

and to include a bibliography. The author may have felt that documentation would alienate some readers. A reasonable number of footnotes and a bibliography would, however, have enabled general readers to find out more about some of the events and peoples tantalizingly sketched in the book, and saved scholars intense frustration. Careful editing, incidentally, would have removed a considerable number of vagaries of punctuation, a mild frustration for the pettish.

Strangers Entertained is readable and instructive. Its author terms it a preliminary report; the measure of its success will be the number and quality of the works that it inspires. It is to be hoped that by this measure it will succeed brilliantly.

Glendon College, York University

JEAN BURNET

The Canadian Indian: a History Since 1500, by E. Palmer Patterson II.
Don Mills, Collier-Macmillan Canada, Ltd., 1972. Pp. 210, illus.,
maps. \$3.00.

In contrast to other former British settlement colonies the study of relations between European settlers and the indigenous people has not been an important aspect of Canadian historical writing. It is an area in which much of the basic research has yet to be done. It is therefore surprising, even given the Canadian penchant for survey history, that we are now confronted with a general history of the Canadian Indian. An attempt to deal with the history of the Canadian Indian since 1500 in less than 180 pages of text at this stage in the development of the field could be called courageous; or, perhaps, presumptuous.

Patterson's book is divided into two sections. In the first he advances some theoretical proposals and the second is a narrative of the history of the Indian in Canada. In part one it is argued that comparative study of the Canadian Indian and other races in colonial situations would produce useful results. Some of the problems of comparative history are also inadvertently revealed. If valid conclusions are to be reached a reasonable knowledge of both sides of a comparison is required, and in this regard Patterson's description of Harold Miller (whom he misquotes in the New Zealand context) as an "authority" does little to inspire confidence. The examples that are used from other colonies tend to be rather eclectic. There is clearly a difference between the nature of culture contact in

settlement colonies and in colonies of exploitation, and this distinction would have added coherence to the first section, particularly as Canada fitted both categories at different times in her history. It is also curious that the idea of colonial parallels which is advanced so earnestly in the first section is largely ignored in the second. The author concludes the first section by delineating four phases through which the Indians of Canada have passed since 1500, and this framework forms the basis of his account in the second section.

In spite of the constantly reiterated rhetoric about "putting the Indian at the centre of his own history" Patterson's second section is essentially an account of Indian-European relations. This approach is possibly the most valid for the historian since he relies largely on written, and therefore European, sources. But the danger of the approach is that it results in history in which Indians do not act, they only react. That is, Indian motivation is constantly seen in terms of what the European is doing to him, and not in terms of the impulses and priorities of Indian society. It is this more subtle form of ethnocentrism, not simply the elimination of negative and derogatory terms which Patterson emphasizes (on page 182), that needs to be overcome by historians of acculturation. I am not convinced that in this book the author has achieved such detachment from European norms. Although he deplors the tendency of Canadian historians to see the Indians only as adjuncts to European activities, his own book remains essentially an account of Indian responses to the European stimulus.

British Columbia is dealt with largely in the final chapter, but it contains little that will be new to anyone familiar with the Indian history of the province. The author places considerable emphasis on the development of Indian protest, a subject that he is well qualified to discuss by virtue of his Ph.D. thesis at the University of Washington on Andrew Paull. However, the heavy reliance on secondary sources in other parts of the chapter means that some old errors are repeated, such as the assertion (after H. G. Barnett) that the Coast Salish were little touched by European contact until the middle of the nineteenth century. Some new mistakes are also made, for example the claim that the Nootka were the first group of Indians that Juan Perez made contact with in 1774. Faults such as these tend to reinforce the view that adequate general histories in the field will have to wait until more detailed monographs have been produced.

The overall impression conveyed by the book is that it was written and published in a great hurry. The first two chapters seem to exist in isola-

tion from the rest of the book. I suspect that the first at least was a paper that was originally written in a different context and thrown into the book for good measure; the suspicion is strengthened by the fact that on page 10 it is described as "this paper." The numerous lengthy quotations from secondary sources inevitably leave the impression that the author has not completely digested his material. The technical craftsmanship is rather rough. For instance on pages 120 to 121 there are four reasonably long quotations from a report by the Aborigines Protection Society on the Indians of Upper Canada published in 1839. None of the extracts is free of mistakes of transcription, the work is cited differently in the footnote than in the bibliography, and neither of the citations is correct. Nor is this an atypical example. Of the quotations checked by the reviewer an alarming percentage contained more errors than can be excused on the grounds of faulty proof reading. The ideas do not follow one another very coherently, and the book is in places badly written. The publisher even manages to disprove the maxim that you cannot judge a book by its cover.

This book is to be welcomed if it indicates that the Indians of Canada are to receive more attention from historians. Although much of the material here can easily be found in more accurate original versions, the author does provide a service by collecting a considerable amount of information on the Canadian Indian in one place. But surely we are entitled to ask more than this from an historian.

University of British Columbia

ROBIN FISHER

Dictionary of Canadian Biography, Volume X, 1871-1880, edited by Marc La Terreur. University of Toronto Press, 1972. P. xxix, 823. \$20.00.

The most recently published volume of the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography* will do nothing to marr the reputation won for the dictionary by the two earlier volumes, for it displays the same meticulous research and literary excellence that have already established this enterprise as a tribute to Canadian scholarship and publishing. It is also a memorial to the imagination and public spirit of James Nicholson, the Toronto manufacturer of bird seed who, at his death in 1952, left the bulk of his substantial estate to the University of Toronto for the founding of a diction-