Unstead and Taylor's 'Commercial Geography

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unrivalled completeness. He had a great fund of information on the subject of maps and map-collections, and he always put this information freely at the disposal of inquirers. The numerous officers who, during the course of any working day, were to be found in his office looking up the most reliable maps of the scene of the latest war or disturbance always found the readiest and most courteous attention.

He was the author of several technical books, and of these the most valuable, as it is also the most recent, is his 'Account of the Climate of Africa,' a work which is a standard authority on the subject. For those who are in any way concerned with the despatch of geographical expeditions to that continent this book is quite indispensable. The Royal Geographical Society contributed liberally to the cost of its publication, and it is a pleasure to the writer to feel that the Society in so doing expressed unmistakably the high opinion held by geographers of the value of Mr. Knox's labours.

C. F. C.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Recent Antarctic Expeditions.

Royal Scottish Geographical Society, Edinburgh, July 6, 1912.

On p. 578 of the *Journal* for June, Sir Clements Markham makes the statement to the effect that the recent Belgian, German, Swedish, Scottish, and French Antarctic expeditions were of no use as regards Antarctic discovery. In the interest of scientific accuracy this misstatement should be corrected, and without any desire to follow Sir Clements Markham in instituting comparisons between expeditions, all of which did good work, may we remind him that the Scottish expedition, so far from making no discoveries in Antarctic geography, brought the coast-line in the Weddell sea from its supposed position in 82° S. to an actual one in 74° S., and by the discovery of Coats Land made the greatest change in the Antarctic map that has been effected since Ross's discovery of Victoria Land. The addition of half a million square miles to Antarctica can scarcely be dismissed in such an airy way.

Furthermore, none of these expeditions above mentioned made any attempt at "mere rushing to the pole with that as an object." The aim of one and all was that scientific exploration which, in the opinion of all competent authorities, is most required in Antarctic regions. The many misleading statements relating to other expeditions which this article contains, we leave to the explorers connected with these expeditions to correct. Again, Sir Clements Markham has overlooked the fact that since 1883, if not earlier, Sir John Murray strenuously advocated the renewal of Antarctic exploration, which is at least eight years before the date when Sir Clements claims to have originated the idea. The furtherance of geographical knowledge demands that such statements should not be allowed to stand unchallenged.

R. N. RUDMOSE BROWN.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

Unstead and Taylor's 'Commercial Geography.'

We regret again to invade your space, but the reviewer's reply to our protest tends to confuse the issues; we would therefore ask to be allowed a brief, and final, reply.

1. The facts adduced merely justify our caution to students that the *winter* rainfall of Egypt (1·85 inches per month at Alexandria) is not of service to the cotton crop.

2. Even when all the negative evidence collected by the reviewer is accepted, there remains a list of ten districts in the Balkan peninsula in which coal deposits exist.

3. The reviewer originally charged us with being "absolutely misleading" in mentioning lemons among the products of Florida; this charge cannot now be maintained, even though he may differ from us in regard to their relative importance.

4. We cannot accept the reviewer's suggestion that the only natural bases of the cotton industry in New England are climate and coal. The relative humidity of the atmosphere of the northern region does not appreciably differ from that of the southern region, and the coal has to be brought from a very considerable distance; hence we still deem it correct to draw the special attention of the pupils to the water-power of New England as its chief natural resource.

J. F. UNSTEAD.

E. G. R. TAYLOR.

MEETINGS OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, SESSION 1911-1912.

Sixteenth Meeting, June 24, 1912. The Right Hon. Earl CURZON OF KEDLESTON, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., etc., President, in the Chair.

ELECTIONS.—*C. J. Bowen Cooke; Chas. Davenport, M.A.; Thos. Evan Davies; Edwin G. Foot; Bernard Guy Harrison; Frank R. Hartley; John Leader MacCarthy; Alan Grant Ogilvie, B.A.; R. C. H. Sinclair; Edward James Wayland.*

The paper read was:—

"A Year's Exploration in the Sonora Desert, Mexico." By Dr. Carl Lumholtz.

GEOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE OF THE MONTH.

Additions to the Library.

By EDWARD HEAWOOD, M.A., Librarian, R.G.S.

The following abbreviations of nouns and the adjectives derived from them are employed to indicate the source of articles from other publications. Geographical names are in each case written in full:—

A. = Academy, Academie, Akademie.
Abh. = Abhandlungen.
Ann. = Annals, Annales, Annalen.
B. = Bulletin, Bollettino, Boletim.
Col. = Colonies.
Com. = Commerce.
C.R. = Comptes Rendus.
E. = Erdkunde.
G. = Geography, Géographie, Geografia.
Ges. = Gesellschaft.
I. = Institute, Institution.
Iz. = Izvestiya.
J. = Journal.
Jb. = Jahrbuch.
Jber. = Jahresbericht.
k.k. = kaiserlich und königlich.
M. = Mitteilungen.

Mag. = Magazine.
Mem. (Mém.) = Memoirs, Mémoires.
Met. (mét.) = Meteorological.
P. = Proceedings.
R. = Royal.
Rev. (Riv.) = Review, Revue, Rivista.
S. = Society, Société, Selskab.
Sc. = Science(s).
Sitzb. = Sitzungsbericht.
T. = Transactions.
Ts. = Tijdschrift, Tidsskrift.
V. = Verein.
Verh. = Verhandlungen.
W. = Wissenschaft, and compounds.
Z. = Zeitschrift.
Zap. = Zapiski.

On account of the ambiguity of the words *octavo*, *quarto*, etc., the size of books in the list below is denoted by the length and breadth of the cover in inches to the nearest half-inch. The size of the *Journal* is 10 × 6½.

A selection of the works in this list will be noticed elsewhere in the "Journal."