Siberia and of different aspects of Russian explorations. And third, as the official archivist of Imperial Russia from 1763 to 1783, Müller collected additional evidence that, together with his earlier material, is now known as "Müller's portfolios." Over the years a number of scholars have tapped this rich reservoir, but it would appear that none has yet been allowed complete and unrestricted access to it.

The present work consists of two fairly even parts. The first is a lengthy background information by Carol Urness detailing Russian preparations for the historic undertaking. Included here are: brief biographical sketches of various participants, 23 maps showing Russian explorations, and an analysis of the views of several 18th-century West European observers on a number of controversial points concerning Russian discoveries and of Müller's responses.

The second part is a new translation of Müller's accounts of the two Bering expeditions published in 1758 in Müller's Sammlung russischer Geschichte. As a result we now have three English translations of Müller's account: two, inadequate and incomplete, published in 1761 and 1764 respectively, and the present satisfactory one. This new translation has 17 chapters, which discuss the following topics: the First Kamchatka Expedition, 1725-30; events in Kamchatka between 1730 and 1740; preparations for the Second Kamchatka Expedition, 1733-41; Russian explorations in the Arctic Ocean, 1734-39; Russian naval reconnaissance in Japanese waters, 1738-42; charting of Bering's and Chirikov's voyages of 1741; events surrounding Bering's and Chirikov's voyages; contributions of S. Khitrov, G.W. Steller and S. Waxel; events surrounding Bering's and Chirikov's return; and Müller's commentary on published West European accounts critical or doubtful of Russian exploration achievements.

Those interested in Russian explorations in the greater North Pacific region in the first half of the 18th century owe gratitude to Carol Urness for making available a new English version of Müller's classic treatment. Her translation is clear, it reads well and, as evident in extensive commentary on published West European accounts critical or doubtful of Russian exploration achievements.

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As in any attempt to cover a topic of as wide a scope as arctic exploration, factual errors can be expected, and Discovery of the North has its share. The account of John Ross's expedition of 1829-33 is a case in point; Ross's Victory was fitted with one new engine, not "engines" (p. 103, 105); the Netsilik Inuit did not trade snowshoes to Ross, as they did not use snowshoes (p. 105); the sun is not "continuously below the horizon" until April at the latitude of Lord Mayor Bay (70°N), but first appears on 18 January, and by 1 April there are approximately 14 hours of daylight (p. 106); during the summer of 1831, the Victory was able to sail approximately 20 km to a new harbour, not "6.5 km" (p. 108); and finally, Ross's "King Williams Land" was determined definitely to be an island by Rae in 1854, not Dease and Simpson in 1839 (p. 120).

Certainly a major failing of the book, however, is in the lack of maps indicating the routes of the various expeditions. Each chapter has only a single map on which are indicated several locations mentioned in the text, but many more important locations are omitted. Returning again to the Ross expedition of 1829-33 for example, none of the four wintering localities (Felix, Sheriff and Victoria harbours, Fury Beach) is indicated, nor are other locations that figured prominently in the expedition, such as Cape Adelaide (where James Ross located the north magnetic pole) or Port Leopold (from which the expedition members finally made their escape).

Overall, the book's appeal will be to those without previous knowledge of the history of arctic exploration, who will find it an enjoyable introduction if they are not concerned with the geography or routes associated with the various expeditions.

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The human species has a longing to understand and an urge to exploit. While understanding often leads to creative utilization of the natural environment and resources, recent history points more and more to destructive consequences in the use of our knowledge and research. The Antarctic is both a model of cooperation in international