The Crawford Mappemonde Reproductions

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neighbours, including the Sixt district; one of the central Pennines, taking in the Grand Combin and extending east up to the Dent d'Hérens, together with the Val d'Anniviers, the Val d'Hérens and the Val de Bagnes. Also one of the Eastern Pennines which takes in the Monte Rosa group and the Mischabelhörner, extending on the east as far as Domodossola. These three last, altered from the Alpine Club map on a scale of about 4 miles to the inch, are clear and well printed. No doubt it is convenient in a guide-book to have maps for general reference, but the editor points out justly in his preface that explorers of the higher regions of the Alps "*must* employ the more or less perfect maps issued by the various Government Surveys."

We look forward to the publication of the second volume, which will deal with the Central Alps. It is not probable that any further editions of the 'Ball's Alpine Guide' will ever be published, and it is all the more satisfactory to recognize that the present volume is likely to maintain, for a long time to come, its position of the best guide-book for those who are attracted to the sub-alpine or glacier regions.

The publication has been long delayed for reasons set forth in the preface. But the subscribers are not likely to complain in their satisfaction at finding the work so well done. Mr. Coolidge has never employed his encyclopædic knowledge of the Alps to better advantage than in rebuilding of this monument to the memory of one who was justly venerated by all mountaineers.

THE CRAWFORD MAPPEMONDE REPRODUCTIONS.*

By C. RAYMOND BEAZLEY, M.A.

THE three maps here reproduced are: A. The anonymous "Harleian" example, of about A.D. 1536, supposed by some to be the work of Pierre Desceliers of Dieppe, and undoubtedly belonging, like the two following, to the Dieppe school of cartography (British Museum, Addit. MSS. 5413); B. The Desceliers map of 1546, called by Jomard "The Map of King Henri II.," and now belonging to the Earl of Crawford (Bibl. Lind., French MSS. 15); C. The Desceliers of 1550 (B. Mus., Addit. MSS. 24,065).

(A.) is the oldest existing specimen of Dieppe cartography. It measures 8 feet 2 inches by 3 feet 11 inches; is graduated for latitude only, to 73° N. and 64° S.; and is executed on parchment with many ornaments, figures, etc. It bears the royal arms of Francis I. of France, and those of the Dauphin Francis, the latter with some unfinished detail which may hint at the sudden death of the Prince (August 10, 1536) just at the time of the completion of the map.

In this example some of the results of Cartier's first two voyages to Canada in 1534-36 are apparently embodied, and a close resemblance is

* 'Bibliotheca Lindesiana,' Collations and Notes, No. IV. Facsimiles of Three Mappemondes. 1898.

to be seen with the North America of Hieronymo Verrazano (1529). Thus the isthmus of land above Florida, separating the North Atlantic from the "Western Sea" ("Sea of Verrazano," or supposed Pacific indent on the west coast of North America), appears in both, though in the Harleian map the isthmus is intersected by a river ("R. de St. Helene"). There is also some evidence of correspondence between this work and the Visconti de Maggiola Portolano of 1527; once more the Cattigara, or "Catagara," of Ptolemy's far East, turns up on the coast of Chili, and the "Camul" of Marco Polo's Central Asia is located on the west American coast, north-north-west of the Gulf of Mexico. But the draughtsman has evidently abandoned the notion of the American strand as a prolongation of Asia; an immense sea separates the two, in the middle of which is "Zipangri" (Japan), with a contour reminding one of an exaggerated Java turned on end (north to south).

Alexander Dalrymple, in 1786, was one of the first to describe this (Harleian) map, which then belonged to Sir Joseph Banks; and he argued, from the similarity of some names here given on the east coast of "Java la Grande" with Captain Cook's nomenclature for the east coast of New Holland (Australia), that Cook was here only following in the track of an earlier explorer. For instance, *Botany Bay* is the *Coste des Herbages*, his *Bay of Inlets* the *B. Perdue*, his *Bay of Isles* the *R. de Beaucoup d'Isles*, and his "shore where the Endeavour struck" the *Coste dangereuse* of this map (*Périleuse* of B.). This charge may, however, be regarded as without foundation, or at least unproven.

The Harleian Design has sometimes been confounded with the Desceliers of 1546 ("Henri II."); has too often been ignored in cartographical controversy; and deserves a closer study and a clearer differentiation. Some, as Major, have thought its date might be even referred to about 1530; few would now contend for a later year than 1540; HARRISSE ('Jean et Sébastien Cabot') fixes it to 1542 (1533, in his 'Discovery of North America'), but denies the suggested Desceliers authorship. All Desceliers' other maps are dated and signed; this is neither. On the other hand, it is of identical scale (*e.g.* with B.) and of almost identical configuration and nomenclature in its equatorial portions, "extending from the Orinoco eastward to Java la Grande" (Coote). It is unquestionably a French map, closely resembling the works of the Dieppe school, and in particular those of Pierre Desceliers.

