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Review: The Partition of Africa

Author(s): F. R. C.

Review by: F. R. C.

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considering that the author spent most of the year 1898 in Darjeeling, and thus had the advantage of receiving both instruction and counsel from the redoubtable S.C.D., who appears to enjoy quite a dignified position there. Mr. Kawaguchi then passed on to Tsarang, in Nepal, where he stayed about fourteen months. All this time he was diligently studying Tibetan, so that when he finally set off for the forbidden land by a pass leading in the direction of Lake Manasarowar, he had quite mastered the Tibetan language. His route lay round the lake and Mount Kailas, and then eastward to Lhasa, along the northern side of the Sanpo by way of Tadum and Shigatze. In the course of this journey the author suffered extraordinary privations owing to inadequate equipment, as well as to the fact that for the first part of the route his only companions were two sheep, which carried his provisions and stores. On arrival at Lhasa, he applied for admission to the Sera monastery, and through his knowledge of the Buddhist scriptures and skill as a doctor he established a good reputation and became very popular. Eventually he was presented to the Dalai Lama, who received him very favourably. This was previous to the despatch of the Younghusband Expedition, and the prevalent feeling at that time was strongly anti-British. The daily life in Lhasa, the manners and customs of the Tibetans, their trade and industries, and the curious negotiations with Russia, culminating in the despatch of several camel-loads of firearms and ammunition,—all these topics are handled in most interesting fashion. Mr. Kawaguchi's book is put together with more literary skill than Sarat Chandra Das's older narratives, and its fuller and more recent information combine to make it probably the best and most up-to-date description of a country which is bound for some time to come to exercise a mysterious fascination over the Western reader.

AFRICA.

THE PARTITION OF AFRICA.

'The Map of Africa by Treaty.' By the late Sir E. Hertslet, K.C.B. Third edition, in three volumes, and a collection of maps. Revised and completed to the end of 1908 by R. W. Brant, Librarian and Keeper of the Papers, and H. L. Sherwood, of the Foreign Office. London: Printed for His Majesty's Stationery Office by Harrison & Sons, St. Martin's Lane. Price £3.

Sir Edward Hertslet's 'The Map of Africa by Treaty' was first published in 1895; a year later a revised edition appeared. Since 1896 changes of importance in the political colouring of the map have been made, such as the wresting of the Eastern Sudan from the Khalifa and the renunciation by Italy of her claim to a protectorate over Abyssinia. Minor changes, caused chiefly by the delimitation of boundaries, have been very numerous. Hence the appearance of a third edition of the book is very welcome. The work of revision has been ably accomplished by Messrs. Brant and Sherwood, who have included all treaties and agreements involving territorial changes in Africa concluded down to the end of 1908. The first volume is now devoted entirely to British colonies, protectorates, and other possessions. These have been grouped in three distinct divisions: (1) West Africa, (2) South and Central Africa, (3) East Africa. (The Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, which owns a double sovereignty, is given under Egypt.) In the second edition, British possessions had been given alphabetically, and were not placed in a separate volume. The new arrangement will be found convenient. In this first volume can be traced the successive steps by which the boundaries of British possessions have been fixed, references being given to the texts of the agreements between Great Britain and other Powers contained in volumes 2 and 3, where also will be found all treaties between states other than the United Kingdom. Colonel Close's valuable map

and table (revised to January, 1909), showing the progress made in the delimitation of British frontiers in Africa, has been reproduced from the Colonial (Survey Committee's) reports; this adds distinctly to the value of the work.

Another change of importance in the book is the addition of a separate case containing forty-five maps, of which one is a general map of Africa, and the others reproductions of maps attached to original documents. They date from 1895 to 1908, and the great majority illustrate agreements to which Great Britain was a party; a few, such as the map showing the French Congo and Cameroons frontier, are of foreign possessions on both sides. Where these large-scale maps are given diagram maps have been bound up with the text, and in all other cases the best available map will also be found bound with the text.

In revising the work the editors have taken the opportunity of inserting many documents omitted from the earlier editions. The present edition is therefore much more valuable than its predecessors. It does not contain every document relating to territorial changes (for instance, the agreement concluded in 1890 by which Lewanika acknowledged the supremacy of the British South Africa Company in Barotseland is not mentioned), but its omissions are of no great consequence. The editors seem to be in error in stating (p. 285) that Nyasaland territory was ever administered by the Chartered Company; the documents cited, pp. 278-280, do not bear that construction, and the fact is that it was part of Rhodesia which was for a time under the control of the commissioner of Nyasaland, not *vice versa*. With regard to the transfer of the Independent State of the Congo to Belgium, no mention is made of the "Additional Act" (to the treaty of cession of November, 1907) of March 5, 1908, abolishing the *Domaine de la Couronne*. Possibly the annexes of the treaty of 1907 were remodelled so as to secure the object of the "Additional Act"; the point might be cleared up had a summary of those annexes been given. Criticism of this kind serves, however, but to show the general excellence of the work.

F. R. C.

SOUTH AFRICAN HISTORY.

'South Africa from the Great Trek to the Union.' By Frank R. Cana, F.R.G.S.
London: Chapman & Hall. 1909. 10s. 6d. net.

As indicated by the title and clearly stated in the preface, this is mainly a politico-historical work, dealing with the period of South African history which runs from the Great Trek movement (1836) to the present Union (1909). On the strictly historical section, which occupies the bulk of the volume, we need not dwell, beyond remarking that the claim to have treated without bias the stirring events here recorded is fully justified, due consideration being paid to the rivalries and aspirations of the two paramount British and Dutch races.

We turn, therefore to the concluding chapter, in which a summary, but on the whole very accurate, survey is given of the broad features of the region between the Cape and the Zambezi, its geographical outlines, climate, topography, inhabitants, products, and economic condition. Here the outstanding impressions made on the traveller moving northwards are vividly depicted, and we read how the successive ranges rise abruptly from the coastlands to the vast inland plateau; how isolated hills, some flat-topped, some pointed, are passed; and how all the features of the ascending karoos are repeated on an enlarged scale on the veld, the inner and limitless plain which stretches away from the last inner range to the Zambezi. The air is clear and exhilarating, the rolling grass-covered downs give the impression of the sea, from which tafelberg, kopje, and rand rise like islands. But the English visitor feels a great sense of loss—there are no trees, nor is there any running water, even the Orange and the Vaal and all the other streams being empty