
Documents 1635

Arrival of Governor Corcuera in 1635

A note from the Augustinian History

Sources: Fr. Casimiro Díaz' second part of the Augustinian History entitled: Conquistas (see Bibliography, 1602-1694), pp. 323-343; translated in B&R 25:152-159.

Chapter XV ... Arrival of the governor, Don Sebastián Hurtado de Corcuera, and the religious who came in his company.

...
Two galleons arrived at Cavite on St. John's Day [24 June 1635], which were returning from New Spain with the reinforcements for these islands. The flagship of those vessels was called **Nuestra Señora de la Concepción**, and the *almiranta* **San Luis**. They brought the new governor and a company of religious of our order, and also some of St. Dominic, among them Father Fray Diego Collado. On 27 July Father Fray Diego de Ordáx entered the convent of Manila with his mission band, which was composed of 25 religious who have been very useful to this province.

That same year came also Governor Don Sebastián Hurtado de Corcuera, knight of the Order of Alcantara, and member of the Council of War in the states of Flanders, where he had served many years with great credit, being one of the most renowned captains at the siege of Breda. He had afterward been Master-of-camp of the port of Callao in Peru, and Captain-General of the cavalry of that kingdom, and lastly Governor of Panama. He brought a great reinforcement of soldiers, many of them from Peru, as he made his voyage to Acapulco from that kingdom. He was a gentleman of great valor, and one prone to undertake rash enterprises. However, he did not have much good fortune in the outcome of these, either in war or in politics, for all had a disastrous end. The reason of this is hidden, with the Divine plans; but, as the reader will see in the events that I shall soon write, it will appear that the beginnings of his government, fatal for these islands, could not have less unfortunate progress, the effects lasting until the

present time.¹ Don Sebastián Hurtado de Corcuera took possession of this government on 25 June of the above year.

A note from the Dominican History

Part 2, Book 1 of Fr. Baltasar de Santa Cruz' History of the province of Santissimo Rosario, pp. 1-23; translated in B&R 35:26.

Chapter 1. Of the condition of the province in the year 1637, which is the first year of its History.

...
... On St. John's Day [1635] arrived two ships from New Spain, the **Concepción**, and **San Luis** with the subsidy. In them came to govern these islands, Don Sebastián Hurtado de Corcuera, knight of the Order of Alcantara; the new governor brought much aid, and many soldiers from Peru; for he had made his voyage by way of those kingdoms. A band of 22 religious came to our province, under the vicarship of Father Fray Diego Collado.

1 Ed. note: Written in the 1730s.