A DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF THOSE MAPS, CHARTS AND SURVEYS RELATING TO AMERICA, WHICH ARE MENTIONED IN VOL. III OF HAKLUYT'S GREAT WORK

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Hohl, J. G.

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J. G. KOHL.

WASHINGTON : RY POLKINHORN, PRINTER. 1857.

INTRODUCTION.

The maps and charts which the discoverers of new regions used to construct form a class of the most interesting historical documents.

They not only *illustrate* in a most clear way the verbal reports and the geographical ideas of the explorers and *confirm* them, but they also contain sometimes *additional* matter not contained in the reports.

reports. The greater number of authors on voyages and collectors of travelling reports, therefore, have accompanied their works by maps. We find such in Eden, in Ramusio, in Harris, in Prevost, in the Lettres Edifiances, and in innumerable other works of this class.

Only our good old Hakluyt seems to be deficient in this. Besides a few maps, which he has pubfished in his little volume, "Divers Voyages," and besides a general map of the world, edited in Paris 1587, and another one for the first edition of his great work of 1589, he has communicated to us no maps whatever, though he saw at his time still many interesting ancient draughts and sketches, which he by publishing could have preserved to us as well as his valuable reports, journals, "traffiques, and navigations," and which are now lost to us.

It can perhaps not be said that Hakluyt was not aware of the value and import of an old map or chart as an historical monument. On the contrary, he seems to have been widely awake for the study of maps. He tells us himself that, when he was still a youth, the sight of a map decided the direction of his inclination and study. When he once visited a cousin of his, a gentleman in the Middle Temple—

"He found lying open upon his boord certaine books of cosmographic with an universalle mappe. The consin explained to him all the parts of this mappe, showed him the division of the earth into three parts after the olde account, and then, according to the latter and better distribution, into more, pointed with his wand to all the known sees, gulfs, bayes, capes, rivers, and empires. And from the mappe he brought him to the Bible, and directed him to some verses of the 107 Paslme, where he read that they which go downe to the set in ships and occupy by the great waters, see the works of the Lord and his woonders in the deep, &c. Which words of the prophet, together with his cousin's discourse, (about the map,) tooke in him so deepe an impression that he constantly resolved he would, by God's assistance, prosecute that knowledge and kind of litterature the doors of which were so happily opened before him.""#

Afterwards, it appears, Hakluyt was always and plentifully surrounded by maps:

"In my public lectures," he says, "I was the first that produced and showed both the olde imperfectly composed and the new lately-reformed mappes, globes, and spheares, to the generall contentment of my auditory."+

So he seems to have been the first man who introduced the study of maps into England.

* Hakluyt in the beginning of the dedication to the first edition of his great work.

+ In the dedication to the first edition of his great work.

And still, after all, he thought so little of posterity that he made no attempt of delivering to us by print some of those treasures by which he was surrounded.

He does not give us the reason for this singular and much to be lamented omission. He only says that he has "contented himself" with inserting into his work "one generall mappe" of the world. The whole passage in which he tells us this (at the end of his preface to the first edition) deserves a place here. Perceiving that every one of his readers would regret and miss and want maps in his book, he says : "Nowe, because peradventure it would be expected as necessarie that the descriptions of so many parts of the world would farre more easily be conceived of the readers by adding geographical and hydrographical ta-bles thereunto, thou are by the way to be admonished that I have contented myselfs with inserting into my worke one of the best generall mappes of the world only !"

O, good Hakluyt, how short, how unsatisfactory,

how tyrannically spoken ! It is very probable, however, that Hakluyt was himself influenced in this proceeding by another great tyrant, namely, by the want of proper means. He alludes, in his prefaces and dedications, sometimes to "great charges and expenses" which he incurred for the benefit of the publication of his work ; and very probably he found that by the engraving of maps those expenses would have become too large for him. From the same cause also Purchas, as he openly avows, has in some instances omitted to reproduce for us most rare maps, which he had before his eyes, and which would be invalu-able at present for our historians. It is, however, very possible that Hakluyt would not have found amongst his contemporaries men enough who would have sufficiently appreciated the value of maps as historical documents.

The more general interest for the study of the ancient maps, the antiquarian chartology, if I may use this expression, is something quite new. It has only commenced to flourish in our nineteenth century.

What Hakluyt omitted, either for want of means or because his time was not ripe for it, can, however, still, at least in a certain degree, be done today. We possess now a certain number of maps and charts which belong to the old navigations and travels preserved in Hakluyt, and which were made by the navigators and explorers themselves. We can and we ought to collect them from the different rare books and manuscript collections in which they are dispersed, and to put them at their right place near the reports and journals, to which they belong.

It is with this view, with the plan of preparing a Hakluytian atlas, that I present to the student of geography and history a little preliminary treatise or estalogue on the maps relating to America, which are mentioned in Hakluyt's "Third and Last Volume of the Voyages, Navigations, Trafiques, and Discoveries of the English Nation: imprinted at London. Anno Dom. 1600."*

In this treatise I will confine my researches to the American maps, because I have studied them a little better than those of the other parts of the world, and to the said "third volume," because in his other volumes and works Hakluyt has mentioned no American maps which are not at the same time mentioned in that.

I exclude likewise the other few maps relating to America, of which Hakluyt has published and giv-

^{*} My quotations are, throughout the whole treatise, from this edition of 1600.

en us engraved copies ; as, for instance, the map of Thorne and that of Lok, in his "Divers Voyages," the map of the world, in his Latin translation of Peter Martin Angiera's work, Paris, 1587, and the other map of the world, (including America,) which he has published in the first edition of his great work of 1589, and likewise the excellent map of the world composed by M. Emmerie Mollineux, which was published partly on Hakluyt's admonition and probably with his assistance, " because all these maps are already better known. I will limit myself exclusively to notes and references on the maps which Hakluyt docs not copy, and which he only mentions, because his allusions are very much scattered and have not been collected as yet, so far as my knowledge goes.

as my knowledge goes. I must define here what I understand by the word "mentioning." Hakluyt has mentioned very numerous maps. He alludes often to the chartographical works of Ortelius, of Mercator, and of other geographers of his time. It evidently cannot be my intention to enter here into a disquisition on the works of such generally known men.

Hakluyt also occasionally alludes to some rarer map, which, however, is in no further connexion with his book, and to the illustration of which he adds no further remark. Such allusions may be commented upon in a note under the text of Hakluyt.

They can, however, be no object of my treatise, which shall only single out all those maps on which Hakluyt gives particulars, the construction of which he describes or the existence of which he makes at least probable, and which belong to his travelling reports.

* I have copies of all those maps, and have tried to analyse them in another work, in "a General Catalogue of all the Maps relating to America," of which this present treatise is a part.