833), also a deputy for Buenos Aires.

The majority of the documents found in this remarkable collection concern politics or are official publications. Famous names recur throughout: Bartolomé Mitre, Manuel Dorrego, Juan Manuel de Rosas, Esteban Echeverría, Domingo Sarmiento. Some of the earliest items were printed at the famous press of the Niños Expósitos (founded to finance a foundling home in Buenos Aires). In fact, one dates from 1784, some five years after its establishment, while others from 1787, 1799 and 1807. The press became part of the *Imprenta del Estado* in 1825.

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