

Review

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fourth region is the more arid Nama Land in the south. From the point of view of vegetation, the coast strip is sharply contrasted with the other three regions. Dr. Dove considers that Swakopmund, in spite of the absence of shelter, is a far more valuable position than Walfish bay, owing to the much greater facilities it presents for penetration into the interior.

MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY.

VOLCANIC STUDIES.

‘Volcanic Studies in Many Lands.’ By Tempest Anderson, M.D., B.Sc., F.G.S., etc.
London: John Murray. 1903.

The special feature of this book is the number and excellence of its photographic illustrations. Dr. Tempest Anderson has been for many years a well-known student of volcanic phenomena, and in the course of his visits to the active and extinct volcanoes of Europe and North America, has formed a large collection of photographic views illustrative of this branch of geological research. Many of the most interesting of these are included in this work, by the publication of which the author has made a valuable contribution to the literature of vulcanology. A word of praise is due also to Mr. Murray for the admirable manner in which the volume is got up.

For scientific purposes, a well-taken photograph excels all other kinds of illustration in truthfulness and accuracy; and the study of land-forms lends itself especially to this method of elucidation. The stay-at-home geologist, who examines carefully the plates contained in this book, cannot fail to obtain clearer ideas of the actual appearance of active volcanoes, and of the stages of their growth and decay. The author has not entered into the consideration of the more recondite and theoretical questions involved in the study of volcanic action, but has contented himself with depicting and explaining the principal types of volcanic structures. He furnishes, in fact, a series of object lessons, beautifully clear and often very striking, of the scenery of volcanoes, with explanations of the manner in which the topographic features have been produced.

The familiar landscapes of Vesuvius, Auvergne, the north of Ireland, and the Inner Hebrides are represented by a number of carefully selected examples, but the Icelandic views, which were obtained during two visits to that island, possess more novelty and interest to the geologist and geographer. The enormous lava-fields, studded with little cones, are shown in the photographs, and several beautiful plates are given of the row of craters which stands upon the Skaptar fissure. Many of the great lava-streams are cut by fissures of another sort, due to the escape of the still liquid interior at a time when the surface of the mass had already solidified. The unsupported crust has then subsided along great rectilinear cracks, leaving cliffs many feet in height, which often show a striated face owing to the friction to which it was subjected as the broken mass sank to a lower level. The most celebrated instance of this is the Almannagjá, where the deep valley of the Oxerá had been filled with a gigantic *coulée* of lava, and after the surface had cooled the deeper part of the lava-flow escaped. The crust collapsed, unable to support its own weight, and left a vertical wall over 100 feet in height, separated by a chasm from the remainder of the consolidated surface with which it had at one time been continuous. One of these outflow tunnels is shown in Plate LXXII. from the neighbourhood of Lake Myvatn, and in this case the stream of molten rock entered the lake, and, on coming in contact with the water, gave rise to steam explosions, which covered the surface of the lava with small secondary craters and spiracles.

Some of the most successful views given in the book are from the remote crater-lake of Oregon, and there are beautiful illustrations of the geysers of the

Yellowstone Park and the basalts of the Snake river, Idaho. The volume is thoroughly up to date, as it concludes with a few photographs of scenes in St. Vincent, West Indies, taken by Dr. Tempest Anderson during last summer, and a fine picture of Montagne Pelée in full eruption on the afternoon of July 9, 1902.

J. S. F.

GILBERT'S 'DE MAGNETE.'

William Gilbert, of Colchester, Physician of London. 'On the Magnet . . . a new Physiology.' London, 1900. Notes on the 'De Magnete' of Dr. William Gilbert. London: Privately printed. 1901.

The first of these volumes is a new and careful translation of Gilbert's famous work on the magnet, published under the auspices of the Gilbert club. The translation follows, page for page, the original Latin edition of 1600, the general style of the latter being also retained as far as possible. It is printed at the Chiswick Press, and the whole "get-up" of the volume is most tasteful. The volume of explanatory notes, got together mainly through the energy and zeal of Prof. Silvanus Thompson, is a most valuable addition to the text, and bears witness to an extraordinary amount of research and an unusually extensive acquaintance with the literature both of Gilbert's time and the century preceding it. The allusions and references in the text are elucidated with great thoroughness, and though the greater part of the notes naturally have to do with questions of magnetic theory, there are various points of more strictly geographical interest on which much light is thrown. Thus the history of the so-called "loadstone-rock" in literature and cartography is fully dealt with, reference being made to the legends in Ruysch's map, the supposed northern voyage of Nicholas de Linna as mentioned by Hakluyt, and to Peter Plancius' location of the rock on his lost map described by Blundeville. References are given to the extensive literature on amber and the amber industry, and there are useful notes on various points connected with the compass and its use, the history of "wind-roses," and the various designations of the points of the compass. The term for the north-west used by Gilbert—*Borrholybicus*—is rarely met with, though one or two authorities for its use are cited. To these might be added a couple of still earlier instances, viz. the chart of the coast of Sweden from Waghenauer's 'Speculum Nauticum' of 1585, which is reproduced by Nordenskiöld in his 'Periplus,' and the treatise on the winds by Fabritius Paduanus (1601). The name is also given by Coronelli in his 'Epitome Cosmografica' of 1693 as the Græco-Latin term for the north-west wind.

PRACTICAL ASTRONOMY.

'Grundzüge der Astronomisch-geographischen Ortsbestimmung auf Forschungsreisen und die Entwicklung der hierfür Massgebenden mathematisch-geometrischen Begriffe.' Von Prof. Dr. Paul Güssfeldt. Mit 95 eingedruckten Abbildungen. Braunschweig: Druck und Verlag von Friedrich Vieweg und Sohn. 1902.

There are few men whose training and experience would render them better fitted to deal with the subject of practical astronomy for travellers than Prof. Paul Güssfeldt. His name has for years past been held in high esteem as that of a traveller and explorer of exceptional ability. His surveys in the Andes, West Africa, and elsewhere possess a scientific value and precision far in excess of those of the ordinary explorer, whilst his long experience as a university lecturer on mathematics has given him an insight into the methods of instruction most suitable to the requirements of the student who is likely to become a geographical surveyor. The work which he has recently published is, therefore, worthy of special attention, and will doubtless be read with interest by many.

It will at once be seen that it differs considerably in design and arrangement