As to special features, we may notice (besides the isthmus and "Sea of Verrazano," the prominence of Java la Grande in "Australian" form, and the character of Zipangri, already noticed), that the Caspian (of Ptolemaic character) is united, according to mediæval notions, with the Northern Ocean by a narrow channel; that the north of Asia, including all the continent above India and Indo-China, is, as might be expected, almost valueless and decidedly inferior, *e.g.*, to Herberstein's delineation of Western "Sibier," etc. (1517-1526); that the draughtsman knows

next to nothing even of the east Asiatic coasts, now already coming within the ken of the Portuguese; that the Baltic regions have various curious features in this example, and may be both compared and contrasted with a map of 1492, among others (B. Mus., Addit. MSS. 15,760). The shape of North America, narrow and long-drawn-out from north to south, with an insignificant breadth, narrowing to an isthmus—itsself divided by a “river”—somewhat north of Mexico, would be remarkable enough if it were in any way peculiar to this example, but this we know it is not. The delineation of Prester John and his work in Abyssinia is somewhat more elaborate than usual in maps even of this scale and elaboration. “Java la Grande,” we may observe, is not explicitly joined on to the southern continent (which appears to the south of Magellan’s Strait), but this is apparently due merely to the cutting short of the design at 64° S. lat.

On the coasts of Africa, South Asia, and South America, and among the East Indian islands, this map is a good chronicle of the progress of maritime discovery up to this date (c. 1536–1540). The draughtsmanship of the north-western shores of “Java la Grande” is clearly derived from Portuguese sources, and is plausibly supposed to indicate an early discovery of Australia by the Portuguese, as the alleged voyage of Binot Paulmier de Gonneville from Harfleur, in 1503, was probably limited to Madagascar (cf. the portolano of Francis Rodriguez, 1511–13? in Santarem’s Atlas, 1849, fol. 84).

Whether the work of Pierre Desceliers or not, the Harleian map is the first and most important of the series, and we may fairly treat B. and C. as in the main derivatives of A.

(B.), the undoubted, signed, and dated work of Desceliers in 1546, measures 8 feet 2 inches by 4 feet $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch, and is graduated for latitude to 80° 40' N. and 62° 50' S.; for longitude from Ferro, except for a space in the Pacific between 211° and 272°. It was once the property of the great French geographer M. E. F. Jomard, and is now that of Lord Crawford; it is given in Jomard’s Atlas, and described in his introduction as executed “by order of Henri II. of France,” about 1550; its exact date and authorship were undiscovered by him, by Avezac (who supposed it to be of 1542, in the reign of Francis I.), by Kohl, by Major (in 1873), and even by Rainaud (in 1893). The inscription, “*Faites à Arques par Pierre Desceliers, presb^{re} 1546,*” was first noticed by Mr. Coote, of the British Museum, in August, 1879; communicated by Mr. R. H. Major to the Academy, May 18, 1878; and more widely published by M. HARRISSE in his ‘Jean et Sébastien Cabot,’ 1882 (p. 216; cf. also p. 210).

In this it is noteworthy that the Great Southern Continent joining Tierra del Fuego with Java la Grande appears as “*La terre Australle non du tout descouverte*”—although the southern prolongation of this example is not, by 1° 10', so great as in A. The delineation of the

river and gulf of St. Lawrence shows an advance upon the Harleian example; De Roberval, commander of the French Canadian expedition of 1542, is depicted at the head of his soldiers; the coast-line of Nova Scotia and the United States is very different from the same upon the "Harleian." Further, the indent of the Sea of Verrazano has disappeared; the isthmus north of Mexico exists no longer; the conquest of Peru by Francisco Pizarro in 1531 is noted; and the delta of the Orinoco is remarkably well drawn. Some use seems to have been made of the descriptions of Vespucci as to Brazil (third voyage), and of Mandevillian and other fabrications as to the races in North-East Asia, with their heads between their shoulders.

Northern Asia is not quite so inadequately conceived as on A.; the Caspian is not made to connect by a strait of sea with the Arctic Ocean, and the north-east of the Old World has a somewhat greater extension. But the coasts and upland from Canton round to Norway are not much more accurate than in the Harleian map. Only the space allotted, as in the case of North America, comes rather nearer to actual fact.

