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Review: Spain in the Pacific in the Eighteenth Century

Author(s): E. A. B.

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Source: *The Geographical Journal*, Vol. 44, No. 4 (Oct., 1914), p. 404

Published by: geographicalj

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1778603>

Accessed: 27-06-2016 10:41 UTC

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résumé, of the story of Alpine-climbing in New Zealand. The most important chapters are perhaps those on the Tararua range, Haidinger, De La Beche and the Minarets, Kiwiland, and especially Aorangi or Mount Cook, of which the first traverse is here described. His descriptions of snow and rock scenery are vivid and clear. Many of his climbs were full of exciting incidents which are very well told. The book should appeal to all mountain climbers, and will be indispensable to any who wish to visit the Southern Alps.

There are interesting notes about rare birds, and especially the kea, whose favourite amusement seems to be that of glissading down corrugated iron roofs over the heads of exhausted mountaineers. We hope that the introduction of the chamois, for which Mr. Ross seems to be largely responsible, will be a success. The photographs are of quite unusual excellence, and it is interesting to compare them with those of the Alps and Andes. There is a short introduction by Viscount Bryce.

SPAIN IN THE PACIFIC IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

'The Quest and Occupation of Tahiti by emissaries of Spain during the years 1772-1776. Told in despatches and other contemporary documents.' Translated into English and compiled, with notes and an Introduction, by Bolton Glanvill Corney. Vol. 1. London: Printed for the Hakluyt Society, MDCCCXIII. *Maps and Illustrations*.

From the time of Anson's voyage into the Pacific and his recommendation of an English settlement on the south-western coast of South America the Spaniards lived in constant apprehension that such a settlement was being designed. It was vital to Spain to prevent any Power from establishing a fortified post in the South Seas from which her communications could be cut, expeditions launched against her possessions, or contraband trade carried on. In this volume Dr. Corney has brought together a number of documents of great interest relative to the efforts of Spain, between 1766 and 1776, to frustrate any such design on the part of the English, whether in the Falklands or in any island in the Straits of Magellan or on the Patagonian coast, and the manner in which these efforts led to the larger enterprise of the quest and occupation of Tahiti which gives its title to the volume. The extract from Don Manuel de Amat, the Viceroy of Peru's, recital of the events of his administration, which is the first of the documents, gives an able summary of the undertakings of the period, and illustrates the watchfulness, energy and capacity with which Spanish colonial interests were guarded at this time. The collection of Royal Commands, Minutes, and Despatches which follows, and which covers the years 1766-1771, throws interesting side lights on the condition of the Spanish colonies, the relations between France and Spain on colonial questions, and the objects pursued by the English in the South Seas. The documents relating to the search for Easter island and Tahiti include the interesting Journal of Don Domingo Boenechea, who commanded the *Aguila* on her first and second expeditions, and who died in the course of the second expedition and was buried at Tahiti—the scene of his labours. These documents naturally throw light on the relations between the Spaniards and the natives, and attest the genuine missionary spirit which remained in their colonization to the end. There is a good reproduction of the track of the *Aguila* and her discoveries on the voyage of 1772-1773.

E. A. B.