

WILEY



Review

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Source: *The Geographical Journal*, Vol. 46, No. 5 (Nov., 1915), p. 389

Published by: geographicalj

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1780212>

Accessed: 17-04-2016 19:45 UTC

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researches of the six members to whom the inquiries were entrusted. The head of the mission was the Senator L. Franchetti, who was accompanied by five professors, each a specialist in his own particular line of study. These comprised subjects such as (1) the social and economic conditions of the natives; (2) topography, geology, and water-supply; (3) flora and botany; (4) agriculture; and (5) pasture and grazing. It would be quite beyond the scope of a short review to convey an accurate idea of the resources and character of so extensive a country as the new possession acquired by Italy in Tripolitania. The Jebel or tableland to which the descriptions and photographs of the present work mostly apply comprises two large tracts (Gharian and Tarhuna) of the hinterland south of the ports of Tripoli and Homs; these tracts are scantily watered by the "wadys" or intermittent substitutes for streams, which for the most part flow from the steeper parts of the Gebel across the lowland to the sea-coast. Trees are not plentiful, and such kinds as olives, jujubes, acacias, palms, figs, etc., are only sparsely to be found, as may be seen from the numerous photographs with which the work is illustrated and which on the whole convey the idea of a somewhat sterile and forbidding landscape. Here and there, however, some well-wooded clumps of fairly luxuriant and well-shaped olive trees present quite a European aspect, and seem to picture the general features of an English park. The general information supplied in the careful and voluminous notes, more particularly in reference to the natural resources of this ancient Roman dependency, should prove most instructive and serviceable to those officials to whom the development of the country will be entrusted hereafter.

EGYPT.

'An Englishman's Recollections of Egypt, 1863 to 1887.' With an Epilogue dealing with the present time, 1914. By Baron de Kusel (Bey). London: John Lane. 1915. *Map and 32 Illustrations.* 10s. 6d. net.

Baron de Kusel's recollection covers a very interesting period in Egyptian history. When he went to Egypt slaves were openly sold in the markets, and Ismail had just succeeded Said Pasha as viceroy. When he left Sir Evelyn Baring (Lord Cromer) had been four years Agent General. The author was in Alexandria during the great cholera plague (1865); he was one of the guests at the opening of the Suez Canal; he was present in Abdin Square when Tewfik capitulated to Arabi; he rendered conspicuous service in Alexandria in 1882, and gives us an excellent account of life in the city before and after the bombardment. In short, Kusel Bey, who was for ten or twelve years Controller-General of the Egyptian Customs, writes at first hand about many stirring events; and if he tells us little which may be called strictly geographical, he reproduces the atmosphere of Egypt. His knowledge of Arabic helped him to gain the friendship of the natives, and though his book is largely anecdotal and lightly written there is in it an undercurrent of seriousness, and his sympathy with the people whose lot he helped to alleviate is apparent. His account of the Zobeir-Gordon incident in 1884, in which he played some part, contains hitherto unpublished information. In an epilogue Baron de Kusel (the title is Italian, granted for services to the Italian community in Egypt) records the accession of Hussein Pasha as Sultan. The illustrations, mostly from old prints, are quaint and acceptable.

F. R. C.