Review: The First Circumnavigation of the Globe

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and a most graphic representation of the life of the people. They show the banana-leaf bivouacs, the bamboo bridges, the fortified villages, the gigantic fish-traps, and the methods of iron smelting. They illustrate some of the diseases and the tribal marks, including scar-tattooing and the manipulation of the hair and teeth among representative tribes. One set of ten photographs shows a man making the manual signs for the numerals 1 to 10. Another illustrates a method of inducing a cow to yield milk, which is well known from its use among the Masai, but is probably not adopted in British dairy farms. J. W. G.

GENERAL.

THE FIRST CIRCUMNAVIGATION OF THE GLOBE.

'Magellan's Voyage around the World.' By Antonio Pigafetta. The original text of the Ambrosian MS., with English translation, notes, bibliography, and index. By James Alexander Robertson. 3 vols., large 8vo. *With Portrait, and numerous facsimiles of the original Maps and Plates.* Pp. 273, 313, and (index) 88. Cleveland, Ohio: The Arthur H. Clark Co. 1906.

Our knowledge of the circumstances of the first circumnavigation of the globe is of singularly unequal character. In some respects it is astonishingly full. We have, for example, the roll of each ship's company—the names of the men, the towns or countries whence they came, and the rank or office that each held. The documents in the Seville archives give a complete list of every article carried in the fleet, even to the number of bells and coloured handkerchiefs intended for barter. But no regular ship's log exists to tell us of the events of the voyage, and the nearest approach to it that we get is the scanty *derrotero* of Francisco Albo. The narrative of the Italian, Antonio Pigafetta, remains as yet—and is likely to remain—our chief source of information concerning Magellan's wonderful voyage, and it is rather curious that until now we have been without any adequate and trustworthy English version of it. Lord Stanley's translation, published for the Hakluyt Society in 1874, was unfortunate in being a synthesis, partly founded on one of the French MSS. in the Bibliothèque Nationale, and partly on Amoretti's version, which was itself an inaccurate reproduction of the Italian (and oldest) text existing in the Biblioteca Ambrosiana in Milan. This has been the sole available source to the English reader, and accordingly the volumes which Mr. J. A. Robertson here gives us are particularly welcome. They are three in number. Vols. 1 and 2 contain the Italian text and its translation on opposite pages, very full notes (relegated to the end of each volume), and a lengthy bibliography, while vol. 3 is entirely devoted to the index.

Mr. Robertson, though making free use, with all due acknowledgment, of Andrea da Mosto's excellent edition, has himself made the transcript of the Italian from the original, and has collated the text with the French MSS. in the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, incorporating all the variants in the notes. These are further enlarged by the readings and comments of previous writers upon Magellan and his expedition, and by Mr. Robertson's own criticisms. The volumes were originally intended only to be issued as a portion of the colossal series on the Philippines now appearing under the editorship of Mr. Robertson and Miss Blair, but it has been wisely decided to publish the work as a small separate edition in order to render it more accessible to the ordinary reader.

In printing the Italian text, the author tells us, "great care has been taken to represent correctly the many peculiar characters and abbreviations occurring in the old Italian, and for this purpose many special characters have been designed and type specially cast." We are not sure that the step was altogether an advisable one. The conjunction of modern roman with these characters, and more especially with

a series of italic letter *s* which stands for the long *s* in the manuscript, gives a mixed effect which is far from pleasing. Nor, though one may have every respect for a desire for accuracy which has led the author to claim that "the peculiarities of the manuscript have been carefully preserved, even to the spacing," do we think it necessary that this should be carried to the length of dividing words, so that "bombarde" becomes "bom barde," "terribili" "teri bili," "beverono" "beue rono," and so forth. Passing to the translation, we find a certain inequality in the standard adopted. While modern English is used, and considerable effort is apparently made to give as close a rendering of the text as possible, so that we even have "Spagnia" and "Portagalo" where Spain and Portugal might well have served, there are frequent occasions when the English is either too slavish or too free. Thus "the Ocean Sea" and "the holy bodies" can hardly be considered satisfactory equivalents of "Mare Oceano" and "Corpisanzi;" and, on the other hand—to pass over various instances of colloquial English—it is a little startling to be confronted with some full-blown Americanisms. In the description of the flying-fish pursued by the albacores, the latter are stated to "run along back of them under the water," and a little further a town is spoken of as "located" at the end of Java Major. Many things, indeed, are "located." But perhaps the most salient instance is the translation of "et non se afaticarebeno se non dui in comandare ali marangoni como douescero fare," as "they would not suffer any fatigues beyond two of them to boss the carpenters in their work." It would be invidious, however, to dwell on these minor drawbacks, in presence of the fact that Mr. Robertson's book gives the reader for the first time the true text of Pigafetta, with a sufficiently good working translation, edited and annotated in the fullest manner, and with the Italian text throughout collated with that of the earlier of the two French manuscripts in the Bibliothèque Nationale and the Eden version as published by Arber. Not least in value, too, is the excellent critical bibliography of Pigafetta MSS. and the printed books relating to the voyage. With regard to the much-debated question as to the language in which Pigafetta gave his story to the world, Mr. Robertson holds that the evidence conclusively proves that he wrote or dictated his relation in Italian; that the Ambrosian MS. is a contemporaneous copy of the one presented to the Grand Master of Rhodes; and that the two Paris MSS., and in all probability the Nancy MS., are translations (the first two very imperfect) of the Italian by a Frenchman only indifferently acquainted with the language.

Pigafetta's original charts, which are numerous, are carefully reproduced, and add to the interest of the work. They should afford material aid in the identification of the places mentioned by him in his narrative, with regard to which much still remains to be done.

F. H. H. G.

SHORT NOTICES.

Europe.—'Through Portugal.' By Martin Hume. (London: Grant Richards. 1907. Pp. xiv. and 317. *Illustrations.*) Graphic impressions of Oporto, Bussaco, Cintra, Lisbon, and other places of interest in Portugal make this an attractive volume, the value of which, to travellers, is enhanced by a chapter dealing with ways and means of journeying. Whether describing scenery or architecture the writer is equally clear, and the monotone illustrations are excellent; those in colour are much less successful.

'A Book of the Pyrenees,' by S. Baring-Gould (London: Methuen. 1907. Pp. 309. *Map and Illustrations*), a work as eminently readable as might be expected from its author, deals mainly with the history of the region of the Pyrenees, each chapter treating of some important centre or some well-defined district. A descriptive character, however, runs through the book, and word-