It was something of an embarrassment to the founding generation of the United States that freedom had been won with the aid of English America's two arch enemies, France and Spain. The Spanish Empire in America was clearly at odds with the revolutionary cause. Not only had it stood as a traditional enemy, but it adhered tightly to monarchy and Roman Catholicism – which together amounted to probably the worst evil an
American Patriot could imagine, second only (at the moment) to British tyranny. The Spanish American campaign 1783 did not at all reflect a shared democratic political identity or solidarity with the English American rebels. Ever campaign in the Southeast is a quintessential American story. This essay argues that new Enlightenment ideas ab within the Spanish imperial system and did not necessarily entail American independence, that the American env social cooperation between diverse peoples, and finally that Galvez was successful in Louisiana precisely because of governance such as transparence and tolerance.

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Most cited this month

- **The Meaning of Kaswentha and the Two Row Wampum Belt in Haudenosaunee**
  - Can Indigenous Oral Tradition be Reconciled with the Documentary Record?
  - Author: Jon Parmenter

- **Mohawk Reinvention of the Fort Orange and Albany Courthouses, 1652-77**
  - Author: Holly A. Rine

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