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Review

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have yet to learn. It is to be feared that in the conflict between the whites many lost their lives, and that much of the results of white colonization, industry, and research were accidentally destroyed.

It will behove us not only to restore what our predecessors achieved, but to go far beyond them in developing the inherent wealth of this wonderland ; and at the same time to have the utmost regard for the native peoples with whose help we might make this region one of the richest and most productive parts of Africa. It is curious to note, by the by, that in former times, in the days of Zangian overlordship and the slave trade, the Zanzibar Arabs never obtained a footing here, nor did any influence of Islam penetrate ; but that before the German rule came to an end Makua porters and workmen from the south had been making converts to Islam and building mosques.

The book under review and its associated literature ought certainly to be translated into English and put thus at the disposal of possible British immigrants.

H. H. JOHNSTON.

The Handbook of Uganda.— H. R. Wallis, C.M.G. Pp. xxi. and 316. *Map and Illustrations.* Second edition. Crown Agents for the Colonies, London. 1920. *Price 7s. 6d.*

This is an official publication of the Uganda Protectorate Government. The author, who was for years Chief Secretary to that Government, deserves high commendation for having given in moderate space a comprehensive account of the Protectorate which is not only "up to date" but is eminently readable. In this edition chapters have been added on geology, botany, the part played by Uganda in the Great War, and on the work of the Christian Missions—to which work the progress of Uganda is mainly due. The present writer has subjected the Handbook to close examination and has rarely failed to find the information sought. It should be consulted by all visitors to and students of Uganda ; residents in the country will scarcely need to be told of its value.

The account of the extension of "home rule" to areas where no dominant ruling tribe was found is particularly interesting. A more complete account of the working of the dual system of government, European and native, in the more advanced provinces, *e.g.* Buganda, would have been welcome ; also a more precise account of the rights of Europeans to acquire land and measures taken to prevent the natives too easily parting with their patrimony. Fuller reference might have been made to the position of the Indian settlers and traders. The population and vital statistics given are by an oversight undated ; they are for the year 1919. In the bibliography the place as well as date of publication should have been cited. These are points worthy attention in the preparation of a third edition.

F. R. C.

In Wild Rhodesia.— Henry Masters and Walter E. Masters, M.D., D.D. Pp. 246. *Sketch-map and Illustrations.* London : Francis Griffiths. 1920. *Price 6s. net.*

This is an account of North-West Rhodesia, its physical features, flora and fauna, and its inhabitants, none the worse for being given in popular form and with many illustrations. The authors went to Rhodesia in 1905 as missionaries, and they discuss missionary influence and prospects with authority and with marked sanity. The book is also worthy of perusal for the picture it gives of a period that has passed—of pioneer life, travel, and adventure before the

coming of the railway. It is very brightly written, and the chapters on native customs and mentality show not only sympathy with the African, but an understanding too of the white man's difficulties.

F. R. C.

AMERICA

The Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay during two hundred and fifty years, 1670-1920.— Sir William Schooling, K.B.E. London: The Hudson's Bay Company, Hudson's Bay House, Lime Street, E.C. 1920. Pp. 129. *With Illustrations and a Map of Canada showing the establishments of the Company.*

The Committee of the Hudson's Bay Company were fortunate to secure the services of Sir William Schooling as the eulogist of the 250th anniversary of the Company's foundation. He has produced a most readable, well-printed volume, which gives an attractive *résumé* of the Company's history. Unfortunately, the style of the illustrations is unpleasing and unworthy of a serious historical work; some of the reproductions of early documents and drawings are, however, of interest.

In some respects however the eulogy seems overdone. According to Sir William Schooling, "the seeds sown by the enterprise of the servants of the Hudson's Bay Company have led to the development of an ample and abundant life in ways that were never expected" (p. 10). To be sure, the Company from the financial point of view has been remarkably successful. Thus the original capital of £10,500 was increased in 1688 to £31,500, rose in 1720 to £94,500, to be made to £400,000 in 1821, until in 1863 it reached two million sterling. To-day it must be a very much larger sum. This success Sir William Schooling rightly attributes to the business acumen of the London committee; but there were other factors which would also seem to deserve mention.

When the Charter was first granted, no one had the remotest idea either of the tremendous width of North America, or that from the waters emptying into Hudson's Bay the Company's factors would eventually be led to the shores of the Pacific Ocean. Throughout this enormous area the Hudson's Bay Company has benefited more from the "ample and abundant life" of the inhabitants, both white and red, than from that of its own factors. Even Sir William Schooling is forced to admit (p. 80) that in neglecting the north-west coast, from which the Russian-American Fur Company drew in the thirty years previous to 1817 over two and a half million seal-skins, "the Hudson's Bay Company recognized too late the opportunities it had missed by failing to penetrate to the full limits of its chartered domain." Indeed, it has nearly always required the rivalry of a local Canadian competitor to stir the Company into any new enterprise. Thus the North-West Company, which has been called "the most terribly effective organization that has ever arisen in the New World" (p. 31), by its amalgamation with the Hudson's Bay Company in 1821 gave to the latter an energy which it sorely lacked. The same may be said of the more recent expansion of the Hudson's Bay Stores in the North-West. It was only the advent of enterprising Ontario rivals which forced the Hudson's Bay Company to develop this branch of its business.

The Company's servants in Canada have rarely been given any real liberty of action by the London Committee. In certain matters such as the brandy trade, the beginnings of which Sir William lays at the door of the North-West Company, this control has undoubtedly proved beneficial, but in the matter of geographical discovery it has worked to the disadvantage both of the Com-