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Review

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Starting from Baghdad, Dunsterville motored across famine-stricken Persia with little more than his staff, and at Resht on the Caspian Sea attempted to impose his will on the Bolsheviks and their Persian auxiliaries, many of whom were drawing German pay. At first he almost succeeded, but finally he was forced to retreat to Hamadan. His second attempt which aimed at holding Baku with the aid of the Armenians also failed, but yet constitutes an honourable incident of the Great War.

The difficulties experienced by General Dunsterville, not only from Persians, Russians, Armenians and the enemy, but also in quarters where support and sympathy might have been expected, are detailed in Major Donohoe's work. In the latter part of the book an interesting account is given of the British attempts to keep the Turks from penetrating into the heart of Persia; and the idiosyncrasies of the Kurds are also dealt with in a sympathetic manner.

From the geographer's point of view little information is actually given, but we realize that geographical work was done, and we realize too that Major Donohoe thoroughly enjoyed the many strange experiences which he underwent in the wilds of Persia. The map does little credit to the publisher, but the illustrations are not devoid of interest.

AFRICA.

The War in Africa, 1914-17, and in the Far East, 1914.— H. C. O'Neill. London: Longmans & Co. 1919. Pp. ix. and 114. *Maps and Illustrations.* 3s. 6d. *net.*

Three Years of War in East Africa.— Capt. Angus Buchanan, M.C. London: John Murray. 1919. Pp. xxi. and 247. *Maps and Illustrations.* 12s. *net.*

Mr. O'Neill gives a summary account of the conquest of the German overseas possessions. It was a good idea to survey in one volume the campaigns in Africa and the Pacific, and the author has done his work carefully. The story is not free from blemishes; it is inaccurate, for example, to say that the "bulk" of Kamerun was ceded to Germany by King Bell in 1884; nor was it General Stewart, as stated on p. 83, who advanced from Moshi down the main road to Kahe. The 1917 campaign in East Africa is rather too scantily treated, and it would have been more satisfactory if the scope of the book had included the 1918 campaign in Mozambique.

The author is to be congratulated on his maps, which are very clear and cover the whole of the German protectorates. Those of Kamerun, South-West, and East Africa show also the route of the different columns with dates of engagements.

In 'Three Years of War in East Africa' Capt. Buchanan has given a vivid account of the campaign as he saw it. He follows the fortunes of his own battalion, the 25th Fusiliers (Legion of Frontiersmen), a unit which was in the thickest of the fighting and won great distinction. But it is not a formal military narrative; indeed, the author is silent on points about which he must have interesting information. Capt. Buchanan is, however, a naturalist and traveller as well as a soldier, quick in observation and in acquiring the atmosphere of a country, and a great merit of his narrative, in which the reader's attention is held throughout, is that he leaves a picture of East Africa in the mind, both full of colour and accurately conveying its essential features. We have noted only one slip, where on p. 124 the author states that Tabora is the "interior terminal" of the Central Railway.

Lord Cranworth, one of the early settlers in British East Africa, writes a preface in which he pays tribute to the great value of the 25th Fusiliers as a fighting unit in upholding white prestige at a time when most of the European troops had been withdrawn.

F. R. C.

AMERICA

Santo Domingo.— **Otto Schoenrich.** New York: The Macmillan Company. 1918. *Illustrated.* \$3.00.

The author of this survey of the fate of one of Spain's oldest colonies in the New World has had more than a passing acquaintance with the Caribbean. It will be remembered that Judge Schoenrich officiated for several years in Porto Rico, subsequently spending a term in Nicaragua as one of the American officials of the Mixed Claims Commission. He writes in a colloquial style, the volume setting out to give a résumé of the history of the island that was once an Arawak stronghold, was famous for three centuries as Española, and was later divided by an arbitrary line into Santo Domingo and Haiti.

The historical sketch begins with the landing of Columbus and comes down to the military occupation of the republic by United States forces in 1916, a condition still existent. Events occurring since the book was written render premature, to say the least, the author's statement that "absolute order and security" were thus established, but this is not the only sentence showing that Judge Shoenrich was unable to avoid the temptation of special pleading. He foresees the possibility of "outright annexation" by the United States, but thinks that a protectorate would suit Americans better, since such a status would "carry the advantages of annexation without its responsibilities." It does not seem to have occurred seriously to him that Dominicans could or should be masters in their own house.

Chapters follow upon the area and boundaries of Haiti and Santo Domingo, the topography and climate, geological conditions, flora and fauna—inadequately treated—the racial characteristics of the inhabitants, religion, education, literature (practically merely a list of existing newspapers), transport systems, a survey of principal towns, debts and finance, law and justice, and governmental forms prior to American intervention.

The section dealing with the fate of the bones of Columbus is a compilation of the evidence upon the subject which, although not new, has the merit of being less perfunctory than many other parts of the book.

As a whole the volume suffers from the flaws of most works whose object is, at bottom, that of making out a case, and, while Judge Schoenrich is fortunate in possessing a more facile style than that displayed by Dr. Munro in his book on Central America, lately reviewed in the *Journal*, the fact that both publications belong to the order of propaganda does much to destroy their interest for the student or the general reader.

L. E. E.

POLAR REGIONS

With the "Aurora" in the Antarctic, 1911-1914.—**John King Davis.** London: Andrew Melrose, Ltd. Not dated [1919]. Pp. xxii., 184. *Plates.* 18s. *net.*

Although the narrative of the Australian Antarctic Expedition has been set forth in the two stately volumes of 'The Home of the Blizzard' by the leader Sir Douglas Mawson, there was room for this modest little book by the able navigator who commanded the ship of the Expedition. So far as exploration is concerned, leaving scientific research out of sight for a moment, there were