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tial Russian allies and employees of the Russian-American company might explain his unflattering description of their appearance, lifestyle, and behavior. Antinative prejudice, shared by some, though not all, of the Russian-American company employees, may also lie behind these harsh words.

The scholarly apparatus accompanying this publication is adequate, although it could have been more detailed. Shur provides a brief introduction, summarizing Khlebnikov's biography and evaluating his contribution to our understanding of the history and ethnography of Russian America. Shur's notes and glossary contain some important information as well. However, the value of this publication as a source of data for scholarly research would have been increased if more information on Khlebnikov himself, his contemporaries, and the history of the Russian exploration of California had been provided. This is precisely what the two Soviet publications of Khlebnikov's writings have done.

Although this publication has a somewhat limited scope as a separate historical and ethnographic document, it does represent an important addition to the Khlebnikov corpus and the first attempt to provide an annotated, scholarly translation of his work into English. Leonid Shur, John Bisk, and Marvin Falk (the editor of the Rasmuson Library Historical Translation Series) must be commended for their efforts in making this important body of writing available to us.

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View from the Shore: American Indian Perspectives on the Quincentenary. Edited by Jose Barreiro. *Northeast Indian Quarterly*, volume 7, number 3, Fall 1990. Columbus Quincentenary Edition. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University, 1990. 108 pages. \$10.00 paper.

Every once in a while, a book appears that captures the essence of ideas that have been percolating and swirling around Indian Country for a while and also, in a clear and straightforward way, presents these thoughts so that they are accessible and useful to a broad audience, both scholarly and general, Indian and non-Indian. In a way not so different from the dynamic found in Indian communities in which thoughts and words emerge, are shared

and travel, change shape and tone, are absorbed and reemerge, a book such as this becomes a resource and a reference work, feeding back into and contributing to the ongoing development of thought on a subject.

This book becomes a landmark or a marker of sorts, so that years later, in circles as broadly diverse as the classroom, the museum exhibit hall, and the conference workshop, or sitting on the old sofas of Intertribal Friendship House, there is generalized nodding agreement that "yes, this is one book that captured the tone of that time and some of the clearest thinking on the major themes. *View from the Shore: American Indian Perspectives on the Quincentenary* is just such a book. It is a volume to read now to gain an understanding of some of the diverse and substantive topics regarding the Quincentenary, and it is a book that will, I believe, be useful for many years to come.

As the title indicates, *View from the Shore* presents an American Indian perspective, one that provides a counterpoint to the European-biased "view from the boats." Overall, the book is unpretentious, yet rich in the variety of content and themes. Although the emphasis and the contributors to the volume are from North America, the work strives to be hemispheric—to include North, Meso, and South American content and perspectives. The body of the book consists of fourteen pieces. Some take an historic approach, such as John Mohawk's "Discovering Columbus, the Way Here," or Bruce Burton's "Literature, Paradigm, and Plunder in the New World 1492-1610," or Robert W. Venables's "The Cost of Columbus: Was There a Holocaust?" Other pieces, such as Jose Barreiro's "Toward an Indian Voice in 1992" or Dave Warren's "American Indians and the Columbus Quincentenary" or Gabrielle Tayac's "Survival beyond 1992: Human Rights and Indigenous Peoples" or Jorge Quintana's "Commentary: Thoughts on the Next 500 Years," provide a context for diverse native thoughts about the contemporary situation as well as the future.

Throughout the volume, a number of themes emerge and reemerge. One is an exploration of the nature and origin of the diverse stereotypes that have been imposed on American Indians by European adventurers, explorers, settlers, and policy makers for the past five hundred years. In "American Indian Stereotypes," Ted Jojola not only comments on ways that the concepts of "primitive" and "barbarian" have been juxtaposed with that of "civilization," but also adds, "The reality was that prolonged contact between the two worlds created an interdependence.

Indian societies were transformed in significant ways, but so were the Europeans" (p. 26). Susan R. Dixon's piece, "Points of View: the Art of Encounter," discusses visual imagery that has contributed to ideas and stereotypes regarding native people, particularly those created during the first years of contact between Europeans and native peoples. As the managing editor for the volume, her discussion is based on the illustrations that appear throughout *View from the Shore*. She notes that most of the images remaining from that era almost five hundred years ago were created by Europeans to communicate "information to an audience entirely unfamiliar with and unprepared for what the images contained" (p. 88). Some of these images today appear bizarre in their ethnocentricity and their misrepresentation of native people; yet, on analysis, their message and frequently the political motivation in their creation become clear. For example, a woodcut from a manuscript containing Columbus's letters "shows Columbus' ship in front of a land already mapped, named, and therefore claimed" (p. 89). In contrast, the line drawings of Felipe Guaman Poma de Ayala, depicting scenes from his Andean homeland that were contained in his chronicle sent to King Philip III, show the native as "self" and the European as "other." Once again, images were used to educate the Europeans regarding native peoples. The chilling image that provided the inspiration for the work by contemporary artist Simon Brascoupe that appears on the cover of the volume was originally drawn on the wall of a cave in what is now Cuba, evidently shortly after the Spanish invasion of the island. One of the first native depictions of Europeans, it depicts human-like figures carrying crosses and swords and riding multilegged animals.

Another recurrent theme throughout the volume is the examination of terminology such as *discovery*, *civilization*, and *primitive* that has been used both to perpetuate negative stereotypes of American Indians and to justify European invasion and the taking of native Lands. Mohawk comments succinctly, "The obvious fiction of a 'discovery' of lands occupied by millions of people for tens of thousands of years underscores the ethnocentrism evident in most historical accounts" (p. 37). Mohawk further illuminates the ways that the doctrine of discovery has been an underlying theme in European-derived policy for well over five hundred years as well as some of the effects this doctrine has had in shaping the world.

In recognition of Columbus's landing in the Caribbean, this

region draws considerable focus in a number of works in the volume. Jose Barreiro's "A Note on Tainos: Whither Progress?" gives some idea of Taino culture at the time the Spanish landed, as well as commentary on the ensuing results of this contact. The piece is followed by a very useful annotated bibliography on native/Spanish Caribbean encounters. The volume also includes "Carib Gallery," photographs by Tim Johnson and text by Jose Barreiro, which depicts the social significance of canoe-building by a community of Caribs in Dominica.

Another prominent theme in *View from the Shore* is the discussion and assessment of various plans being made to "celebrate" (!), observe, or otherwise mark the completion of five hundred years since native people saw strange ships approaching their shores. A number of pages are devoted to comments or interviews by N. Scott Momaday, Suzan Shown Harjo, Beverly Singer, Ladonna Harris, Rayna Green, and Tim Coulter on the Quincentenary plans. Their words are strong, clear, and thoughtful; like most of the others contributing to the volume, they question the long-held assumptions regarding the history of this hemisphere and ask where we go from here. The last fourteen pages of the volume are devoted to a "1992 Resource Directory" of organizations and their addresses, as well as activities focusing on the Quincentenary, most from an American Indian perspective. Some, such as the 1992 Alliance, are national or international in scope; others—the Boston Indian Council, for example—are more local. This directory, an excellent resource for anyone interested in collaborating with Quincentenary activities, is divided into major networks, the 1992 Indian Directory (United States, Canada, Latin America), general listings, and government listings.

Many more events and publications, as well as film and radio documentaries, will surely emerge from the Quincentenary. *View from the Shore* is one of the first, a brilliant light coming from the shore, beckoning readers to come closer and urging them to listen intently to American Indian voices. It is both practical and an inspiration that will likely stimulate more thinking, talking, gathering, and writing to follow the Quincentenary.

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