

WILEY



Review: Iceland

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of the wider territory assigned for the use of the capital the principal consideration was water-supply, both for domestic purposes and also for the supply of power and for the creation of ornamental waters. This led to the inclusion of the whole catchment areas of the Cotter, Molonglo, and Queanbeyan rivers, somewhat exceeding 1000 square miles, as it was felt to be of the utmost importance that the whole area whence the supply might be obtained should be under Federal control. The present population within the territory is only about 4000. Of the rivers mentioned, the Cotter has the advantage of affording a supply of perennially clear and pure water, probably sufficient for domestic purposes, but for power it might be necessary to use the supply of the other two rivers. In order to regulate their flow and conserve a supply for ornamental purposes, the construction of weirs on their upper reaches is proposed. As a port for the capital, Jervis bay is considered to meet the requirements in a satisfactory manner, the most suitable area being situated at its southern extremity. A practicable route for a railway connecting it with the capital has been provisionally laid down.

REVIEWS.

EUROPE.

ICELAND.

'Isafold, Reisebilder aus Island.' Von Ina von Grumbkow. Berlin: Dietrich Reimer (Ernst Vohsen). 1909. Pp. 292. Price 6m.

'Wüstenritte und Vulkanbesteigungen auf Island.' Von Carl Küchler, M. PHIL. Altenburg, S.-A.: Stephan Geibel Verlag. 1909. Price 6m.

THESE books are popular descriptions of travel in Iceland, and describe much the same part of the island, especially the northern region: Akureyri, the Myvatn, the Odáahraun, and neighbourhood. Herr Küchler, who is the author of several works on Iceland, its people and literature, here aims at giving a simple description of incidents of travel, the country, and life in Iceland as they appear to the ordinary traveller, omitting all scientific matter. Fräulein von Grumbkow penetrated more deeply into the interior, the object of her journey being to inquire into the fate of her *fiancé*, Walther von Knebel, who was lost in 1907 on a lake in the Askja-cauldron. When Thoroddsen visited the Askja in 1884 there was a small pool of hot water in the south-eastern corner of the cauldron, whereas in 1907 a large lake was found partly covered with a sheet of ice. The breadth of the cauldron, which lies in the Dyngufjöll, is about $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and the lake, named the Knebel lake by Fräulein von Grumbkow, measures $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 miles across. Close to its northern bank lies a crater sinking to a depth of 260 feet, from which a violent eruption took place in 1875. This was named after the young painter Max Rudloff who perished with Dr. von Knebel. Dr. Reck, who accompanied the authoress, descended by a rope to the edge of the boiling sulphurous water in the crater. Both books are profusely illustrated.

W. A. T.

'Guide to Avebury and Neighbourhood.' By R. Hippisley Cox. (London: Stanford. 1909. Pp. 68. *Maps*. 2s.) This is a useful brief guide to a prehistoric site which, if of less popular interest than Stonehenge owing to the less perfect condition of the remains, is of even deeper interest to antiquarians. The book is carefully mapped, and deals almost entirely with prehistoric remains; the references to places and buildings of historic interest in the Avebury district are somewhat exiguous.

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