

ment of certain foreign and Arab officials, who, because of ignorance or other reasons, misused their office. And, perhaps for the same reasons, the Administration did not succeed much better among the tribes in different sections away from the towns and government centres.

But I am certain the readers of the report will appreciate the quantity and the quality of the work accomplished for Mesopotamia and its inhabitants; and, under increasingly improved conditions, much more good may be expected.

The pamphlet ought to interest especially advocates of Christian missions in Arabia and Mesopotamia. In it the Administration acknowledges valuable assistance obtained from the educational and medical department of the Arabian Mission, which located there many years previous, and Government there has generously praised the Mission's work, and has granted many privileges to enlarge and extend the work.

M.

Le Livre De L'Impot Foncier (*Kitab-el-Kharadj*) Abu Yousof Yakoub Traduit et annoté par E. Fagnan. pp. 352. Price 40 fr. Paul Geuthner, 13 Rue Jacob, Paris.

This translation of a standard work in a special section of Moslem law, namely the duties and tribute of non-Moslems under the Islamic state, is a worthy contribution of French scholarship to the new Bibliothèque Archéologique et Historique. It is printed under the auspices of the High Commissioner of France in Syria; the notes and indices are excellent.

Abu Yusuf was born at Kufa 731 A. D. (113 A. H.) and died in 798 A. D. The contents are summarised as follows:

"Conseils sur la conduite à tenir vis-à-vis des sujets. Partage du butin. Le *fey* et le *kharâdj*; conditions dans lesquelles eut lieu la conquête de l'Irak et de la Syrie; partage de ces pays et assignations que fit Omar I. Établissement et perception de l'impôt du Sawâd. Fiefs et impôt qui les frappe. Condition du pays de guerre et du sol d'Arabie. Les terres mortes. Terre de dîme et de *kharâdj*. Conquête de Nedjran, et sa situation spéciale. La *zekat*, son prélèvement et son affectation. Contrats de complant. Les rivières, leur usage et celui des canaux dérivés. Affermage et perception de l'impôt. Costume des tributaires; églises et synagogues. Prisons; peines écrites à qui, quand et comment appliquées. Précédés de combat admissibles. Préciput de l'Imâm. Ayants droit au butin. Les expéditions du Prophète contre la Mekke, Dhoul Khaloça, etc., attribution des biens des vaincus.

"C'est le plus ancien document qui nous soit parvenu sur la nature et le mode de prélèvement des divers impôts. Mais en outre des conseils adressés au Khalife Haroun er-Rechîd sur les procédés gouvernementaux et administratifs, et appuyés par des textes et arguments religieux, il contient de nombreux renseignements historiques puisés aux sources les plus anciennes, notamment sur la conquête de la Syrie et de la Perse. A l'attention de juriste à qui l'Ecole hanéfite doit son extension, n'achèpent ni le droit criminel ni les dîmes diverses ni les rapports avec les tributaires ou les peuples étrangers."

S. M. Z.

Le Golfe Persique. Par R. Vadala, Rousseau et Cie, Editeurs, Paris, 1920. pp. 151. Price 10 frs.

The author is well-known as a writer on economics and commercial expansion. He knows the Persian Gulf, and dedicates the book to his

wife, Christine, who died at the French Consulate at Bushire. After sketching the geography of the Persian Gulf, he traces the history of its occupations by various Asiatic and European powers. The Portuguese came as early as 1498. In 1514 they took Ormuz. The Dutch made their appearance in the Gulf in 1623. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries France appeared in the Gulf, and other European powers made attempts at settlement or political venture. The British, however, since their first visit in 1573, gradually became dominant, and are today in control. The author gives full statistics regarding commerce (emphasizing French interests), sketches a programme for future commercial development, and concludes with a select, although far from complete, bibliography covering over twenty-five pages. Valuable for reference, but without map or index, and altogether omitting the ethnology of the various races. S. M. Z.

Facts and Folks in our Fields Abroad. A History of the Achievements, Failures, Plans and Purposes of the Foreign Missionary Activity of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. By Anna A. Milligan. U. P. Board of Publication. 1921.

Miss Milligan has prepared this book particularly as a mission study work for the various organizations of her own church, and its scope is therefore limited to the fields touched by that denomination. But while it is essentially a denominational text book, it deals with the entire problem in such a way that it might well have been named *The Romance of Missions*. It is an apologetic for missions in general, and not for the United Presbyterian Church alone, and the writer does not hesitate to criticize the lack of vision of her own denomination in abandoning certain fields once entered, and in failing to grasp at once the opportunities presented by the fields now occupied.

As all students of missions know, the fields falling under the care of Miss Milligan's Board are a part of Northern India, Egypt, the Egyptian Sudan, and Abyssinia, which has been entered very recently. All the fields, and particularly the last three, lie under the pall of Islam, either by Moslem dominance, or as spheres of its missionary activity. Any one interested in the Moslem problem will find this book not only a mine of information, but will discover in it a source of inspiration and encouragement as he reads of the plans for the future and the prospects of their attainment through the "407 Movement" and the "New World Movement" of the United Presbyterian Church. And withal the book is much more than readable. It came to the study of the writer of this review in the morning mail some weeks ago, and what had been intended as a glance through it, resulted in its being read from cover to cover before being laid down. W. McCLEAN WORK.

Turkey. A World Problem of Today. By Talcott Williams. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. pp. 324. 1921. Price \$3.

The chapters, rewritten, are the Lowell Institute lectures delivered in January and February, 1920. Since then, events have moved rapidly, but it is still true, that with its problems unsolved, Turkey remains a menace to the security of the world. This book tells of its many races and religions, and the causes that have made it a battleground for thirty centuries. Talcott Williams, himself born and brought up in Turkey, gives in popular and compact form a great body of valuable information,

and indicates what he considers the solution of the problem—namely, a “Receivership” or a “Mandatory” for Constantinople and part of Asia Minor, by the United States of America.

