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Author(s): F. R. C.

Review by: F. R. C.

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he has to tell is of painful interest. It would have gained in effect from a more restrained presentation. Some of the chapters in Part II.—written before the oasis massacres—show Mr. McCullagh at his best.

F. R. C.

'Tripoli.' By Ewald Banse. Weimar: Alexander Duncker Verlag. 1912.
Pp. 158. *Maps and Illustrations.* 3 marks.

We have had but few modern books on Tripoli. The best are still those of the great travellers who started from Tripoli on their way south across the Sahara to the Western Sudan. On Tripoli town no serious recent work exists. Writers have called it a mysterious town, but of what the mystery consists we learn but little. We welcome the present volume by Mr. Ewald Banse, as it is the result of careful investigations into the life, habits, and social customs of the different races which form the population of the city of Tripoli—Arabs, Berbers, Negroes, Jews, and Levantines. Mr. Banse gained all his information during a stay of many months in Tripoli only a few years ago. The present volume is of value both to the ethnologist and the geographer, because the old oriental Tripoli will soon become modernized under the Italian administration. It presents a true picture of life in Tripoli under Turkish rule. The volume is profusely illustrated with well-chosen photographs and excellent drawings which remind us of the illustrations in Lane's classical book, the 'Modern Egyptians.'

A. V.

FRENCH AFRICA.

'L'Afrique occidentale Française.' Par Louis Sonolet.
'Le Congo Méconnu.' Par Jean Dybowski.
'A Travers la Chaouïa.' Par Captain Grasset.
Paris: Hachette et Cie. 1912. 4 *frs.* each vol.

These are new volumes in Messrs. Hachette's 'Collection de Voyages Illustrée.' M. Sonolet has produced a very workmanlike treatise on French West Africa. He is not concerned with the story of its exploration, or of its acquisition by France, but gives us an exposition of the state of the country as it is to-day. The organization, civil and military, commerce, agriculture, and such-like subjects are treated systematically, and there is a thoughtful chapter on the future development of the native races. Its geographical interest lies in helping us to some extent to form a mental picture of a vast and important region.

M. Jean Dybowski's book as to about a half is occupied with an account of how the French Congo was acquired, and with laments that its progress has been hindered through lack of interest in the country in France—this notwithstanding the pride felt in de Brazza's achievements. Chapters iv. and v. are in a different category. M. Dybowski in them tells us what the country looks like—a description which we can realize all the better with the help of the really good illustrations—and supplies valuable information on colonization and on the inhabitants. He lays stress on the African's aptitude for agriculture, and gives instances of the penchant of certain tribes for cannibalism (pp. 170–173). The conclusion to which M. Dybowski comes—his remarks chiefly apply to the tribes living in the Ubanghi region—is that cannibalism with them is due to economic causes, and "may perhaps be excused in certain measure." They lack cattle; supply them with beef and anthropophagism will cease. Another noteworthy point in this volume is the author's attitude towards Islam. He regards its spread among the fetish worshippers of the Congo with strong disapproval. Only

evil, he holds, can be the result; and of the central Sudanese Mussulman he writes with intimate knowledge.

Captain Grasset, writing as a soldier, gives an account of the operations of the corps which landed at Casablanca in 1907, and subsequently occupied the Shawia country. The interest of his book for geographers and travellers lies in its appendices, in which the history, orography, hydrography, geology, flora and fauna, and climate of the region are succinctly described. Two useful sketch-maps are given, and the illustrations are many and pleasing.

F. R. C.

AMERICA,

GUIANA.

'Guiana: British, French, and Dutch.' By James Rodway. London: Fisher Unwin. 1912. Pp. 318. *Illustrations and Map.* 10s. 6d. net.

This is the inevitable volume on 'Guiana' in Mr. Fisher Unwin's "South American Series," and it is written by Mr. James Rodway, who, of recent years, has written more than any one else on the subject of British Guiana. It was a fine opportunity, for it seems that there exists in the English language no full and recent account of the area now known as Guiana, and distinguishable into three parts according as it is held by British, Dutch, and French. It is unfortunate that the opportunity has been to some extent missed. The author, who knows a great deal about the British part of the area, is evidently less familiar with the circumstances of the Dutch, and especially the French, areas; and he does not seem to have made sufficient use of such books, certainly not very many, as have been written, in languages other than English, on the two sections less familiar to him.

Still, Mr. Rodway has given in this book a great deal of interesting, if somewhat ill-arranged, information on British Guiana. Perhaps the most useful thing he has here given us is the summary of the remarkable and romantic work done in the eighteenth century in laying the foundations of the three colonies of Essequibo, Berbice, and Demerara, which now, as three counties, constitute British Guiana.

The book is amply provided with illustrations, some of which are both artistic and interesting, the best of all being the frontispiece, from a photograph by Mr. F. V. McConnell, of the wonderful rock formation and plant-growth on the summit of Mount Roraima.

A bibliography is provided, and was much needed. It seems ungracious to find so many faults with a book which is really worth reading, but truth compels the statement that the bibliography would have been much more useful if it had been fuller.

E. im T.

POLAR REGIONS.

THE GLACIAL PHENOMENA OF NORTH-EASTERN GREENLAND.

'Die Glaciologischen Beobachtungen der Danmark-Expedition.' I. P. Koch and A. Wegner. Danmark-Ekspeditionen til Grönlands Nordöstkyst 1906-1908. Vol. 6, No. 1. Meddelelser om Grönland, XLVI. Copenhagen: 1911. 77 pp., 5 pls., 9 figs.

The attempt to explain some British glacial phenomena by the assumption of a continuous sheet of ice which had floated across the Norwegian channel from Scandinavia was held to be contradicted by all Arctic evidence, for it was maintained that land-ice dissolves too quickly in sea-water for a glacier to flow out over an open sea without being broken into icebergs. This conclusion from Arctic