

Review: Kamchatka

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In the present volume the author describes his homeward journey from the Hwang-ho round the western end of Kuku-nor, across the Nan-shan and Pe-shan, for the most part by routes lying to the south-west of his outward course, and along the northern flank of the Tian-shan. To the geographical worker this record of observations will not have lost its usefulness by lapse of time, and the delay in publication has had this advantage, that the author has been able to compare his results with those of later travellers—Obruchef, Futterer, Kozlof, etc. The book also contains several interesting chapters on ethnological and zoological subjects, a list of botanical specimens, and other scientific matter.

KAMCHATKA.

'Po Zapadnomu Beregu Kamchatki.' V. N. Tiushova. St. Petersburg: Typographia M. Stasiulevicha. 1906. Pp. 521. (Zapishi of the Russ. Geogr. Soc., vol. 37, No. 2.)

Dr. Tiushof has passed more than ten years in Kamchatka, and in numerous journeys, in connection with his professional duties, has become acquainted with many remote parts of the peninsula. Not having had a scientific training, he claims no scientific importance for these records, but a careful observer may collect many details which may be utilized by others. And this seems to be the opinion of Mr. Bogdanovich, who has marked his approval of the work by writing an introduction. He takes exception to the author's conclusion that the surface form of the tundra of the west coast lands is due to marine action, and that of the higher tundra to the action of glaciers. There is no evidence of a Post-Pliocene sea extending to the foot of the central chain, and the glaciers of Kamchatka have attained a great development only in certain parts. The most valuable part of the work, Mr. Bogdanovich affirms, is the account of the inhabitants. The life of the Kamchadales, their occupations and industries, are most interestingly portrayed, and since Krasheninnikof's book this is the first attempt to depict the native of Kamchatka as a human being.

In these pages Dr. Tiushof takes the reader from Petropavlovsk to Apacha and Bolsheretsk, and thence across the coastal lands to Tigil. A special chapter is devoted to the language of the Kamchadales. A reproduction of the map drawn up by MM. Bogdanovich and Leliakin in 1901 is appended, in which their transcription of the place-names is retained, simply to avoid the labour of alteration, though the author's geographical nomenclature is undoubtedly more correct.

AFRICA.

SOUTH-WEST AFRICA.

Aus Namaland and Kalahari.' By Dr. Leonard Schultze, Professor of Zoology in the University of Jena. With 25 Photographic Plates, a Map, and 286 Illustrations in the Text. Pp. xiv. + 752. Jena: Gustav Fischer. 1907.

As explained in the long sub-title, and more fully in the preface, this really ponderous tome—it weighs nearly 8 lbs., and being of large quarto size cannot be handled without great inconvenience—is an official report which the author has presented to the Prussian Royal Academy of Sciences on his explorations in parts of South-West Africa during the years 1903–1905. The surprise that such a huge volume should be needed for the purpose of recording the observations made in a tolerably well-known corner of the continent, long under European administration, is increased when we learn that all the usual incidents of travel are omitted, while the rich biological collections are reserved for separate treatment by specialists. Here we have, in fact, little more than a very careful physiographical survey of the inhospitable seaboard, and of the still more inhospitable inland districts visited by