

Kohl included, in addition to the historical account, a general map illustrating it, a collection of maps showing the range and limits appertaining to each discoverer and explorer, a list of names of bays, capes, harbors, etc., with critical remarks and a catalogue of books, maps, manuscripts, etc., relative to discoveries.

⁴ In so satisfactory a manner was this work performed for the Pacific coast, that Dr. Kohl was asked to undertake a similar work for the coast of the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico. Upon its completion, the entire work was deposited for reference in the archives of the survey. Means for its publication as a whole not having been available, it has now been deemed advisable to publish the historical portion. To each memoir is appended a list of the collection of maps. Some of these maps are copied from originals, others from old manuscripts or rare prints, and those of more modern origin are of interest as links in the chain of historical connection." The paper of Kohl which follows is divided into three parts: I, the Atlantic coast; II, the Gulf of Mexico; III, the Pacific coast.

If these "historical accounts" had been published at the time, thirty years ago, they would have shown the best results in this line of research then produced. At the present date Kohl's views are in large part antiquated, and his knowledge is in important particulars insufficient or erroneous. The publication of the papers uncorrected and unexplained is, accordingly, an injury to his memory, and of little use to the student, except as indicating the condition of knowledge at that time. Kohl, before he died, and in the light of his increasing knowledge, spoke disparagingly of the work he did at that time.