

quently made rowing the boats acutely uncomfortable as well as laborious, but Vancouver and his officers time and again praised the way in which the seamen performed their tasks. Nor did they find any consolation in the scenery that tourists now flock to see. They preferred their landscapes neat and tidy and found the coast for the most part desolate and dreary. Vancouver named his first important anchorage north of Burrard Inlet Desolation Sound.

The illustrations are outstanding and supplement the text in a striking way. Thanks to a generous benefactor, Gary Fiegehen was able to roam the coast (at times presumably by helicopter) and photograph in colour some thirty of the features that figure in Vancouver's own narrative. Neither a man nor a man-made object appears in them, and they make apparent, in a highly dramatic way, the ruggedness of the coast that the expedition explored. The wonder is not that *Discovery* and *Chatham* grounded and bumped occasionally; sailing in waters that were at best charted only in a rudimentary way or not at all, it is a wonder that they survived the survey. Ironically, their most dangerous moment seems to have come when the great survey had been completed and they were leaving the anchorage Vancouver had named Port Conclusion, bound for Nootka Sound and thence for England. They had progressed only a few miles when the wind dropped and they nearly came to grief on the rocks near Cape Ommaney: at the last minute a gentle breeze sprang up and blew them offshore. So narrowly did Vancouver and his shipmates — and his charts — escape destruction.

The photographs are supplemented by a selection of the engravings that appeared in the folio volume that accompanied the first edition of Vancouver's *Voyage*, and by sketches by midshipmen-artists, many of which have not been published before. Supplementing these again are reproductions of sections of Vancouver's charts, all placed near the portions of the text to which they relate. Throughout, the quality of the reproductions is outstanding.

Vancouver

W. KAYE LAMB

The Northwest Coast: British Navigation, Trade, and Discoveries to 1812, by Barry M. Gough. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1992. xiv, 266 pp. Maps, illus. \$39.95 cloth.

Traditionally, histories of the early Pacific coast of North America centred upon Spanish exploration and colonization, with some attention to

Russian entries and relatively little discussion of British presence prior to 1790. Spanish voyages deservedly occupy the operative role from the mid-sixteenth to nineteenth centuries, but Russian activity has been over-emphasized while that of England has been inadequately interpreted. Pioneering studies by Bancroft and Wagner, and the valuable *Flood Tide of Empire* (1973) by Warren L. Cook relegated Britain to somewhat passive mention, thus stimulating Barry M. Gough to produce his excellent narrative demonstrating her strategic position in *Distant Dominion: Britain and the Northwest Coast of North America 1579-1809* (1980).

During the past twelve years, Professor Gough has continued to write the maritime history of western Canada, and has become its leading authority. As would be expected, his continued research has resulted in uncovering of new material relative to his earlier study, necessitating substantial revisions and additions, and the publication of this new title, replacing *Distant Dominion*.

In opening chapters, Professor Gough traces Spanish and Portuguese interest in the Pacific in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, Russian advances into Siberia in the final quarter of the seventeenth century, and the enormous problems of reaching the Pacific Northwest by sea — a lack of geographic knowledge, remoteness, harsh weather, diet, provisioning, disease, and ship design. English competition with Spain, encroachment upon her claims in North America, search for a water passage between the North Atlantic and Pacific, and development of British imperial policy in the region through the voyages of Drake (1579), Gilbert (1583), Cavendish (1587), and Shelvocke, Rogers, Dampier, and Anson in the early eighteenth century are treated as actors on this stage, and Russian claims by Bering and Chirikov in 1727-1741 giving greater impetus for the search for a strait as promoted by the obsessive Arthur Dobbs are covered, as are failures of Middleton in 1742, the fictitious Bartolomé Fonte, and the generous £20,000 offered by Parliament for successful discovery. The rise of scientific interest in exploration and expansion supported by the Royal Society, Daines Barrington, and discoveries by Russians and Samuel Hearne brought the extraordinary James Cook, with such officers as Vancouver, Portlock, Dixon, and Billings, into the Northwest in 1776, and led to chance discovery of Nootka Sound in March of the following year with claims of possession made two centuries earlier.

