

it is the European symbiosis with native art that gives the works their individuality and spiritual richness, demonstrating that Alaska is an important point on the world art-historical map. (Neil Kent, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER.)

BRIEF REVIEWS

GLACIERS. Michael Hambrey and Jürg Alean. 1994. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 208 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 0-521-46787-X. £12.95; US\$15.95.

This is a paperback edition of the authoritative yet understandable ode to glaciers that was first published in hard cover in 1992. Stunningly illustrated and vividly written, it will educate those who have had little experience of glaciers, and will excite even those who know them well. The original edition was reviewed in this journal in 1993 (*Polar Record* 29 (169): 152).

THE OXFORD BOOK OF EXPLORATION. Robin Hanbury-Tenison (Editor). 1993. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press. xii + 530 p, hard cover. ISBN 0-19-214208-9. £17.95.

This is an anthology of travel writings, taken from the accounts of many of the great explorers of recorded history — as well as of some others who can only at best be classified as travellers. Divided geographically, it has extensive sections on Asia, Africa, the Americas, and the Pacific. At first glance, it appears that the polar regions, and the Arctic in particular, have not received their due, but a great part of the exploration of the Canadian Arctic, particularly the Royal Navy voyages of the first half of the nineteenth century, is listed under North America, rather than the Arctic.

One goal of the extracts selected is 'to reveal something about the explorer' (page xi), and 'to give a flavour of the emotions and motives of those who took part in the major events of exploration.' While it is questionable whether, what with taking the extracts out of context, this book fulfils these objectives — or, indeed, whether any such anthology could expect to do so — the editor *has* carefully selected a broad range of sources and explorers, who definitely encountered widely different experiences on their individual trips.

Although the book makes enjoyable reading in general, there is one significant complaint on which comment must be passed. In the acknowledgements the editor comments: 'It is thanks to the initiative of the Royal Geographical Society that most of the greatest expeditions of the last 163 years have taken place' (page vii). This statement is grossly false and seriously misleading. The great Scandinavian explorers of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries — Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld, Fridtjof Nansen, Otto Sverdrup, and Roald Amundsen — initiated their own expeditions (and particularly their early expeditions) without depending on the RGS. Henry Morton Stanley's expedition to find David Livingstone was initiated and

sponsored by James Gordon Bennett of *The New York Herald*, and Stanley's great trans-Africa expedition was co-sponsored by Bennett and *The Daily Telegraph*. Indeed, he was subsequently viciously attacked in print by members of the Royal Geographical Society, including the president, Sir Henry Rawlinson. And a host of Americans who made assaults on one or the other pole (or, in some cases, both) — including Walter Wellman, Robert E. Peary, Frederick Cook, Richard E. Byrd, and Lincoln Ellsworth — certainly did not need the RGS to initiate their polar obsessions.

HISTORICAL ATLAS OF CANADA. VOLUME II: THE LAND TRANSFORMED, 1800–1891. R. Lewis Gentilcore (Editor). 1993. Toronto, Buffalo, and London: University of Toronto Press. 184 p, illustrated, hard cover. ISBN 0-8020-3447-0. £62.00; Can\$95.00.

With volumes I and III appearing in 1987 and 1990, respectively, publication of volume II marks the completion of this prestigious project. As in previous volumes, space is allocated to northern Canada more in proportion to population than to geographical extent, with most maps and tabulated information focused firmly on the south. A polar readership is likely to find most interest in the two contributions of Richard I. Ruggles, depicting exploration to mid-century (plate 2) and exploration and assessment to 1891 (plate 3), although plates 17 and 19, representing the fur trade, should also be noted. The volume is handsomely presented and lists sources in some detail, making it a useful rather than essential addition to any polar library. However, collectors of Canadiana will rightly regard it as essential.

DIRECTORY OF CIRCUMPOLAR RESEARCH STATIONS. Peter Adams, Charles Slaughter, and Steven Bigras. 1994. Ottawa: Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. vi + 183 p, soft cover.

As the most comprehensive listing to date of Arctic research stations — although described as a 'working document' designed to be expanded, revised, and refined as further information becomes available — this directory already appears sufficiently comprehensive to offer a much-needed resource of significant utility. To qualify for inclusion a field station is defined as 'a base for field research which has accommodations for visiting researchers and/or students.' Entries are arranged by country/region. Five stations are recorded for Alaska, 37 for Canada (plus 14 other facilities), 16 for Finland, 8 for Greenland/Denmark, 4 for Iceland, 9 for Norway/Svalbard, 51 for Russia (plus 18 other facilities), and 3 for Sweden. Each entry records station name, location, affiliation, contact, mandate, station information, habitat/environmental setting, publications, recent projects/current research, and availability/restrictions. The directory will be particularly welcomed for its inclusion of many Russian stations about which little or nothing has previously been published.