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Review

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the story becomes more exact. Certainly Tuareg have for a long period ruled at Agadez. The first sultan is said to have been a son of the Sultan of Turkey by a slave mother, sent to the oasis on the demand of the Tuareg for a ruler whom all could obey. The first armed conflict with the French occurred in 1900; to-day all the various tribes inhabiting the oasis acknowledge French authority.

Lieut. Jean follows his historical inquiries with a chapter on the topography of the country, which he aptly designates the Switzerland of the southern Sahara. He proceeds to depict the aspect of the land in terms that prove him a perfect artist in words. The "tormented mountains," "the wrinkled landscape which has lost its youth," the gorgeous flowers, the swift-flowing streams, all are described in such manner that the reader imagines he sees them before him. And this, perhaps, is the best way of teaching geography. Lieut. Jean, however, does more; he goes on to describe in detail the hydrography, flora, fauna, mineral wealth, climate, industries, and commerce of the oasis. Then follow chapters devoted to the Tuareg their manners, characters, costumes, tribal groupings, religion, and social life. It will be seen that, so far as knowledge of the oasis extends, the book is encyclopædic in its information. Throughout the author keeps himself modestly in the background, though much of the information given is the result of his own investigations. The map of Aïr, drawn by Lieut. Jean, is the best that as yet appeared of the country. Besides maps, there are over a hundred photographs (chiefly of Tuareg), and these add greatly to the worth of a most interesting volume.

F. R. C.

'In the Grip of the Nyika.' By Lieut.-Colonel J. H. Patterson. (London: Macmillan. 1909. Pp. xiv., 389. *Maps and Illustrations*. 7s. 6d.) This volume will be read with interest by all who are interested in British East Africa, and especially in its game preserves, by sportsmen, and generally by those who appreciate a well-told tale of adventure. The author carried out his researches in connection with game-preservation, and a boundary for the preserve, frequently in difficult, and once in tragic, circumstances. His maps show the geographical value of his work, but they are indifferently reproduced and printed too small.

'In Wildest Africa.' By P. MacQueen. (Boston: Page. 1909. Pp. xiii., 402. *Map and Illustrations*.) This book also deals with a hunting trip in British East Africa and neighbouring territories, but contains in addition some general geographical work, with especial reference to ethnography, together with a short survey of African exploration. There is a considerable (English) bibliography, and a great deal of general information will be found in the text.

'With Mulai Hafid at Fez.' By Lawrence Harris. (London: Smith, Elder. 1909. Pp. xvi., 270. *Illustrations*. 7s. 6d.) The sub-title of this volume, 'Behind the scenes in Morocco,' indicates its nature. As a newspaper correspondent who obtained the favour of Mulai Hafid, the author had exceptional opportunities for studying the life of the capital, of which little has lately been learnt from experience by Europeans. The book is illustrated with the author's own sketches.

'Les Civilisations de l'Afrique du Nord.' By V. Picquet. (Paris: Colin. 1909. Pp. ix., 396. *Maps*. 4 fr.) This is in effect a history of North-West Africa—that part in which France is chiefly interested—from the earliest times. It is a long story to compress into the compass of a small volume, but the author appears to have selected the salient incidents with good judgment.

'The Gateway to the Sahara.' By C. W. Furlong. (London: Chapman & Hall. 1909. Pp. xxvi., 306. *Maps and Illustrations*. 12s. 6d.) This volume gives a brief historical sketch of Tripoli, and a fairly comprehensive survey of its physical characteristics and the present commercial and political states of its people. The