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malignorum spirituum, "by the cold blasts of glaciers and the Pennine hosts of demons"—an expert in cursing!

Reference to Mommsen's 'Corpus Inscriptionum' shows that the inscription found near Vogogna refers to a road in Val d'Ossola, and has little or no bearing on the existence of a Roman road over the Simplon. We agree with Dr. Scheffel in thinking that there is not sufficient evidence as yet forthcoming for such a road.

The Saracenic incursions are but slightly dealt with. We are surprised to find the name "Pontresina" quoted as a trace of their passage. It is true that in several documents bearing dates between A.D. 1139 and 1303 the village is referred to as Pons Saracenus. But this form would be a natural invention for a mediæval scribe, who failed to recognize in Pons Rhætiae a more plausible origin for the Romansch 'Pontraschin' still in local use (see *Alpine Journal*, vol. 17, p. 421; and Coolidge, 'Haute Engadine et Bregaglia à travers les Siècles,' Zürich, 1894). The endeavour to trace Saracens by Alpine place-names has led to some strange vagaries. Castelmur, the Roman station *Ad murum* in the Bregaglia, has found writers to connect it with the Moors, while in the Saasthal there has been no limit to the extravagances in dealing with the local nomenclature. Among routes of commerce the Passo di San Marco—as its name suggests a Venetian short cut across the Bergamasque Alps to the Splügen—and the combination of the Albula, the Bernina and the Julier Passes by which Benvenuto Cellini got across the Alps, and Lassels managed "to pop up at Brescia," will call for notice—at any rate in the final volume. On the very interesting legends current in the Western Trentino of a march made by Charles the Great from the Adige Valley up Val di Sole, and over the Tonale to Val Camonica and Brescia we gain some light. Dr. Scheffel has satisfactorily shown that there is little difficulty in fitting such a march into the annals of the time, and we can see no reason for discrediting a legend probable in itself and substantially supported.

It is impossible in the limits of a review in this *Journal* to deal adequately with the mass of historical facts collected and the variety of topics suggested in these valuable volumes. They can be cordially recommended to readers who wish to know more of the place in history of the mountains that divide without separating Europe.

D. W. F.

REVIEWS.

EUROPE.

La Route des Dolomites. Tyrol et Cadore.— Gabriel Faure. Grenoble : J. Rey. 1914. 20s.

THE only fault there is to find with this attractive volume is that the illustrations and the letterpress do not fit as exactly as they might. We notice some illustrations to which there is no corresponding description, and others which seem to have

got out of their proper place. The letterpress does not pretend to be more than an agreeable companion to the traveller who passes eastwards from Botzen over the new military road to Cortina, and thence southwards to Pieve di Cadore, the birthplace of Titian. We have only noted one slip: the first ascent of the Marmolata by Paul Grohmann was in 1863, not 1879. The second ascent in the following year was by Mr. Tuckett and his friends.

The value of the work lies in its abundant illustrations, many of which are of great beauty, while others illustrate the extraordinary structure and forms assumed under weathering by dolomitic rock. An attempt, only partially successful, has been made in a few coloured plates to reproduce the colours that these weird crags are apt to assume in the sunset hour.

In the titles of the plates the reader will recognize many of the local names that appear daily in our newspapers. "The route of the Dolomites" is in the heart of the fighting-line.

D. W. F.

ASIA.

Travels East of Suez.— **Rachael Humphreys, F.R.G.S.** London: Heath, Cranton, & Ouseley. 1915. Pp. 223. *Illustrations*, 7s. 6d. net.

The authoress gives a sprightly account of a winter tour in Ceylon, Northern India, and Burma. Bhamo was the limit of the tour, in more ways than one. The book is a fresh and ingenuous record of travels along frequented routes.

AFRICA.

The Rediscovered Country.— **Stewart Edward White, F.R.G.S.** *Illustrated.* London, New York, Toronto: Hodder & Stoughton. N.D. [1915]. 10s. 6d. net.

The "Rediscovered Country" is the north-east corner of German East Africa, from about the Natron Lake to near Victoria Nyanza. The author claims that this land is "the very last virgin game field of any size"—whether in Africa or the whole world is meant is not clear—which remained to be explored. No sportsman had previously entered it, and large areas had not been visited by any white man, but as it had been roughly mapped by German officials Mr. White is content to call himself and his companion, Mr. R. J. Cuninghame, its rediscoverers. The journey described was made presumably in 1913, though the date is not given (also there is no date of publication of the book). The country was found to consist partly of a tangle of rugged mountains, partly of a rolling plain covered with thin thorn forest. The chief river is the Mara. The region is very sparsely inhabited. Three tribes, all apparently Bantu, are distinguished; they should repay further study.

Mr. White is an experienced traveller and hunter-naturalist, and his delight in this virgin hunting field will be shared by all big-game shooters. Here were found lion, elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, giraffe, buffalo and zebra, besides greater kudu, eland, impalla, and many other species of antelope and other game. In places thousands of animals were seen at one time. The author records his adventures vivaciously, and in his native language—Mr. White is an American—as one brief citation will show: "Hard climb, and we sure perspired some." The encounter with four lions makes a thrilling story, but the best yarn in the book is that of the hunt after elephant in the Kenia forest on the way home. Mention must also be made of the valuable contribution to the "concealing coloration theory," though we cannot enter here into a discussion of that difficult problem.

By some strange mischance the book is published without a map, and