WILEY

Review: Central Asia

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Source: *The Geographical Journal*, Vol. 27, No. 5 (May, 1906), p. 493

Published by: geographicalj

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1776383>

Accessed: 27-06-2016 09:41 UTC

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from south to north. Evidences of marine abrasion are to be observed at considerable heights, chiefly in the eastern part of the district. Fresh-water lakes have left their marks as high as 980 feet, and doubtless the marshy grounds beside the existing lakes and elsewhere were at one time the beds of extensive sheets of water.

The volume is accompanied by topographical and geological maps and a list of altitudes.

ASIA.

ADVENTURES IN SIBERIA.

'Siberia: a record of Travel, Climbing, and Exploration.' By Samuel Turner, F.R.G.S., with an introduction by Baron Heyking. Illustrated from photos by the author. London: 1895.

The present volume claims to give an account of a winter exploration of the Altai mountains. It makes no scientific pretensions, beyond recording the ascertained heights of mountains, describing passes and glaciers, and placing on the map those features of the country which the author explored most carefully and considered to be least known. In particular, Mr. Turner devoted his attention to the exploration of the Katunskie Belki range, the loftiest in Siberia, where he himself claims to have reached the great elevation of 17,800 feet, and of which he gives a number of striking views. It is strange, however, that he makes no reference to the earlier travels of Elwes, Littledale, Demidov, and above all of Atkinson in the Altai regions, especially after the witness that has been borne by Ney Elias to the value of Atkinson's explorations in this country.

Besides mountain-climbing, the author also deals at considerable length with Siberian trade, and especially with the dairy industry, and discusses the relations of England and Russia in a strongly philo-Russian spirit. Baron Heyking, the Russian consul for Scotland and the northern counties of England, besides contributing a short introduction, mainly composed of extremely optimistic remarks on present-day Russian civilization, furnishes an outline of Siberian history in an appendix.

CENTRAL ASIA.

'Tibet and Turkestan. A Journey through Old Lands and a Study of New Conditions.' By Oscar Terry Crosby, F.R.G.S. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1905. Price 10s. 6d. net.

It is unnecessary now to do much more by way of review than to announce the publication of this book, because in vol. 23, p. 253, of the *Geographical Journal*, a sufficient description of the author's journey was given, and it appeared that the consequent addition to our knowledge of the geography of Tibet was that supplied by the short part of his route, south of the Aksai Chin, which reached the sources of the Karakash river. Moreover, Mr. Crosby's paper, 'Turkestan and a Corner of Tibet' (vol. 23, p. 705), was duly read, discussed, and published, so that the best part of the present book is not new to readers of this *Journal*, and what is new may not be found entirely agreeable. For it consists largely of a somewhat virulent condemnation of the recent mission to Lhasa, of Lord Curzon's policy, and of Sir Frank Younghusband's mode of carrying it out, combined with a presentation of Russia in a benevolent aspect. These matters, being beyond the scope of this notice, cannot be here discussed. The volume is well got up, the errors are few and probably accidental; thus pp. 61, 62, and in index, Hoernle for Hoernle, and p. 66, Deasey for Deasy. Illustrations are numerous and interesting, and there is a general map of the greater part of Asia, on which the routes followed are laid down.

W. B.

No. V.—MAY, 1906.]

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