Development of the British Pacific Northwest following Cook's epic voyage is the subject of the remaining eight chapters. Following general discussion of trade factors and the value of sea otter pelts, the opening of

commerce in these furs between Nootka and China by James Hanna in 1785, Nathaniel Portlock and George Dixon in 1786, and the expansive rivalry of Strange, Barkley, Meares, Colnett, and Duncan is treated, as is exploration realized by these merchant-navigators. John Meares' establishment at Nootka in 1788, his primacy over United States entry by Robert Gray and John Kendrick, and plans for definitive expansion related to settlement of Botany Bay in the same year are discussed in light of Spanish claims in the Northwest by Juan Pérez (1774), Bruno de Hezeta and Juan Francisco de la Bodega y Quadra (1775), Ignacio Arteaga (1779), and Esteban José Martínez (1788), which led to the latter's tardy fortification of Nootka in 1789.

Within the broad concept of freedom of the seas and British dominance of maritime trade, detention of English ships and the arrest of Colnett by Martínez in 1789 were intolerable and led to heavy pressure upon Spain, weakened by collapse of the French monarchy. Unable to present a forceful response, Spain agreed to the Nootka Sound Convention of 1790, which opened the area to free trade and created a transcontinental Canada. Effecting the terms of the Convention, in 1791-92 Vancouver explored the Pacific coast north to Alaska and, with Valdés and Alcalá Galiano of the *Sutil* and *Mexicana*, confirmed the absence of an interoceanic strait in temperate waters and circumnavigated the island which would bear his name. Mutual abandonment of Nootka by Spain and Britain in 1795 ended active Spanish presence north of California, formally terminated in 1819 by the Transcontinental Treaty.

As British claims to the north Pacific coast became more secure in the later eighteenth century, exploration westward into Athabaskan waterways and Great Slave Lake by Hudson's Bay Company and explorers Peter Pond (1775-1788) and Alexander Mackenzie (1789) and establishment of St. James and other forts on the Pacific watershed from 1806 to 1814 in response to the Lewis and Clark expedition of 1804-05 and Astorian venture of 1810 assured transcontinental possession in Canada. As Professor Gough concludes, Britain's tide of empire was rising, trade became dominion, and the modern perimeters of Canada were established by 1821 when the Hudson's Bay and Northwest companies merged.

Extensive endnotes and an exhaustive bibliography of printed and manuscript sources from British, Canadian, and U.S. archives and libraries reflect the thoroughness of the author's research and support his well-written narrative. Two maps orient the reader geographically, fifteen plates of contemporary engravings and maps, and an analytical index enhance

a nicely designed and printed volume. This is an important work, indispensable to any collection of Canadiana, British Columbiana, or Pacific Northwest history.

University of San Francisco

W. MICHAEL MATHES

Canada and Japan in the Twentieth Century, edited by John Schultz and Kimitada Miwa. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1991. xii, 262 pp. Illus. \$14.95 paper.

Canada and Japan, while they may appear initially to be very distinct and different sorts of nations, exhibit a number of intriguing complementarities. Japan is densely populated; Canada is filled with empty spaces. Canada is a young country; Japan has a long history. Japan is heavily industrialized and a leader in technology; Canada is a primary producer, rich in the resources that Japan lacks. Japan has a homogeneous population; Canada is a multi-ethnic mosaic. Canada's federal structure holds together a loose collection of autonomous provinces; Japan is one of the most highly centralized and nationally cohesive countries in the world. Canada and Japan also have a number of important similarities which belie these more obvious differences. Both have export economies heavily dependent on the United States market, and both are greatly influenced by U.S. politics and culture. Both countries grapple with the problems associated with "internationalisation," although in different ways. Canada, with new immigrants arriving daily, struggles to integrate the world into its multicultural mosaic; Japan, with its more homogeneous population, strives to integrate itself into the world community.

The editors of this book point out all of the above and argue that in light of many common interests, and a strong economic (albeit asymmetrical) relationship, it is somewhat surprising that both sides treat the other with a certain ambivalence. Japan writes off Canada as a medium-sized power relying on an ever-dwindling stock of raw materials to be sold in international markets at ever-declining real prices. Canada (apart from British Columbia and Alberta) focuses more on the U.S.A. or Europe for its political, economic, and cultural ties. The editors bemoan this general ambivalence, and put it down to "mutual ignorance," yet another example of the perception gap which exists between Japan and the West.

The body of this book makes a valiant attempt to overcome this lack of knowledge. It contains a welcome collection of essays on aspects of the ties between Japan and Canada in the present century as seen by scholars from both countries. The editors and the book's contributors set out there-