

By the close of the first quarter of the seventeenth century the Company's trade on the Coromandel coast had been put on a secure footing. But in so far as the trade with Gujarat and north India was concerned, the years to be covered by Vol. II were formative years as the Company tried to find its feet in the area. The documents relating to these years contain information on a whole lot of issues in addition to matters directly concerned with the Company's trade in the two regions respectively. To take a few examples, one comes across a discussion of items such as the role of Indian slaves in Coen's scheme of colonizing Indonesia, the foreign trading activities of Indian and other Asian merchants, the various implications of local droughts and so on. In the administrative sphere, one finds information on the system of farming of state offices in Coromandel and on the working of the mansabdari system in the north. One also gets interesting and often detailed information on local conflicts and rebellions and the intrigues at the Mugual Court at Agra.

One would hope that these documents would have something to offer to the political and the social historian, though the chief beneficiary is likely to be the economic historian.

P.S. Dr. Prakash will report from time to time on the progress of the project.



U.S.A.

From John E. Wills we received the following communication:

In this first report as corresponding editor, I am not going to stay in the bounds of either studies in the U.S. or studies in the Far East. Rather, I am going to report on some dispersed developments in studies of European knowledge of the 'wider world' in early modern times, a topic which is not often kept in focus by students of European expansion.

The impact of the Americas on European consciousness down to the eighteenth century was the subject of an international scholarly conference at the University of California, Los Angeles, in February 1975. Many of the papers delivered at this conference have been published in:

Fredi Chiapelli, ed., *First Images of America: The Impact of the New World on the Old*, 2 vols. (University of California Press, 1976).

First images of the new world also received a good deal of attention in connection with the U.S. Bicentennial in 1976. The most interesting products of this interest I know of are:

Hugh Honour, *The New Golden Land: European Images of America from the Discoveries to the Present Time* (New York: Pantheon, 1976).

Hugh Honour, *The European Vision of America* (Cleveland Museum of Art, distributed by Kent State University Press), an important exhibit catalogue.

Students of Europe and Asia will of course think in this connection of Donald F. Lach's *Asia in the Making of Europe*, of which three volumes have appeared so far. I understand that a fourth volume is in press. For subsequent volumes on the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, Lach will be cooperating with Edwin J. Van Kley, Calvin College, Grand Rapids (Mich.). Van Kley's latest article in this field is:

Edwin J. Van Kley, 'The Effect of the Discoveries on Seventeenth-Century Dutch Popular Culture', *Terrae Incognitae*, Vol. 8 (1976), pp. 29 - 43.

Father Joseph Dehergne, S.J., Les Fontaines, 60500, Chantilly, France has organized two international colloquia in the general area of missionaries and Sino-Western cultural contacts in the eighteenth century. Papers from the first colloquium, held in 1974, have been published by 'Les Belles Lettres', 95 Boulevard Raspail, 75006 Paris, under the title *La Mission Française aux XVIIe et XVIIIe Siècles* (Actes du Colloque International de Sinologie, Chantilly). For the second conference, held in September 1977, I am sending you a copy of the list of papers that was to be presented. I sent a paper, but was not able to attend, and have no report on it yet from anyone who did attend.

CARTIER, Michel (E.P.H.E., Paris)

Aux origines de la Politique des Lumières, la vision jésuite du régime politique chinois.

DEHERGNE, Joseph (Chantilly)

Un rituel domestique du 10e siècle de notre ère et la Déclaration de l'empereur K'ang-hi sur le culte des ancêtres en 1700.

GROVER, Mme Yvonne (Angleterre)

La correspondance scientifique du Père Dominique Parrenin (1665-1741).

JARRY, Mme. Madeleine (Paris)

La vision de la Chine dans les tapisseries tissées à la manufacture royale de Beauvais.

LETTES, Edmund (New York)

Confucius in Eighteenth Century England: Natural Morality and Social Reform.

LUCAS, Alain (Paris)

L'apport des jésuites à la linguistique chinoise et l'accès de l'Europe à 'une langue universelle' (Leibniz).

MARTZLOFF, Jean Claude (Paris)

La compréhension chinoise des méthodes démonstratives euclidiennes au cours du 17e siècle et au début du 18e.

MILSKY, Mme. M.F. (Aix en Provence)

Les souscripteurs de 'l'Histoire générale de la Chine' du P. de Maille: aperçus du milieu sinophile dans la société française du 18e siècle.

WILLS, John E. (Los Angeles)

The Hazardous Missions of A Dominican: Victorio Ricci, O.P., in Amoy Taiwan and Manila.

The meeting of the Association for Asian Studies in New York in March 1977 included a panel on European responses to Chinese culture in the eighteenth century organized by David E. Mungello, Briarcliff College, Briarcliff Manor, N.Y. 10510. Mungello reports that the papers from the panel probably will appear in *Philosophy East and West*. He also has just published *Leibnitz and Confucianism: The Search for Accord* (Honolulu University Press of Hawaii, 1977).

A final item to note in this area is Wolfgang Reinhard, 'Gelenkter Kulturwandel im Siebzehnten Jahrhundert: Akkulturation in den Jesuitenmissionen als Universalhistorisches Problem', *Historische Zeitschrift*, Vol. 223 (1976), pp. 529-590. Dr. Reinhard's address is: 7801 March 1, Alemannenstrasse 3, West Germany.

A final note: much of the above is linked with the history of missions as well as to that of European knowledge of the wider world. Most of us in this field find it hard to keep abreast of developments in the study of mission history, many of which come out of clerical circles and are published in specialized journals. It would be great if *Itinerario* could find the right correspondent to help us keep abreast of some of this. One person who has been very helpful to me, and who might be able to help *Itinerario* and to suggest others who could do so, is Father John W. Witek, Department of History, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. 20007.

