

WILEY



Mountain Sickness

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unexplored upper part of the Himalayas will probably turn out to be a very rational and normal one. No doubt the Tsang-po will be found to flow across the mountain range—as Sir Hamilton Bower and Sir Thomas Holdich predict—in a stupendous gorge; for the rest nothing more romantic will probably be encountered in that upper section than a succession of rapids similar to those met by Mr. Bentinck in the lower.

The solution of the absorbing problem of the upper Brahmaputra (formed by the Tsang-po and the Dihong) will mark the final disappearance from the map of India of the tantalizing dotted line of a few hundred miles across the Himalayas. It would have disappeared ere now had Sir Francis Younghusband, when at Lhasa in 1904, been allowed to despatch the exploring party which he had already organized and equipped for the purpose.

DR. DU RICHE PRELLER, F.G.S., F.R.G.S., F.R.S.E.

The Peru-Bolivian Boundary.

Peru-Bolivian Boundary Commission,
al cuidado del Ministerio de R.R. E.E., Uinto, Peru.

I see in your Journal, July, 1912, a paragraph *re* the Peru-Bolivian Boundary, the last sentence of which, "The commissioners have now fixed the entire line of the frontier between Peru and Bolivia," seems to me rather misleading, and it might be interpreted that the work in the field had been actually finished. This is not the case. I have been in technical charge of the work for the Peruvian Commission this year, and my party has just returned to Uinto for recess during the rains.

The actual boundary-line was agreed to *on paper* between the respective governments as stated in your Journal. The work of demarcation on the ground has been in progress throughout this season, and will continue in 1913, when we hope to finish. The placing of pillars on the sections finished last year was concluded during the dry season of 1912 by a sub-commission especially told off for this purpose.

It will probably be some two months before we can get our calculations worked out and in shape, and I then purpose forwarding you a summary of results and short account of the work done.

HARRY TOPPIN,
Captain 5th Fusiliers.

"Mountain Sickness."

January 20, 1913.

From a letter which my colleague, A. F. Kuehn, a consulting mining engineer, has written to me, I extract the following information.

Mr. Kuehn lived in Peru and Bolivia for about two years, at altitudes of from 11,000 to 14,000 feet. He was in excellent health when he went to "Peru with twelve skilled smelter-men, artisans, and miners, all of whom were also in excellent health when we left the sea-level for the higher altitudes. We travelled by railway, and in about ten hours had passed the maximum altitude of 15,665 feet, and descended to about 12,000 feet, where we spent the night. The train stopped for a short time at the highest altitude, and while taking a walk on the station platform two of the men fainted. That night I had a headache and nausea, and was unable to sleep.

"The next day we continued our journey by rail to an altitude of 14,600 feet. At the journey's end I was too ill to care about anything. As I recollect, I slept about an hour the first night, and thereafter gained about an additional hour, until I slept normally.

"Returning to sea-level from the high altitudes in no way inconvenienced me, but I have, on several occasions, noticed that others suffered the same effects when descending from the high altitudes to sea-level as in ascending from sea-level."

W. H. SHOCKLEY.

The Salinity of Walker Lake.

39, East Fourth Street, Mount Vernon, N.Y., February 18, 1913.

Referring to the salinity of Walker lake, to which Mr. Shockley calls my attention, I perhaps exaggerated the facts of the case in stating that it was a saturated *brine*. In my time in that region, saturation extended only so far as calcium carbonate is concerned; there was no deposit of sodium salts, although the water was strongly saline. At that time, 1867, there apparently were no mollusks in the lake, and I do now recall that there were fish; I think, however, there were fish in the Walker river, its only feeder. I do not question Mr. Shockley's statement in the matter of purchasing fish of the natives; possibly it was another instance in which his leg was pulled. Twenty years ago the *Journal*—or *Bulletin* it was then—misprinted Lake Lahontan for me.

J. W. REDWAY.

MEETINGS OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, SESSION 1912-1913.

Sixth Meeting, January 27, 1913. Major LEONARD DARWIN,
Vice-President, in the Chair.

ELECTIONS.—*Gilbert Anderson; Rev. I. H. Shackleton Bailey; Charles Schoo Barton; Henry Adolphus Cartwright; William Harry Coombs; John Wilfrid Earle; Herbert Archer Edwards; J. Elliot Elliott; Field-Marshal the Right Hon. Lord Grenfell, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.; Ernest John Harrison; Lieut.-Colonel G. V. Holmes, I.A.; Gordon Lewis Jacobs; H. H. Raj Rana Sir Bhawani Singh Bahadur, K.C.S.I.; Frank Edward Johnson; Edgar G. Lister; Oswald Partington; Alfred Ernest Pratt; Herbert K. Scott; Allan Gibson Steel.*

The Paper read was:—

"Morocco." By Allan G. Ogilvie.

Seventh Meeting, February 10, 1913.—DOUGLAS W. FRESHFIELD, Esq.,
Vice-President, in the Chair.

ELECTIONS.—*Mrs. John Annan; Miss Emma Cecilia Bell; Miss Gertrude Bell; George Gordon Brown; Rear-Admiral Montague Edward Browning; Mrs.*