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Asia.

Futterer.

Durch Asien, Erfahrungen, Forschungen und Sammlungen (Band I. Geographische Charakter-Bilder). Von Dr. K. Futterer. With 203 Illustrations in the Text, 40 Plates, two Coloured Plates, and Map. Berlin, Reimer, 1901, pp. xxv, 545. Price 20 marks. **34**

Dr. Futterer, Professor of Geology and the allied studies in the Grand-Ducal Technical High School at Karlsruhe, gives us in this stout volume of 570 large octavo pages, the first fruits of the great Asiatic expedition of 1897-99, which was conducted by his friend Dr. Holderer of Heidelberg, and in which he took part as geologist, geographer, anthropologist, and general historian. Even the natural history department fell largely to his share; most of the flowering plants from the Gobi Desert were collected by him; the unbroken record of daily meteorological observations from Russian Turkestan to Shanghai, together with numerous determinations of altitudes and latitudes are amongst the more important results of his untiring energy, and of a fortunate arrangement with the leader of the expedition, by which our author was enabled to devote most of his time to exclusively scientific work. The rich and extremely diversified materials thus collected along a route extending from the Caspian Sea to the Pacific Ocean will ultimately form the subject-matter of three uniform volumes, the contents of which are thus distributed: I. Geographical descriptions, incidents of travel, natural history, and ethnographic details, illustrated by numerous reproductions of photographs, nearly all taken by Dr. Futterer himself; II. Geological observations and the discussion of the more important general problems suggested by them; III. Essays on the meteorological, palæontological, zoological, and botanical results of the expedition.

Of this encyclopædic programme most of our readers will be mainly interested in that section which has already appeared, and is comprised between the two covers of the volume under notice. Here has been brought together a great quantity of valuable ethnological matter carefully collected from regions which are seldom visited by good observers, although presenting many points that are attractive to the anthropological student. This will be at once apparent when it is stated that the route followed by the expedition traversed the whole of Western (Russian) and Eastern (Chinese) Turkestan, skirted the northern and more thickly inhabited districts of the Tarim (Lob-nor) basin, penetrated eastwards to Hami (Khamil), crossed the Gobi wilderness from this place in a south-easterly direction to the Kuku-Nor province of North-eastern Tibet; here struck again eastwards over the Ala-shan range into Kansu; thence to Si-ngan-fu, earliest seat of the Chinese race in the Wei-ho valley, and so on through the heart of China (just before the present troubles) to the great city of Han-kow, and down the Yang-tse-kiang to Shanghai. Thus were offered and largely utilized endless opportunities of studying in their homes a great number of peoples, such as the Turkomans, the Usbeks, the Tajiks, Sartes, Galchas, Kirghizes, Dungans, Taranches, Kashgarians, Kalmaks, Eastern Mongols, Tanguts, and Chinese peoples, showing collectively almost every imaginable shade of transition between the two great Caucasian and Mongolic divisions of mankind. Unfortunately, owing to the lack of interpreters, and the coyness or superstitious fears of the aborigines, especially in the more remote eastern lands, the attempts to procure anthropometric data mostly proved abortive. Hence the accurate measurements, which are here conveniently tabulated in the appendix, are mainly confined to the Central and West Asiatic peoples, including various groups of Kirghizes, Sartes, and Kashgarians. But these measurements extend in some instances to such minute details—colour of exposed and covered parts, cranial and pelvic indices, length of the extremities, of femur, tibia, digits, nails, texture of the hair, shape, position, and colour of the eye, and so on—that they may be fairly described as exhaustive. In fact, so far as

regards their physical characters certain natives of Chinese Turkestan are now better known to science than perhaps any single inhabitant of these islands. In other respects, also, the picture is often very complete, and we learn, for instance, that the term *Sart* appears to have no ethnical value, though this was no doubt already known in a general way from other sources. The information on this subject embodied in the text is supplemented in a note by further particulars from F. von Schwarz's valuable work on *Turkestan* (Freiburg, Baden, 1900). Although not without historic significance, *Sart* denotes at present little more than the settled as distinguished from the nomad populations in Ferghana and surrounding lands. Those more specially so designated are the mixed Aryan (Galcha) aborigines of the secluded upland valleys of the Oxus, many of whom, as we learn from Ch. de Ujfalvy, still speak archaic forms of the old Aryan stock language. But the word has a wide range, and now comprises not only the majority of the inhabitants of the towns and villages in Russian Turkestan, but also numerous communities in the Tarim basin, in Kashgaria, Bokhara, North Afghanistan, and Semirechinski-krai. Most of the so-called *Usbegs*, who have abandoned the nomad life and intermingled with the primitive Aryan peoples of these regions, are scarcely to be distinguished from the *Sarts* and the closely-allied *Tajiks* of Persian speech. But miscegenation of long standing prevails everywhere in the Western and Central lands, where the Mongol element is chiefly betrayed by the almond-shaped oblique eyes, while "the farther they recede eastwards the nearer do the tribes approach the genuine Mongol type, indicated by a lower stature, broader face and mouth, flatter nose, and scantier beard." The same phenomenon, which is here well illustrated by reproductions of several of the photographs taken by the author, was observed by Captain Younghusband, who, advancing from the opposite direction, remarks that "as I proceeded westwards I noticed a gradual, scarcely perceptible, change from the round of a Mongolian type to a sharper and yet more sharp type of feature. . . . As we get further away from Mongolia we notice that the faces become gradually longer and narrower" (*The Heart of a Continent*, p. 118). Hence, when the expedition reached the Koko-Nor district of North-east Tibet, it found itself surrounded by races of distinctly Mongol type. Here the dominant people are the *Tanguts*, who are fully described and recognised with *Prjevalsky* and *Rockhill* to be a characteristic branch of the Tibetan family. Amongst these wild predatory tribes *Dr. Fütterer* met with a more friendly reception than most of his predecessors. They willingly accompanied him in his frequent excursions off the main route, took an active part in the work of collecting, and became quite expert in discovering geological specimens, even in localities where the explorer has himself failed to find any.

Students requiring to consult this storehouse of anthropological lore will be grateful to the author for a more copious index than is usually supplied to German works of this character.

A. H. KEANE.

India: Bibliography.

Campbell.

Index-Catalogue of Indian Official Publications in the Library of the British Museum. By Frank Campbell. 1900. London, Library Supply Association. **35**
4to, pp. . Price 42s. nett.

The size of the catalogue, which has been compiled by Mr. Frank Campbell (late of the British Museum Library), and represents the labour of 13 years, is a fair indication of the enormous mass of Indian literature which now exists, as it is also a measure of the difficulty which besets any ordinary "reader" in extracting the special