

THE SWORD OF LUCHANA

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The Sword of Luchana

*Baldomero Espartero and the Making of
Modern Spain, 1793–1879*

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To my Jacinta

In civil wars, there is neither glory for the victors nor deprecation for the vanquished. Remember that when peace is reborn, everything is mixed together and the story of suffering and defeat, of triumphs and conquests will be seen as the shared patrimony of those who earlier fought on opposite sides.

– Baldomero Espartero, 1837

Neither surrender nor embraces of Vergara ... nor anything other than total and definitive victory.

– Emilio Mola, 1936

The nineteenth century, which we would have desired to erase from our history, is the negation of the Spanish spirit.

– Francisco Franco, 1950