

JUAN DE VELASCO

Priest and historian
(Ecuador, 1727-1792)



GALLERY
of HISTORIANS
and GEOGRAPHERS of
AMERICA

He is considered as the “father of humanities and writing” of Ecuador. He covered practically the whole surface of the territory of Quito with the aim of recording wildlife, nature and the traditions of the people there. Like all the Jesuits of his time, he was expelled in 1767 from Spanish territories and went into exile in Faenza, Italy, the place where he wrote his History of the Kingdom of Quito in southern America. This text and work, which in a way similar to the History of old Mexico by Francisco Javier Clavijero, covered in one work geographic, social and historic aspects making up as a whole the “Ecuadorian fatherland”. Unfortunately, the priest never saw his whole work published.

Wrote: *Historia del Reino de Quito en la
América Meridional*, 1788.