WILEY

Review

Author(s): W. A. T.

Review by: W. A. T.

Source: *The Geographical Journal*, Vol. 51, No. 5 (May, 1918), p. 334

Published by: geographicalj

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1780082>

Accessed: 31-05-2016 14:44 UTC

Your use of the JSTOR archive indicates your acceptance of the Terms & Conditions of Use, available at

<http://about.jstor.org/terms>

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive. We use information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Wiley, The Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers) are collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve and extend access to The Geographical Journal

been flanked by huge elevations. He also discusses at length the Magdalena River, chiefly as a navigable waterway. The fall of this river from the head of regular navigation at Neiva is 2 feet per mile, or double that of the Missouri in its navigable portion, and this fall combined with shifting banks and sandbanks render the river unsuitable for through transport on a large scale; the author therefore considers it a mistake to have spent money on short railways to modify its defects. These lines have been made at a great cost, material and rolling stock having been carried up the valley by road. A trunk railway will be necessary to develop the country satisfactorily.

The book contains small maps and vertical sections of the Andes, and the good photographs show some beautiful scenery and park-like landscapes.

W. A. T.

La Soberanía Chilena en las Islas al sur del Canal Beagle.— J. Guillermo Guerra, Profesor de Derecho Internacional en la Universidad de Chile. Santiago: Imprenta Universitaria. 1917.

By the treaty of 1881 between the Chilean and Argentine Governments the islands south of the Beagle Channel were assigned to Chile. In connection with this clause a dispute has arisen between the two Republics regarding the exact position of the eastern entrance of the Beagle Channel, which involves the possession of the islands New, Picton and Lennox. Prof. Guerra sets forth in this volume the case from the Chilean point of view. The channel was discovered during the voyages of the *Adventure* and *Beagle* between the years 1826 and 1836, and the commander, Captain King, stated in an address to the Royal Geographical Society in 1831 that the channel extended to Cape San Pio, but he did not define the western point of the entrance. In the 'South American Pilot' of 1860 the entrance is said to lie on either side of Picton Island; that is, this island is regarded as lying in the entrance. Such, however, does not seem to have been the view of the earlier explorers, for Darwin, who accompanied Captain Fitzroy on the second voyage of the *Beagle*, and made a boat expedition with him from Goree Roads through the Picton Channel, says that they entered the eastern mouth of the channel (Beagle), and *shortly afterwards* came to Cutfinger Cove. This would seem to imply that the channel was entered perhaps about Snipe Island, 4 miles east of the cove. On Captain Fitzroy's chart of 1834 the mouth of the channel between Picton Island and the coast of Tierra del Fuego is marked Moat Bay, and in later maps and charts—the Admiralty Chart of 1910, for instance—Moat Channel. Considering this as a separate channel, some cartographers, notably Argentines, have put back the mouth of the Beagle Channel to the northernmost point of Picton Island, or even to Navarino Island. Sir Thomas Holdich, who visited this part of the archipelago, seems to have been unaware that there was any cause for disagreement. In 'The Countries of the King's Award' he says, "There was no boundary to settle in Tierra del Fuego," and on his map, part of which is reproduced in this volume, the boundary is drawn through Moat Bay. But if this line be conceded, there still remains the question whether the exact boundary should be the coast of the large island Tierra del Fuego, the middle line of the channel, or the line of greatest depths; and the possession of New Island, at least, might depend on the precise line chosen.

A protocol was approved in 1915 by the senates of the contending countries, whereby it was agreed to submit the question to the Government of His Britannic Majesty, and an amicable settlement may therefore be hoped for.

W. A. T.