The place-names and population estimates given, especially for Arabian territory, are not always accurate. The author knows Islam from within, and therefore concludes that it and Christianity “are at their core and centre irreconcilable. The more you see Moslems, and the more you know and like them, and come to feel for them a sincere affection as friends and companions whom you trust and value, the more you realize this. The two may agree to live and let live, but they cannot merge and speak a common tongue.”

S. M. Z.

Men and Methods That Win in the Foreign Fields. By J. R. Saunders, Th. D., of Graves Theological Seminary, Canton, China. Fleming H. Revell Company. pp. 121. Price \$1.

The author has specially in view conditions in China, yet in the main the contents of his book are applicable to other fields as well. It is not a new subject, and what he says is not always new. But on some points the line of treatment is distinctly fresh, and it is always sane and practical. The chapter on “The Spiritual Requirements” of the missionary is particularly good for its unhackneyed and very sensible suggestions. The English style in some places is not all that it might be, and the frequent use of the objectionable terms “heathen” and “natives” might well have been avoided.

J. G. HUNT.

Les Turcs Et L'Europe. By M. Gaston Gaillard, Paris, Librairie Chapelot, 136 Boulevard Saint Germain. 1920. pp. 381. Price 8 frs.

This book deals with the political questions of the Near East. It consists of nine chapters entitled as follows: I. The Turks. II. The Turkish Empire. III. Turkey during the War. IV. Turkey before the Peace Conference. V. The Occupation of Constantinople. VI. The Treaty with Turkey. VII. The Dismemberment of the Turkish Empire. VIII. The Moslems of the Former Russian Empire and Turkey. IX. Turkey and the Slavs.

In Chapter IV, the author touches on what he calls the Anglo-American Protestant campaign against Turkey. He considers the Anglo-American conception of the solution of the Turkish problem to be based on “professional preoccupations,” “a pseudo-religious movement,” which is only a cover under which “vast commercial enterprises” can be launched. He considers “that every enterprise against Islam or against any other Oriental religion can only serve to reinforce the power of the Roman Catholic Church. . . . that Islam and the other Oriental cults counterbalance legitimately Rome’s dreams against hegemony.” He considers pan-Slavism to be the real enemy, and that towards this end it is in the interests of Europe not to combat Islamism, but to uphold it as being opposed to pan-Slavism. For him also Islamism represents in the East a counter-weight to Protestantism, and he says: “In our opinion there would be cause for anxiety about the future of the thought and morals of the sixty millions of Moslems in India and of its two hundred and twenty millions of Brahmanists, Buddhists, and the votaries of other sects, if they should ever be converted by the Lloyd Georges and become Protestants.” (!!) It is difficult to believe that the author writes this in all seriousness. Chapter VII deals with the question

Turco-Armenian, Turks and Arabs, the Syrian Questions, etc. It would seem that the greatest of misfortunes for Islam would be to have its interests bound up with those of Turkey. PERCY SMITH.

An Introduction to Mayhayana Buddhism. By Dr. W. M. McGovern, London. Kegan Paul. pp. 233. Price 7/6d.

This work is designed to supply the average cultured reader with a brief and simple guide to Buddhism, with special references to the Chinese and Japanese phases. It is a general sketch, not a detailed study of the main features of the religion, and concludes with a Short History of Buddhism and Buddhistic Sects, and a survey of Buddhistic Literature. S. M. Z.

Bahai, The Spirit of the Age. By Horace Holley. pp. 211. Price \$2.50. Brentano's. New York, 1921.

We are faced on the cover of the book with this sweeping assertion; "Progressive people of all types and classes recognize the Bahai Movement as the long-awaited World Religion." The truth of this statement depends wholly on the definition of "progressive people." If the comparatively few ill-balanced Americans and Europeans who have become the followers of Abdul Baha are the progressives, then and only then is the declaration true. Such exaggerated assertions as this are the Bahais' chief stock in trade from Teheran to San Francisco; and this book in this particular is a sample of all Bahai literature. Let us give one example.

Speaking of the Bab, the so-called forerunner of Baha'o'llah, (to use the orthography of the book), as "the first of the three Cosmic Points, which determines the plain of reality" (whatever that may mean), the author launches out into this magnificent claim. "To that Point converged the History of all peoples, the progress of all nations. For this Point Paul became a witness. For this Point Plato became a witness. For this Point the pyramids were measured; the Zodiac hung to girdle time. . . . Of this Point Buddha meditated under the tree of Spiritual wisdom. Before the emanation of this Point, History was naught but unintelligible chaos, without being, without ending, without purpose, without progress, without form save only as a secret to a few." And all this we are asked to take on the word of—whom? The principle is a simple one. If you will only speak confidently, earnestly and insistently enough some one will believe you, no matter what your claim.

This book also illustrates a second characteristic of all Bahai propaganda—a cool indifference to facts, or to speak more frankly, a deliberate misstatement of facts. Of this too we can give but one example. We are told that Baha'o'llah was "a forty years' prisoner in a vile Turkish dungeon." The facts are these. For two years he was confined in barracks at Acca; he was restricted to his own home for nine more years; and for the rest of the time until his death he lived in a palatial residence, called Bahja, which he built for himself outside of Acca. In this period he had the freedom of the country, and was in no sense confined. These facts have been so often pointed out that the misstatement we fear is deliberately put forth to win the undeserved sympathy of the uninformed.

A third characteristic of Bahai literature seen in this book to perfection, although we believe the author is a son of the West rather than of