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Africa in Transformation. By Norman MacLean. xx and 263 pp. Map, ills. J. Nisbet & Co., London, 1914. 5s. $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$.

This a worthy book, given chiefly to the missionary phase of "Africa in Transformation," and confining most of that to the Lower Zambesi, Nyasaland, British East Africa, Uganda and Zanzibar. Throughout Tropical Africa the missionaries, by their industrial training, educational work and medical service, are playing a most important part in bettering the temporal condition of the black man and making him more useful to himself and to Africa. This fact is most interestingly set forth by the author. The subject of one striking narrative is the Blantyre Church in Nyasaland, famous as among the finest buildings yet erected by native labor in equatorial Africa. The black artisans who built it were not Christians; they knew little or nothing about the purposes to which the building was to be devoted, but they had developed skill to erect it through the patient training of a man of genius, Dr. Clement Scott; and the church is the enduring monument of this man, who died in Africa.

The book is a tribute to the value of African missions. It is full of the most convincing testimony to their worth. R. L. Stevenson spoke truly when he wrote the words quoted on the title-page: "Those who deblaterate against missions have only one thing to do—to go and see them on the spot."

Islamic Africa. By R. Burton Sheppard. 127 pp. Ills., index. The Methodist Book Concern, New York, 1914. 75 cents. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 5$.

The European nations in Africa must take account of the large Moslem population of the continent. The struggle under the surface of colonization, which at times threatens to break out into an uprising, cannot be understood without some such view of the Mohammedans as is given in this book. The discussion is free from prejudice, even though the defeat of Islam is the hope of the writer. It presents a brief review of the entrance of Mohammedanism into the family of religions, the causes of its rapid advance, its goal, and its effects upon the African. The chapter on "The African as a Moslem" is especially well done, and the author presents both the advantages and disadvantages of the religion to the African from the standpoint of his future development. The book may be read easily at a sitting, and it offers a comprehensive background for the appreciation of one of Africa's vital problems.

ROBERT M. BROWN.

Richesses minérales de Madagascar. Par M. D. Levat. 359 pp. Map, ills., index. H. Dunod et E. Pinat, Paris, 1912. Fr. 15. $10 \times 6\frac{1}{2}$.

From the hands of one of the world's foremost authorities on auriferous deposits we have in this volume a clear and succinct account of the economic mineralogy of Madagascar. A complete record of the mineralogy of an island which exceeds France in area could not be expected here, but Levat has established the several geological horizons which make their appearance within the area of Madagascar. Having once oriented himself upon the basic geology of the island, the work of examining mineral outcrop was vastly simplified. The principal metal is gold, both in placers and in veins, an industry which has increased from an output of less than \$25,000 in 1896, when France entered, to more than \$2,000,000 in 1908, a figure that has since been practically maintained. In the west and northwest Levat examined two somewhat extensive fields which had been reported as having bituminous possibilities. His research proved the existence of petroleum in sufficient quantity to pay for exploitation and sufficiently rich in all the commercial oils, both light and heavy. The result of this discovery was to open these fields to commerce and establish a base of supply for the national marine. He also established the existence of deposits of uranium of a high percentage of radioactivity.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

AUSTRALASIA AND OCEANIA

The Opportunity in Australia. By H. S. Gullett. With an introduction by Lord Chelmsford. xviii and 148 pp. Ills. Field & Queen, London, 1914. 3s. 6d. $9 \times 5\frac{1}{2}$.

Upward of a million square miles of farming soils, with over twenty inches