Review: The Western Himalaya

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default of much more conclusive evidence than is offered by the superficial similarity of mottled pottery in Crete and Turkestan, this opinion conflicts too greatly with probabilities to carry conviction. The authors refer to the possibility, advanced in a certain *Times* article, that Crete was "Atlantis," and seem to favour it: but so far as the general situation and local topography of Atlantis are defined in the poetical accounts which are our only authorities, they do not square well with those of Cretan Cnossus. The book is very readable.

D. G. H.

ASIA.

THE WESTERN HIMALAYA.

'Peaks and Glaciers of Nun Kun. A Record of Pioneer-Exploration and Mountaineering in the Punjab Himalaya.' By Fanny Bullock Workman and William Hunter Workman. London: Constable & Co. 18s. *net*.

This handsome volume is the detailed account of an adventurous exploration of the comparatively little known locality east of Srinagar, and the route over the Zoji-la to Dras, south of Suru, and north-west of the well-known Maru Wardwan. A short account, read by Dr. Workman, in November, 1907, at a meeting of the Society, was published in the *Geographical Journal*, vol. 31, p. 12.

Preparations for the expedition were made chiefly at Srinagar, a noticeable departure from ordinary usage being the engagement of six porters and the guide, Cyprien Savoye, from Courmayeur. The porters were to carry camp outfit to points above those which coolies could climb, and they were to do their own cooking. One of them seemed to be a *chef*, for he had medals from Italian cooking societies. They had a tent-servant to help and wash dishes, "but they prepared the rest of their food over a native hearth, and, in the snows, over a primus stove, and were entirely satisfied with the arrangement. It saved us a lot of trouble, for they had everything needed, lived well, and there were no complaints."

So far good; but there was plenty of trouble with the local coolies, remedied chiefly by means of "bakhshish" in copper and silver, where in cases the variety known as "bamboo" was certainly appropriate and deserved, though possibly injudicious to bestow. For in many instances they were probably obeying the orders of some local dignitary. However, difficulties were overcome, and the journey was successfully made to the base camp, 15,100 feet high, up the Shafat glacier. A sportsman had been there the preceding summer, whose servants had made stone shelters, which were immediately appropriated by the coolies. Whether he found game is unknown, but Dr. and Mrs. Workman saw no big game, and merely mention an eagle which succeeded in carrying off a leg of mutton, and that chikor, a bird almost identical with the French partridge, abounded near the camp. Thence explorations were made, and high snow-camps were formed, to which the names "Nieve Penitente," "White Needle," "Camp Italia" (20,632 feet), and "Camp America" (21,300 feet) were given. From Camp America the final ascent was successfully accomplished, and the party stood at 23,000 feet. "By this ascent Mrs. Bullock Workman not only broke her last record-ascent for women of 22,568 feet, but won a place with Dr. Workman in the small band of mountaineers who have reached a height of over 23,000 feet." It was a great feat, specially for the lady, but all the party may be congratulated.

The return journey was by the Barmal-la to Suru, where the coolies were paid off, the guide and porters started on their return to Europe *viâ* Srinagar, and the final adjustments connected with the expedition were made. The last chapter contains the authors' views about Nieve Penitente, and deserves careful consideration. The whole story is agreeably told; where reference to the great work of the

Indian Survey Department is made (p. 162), it is in a proper and appreciative spirit. The map is ample for its purpose, whilst the illustrations, made in Germany from photographs taken by the authors, deserve much praise.

W. BROADFOOT.

AFRICA.

ABYSSINIA.

'Jean Duchesne-Fournet.' *Mission en Ethiopie (1901-1903)*. 2 vols. By MM. Henri Froidevaux, O. Collat, J. Blanchart, Dr. Verneau, and others. Paris : Masson & Co. (1909), and Atlas (1908).

These handsome volumes form a worthy memorial of a young explorer who, unhappily, is no longer in the ranks of the living. Jean Duchesne-Fournet (a son of the well-known French senator, Mons. Paul Duchesne) died in 1904, aged 29. Young as he was, he had given proof of the possession of exceptional qualities, well fitting him to take rank with the travellers of modern days, who go prepared by previous study to make as complete an examination as possible of the various aspects of the unknown or little-known regions they visit. The scientific mission to Abyssinia organized and led by Jean Duchesne-Fournet lasted from October, 1901, to January, 1903. The main results of the work done by it had been made public in magazine articles before the appearance of this work. Nevertheless, the family of the explorer have been well advised to publish this account, not alone as an act of homage to a gallant youth, but for the valuable and varied information which it gives in easily accessible form.

The mission, of which throughout Duchesne was the guiding star, made its way from Jibuti to Adis Ababa by a new route through the Danakil country; thence, by roads partly unknown, it traversed the plateaus of Shoa and Gojam to Lake Tsana, which was encircled on foot; and finally the leader paid a visit to the Wallaga gold region. There were no great topographical discoveries to be made, though the rectifications in the map of Abyssinia were not unimportant. The mission, however, devoted special attention to geology, ethnology, zoology, and the social and economic condition of the country. To aid him in his task, the leader had obtained the services of several distinguished men. Among them were Lieut (now Captain) O. Collat, second in command, and the cartographer of the expedition; H. Arsandaux and Dr. Moreau, geologists, and Dr. Goffin, anthropologist. Nor should mention be omitted of the late Edouard Comboul, an engineer who had made a detailed mineralogical study of the Wallaga country, and who aided Duchesne in his researches in that region.

The *Mission en Ethiopie* is divided into eight parts. The story of the expedition is ably told by Henri Froidevaux from the material left by Duchesne and from information obtained from his comrades, judicious use being made of other books for descriptive passages. Captain Collat discusses the economic condition of Abyssinia; Mons. Arsandaux deals with geology, Dr. R. Verneau with anthropology and ethnography, and Pierre Lesne with insects (this last a brief section of six pages). Mons. G. Hutin has drawn the maps from the itineraries and notes of Captain Collat. A bibliography of 347 works, given by Mons. Ch. Regismanset of the French colonial office, includes 106 books which Jean Duchesne had in his library, and had consulted before setting out on his journey, an example of thoroughness of preparation much to be commended. Finally, there is a valuable section by J. Blanchart on the Abyssinian manuscripts obtained by the mission. Of these a seventeenth-century version of the life of the Saint Tekla Haymanot is of considerable value, and a translation thereof is given in full. When it is added that these various sections are illustrated by numerous maps, nearly 200 illustrations