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an excellent illustration of the extraordinary physiography of a most remarkable region, but also furnishes us with an outline of well-constructed and thoroughly sound geographical mapping which has earned for its author the highest distinction which the Royal Geographical Society can bestow.

T. H. H.

THE ANTARCTIC.

MR. BERNACCHI ON THE SOUTHERN CROSS ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.

Mr. Louis Bernacchi, who recently communicated to the Royal Geographical Society a paper on the scientific results of the *Southern Cross* Expedition, has given a fuller account of his experience on that expedition in a finely illustrated volume.* It gives a general account of the voyage of the *Southern Cross* and the wintering at Cape Adare, traversing the same ground as Mr. Borchgrevink's 'First on the Antarctic Continent,' but frequently containing valuable additions to our information, especially as regards the physical conditions of the ice and the nature of the rocks. Unfortunately, Mr. Bernacchi's somewhat hurried departure from this country in order to join the *Discovery* at Lyttelton prevented him from giving to the proofs the careful revision he had intended, and it is not unnatural in the circumstance that some slips have escaped correction.

If a criticism may be permitted, we would suggest that rather too much is made of the feelings and thoughts of the members of the expedition, and rather too little of the physical effects of the severe climate. Indeed, Mr. Bernacchi makes light of the discomforts of polar life, and neither he nor the majority of his companions seem to have suffered any injury from their exposure. It may be noted, however, that Mr. Hanson, the zoologist, died during the winter; Petersen, the first mate, died on the voyage home; and Dr. Klövstad, the surgeon, died soon after the return of the expedition—a mortality of three out of a total ship's company of thirty souls.

The full observations and working of the latitude and longitude taken by Mr. Colbeck at the farthest south point reached by Mr. Borchgrevink are given, and there is a short and interesting discussion of the methods of fixing latitude and longitude in the peculiar conditions of high polar latitudes. The methods of sledging are described in several places, and it is evident that the *Discovery* will be fortunate in possessing two men so experienced in sledge work as Lieut. Armitage and Mr. Bernacchi. It is unnecessary to refer to the author's original ideas as to the character of the great ice-barrier, as the earliest opportunity of putting them to the test will be afforded by the voyage of the *Discovery*, and until she has inquired into the question there are no data on which to found an argument.

The book is admirably illustrated. It contains a copy of Stanford's new antarctic map, a special chart of the route of the *Southern Cross*, and many useful diagrams. The photographs are very carefully selected; some of them are extremely beautiful, and give a vivid idea of the nature of the scenery of the ice-pack and of South Victoria Land.

* 'To the South Polar Regions. Expedition of 1898-1900.' By Louis Bernacchi. Illustrated from photographs taken by the Author. London: Hurst & Blackett, Ltd. 1901.