BOOK REVIEWS


The reader will find this one of the most valuable of the series of Pioneer Histories, edited by Drs. Harlow and Williamson. It contains a complete and vigorously written account of the explorations of Spanish, Dutch, French, and English navigators down to the end of the 18th century. The heroic and often desperate exploits of Magellan, Mendaña, Quiros, Tasman, Dampier, Byron, Bougainville, and Cook are described in detail. In the description of the three voyages of the last named the writer grows enthusiastic. With much justice he esteems Captain Cook as the master of all Pacific navigators, though it should be remembered that the famous Englishman built on a great fund of knowledge and experience accumulated by his predecessors. Yet even in the full account given of Cook's voyage there is room for some supplementary material to be derived from the Hawaiian standpoint. Dr. Beaglehole, in his preface, disclaims intention of using such material, but he might have gone so far as to correct the nomenclature of Cook by our present knowledge, e.g., by identifying the high-priest whom Cook calls Kooa as Kau, and the leading chief whom he calls Taraiopu as Kalaniopuu.

It is not exactly clear why the author concludes his account of Pacific exploration with Cook. Vancouver, who certainly accomplished great things, gets only a few lines of mention. Possibly the story in the main is deliberately limited to the exploration of the south Pacific and the search for Terra Australis Incognita, so leaving room for another volume in the series. Naturally Americans, particularly those of the Northwest, would have appreciated a reference to the discovery of the mouth of the Columbia, the only deep-water harbor between San Francisco and Cape Flattery, by Captain Gray. At the other end of the story, too, one would have expected an account of that memorable voyage of the Dutch "fleece of five saile" across the Pacific which carried the Liefde and Will Adams, the Pilot, to Japan in 1600.

To complaints of this sort, however, the natural answer is that a volume of 400 pages cannot include everything. We should certainly be grateful for the book as it is.

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