



WILEY

---

Review: Cotton Manufacture in the United States

Author(s): A. W. A.

Review by: A. W. A.

Source: *The Geographical Journal*, Vol. 43, No. 4 (Apr., 1914), pp. 433-434

Published by: geographicalj

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1778387>

Accessed: 13-05-2016 11:02 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](mailto:support@jstor.org).



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

the regions traversed. Mr. Stefánsson's main interests are ethnological, and not unnaturally the Eskimo bulk largely in this most interesting book. The author has a good deal to say about the right method of travelling in these inhospitable regions, and emphasizes the necessity of living in the same manner as the Eskimo—living on the country is his precept and practice. For example, Sir John Franklin's company "starved helplessly and died to the last man in a country as well supplied with food and fuel as was that where Rae spent his winter in comfort. . . . At the very time when these Englishmen were dying of hunger there were living all about them Eskimo families who were taking care of their aged and bringing up their children in comparative plenty, unaided by the rifles and other excellent implements which the Englishmen had in abundance." He has definite views as to the best method of dealing with frost-bite, and maintains that to keep the face from freezing it must always be clean shaven. He adds that the Eskimo physically is not better fitted for withstanding cold than are we, but he knows how to take care of himself.

Mr. Stefánsson knows the Eskimo intimately through living with them and speaking their language, which is "exceedingly difficult for a European to learn," and as he made many good friends among them we have an intimate and sympathetic account, not only of Eskimo who have been in contact with white men, but also of those who had previously never seen an alien. The book abounds with facts that interest ethnologists, the daily life, manufactures, migrations, religion, and psychology of the natives being dealt with, as well as their personal appearance; the so-called blond Eskimo of Victoria island naturally receive especial mention. Among the most suggestive remarks are those made about the strange developments resulting from the spread of Christianity; these should be carefully considered by those interested in mission work, or in the effects produced by the contact of different religious beliefs and practices. In secular matters also the coming of the foreigner with his prejudices is not an unmixed blessing. The encouragement to build frame houses has been pernicious. The Department of Education in Washington instructed a school-master at Wainwright inlet to encourage the Eskimo to dig coal for heating their houses, "and that they might earn money with which to buy flour to eat instead of the seal meat and walrus which was their ordinary diet. It is hard for me personally to put the point of view of a man who thinks that coal-mining is a more desirable occupation than seal hunting. . . . One of the effects of civilization will be that when they [the Eskimo of Victoria island] learn to use sheet-iron stoves they will in the course of two or three years burn all the wood that centuries have stored on the beach, exactly as the people in the vicinity of Point Barrow have done, and they will then, like the Point Barrow people, be under the necessity of importing wood when they need it to make the things that they can now make out of driftwood which they find on the beach." The book is written in an attractive manner and is well illustrated; it ends with a valuable report by Dr. R. M. Anderson on the natural-history collections of the expedition.

A. C. H.

#### COTTON MANUFACTURE IN THE UNITED STATES.

'Harvard Economic Studies,' Vol. 7. 'The Cotton Manufacturing Industry of the United States.' By M. T. Copeland. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University. 1912. Price \$2 net.

There are many points of geographical interest in this monograph. The early manufacturing industry of New England was generally influenced by the

existence of water-power, which at the present day is less important than steam. In the south of New England the rapid growth of the cotton industry was due, not to water-power, but to the advantage in transportation held by tide-water cities through obtaining coal at lower rates. In the case of New Bedford, an additional reason for success appears in the marked humidity of the climate and the capital available for investment in the cotton mills which had been accumulated by the successful whale fishery.

There has been a most important industrial development in cotton in the Southern States during the last thirty years.

The author enumerates and criticizes the reasons usually given for the progress. (1) Proximity to the source of supply of raw cotton. (a) Saving in freight on raw material; (b) the advantage obtained through the power of choosing favourable market conditions. On the whole this is unimportant, as the price of cotton is ruled by the New York market. At present the Northern States have an advantage in the finishing of the cloth (bleaching, dyeing, and printing), as the water of the south is not suitable. In addition, the long staple cotton is not grown near the southern manufacturing region. (2) Saving in cost of power. The author states that less than one-quarter of the southern mills have water-power. (3) Less taxation. This is of importance, but the greater dispersion of the mills makes the work more expensive in the south. (4) Cheap and tractable labour. This is the corner stone in the economic success of the south. There is a steady supply of "poor white" labour from the mills and farms of the Piedmont district. Many of these labourers are of Scotch or Scotch-Irish descent. Before the Civil War these mountaineers and tenant farmers were confined to the infertile regions because they could not compete with the plantation system and become wage earners. The abolition of slavery entirely altered the economic conditions. The industry has been largely dependent on excessive hours of labour (though these are now less) and the employment of children.

A. W. A.

#### LATIN AMERICA.

'The Republics of Central and South America.' By C. Reginald Enoch. London: Dent. 1913. Pp. 544. *Maps and Illustrations.* 10s. 6d.

The author of this book has a strong belief in the value of the study of human geography, the principles of which he applies to good purpose. The unity of Latin America is insisted upon, and a first chapter of over fifty pages, replacing the perfunctory topographical survey usual in such works, treats the whole area as a unit from physical, social, and economic points of view. It deals in vast figures; it brings home, as works on the separate Latin American republics cannot, the important place which Latin America occupies in the world, and incidentally the enormous extent of British interests involved in its welfare and development, besides indicating (as the writer is concerned to indicate throughout) the future potentialities of that development. The republics are subsequently grouped for detailed study according to large geographical divisions—those of the River Plate, the Andes, and Central America being treated in succession. The writer has naturally summarized his own previous work in different departments, as, for example, when he devotes chapters to the archaeology of the Incas, and the Aztecs and Mayas. The present study is in no direction profound; its purpose is of a general character, and its principal conclusions are generalizations, but as a book of reference to Latin America at large it fills a place. The maps, undistinguished in point of technical production, are well chosen and sufficiently clear, but the proofs needed closer revision;