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Review: Gulfs of Bothnia and Finland

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of some large "han" opening its double doors on some wide central court giving access to stables with living rooms for travellers overhead. This is the "charshie" or main commercial artery in which the life of the town is concentrated. Around this nucleus of fortress and market are grouped the different quarters or "mahalla" of the town, each having its separate life, its own church or mosque, probably separated from other quarters by open spaces specially reserved as a market for corn, cattle, or wood, or perhaps fields and a meadow.

Inside the "mahalla" are winding lanes bordered by wooden palisades 7 to 10 feet high, so that the curious may only regard the roofs of the houses. The rôle of these towns has not altered for centuries. They trade in the cattle, cheese, wool, skins, honey, wax, and wood produced in their districts in exchange for corn, salt, tobacco, coffee, and sugar imported from outside.

Most of the trade gravitates towards Mitrovitza, the railway terminus for Salonica, but the country west of the Lim has relations with Seraiyevo and through it with Trieste for stuffs and manufactured goods. Practically all the carrying trade of the country going to railhead either at Uvatz or Mitrovitza is done by horse-caravans, which are exceptionally well organized and follow well-defined tracks worn by centuries of usage.

REVIEWS.

EUROPE.

GULFS OF BOTHNIA AND FINLAND.

'Finländische Hydrographisch-Biologische Untersuchungen.' No. 7. Zusammenfassende Uebersicht der Hydrographie des Bottnischen und Finnischen Meerbusens und der nördlichen Ostsee nach den Untersuchungen bis Ende 1910. Von Rolf Witting. Helsingfors. Leipzig: Wilhelm Engelmann. 1912.

THE Finnish investigation of the northern Baltic was put on a satisfactory footing by a grant in 1902 to the Finnish Society of Sciences of a state subsidy, and the first results were noticed in vol 35, No. 2, of this *Journal*. Now it is possible to give a general survey of the hydrography of the northern Baltic. Herr Witting divides the area into five sections, with the following mean depths: the Bothnia bay (Bottenviken) at the extreme north, 138 feet; the Bothnia sea, 226 feet; the sea of rocks (Schärenmeer) between Åland and Finland, 75 feet; the Åland sea, 252 feet; and the Gulf of Finland, 125 feet. The last is a direct continuation of the Baltic, whereas the Gulf of Bothnia is divided by submarine banks which cut off the lower denser layers of water. The rivers pour large quantities of fresh water into the Baltic, while salt water enters from outside along the bottom. These are to a certain extent mixed by wave action, and the temperature, density, and salinity at different depths are also affected by insolation and convection currents. Tables are given of the temperature and salinity at sixty-three stations for May, August, and November, 1904-1906, and currents, winds, tides, colour, and transparency are also discussed. The hydrographical phenomena are illustrated by a large number of maps and vertical sections. The laws which govern their variations have now to be explained and determined.