Review

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1896. This second collection, though it deals mainly with journeys undertaken since that date, draws also on the earlier period, and affords material for comparison in point of form and style. Distance, on the whole, has lent enchantment; the artist's touch is surer, his outlines sharper—though in that clear air they must needs be sharp if a man can see at all—his colours, if anything, stronger. The same personal note, half ironical, and a trifle cynical, runs through the whole; strongest in the odd "Apology" of apprentice days, and in the plainspoken chapter on "Digging"; all but cast aside when the explorer is most nearly in the place where he would be, on the real edge of the unknown, in mishandled Myra, or at the Chimæra's firehole, or among the splendid tomb-fronts of Cyrene. It was no small "accident," too, which set our antiquary on a magic transport like the *Utowana*, whose owner's sole preoccupation would seem to have been to lay his yacht alongside some quite first-class and otherwise quite unattainable site.

It need hardly be noted that these "accidents" are not wholly pacific; the antiquary turns war-correspondent in Thessaly and in Crete, and throws odd side lights on the perennial comic-opera of Levantine politics. He turns geologist also at need; the graphic account of the wash-out at Zakro is one of the best things in the book, and the cliff scene at Hierapolis one of the best of the pictures; note, too, the sketch of the business-end of a delta—land passing into water, so that the boats unload on to camel-back in the offing. But always he is geographer and anthropologist, whose "accidents" are at the same time steps in a large research, and whose journals and ready memory enlarge knowledge and focus experience at a hundred points. To write a book like 'Eothen' is perhaps as impossible now as it would be to make Eastern water-colours like Edward Lear's. But it is meant as commendation if I call Mr. Hogarth's book "photographic," and add that his fine plates are wholly "in the picture" with the text.

J. L. M.

'Der Orient, eine Länderkunde.' By Ewald Banse. (Leipzig: B. G. Teubner, 1901. Pp. 237. *Illustrations, maps, and diagrams.*) The set of booklets included under the general title of 'The Orient' forms part of the extensive *Aus Natur und Geisteswelt* series, which has already run to about 280 volumes, and is still in progress. The three under consideration, all printed, paged, and sold separately, are: I. 'The Atlas Lands,' giving a condensed but clear account of the geographical features, inhabitants, and economic relations of Morocco, Algeria, and Tunis. II. 'The Arabian Orient,' which deals in the same way with the Sahara, Tripoli, Egypt, Arabia, Syria, and Mesopotamia. III. 'The Aryan Orient,' comprising Asia Minor, Armenia, and Irania.

To the same series belong—

'Die Sprachstämme des Erdkreises,' pp. 144, and 'Die Haupttypen des Menschlichen Sprachbaues,' pp. 156, both by Dr. Franz Finck. (Leipzig: 1909, 1910.) These are uniform with the foregoing, and give from the standpoint of the latest investigations a comprehensive survey of the chief linguistic families. Dr. Finck briefly describes the great divisions—Caucasic, Mongol, Negro, and American—and endeavours to reduce them to primordial unity. But the attempt is necessarily a failure, as all such attempts must ever be.

'Die Kultur der Araber.' By Dr. Joseph Hall. (Leipzig: 1909. Pp. 144. *Numerous Illustrations and Two Tables.*) A rare specimen of condensation, in which the author has managed to convey a surprising amount of information on Arab culture both before and after the advent of Mohammed. How under Islam the Arab hosts rapidly overran half the civilized world, and spread their language from the Atlantic to Central Asia, is clearly explained.