(C.) The Desceliers of 1550 (B. Mus., Addit. MSS. 24,065) is somewhat smaller than A. and B., though even more ornate. It measures 7 feet 2 inches by 4 feet 5 inches, but is on the same projection and scale. It is graduated from the equator to $84^{\circ} 30'$ N. lat. and $62^{\circ} 30'$ S. lat., and its longitude is reckoned from Ferro, with a gap between 270° and $175^{\circ} 30'$ in the Pacific. This work was discovered at Padua in 1847 by M. C. A. de Challaye, who first described it in the *Bulletin de la Société des Antiquaires de l'Ouest*, Poitiers, 1852 (pp. 343-350).

Here are specially to be noticed the treatment of "Laborador" and "Terre Neufe," of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and of the river Amazon, which here first appears in the Desceliers series of maps. For the coasts of Newfoundland we may compare the Nicolas Vallard Portolan of 1547, for the Labrador "Sebastian Cabot's" Mappemonde of 1544. The example of 1550 is specially notable for its inscriptions, on little slabs or notice-boards of space, scattered all over the world, and descriptive of various countries, peoples, places, etc. Twenty-five of these are particularly important, viz. one in South America (the longest of all), two in North America (the far north), eight in the southern continent or Terre Australle, two in Africa, one in Arabia, three in Southern and Central Asia, two in the north of Asia, one between the Caspian and Black sea, one at the arctic shore north of the Caspian, one in the position of Lapland, one in the ocean north of Iceland, and two north and north-east of Zipangri. Neither on B. nor C. does the Caspian communicate as a sea with the Northern Ocean.

The "great land of Java" south of the East Indies on all these maps seems undoubtedly to mean Australia—though the knowledge then possessed of that country (as shown here) was so imperfect that some have disputed this, and contended that the Desceliers maps only give us a "longitudinally misplaced portion of the south coast of Java

proper, plus a certain amount of purely theoretical cartography." The east coast-line of Java la Grande is not probably based on any real observations, though M. A. Rainaud has claimed at least the possibility of this, on the strength of the alleged discoveries of Guillaume le Testu. It does not seem to be derived from Spanish or Portuguese charts of this time, such as the Portolani of Diego Homem, 1558, and of F. Vaz Dourado, 1571, neither of which show any trace of an Australian or Antarctic continent, though some indication is given of New Guinea in Dourado's map. With this we may compare the *Las Papuas* of Desceliers. In the East Indies, to some extent, the Desceliers maps have been criticized as archaic and retrograde. The draughtsman has apparently misconceived the route taken by Magellan's expedition of 1519-22, of which, though he makes no express mention, he can hardly be supposed ignorant; thus in the design of 1550 the channel south of Timor is represented as if blocked, two men in a picture adjoining being engaged "with pick and shovel, as if in the act of cutting it open." Collingridge ('Discovery of Australia,' Sydney, 1895, p. 173; see also p. 116, on A.) considers, however, that this "channel between Java and Australia is evidently a concession due to the fact that a passage was known to exist," and he points out that this passage, though "painted over in the 1550 specimen," is "left white" in the Harleian map. On the other hand, Mr. C. H. Coote, our chief English authority on all questions connected with these maps, seems to deny that Desceliers had any knowledge of regions south of Java proper—a conclusion with which some will find it hard to agree. Also, beyond the name *Las Papuas*, no information is given us about New Guinea. In all this part of his work Desceliers probably owed something to Oronce Finé's *Nova et integra universi orbis descriptio*, whose *Bresille regio* is perhaps the origin of Desceliers' "Baye Brasille." Mr. Coote has furnished these reproductions with a masterly introduction (18 pp., privately printed, 1898) invaluable to every student. We may also, perhaps, draw attention to the new and improved method of reproducing these unwieldy documents, whereby the facsimiles can be consulted in detail, or as a whole, by the removal of the inner margins and the adjustment of the numbered sections edge to edge with the aid of the key-map. The Autotype Company deserves the cordial thanks of all students of historical geography for their success in this fresh line of reproduction, Mr. Coote for his supervision of the same, and above all, Lord Crawford for his munificent encouragement of cartographical research.*

* Besides the references given above, the student might consult: 'Early Voyages to Terra Australis' (Major), p. xxvii. and the map illustrations facing pp. xxvii. and xxix.; HARRISSE, 'Discovery of North America,' p. 647, where A. is placed among "doubtful maps" of 1533; JOMARD'S 'Atlas,' plate xix. 1-6; RAINAUD'S 'Continent Austral,' pp. 288-291; Major in *Archæologia*, xliv. p. 235; AVEZAC in *Bulletin de l'Académie des Inscr. et Belles-Lettres*, August 30, 1867, p. 7; KOHL, 'Discovery of Maine,' p. 351; DELMAR MORGAN, 'Remarks on Early Discovery of Australia,' pp. 6-12.