
Review

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NOTICES OF BOOKS

Tales of Aegean Intrigue. By J. C. LAWSON. Pp. 271. London: Chatto & Windus, 1920. 12s. 6d.

The writer of these tales served during the War as Naval Intelligence Officer in Crete, and had consequently exceptional opportunities of applying his wide knowledge of the Greeks and their ways to the picturesque incidents which such service provokes. He seems to have taken an active part in the events which resulted in the National Defence Movement, and the establishment of a Venizelist administration in insular Greece. As he confines himself to what he himself saw or experienced, some knowledge of the main course of events is presupposed, if these 'Tales' are to be fitted into their place in it. He has clear and emphatic views on some defects in our organisation and war-policy, which are commended to those whom they concern. Of less ephemeral interest are the examples of propaganda-literature and mock-ballad in local dialect; and those who have seen other specimens will wish Mr. Lawson had printed more.

A Description of the Monuments of Cyprus. By GEORGE JEFFREY, F.S.A. Pp. 467, 37 text-illustrations, 5 plates. Nicosia: Government Printing Office, 1918. 7s. 6d.

Mr. Jeffrey has been for many years Inspector of Ancient Monuments in Cyprus, and has exceptionally detailed acquaintance with architectural remains of all periods in the island. This handbook, therefore, is based on close personal observations throughout, and is a most valuable record of the present state of the monuments which it describes. The brief Introduction brings together all the general information as to the administration and topography of the island, which is necessary for the purposes of such an archaeological survey, with a select bibliography, list of maps of Cyprus, and outlines of a classification of the ancient buildings by period, and style, and purpose.

The body of the book is arranged topographically, and would serve therefore as a guide, as well as inventory, for any student who might follow in the author's steps; and as even the smaller settlements are distributed in accordance with natural features, they fall naturally into groups along the principal routes. At the end of the book are notes on the history and chronology of Cyprus, on mediaeval costume (in relation to the sculptured tombs of the period) and on the Venetian officials whose names are likely to be met in inscriptions. There is a full index; adequate plans, and a few well-selected photographs.

Mr. Jeffrey is much to be congratulated on the completion of this important and very handy volume. It reveals, as nothing else could, the wealth of ancient remains in this curious region, and the devoted enthusiasm which the author has devoted to their study and conservation.

J. L. M.

Under the Turks in Constantinople. By G. F. ABBOTT. Pp. 418. London: Macmillan & Co., 1920. 18s.

This book contains a record of the Embassy of Sir John Finch to Turkey, 1674 to 1681. It has a commendatory Foreword by Lord Bryce, and as a frontispiece a reproduction of the portrait of Finch by Carlo Dolci.