Lewis Evans: His Map of the Middle British Colonies in America by Henry N. Stevens

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The New Zambesi Trail.— C. W. Mackintosh. London: T. Fisher Unwin. 1922. Pp. 370. *Illustrations and Sketch-maps.* 10s. 6d. net.

In 1903 the author of this book accompanied François Coillard, whose Life she subsequently wrote, on his last journey to the Zambezi. In 1920 she went up the river from the Victoria Falls to the Barotse capital Lealui, visiting also several of the stations of the Société des Missions Evangéliques, which this year celebrates its centenary.

Miss Mackintosh's picture of Southern Rhodesia in its pioneer stage is excellent; practically a reproduction of her diary, it vividly reproduces the atmosphere of those early days. Equally good is her description of the river scenery in her second journey; she has the artist's eye and the gift of making word-pictures. The untravelled reader is assured that he is getting a true idea of what the country looks like. This is the author's contribution to geography; the trail she followed is still "new," but others had blazed it. It was to see and study people rather than places that the second journey was undertaken, and we get a picture of the Barotse in their present stage of development which is highly suggestive. We see clearly the change which is coming over native society through contact with Western thought and Western methods, and, in especial, through the introduction of Christianity. Yetta III., the present paramount chief (son and successor of Lewanika), is a Christian, as are many of the sub-chiefs: the influence of the Paris Society's agents and that of the officials of the British South Africa Company are uniformly and successfully directed to raising the status of the people, and as Barotseland is likely always to remain a black man's country, the outcome will probably be a civilized Christian negro land which will exert considerable influence on the future destinies of South-Central Africa. Miss Mackintosh enables us to understand how this movement is shaping.

The book is saturated with the missionary spirit, but there is no trace of the "unctuous rectitude" which so irritated Cecil Rhodes. Instead we get good stories in plenty, humour at once "dry" and refreshing, and a turn of thought which will provoke the reader to examine anew familiar subjects.

F. R. C.

AMERICA

Lewis Evans: his Map of the Middle British Colonies in America.— Henry N. Stevens, F.R.G.S. London: Henry Stevens, Son, & Stiles. 1920. 21s. net.

The acquisition of the earlier Evans map of 1749 has been made the occasion for a second edition of the author's booklet issued in 1905 (see *Journal*, vol. 26, p. 334). The new edition not only revises and corrects the notes on the ten maps described in the former work, but includes descriptive notes on the map of 1749, and on eight additional and distinctly derivative maps. The value of the present work is still further enhanced by the facsimile reproduction of five maps ($\frac{3}{4}$ -scale), and of the little cartouche of each of the nineteen maps described.

Evans's map made in 1755 was reproduced during half a century in seventeen different maps. Of these two were reproduced in 1776 from the original plate, with alterations and acknowledgment of the original author. The other fifteen were piracies reproduced from two different piratical plates, one of which was altered seven times (1760-1814), the other six times (1765-1800).

By reproducing the following maps, Evans 1749 and 1755, with Pownall's reissue 1776, Kitchin piracy 1755, and the last identified descendant (1796-1800?) of the Bowles piracy of the Kitchin map, the author has supplied the

material for an excellent training in the use and authority of maps as contemporary documents. The series of struggles which marked the second half of the eighteenth century in America created a demand for maps on this side of the Atlantic, while probably the original plate and the men who knew the area were on the other side. "The tricks of trade of map publishers and the plagiarisms of the cartographers of the period" brought out in this excellently produced volume, open a student's eyes to cartographical vagaries, and supply him with new weapons with which to approach all critical cartographical controversies. Comparative cartography as an aid to the elucidation of history is but in its infancy.

W. H. B.

The Chinese in British Guiana.— Cecil Clementi. [Georgetown]: The Argosy Company, Ltd. 1915. *Sketch-maps*.

The first suggestion that Chinese labourers might be obtained for the West Indian plantations appears to have been made by a Committee of the House of Commons, who were appointed to consider the subject in 1811. The suggestion was tentative, and no action was taken until the abolition of slavery in 1834 produced a scarcity of labour which compelled the planters to consider new sources of supply. In 1853 the first Chinese labourers under contract were imported, and the importation continued irregularly until 1879 and then ceased. In the following thirty years a few Chinese came as free immigrants. Thus during a period of almost sixty years about 16,000 Chinese came to British Guiana, of whom one-seventh were women. In 1911 the total Chinese population of the colony was less than 3000, the sexes being then in the proportion of 57 per cent. males to 43 per cent. females. The Chinese labourers appear to have given very general satisfaction; the climate was suitable to them and unsuitable to European manual workers, yet the experiment of developing the country by means of imported labour had achieved very small results.

Mr. Clementi has made an admirable study of this experiment—interesting, clear, and searching. His conclusion is as follows: "The Chinese immigration failed as a colonization scheme because it was neither initiated nor yet pursued in the interests of colonization. The planters needed adult male labourers, and were therefore indifferent to the low percentage of females in the Chinese immigration. The labour required by the sugar estates fluctuated; the planters did not, therefore, trouble to maintain that steady annual demand which might have served to accustom the minds of the labouring classes in South China to the idea of emigrating to British Guiana. The planters' chief aim was to obtain the labour they needed as cheaply as possible; they were therefore glad to dispense with back-passages and allotments, in order that the cost of the Chinese immigrant might as far as possible be reduced to that of the East Indian."

It seems clear from Mr. Clementi's story that, had colonization been desired, and had more attention been paid to the human side of the problem of importing labour, as the missionary, Mr. Lobschied, advised, a large Chinese colony might by this time have been established in British Guiana, and the development of this rich province have been carried much further than has actually been done. But every student of colonial history is familiar with the clash between the interests of business and of colonization, and a long-sighted policy of colonization is seldom to be expected from a community of planters.

E. A. B.