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Review: The Exploration of Further India

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that the subject itself was one requiring vast research, and that the author has not been able to make himself as familiar with the latest outcome of that investigation as he has been with the physiography of the country. One can say, indeed, of ethnography as the Irish lady said of scratching—once you begin, it's hard to stop!

J. A. B.

THE EXPLORATION OF FURTHER INDIA.

'The Story of Exploration.' Edited by J. Scott Keltie. 'Further India.' By Hugh Clifford, C.M.G. London: Lawrence & Bullen. 1904. *Maps and Illustrations.* Price 7s. 6d.

Mr. Clifford is much to be envied the task which fell to him when called upon to write the story of exploration in Further India. To the general glamour of the East, with its barbaric pomp and more or less mysterious origins, is added in this case, as a further source of interest, the exuberance of the natural forces which oppose the hardy explorer in the jungles and river gorges of the great Eastern peninsula, while the unhackneyed nature of the subject—for to the general public even the main actors, such as Mendez Pinto or Francis Garnier, are somewhat shadowy personages—is another decided advantage. Mr. Clifford's literary experience has enabled him to weave a story of romantic interest from these favourable materials. While the great bulk of the book is devoted to the modern exploration, and of this again a preponderating part, no doubt of set purpose, to the Lagrée-Garnier expedition, the opening chapters give a brief but effective view of the main historical epochs, each marking a definite stage in the gradual unfolding of these Eastern regions to the Western world. The author's standpoint is throughout, in fact, more pronouncedly historical than geographical, and there is little definite attempt to sketch the broad geographical problems which awaited solution at successive epochs, and which, somewhat strangely, are most fully touched upon in the concluding chapter. This is, perhaps, due to the geographical restrictions by which the author seems to have felt himself bound, most of the questions involved, *e.g.* that of the source of the Irawadi, being equally the concern of neighbouring regions.

Among the many interesting questions connected with the early intercourse between this region and the West, or nearer East, Mr. Clifford deals with the possible location of the Biblical Ophir in the Malay peninsula (a theory towards which he seems favourably inclined); the explanation of the statements of Marinus and Ptolemy, and the identification of the latter's Catigara in Southern China; the opening of the regular sea-route round the Malay peninsula, with its development in course of time into a well-frequented track; followed by the voyages along it of Marco Polo and other mediæval travellers. Then comes the irruption of the Portuguese "filibusters," as they no doubt are rightly termed, and the establishment of Portuguese supremacy under the stern and pitiless energy of men like Albuquerque; the successful rivalry of the Dutch and English, and the development of their commercial undertakings; and, finally, the detailed story of modern exploration, centred, as before noted, in the personality of Francis Garnier and the exploration of the Mekong, but comprising abundant details on British activity further west, as represented in the work of Hannay, McLeod, Richardson, McCarthy, and others. A special chapter deals with the problem presented by the evidence of a former Khmer civilization in the ruins at Angkor Wat.

On a few points of detail Mr. Clifford falls into inaccuracies, showing him to be not quite at home in some of the outlying parts of his subject, while the researches of some former writers (Schlegel, Anderson, Gerini, etc.) seem to have escaped

him. Thus we miss any reference to recent discussions on localities mentioned by old travellers, such as the Dondin and Nicoveran of Oderic. A somewhat fuller treatment might have been accorded, perhaps, the early modern period, particularly the establishment of English trade with Siam; no mention being made of the voyage of the *Globe* under Hippon. But considerations of space no doubt stood in the way here. And any slight defects are fully compensated by the author's personal knowledge of the countries and peoples of which he writes, which enables him to impart a high degree of actuality to his narratives, the human interest of which is one of their prominent features. The book is excellently illustrated by maps and photographs.

AFFAIRS OF ASIA.

'On the Outskirts of Empire in Asia.' By the Earl of Ronaldshay. Blackwood & Sons. 1904. Pp. xxii., 408. *With two Maps.* Price 21s. net.

This is a skilful compilation by a well-known Asiatic traveller. The map at the opening of the volume shows Lord Ronaldshay's journeys, which are here set forth, to extend from Constantinople to Tokio. The line leads by Konia, Aleppo, and Mosul to Bagdad, thence to Teheran, to Resht and Baku, across the Caspian, to Merv and Bokhara. From his route, thence north-eastward, the author turns aside twice, into the Tian Shan, and into the district of the Lesser Altai. Thereafter he joins the railway, travels by it to Port Arthur, and visits Pekin and Wei-hai-wei, besides Japan. Truly a comprehensive course, well fitting the author for his ultimate task in the present volume, which is to set forth in sectional analysis the large political problems of the East, both Near, Middle, and Far. But the book is by no means a political treatise only. Lord Ronaldshay affords his readers a geographical groundwork by describing his travels at length, and makes full use of his power of clear narrative; in fact, the descriptive part of the book is considerably the larger. A short section of the book (three chapters) is devoted to sport, in successful search of which the author paid his visits to the Tian Shan and the Siberian Altai. A book of this sort, of course, contains no scientific or specialized matter, but as regards general information, Lord Ronaldshay writes almost encyclopædically. Consequently, the student of Asiatic affairs need not go beyond this book for a groundwork in his subject, and will have the advantage of finding his information in an excellent geographical setting. There are good photographs, and, besides the general map, one of Asiatic Turkey having particular concern with the Bagdad railway, to which the author devotes an interesting chapter.

AFRICA.

AFRICAN RACES.

'Recherches anthropologiques dans l'Afrique orientale: Égypte.' Par Ernest Chantre. 4°. xviii., 318. *Illustrated.* Lyons: Rey. 1904.

The author, who has been occupied for a long time with Egyptian skull-forms, here puts forth, in a magnificent volume, a general survey of the results attained by himself in the special studies which he made on the spot between 1898 and 1904, combined with the records and observations of other anthropologists. He begins from the earliest times, the Stone Age, of which many relics were found by various explorers between 1868 and 1894; but he hardly gives credit where credit is due. For unquestionably it was Prof. Petri's discovery of his "New Race" cemetery near Nagada, in 1895, which first brought these isolated observations into mutual relation and prominence. That explorer certainly was the first to give the