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Review

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A word of praise must be given to the magnificent series of plates illustrating the scenery, and the series of folding-maps and sections. This is one of the best illustrated books we have seen for a long time.

G. W. T.

MAJORCA AND MINORCA.

'The story of Majorca and Minorca.' By Sir Clements Markham. London: Smith Elder. 1908. Pp. x., 309. *Maps. Price 7s. 6d.*

The association of these islands with the story of British power in the Mediterranean makes it desirable that an authoritative history of them should be accessible. Sir Clements Markham divides his work into two parts, dealing with Majorca and Minorca respectively. The detailed history of the former begins with the operations of King Jayme I. of Aragon against the island in the first half of the thirteenth century. It is noteworthy that this ruler left an autobiography, which serves as the principal authority for his period. In the course of his narrative, Sir Clements Markham has occasion to describe "the scenery of various localities of the island, the capital in ancient times, the mountains and caves, the towns and country houses." As a conclusion, he gives a short account of the island at the present time—its physiography, inhabitants, and conditions of life, and even some directions to intending visitors. It is hardly necessary to state that descriptions from the author's practised hand are of great assistance in studying the historical chapters. As regards Minorca, we have a similar description by way of preface, after which the prehistoric remains for which the island is noted are discussed. Turning to the historical period, it is with Minorca that British interests are associated. The island was occupied in 1707, and "secured many years of good government and freedom from oppression by her connection with her English friends." It was, moreover, the possession of Port Mahon which really established England as a Mediterranean power, giving her an outpost from Gibraltar within the sea itself.

The volume possesses all the necessary attributes of a valuable history. The maps are clear. The names of the principal authorities are quoted. There is a very full index.

AFRICA.

MADAGASCAR.

'Neuf ans à Madagascar: Ouvrage illustré de soixante-douze planches de gravures tirées hors texte, et d'une Carte en couleurs.' Par Général Gallieni. Paris: Librairie Hachette et Cie. 1908. Pp. xvi., 362. 20 fr.

In this handsome and well-illustrated book, General Gallieni has given a very full account of his nine years' administration of the large island which the French declared a protectorate after their expedition of 1895, and a colony in the following year. But although they obtained possession of the ports, the capital, and some of the interior provinces, at the close of 1895 they were not masters of the country, for, before many weeks, a serious rebellion of the heathen element in the Imèrina province took place, and soon extended to many of the surrounding districts, and especially to the south and west of the island. This was an anti-Christian as well as an anti-French rising, and many native converts, as well as some European missionaries, were killed by the heathen Malagasy. After a year's time, it became evident that very vigorous efforts were needed to reduce the country to subjection; and General Gallieni, who had acquired much credit in the Tongking and other campaigns, was sent out as Governor-General and Commander-in-chief of the French forces.

No. V.—MAY, 1909.]

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