



LIVING IN 19TH-
CENTURY LATIN
AMERICA

Demographics

- Racially diverse
- Due to violence, slowing of pop. growth
 - Slowing of economies . . .
 - Much more growth after 1850



Living on Large Estates

■ “Haciendas”

- Workers give labor in exchange for protection
- Clear hierarchy

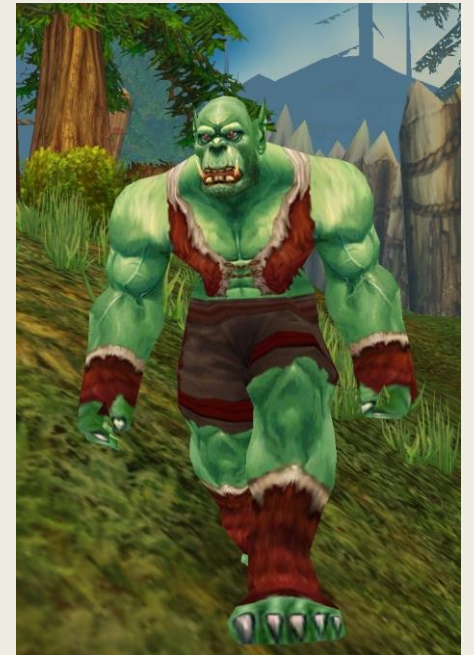
■ Employees: permanent & temporary

- Sharecroppers, tenants, “peons” (debt peonage)
- Day laborers

■ Typical day?

■ “Estancias” & cowboys

- Earned wages, depended on skill level



Living on Large Estates

■ Lives of women

- Upper classes & needlework
- Poor/common women

■ Living on plantations

- 2/3 of Brazilian slaves worked in agriculture





Slave on a coffee plantation near São Paulo, 1882

Living on Large Estates

■ Lives of women

- Upper classes & needlework
- Poor/common women

■ Living on plantations

- 2/3 of Brazilian slaves worked in agriculture
- Brutal
- Life expectancy = 23-27 years
 - Abysmal infant mortality rates
- Difficult environment (climate, disease, lack of hygiene/medicine)
- 1850 = imports of slaves to Brazil ended
- Typical day?
- Resistance?

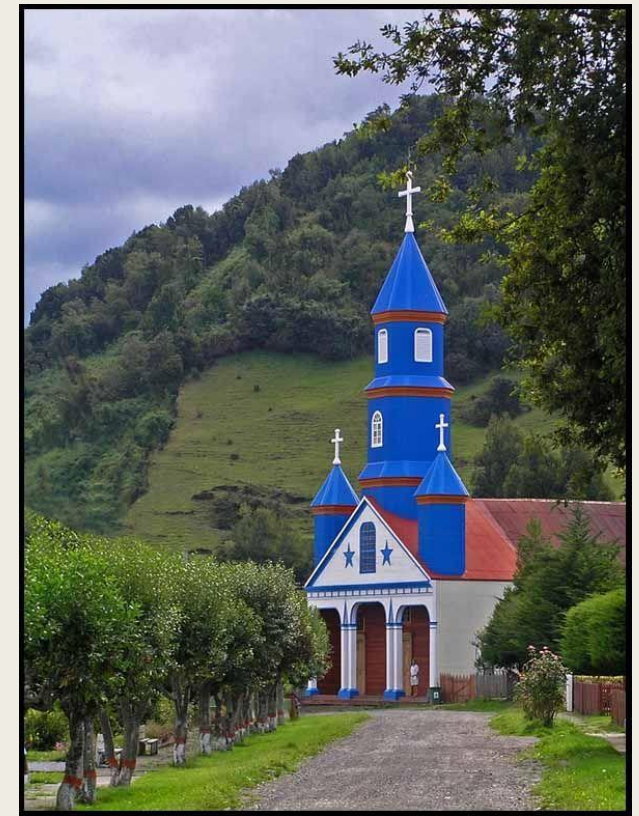


Living in Villages

- Villagers were, largely, Native
 - Reliance on, and clashes with, haciendas
- Living in the countryside . . .
 - Social stratification
 - Gendered
- Protective of political autonomy
 - Opposed taxation, incursions into their land, forced military service
- Two worlds:
 - Indigenous farming practices
 - Modern life

Living in Villages

- Families farmed together
 - Reliance on rain
 - Reliance on “slash-and-burn” methods
- Importance of religion
 - Every village had a chapel
 - Social life revolved around religion
 - Very few priests = lots of pre-Christian beliefs



Living in Cities

- Living in Latin American cities, a lot like European cities: huge, overcrowded, unsanitary, dangerous
- Mexico City
 - Demographics: largest city in western hemisphere
 - Lots of flooding, not enough water
 - Rampant disease
 - Stratified social classes
 - 57-59% of pop. = women
 - 25% worked
 - Less than 50% married, at any given time
 - Domestic violence, rape = common



Everyday Culture

■ Food

- Very regional
- Based on class



■ Clothing

- Based on class



■ Housing

- Based on class

■ Entertainment

- Church mass = rituals, music
- Religious festivals (Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Day of the Dead)
- Drinking = pulque
- Gambling = cockfighting, bullfighting

