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one of the best accounts that have appeared for a long time of Asiatic Turkey and its peoples. Incidentally, the book has the good fortune to be the most recent picture of an area of real importance in war and diplomacy at the present time; but as an appreciation of a typical portion of unchanging Anatolia, it is of permanent value.

In writing a notice of a book so full of acute observation and sagacious reflection, it is impossible to do more than glance at a few features, selected at random, which appear typical of its merits. The geographer, the historian, the ethnologist, the politician will each find much in it to interest him. The Turk—studied both *in parvo* in types like Igshan and in the large—the Armenian, the American missionary, the German railway pioneer have all their portraits drawn with a sure touch. All the life of the Turkish road and roadside, town and village and khan, is set out in clear lines, making the book as indispensable to future travellers as Murray's Guide. The reader learns, without formal instruction, how to conduct himself in a khan, how to pass strangers on the road, how to get on with his servant, how to make coffee, what to do and what not to do. The law and custom of irrigation, the goat as a factor in economic geography, Turkish and Armenian soldiers, the cave-dwellers of Cappadocia, the Pheidian Greek fisherman in the gorge—there is no limit to the good things which might be singled out for comment or quotation, if space were available.

The physical geography of the region traversed is lightly touched on, in accordance with the plan of the book. Mr. Childs has the geographer's eye and instinct—witness his description of the character of the Anatolian plateau on p. 29, or his remarks on Turkish roads on pp. 98, 178, or his shrewd characterization of the Alexandretta region towards the end of the book. Is it too much to hope that there still lies buried among his notes a good deal of information on the dull but useful subject of topography? For those interested in the cartography of Asia Minor there could be no more welcome publication than a detailed account of Mr. Childs' routes, with the mileage and the physical features of the roadside. It is likely to be many years before this region is accurately surveyed, and no traveller can perform a greater service to students of the geography of the country through which he passes than to help to provide them with a map.

The photographs are all good, and often excellent. We have seldom seen a better representation of the imperturbable, honest, old-at-fifty Anatolian peasant than Mr. Childs' photograph of Igshan.

W. M. C.

AMERICA

Tramping through Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras.— Harry A. Franck. London: Unwin. 1916. Pp. 378. *Illustrations.* 7s. 6d. net.

The sub-title of this book is 'The Random Notes of an Inveterate Vagabond,' and it is an appropriate one, if no evil significance is attached to the last word. The author might be called a prince of the walking tour, so much favoured years ago by the English student. Full of Yankee vigour and freshness, he shows remarkable energy and powers of endurance, and a good temper unruffled by the most trying circumstances. Starting from Laredo on the Texas frontier he crossed the Rio Grande into Mexico, and made his way through Monterey and San Luis Potosi to Guanajuato. Here he tarried for a time and took up temporary employment in the silver-mine of Pinguico, 8000 feet above sea-level, of which he gives a lively account. After a visit to Lake Chapala he reached Mexico. This city did not impress him favourably,

and he is soon at Puebla, the third city of the Republic. Hence he took a three hours' walk, commanding splendid views, to Cholula, the site of a famous Aztec temple. From the top of the celebrated pyramid spreads a scene rarely surpassed, including the snow-covered peaks of Orizaba and Popocatepetl. Dropping 2000 feet to Cordoba he traversed a rich tropical country to Santa Lucrecia and Tehuantepec. He here notices a change in the manners of the people compared with those of the plateau. They are less sulky but more lazy, less obtrusive but more friendly, and with a complete lack of obsequiousness. Apart from the Tehuantepec women, whose beauty and physique excite his admiration, he has however little praise for any of the people he met. He dwells on their ignorance, laziness, uncleanness, and entire want of energy and initiative. This is especially the case with those he encountered during his remarkable tramp through the tropical, hilly country of Honduras. "The inhabitants of the Hondurean wilds," he says, "are distinctly less human in their habits than the wild men of the Malay Peninsula." He visited the famous ruins of Copan and Quirigua, but they elicit nothing more than a few cursory remarks. After reaching Tegucigalpa, the city of the silver hills, the capital of Honduras, more than 3000 feet above the sea, he descended to the coast and took ship for Panama.

The author's descriptions of scenes and people are forceful, fresh, and lively. But they come so quick and fast, his energy is so exuberant, that one is carried along as by a fast-flowing stream, with no time to dwell on details. He seems to have no time to stay anywhere. There is no purpose, no moral apparent. It is a case of the sheer enjoyment of an abounding vitality, of a vigorous personality, which is communicated to the reader, who finds every page of interest. The author carried with him a camera, and it fortunately escaped confiscation by the authorities. What good use he made of it is shown by the excellent and very clear photographs, eighty-eight in number, adorning his pages.

E. A. P.

GENERAL

The Earliest Voyages round the World, 1519-1617.— Edited by P. F. Alexander. Cambridge University Press. 1916. Pp. xxiii. and 216. 3s. net.

Anything which makes the famous pages of Hakluyt more interesting and attractive and more likely to be read is to be welcomed. The little book before us (the second to appear of the "Cambridge Travel Books") does a good work therefore by giving clearly in good print, with illustrations, two of the most famous voyages in Hakluyt's collection, those of Drake and Cavendish. They are preceded by Pigafetta's account of Magellan's great voyage, and followed by a brief extract from that of Lemaire and Schouten relating how Cape Horn was first rounded. There are several maps and illustrations. The latter include portraits of Magellan, Drake, Cavendish and Schouten; more of the former, fuller and more clearly printed, would have made the work still more valuable. This is a book which can be put into the hands of young people with some hope of its being read. In fact, it is to be desired that it may be used as a reading-book in schools in connection with the study of Geography. It is unfortunate that so much of the romance of geography is lost by the way in which it is taught in schools. Any one who has a wide experience of how geography strikes the young mind can have little doubt that one of the best ways of gaining its interest, and even enthusiasm, for the subject is through the historical side. This is not to be wondered at when we recall