WILEY

Review: The Tourist's India

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Source: *The Geographical Journal*, Vol. 44, No. 2 (Aug., 1914), pp. 223-224

Published by: geographicalj

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1779098>

Accessed: 06-05-2016 02:05 UTC

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made by the writer) that in talking to some bonzes he may have got hold of the Tibetan-Mongol word *dalai* or *tale*, meaning "ocean," now applied to the Grand Lama of Tibet. As to the Tibetans drinking out of their ancestors' skulls, it may be pointed out that they do it even now; not to refer to other and remoter authorities, it is only necessary to quote the graphic account of Tibetan family life this very year, as given in the *North China Herald* for March 14, where the practice is plainly mentioned. There are many other points we should like to touch upon, did space allow. The printing is admirable, and there is scarcely a misprint in the book.

E. H. PARKER.

THE TOURIST'S INDIA.

'Handbook for India, Burma and Ceylon. By C. E. Buckland. 9th ed. London: John Murray. 1913. Pp. clxvii., 664. 79 *Maps and Plans*. 20s.

'India, Ceylon, Burma, Malaya, Siam and Java.' By Karl Baedeker. Leipzig: Baedeker. 1914. Pp. lxxiv., 358. 63 *Maps and Plans*. 20 marks.

The present Editor of Murray's classic guide (Mr. C. E. Buckland, late of the I.C.S.) has done his work with conscientious thoroughness. The whole of the letterpress has been carefully revised, and many sections re-written, so as to embody the most recent information. The practical details at the end of the book are accurate and up to date, for instance, the recently opened Majestic Hotel in Bombay is duly mentioned. A few omissions in a book covering so wide a field are of course inevitable, and among them may be noted that of the Grand Hotel at Delhi. A useful addition to the Guide would be an outline of a tour adapted to the needs of ninety-nine out of a hundred tourists, that is a tour covering the most interesting cities, which could be comfortably accomplished in a month or six weeks.

In his latest handbook (at present issued in German only) Herr Baedeker has gone further afield and included in his purview not only India, but a considerable portion of the Far East visited by tourists, the Straits Settlements, Borneo, Java and Sumatra.

It possesses the usual qualities for which these well-known guides are noted. It is practical, concise, accurate, and as up to date as can reasonably be expected in the case of a region where railway expansion and means of locomotion generally make such rapid strides. But it cannot be said to be as complete and comprehensive as most of the other handbooks in this famous series—notably Egypt and Switzerland. For instance, Assam, one of the many "Sportsman's Paradises" in India, is quite ignored, and there is no description of the Brahmaputra trip to Gauhati—one of the most popular excursions in India—while Quetta is not even mentioned, and Cawnpore, that city of terrible memories, is dismissed with half a page. On the other hand, Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras are dealt with even more fully than in Murray. The guide is perhaps too comprehensive, for in order to bring in Siam and Java, only some two hundred and eighty pages can be devoted to India. But it must be remembered that the first edition of a Baedeker is in a measure experimental, and considerable expansion in subsequent editions is always contemplated. Besides, the present edition is intended for German travellers only. In the arrangement of routes Baedeker's system is superior to that of Murray, being consistent and practical and better adapted to the needs of the average tourist.

E. A. R. B.

'India of To-day.' By E. C. Meysey-Thompson, M.P. (London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1913. Pp. 230. Price 6s. net.) This book gives the conclusions

arrived at by the author in a short cold-weather tour in India made some years ago with the object of enabling him to form a judgment of "the results of fifty years of Crown rule." The first eighty pages are descriptive of the tour, but the description is slight and incomplete, and, as geography, of little interest or value. The author conscientiously discussed with numerous officials and non-officials, English and Indian, most of the questions of present interest. Men who know India will agree with the conclusion that the most urgently needed improvement in our administrative system is the restoration of the District Officer to the position he formerly held, when it was possible for him to be in intimate personal touch with the people of his district. As an old Anglo-Indian once put it, he should be able to talk to the old women in the bazaars, and enjoy doing it.

W. H. A. W.

'The Peoples of India.' By J. D. Anderson, M.A. (The Cambridge Manuals of Science and Literature.) (Cambridge: University Press, 1913. Pp. x., 118. *Maps and Illustrations*. 1s. net.) This book gives, in somewhat discursive style, some account of the work of the late Sir H. H. Risley, Sir G. A. Grierson, Mr. W. Crooke, and others, on the races, castes, languages, and religions of India. It is unfortunate that the author was not able to delay publication until after the issue of Mr. Gait's report on the census of 1911, which gives the last word upon the subjects dealt with. Eight illustrations of caste types are given, but they are not referred to or discussed in the text, and their titles are not self-explanatory to the ordinary English reader. A more convincing and representative selection might easily have been made. We should not be surprised to find the ordinary reader in sympathy with Mr. Nesfield's position. The population map at the end of the book gives a division of India into natural regions which has now been abandoned. The name of Sir G. A. Grierson, which occurs more frequently than any other in the text, does not appear in the index.

W. H. A. W.

AFRICA.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

'Through Jubaland to the Lorian Swamp.' By I. N. Dracopoli, F.R.G.S. 44 *Illustrations and 2 Maps*. London: Seeley, Service & Co., Ltd., 1914. 16s. net.

The value of Mr. Dracopoli's work in his expedition from Kismayu to the Lorian swamp in 1912-13, has been officially recognized by this Society. He set himself to solve one of those "problems of exploration" to which attention was called in the *Journal* for November, 1911, and he accomplished his task in the face of many circumstances tending to discouragement. Not the least of these circumstances was the knowledge that no sensational discoveries were to be expected. The general character of Jubaland was already known. To travel interminable miles over a desolate scrub-covered plain, with the likelihood of dying from thirst, disease, or the spear of a Somali, is not to the ordinary man an inviting prospect, especially if the object be simply to demonstrate to what extent a certain swamp sends its overplus water eastward. It is a fine thing that there are men willing to undertake such tasks. They not only solve problems (and the Lorian swamp problem would not have been "set" had it not been worth the solving), they find their reward in the journeying as well as in the arrival at the goal. In Mr. Dracopoli's case the reader of his book will be grateful that he undertook the journey. Simply written, with a certain youthful and not unpleasing assurance, it has the valuable quality of atmo-