

This is merely irritating: what is much worse is the inadequacy of the maps. There are only five of these for the entire book. The first is a double-page map of Siberia that is acceptable insofar as it goes, but that is inevitably at so small a scale as to mean that very many places mentioned in the text are not entered on it. This map has an insert showing the Aleutian Islands and the tracks of Bering and Chirikov. A fold-out map would have been much more useful. The third map indicates the distribution of the 'major tribes' of northern Asia and is an (unattributed) copy of a map dating from, to judge from the cartography, circa 1900. The other maps are of the Russian settlements in Alaska and of 'Basic disposition of forces in Siberia during the Civil War.' Both of these are taken from works by other authors and are attributed in the acknowledgements. The other illustrations, very few of which are attributed, are interesting and embellish the text in a helpful way.

To sum up: a useful book at a very reasonable price for the general reader and for any student who may desire a rapid overview of the topic. The deficiencies of the book no doubt arise from cost considerations, and these are, of course, a matter of judgement for the publishers. In this case, however, one feels that a slight relaxation of this stringency with the consequent small increase in price, could have made an adequate book into a much better one. (Ian R. Stone, The Registry, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ.)

OVERLAND TO STARVATION COVE: WITH THE INUIT IN SEARCH OF FRANKLIN 1878-1880. Heinrich Klutschak. Edited and translated by William Barr. 1993. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. xxxi + 261 p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 0-8020-7397-2. £16.25; US\$28.00.

This is the paperback edition of one of William Barr's many major contributions to the study of Arctic exploration and science, originally published in 1987. The core of the book is a translation of Heinrich Klutschak's *Als Eskimo unter den Eskimos*, an account first published in German in 1881. But the book also contains a scholarly introduction and postscript and enlightening annotations by Barr.

The idea for the expedition of which Klutschak was a member was conceived by James Gordon Bennett Jr, the owner of *The New York Herald*, whose goal was to search for records of the Franklin expedition, which, according to Inuit statements, were supposed to be in a cairn in an island in the Gulf of Boothia. The expedition was ultimately sponsored by the American Geographical Society and led by Lieutenant Frederick Schwatka of the US Army, with William Henry Gilder, a reporter for *The Herald*, as the second-in-command.

It was a thoroughly remarkable expedition. Its members emulated the Inuit as much as possible, adopting their diet, clothing, sledging techniques, and other basic methods of survival. One result of this was that they were able to make the longest sledge journey (some 5200 km) that

whites had yet made. And despite the return journey being made in the depth of winter, with temperatures regularly near -50°C , there were no fatalities, nor indeed any major injuries or illnesses. Although the members of the expedition did not find a cache of documents from the Franklin expedition, they did locate or obtain from the Inuit a number of relics of the expedition, and they also discovered a number of skeletons on King William Island and Adelaide Peninsula. Klutschak's account is particularly valuable on this score, because from August to December 1879 the group split into two, with Schwatka in command of one party and Klutschak in charge of the other. Klutschak's group discovered the skeletons at Starvation Cove; these had been missed when Schwatka and Gilder had been there earlier because of the deep snow.

What most distinguishes Klutschak's account from those of Gilder or Schwatka (Gilder 1881; Stackpole 1965), however, is his focus not just on the search for the Franklin records, but on the Inuit. This book was an early ethnographic account of enormous significance, and one from which Franz Boas drew heavily when discussing the Inuit of the Keewatin in his classic work *The central Eskimo* (Boas 1888). Klutschak was a generally reliable observer, and he gave an early account of a number of aspects of Inuit culture and of several Inuit groups, such as the Utkuhikhalingmiut.

As with his other translations, Barr has helped make Klutschak's narrative extremely readable and enjoyable. It is an important work, and the paperback version of this study, which is already difficult to obtain in hardback, is a valuable addition to polar literature. (Beau Riffenburgh, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER.)

References

- Boas, F. 1888. *The central Eskimo*. US Bureau of Ethnology. *Annual report 1884-85*. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office: 399-669.
- Gilder, W.H. 1881. *Schwatka's search: sledging in the Arctic in quest of the Franklin records*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.
- Stackpole, E.A. (editor). 1965. *The long Arctic search: the narrative of Lieutenant Frederick Schwatka, USA, 1878-1880, seeking the records of the lost Franklin expedition*. Mystic, CN: Marine Historical Association.

SAAMI AND DENE CONCEPTS OF NATURE. Timm Rochon. 1993. Umeå: Center for Arctic Research, Umeå University. v + 116 p, soft cover. ISSN 0283-9717.

This paper, published by the Center for Arctic Research in its in-house report series, began life as a dissertation for a master's degree in environmental studies. Herein lies an immediate problem: the published version betrays its origins. Indeed, the dissertation appears to have been published in its original format. Rochon's writing style is of someone addressing his examiners, paying careful attention throughout to 'the purpose of the paper,' 'the design of the research project,' 'approach,' and 'the findings of the field research work.' This is a shame, because