
Review

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west fringe of the Red Basin of Szechuen, and their results are embodied in Richthofen's 'China,' vol. 3. Among the physical features of the country to which attention is specially called by the author are the huge trenches in the Tala steppe, the erratic blocks and vast moraines in the Bayan Kara and other western ranges far distant from any existing glacier field, the existence of loess in widely separated districts in most of the country traversed, and the presence of sand-dunes among the morasses of Odontala, where holding ground for tents was difficult to find.

The photographs are excellent and most varied in spite of losses and many accidents, and the map (a second volume of maps of the journey in Tibet, in thirty-seven sheets, has been published, but is not in the library of the Society) which accompanies the second volume is well executed. Indeed, the only imperfection in the book is the index, which is not complete.

W. R. CARLES.

REVIEWS.

EUROPE.

Early Distribution and Valley-ward Movement of Population in South Britain.—

H. J. Fleure and Wallace E. Whitehouse, of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. Reprinted from *Archæologia Cambrensis*, April 1916.

THE authors of this paper give evidence to show that the areas of South Britain attractive to primitive man were "dry uplands with a porous subsoil, suitable pasture, and a convenient water and fuel supply, with access to raw material for the making of implements" (p. 110), such as are to be found on the Chalk Downs, the Derbyshire Moorlands, the Pennine Range, the Yorkshire Wolds, and the Malvern Hills. A map (p. 107) shows their conjectural distribution in Neolithic times, during which, as well as possibly during much later times, people must have lived "mostly either on the uplands exceeding 600 feet in height or along a coastal fringe," whereas "modern man in South Britain lives, as a general rule, below the 400-feet contour line" (pp. 23-24). Among evidences adduced for the valley-ward movements are facts indicating the survival of descendants of the Neolithic upland folk in inland valleys of those uplands and some features of "the distribution of old villages in several districts along hillsides sloping down from prehistoric uplands" (pp. 124-126). Nearly all the lower tracts in early times must have been forest or marsh, and the descent of man was prepared for by the downward retrogression of the forest, partly in consequence of man's action, partly through the natural extension of peat or heath on the forest fringe (pp. 128-131). The authors show no disposition to exaggerate the cogency of the evidence for their thesis, and state in conclusion that the purpose of their paper is "mainly to draw the attention of local archæologists and geographers to the importance of recording any evidences in custom or right or monument of the valley-ward movement, and to ask those who study records to collect mentions of forest clearings and of pastoral migrations and other related matters" (p. 139). At the end there is a bibliography containing forty-seven entries.

G. G. C.