Review

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To take one example. The author mentions the importance of the "dew" in summer both for the harvest of the ripened grain and for figs and olives. This is really the mist on the highlands, which supplies the want of rain by its regularity after sunset. The wealth of detail given in the description of famous sites should render the work valuable to historical students.

'Sport and Life in the Further Himalaya.' By Major R. L. Kennion. (Edinburgh: Blackwood. 1910. Pp. xii., 330. *Illustrations*. 12s. 6d.) An excellent series of sporting narratives, told by a traveller who evidently loves not his sport only, but the countries where he finds it. In his search he has been further than most men into the Himalaya; he has launched the first boat on the great lake Pangong and others, and his book may well interest more than hunters.

'A Journal from Japan.' By Marie C. Stopes. (London: Blackie. 1910. Pp. xiv., 280. *Illustrations*. 7s. 6d.) The writer of this diary made a scientific study of various coal-mines and their fossils, under the auspices of the Royal Society. The scientific results are appearing elsewhere, but the present volume is of value for its descriptions of places visited by few Europeans, and, in a more general way, for the writer's close accounts of her intercourse with the Japanese. The whole is in diary form, and has been little altered from the condition in which it was written, with no view to publication. But it does not suffer for that.

'A Journey in Southern Siberia.' By Jeremiah Curtin. (London: Sampson Low. 1910. Pp. xiv., 319. *Map and Illustrations*. 4s. 6d.) The writer of this work, an American ethnologist and linguist of high attainments, died in 1906. His volume is less of a narrative of travel than a study of the Buriats, their manners, customs, religion, and mythology. The author condemns his own collection of myths and folk-tales as small, but it occupies a large part of the volume; the stories are vivid and curious, and are anglicized at a high standard of scholarship.

AFRICA.

THE MASAI.

'Die Masai, Ethnographische Monographie eines ostafrikanischen Semitenvölkes.' By M. Merker. Second corrected and enlarged edition. *Map, 6 Plates, and 151 Illustrations*. Berlin: Reimer. 1910.

The first edition of Captain Merker's monograph, issued in 1904 and somewhat fully noticed in the *Journal* for April, 1905, was so well received that it ran out in three years. But while the author was busy collecting the materials for this second edition, he was carried off by African fever in February, 1908. These materials were then entrusted to his friends, Dr. Sander of Berlin and Dr. Hommel of Munich, who embodied them in the text, which they further enriched with two long and informing introductions. In other respects the text remains much as it was, the chief addenda being a considerable number of illustrative plates and anthropometric tables.

As may be seen from the title, M. Merker still adheres to his peculiar views regarding the remote Hebrew origin of the Masai beliefs, which were severely attacked at the time, but, strange to say, are now again vigorously upheld by Dr. Hommel. But we need not return to this question, since it is dealt with in the original review, and Dr. Hommel, though a brilliant Orientalist, is more noted for his extravagant theories than for his sound teachings.

A. H. K.