



**Review: [Untitled]**

Reviewed Work(s):

*Gurkhas* by Eden Vansittart; Gurkha Rifles; B. U. Nicolay  
J. A. B.

*The Geographical Journal*, Vol. 50, No. 5. (Nov., 1917), p. 375.

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five years in France with Sir Edward Stafford that the enterprises of the English are "either ignominiously reported, or exceedingly condemned;" and that he found no man "to have care to recommend to the world, the industrious labors, and painfull travels of our countrey men." It is therefore doubly unfortunate that a work issued by the Hakluyt Society should be chargeable with neglect of the Englishman who, is most conspicuous in recent years for his labours in mediæval geography.—ED. G. J.

**Gurkhas.**— Lieut.-Colonel Eden Vansittart, *2/10th Gurkha Rifles*, revised by Major B. U. Nicolay, *1/4th Gurkha Rifles*. Calcutta: Supt. Govt. printing, India. 1915. 2s. 6d.

Among the "forbidden lands" mentioned in the last Presidential Address is that which contains the highest mountain in the world, which has as yet been studied from a long distance only. Nor is it to the mountaineer alone that a fuller knowledge of Nipal is an object of the greatest interest. The topography of the State is known only in the vaguest outline; its resources and the social life of its inhabitants outside the capital are to the foreigner little more than matters of hearsay. The residence and even the visits of Europeans are as rigorously discouraged as they were a century ago. The author quotes a local saying to the effect that "With the merchant comes the musket, and with the Bible comes the bayonet." The main link between India and Nipal, officially, is the purely military one of the permission by the latter for a definite number of the military classes to be recruited annually into the British Indian army, and no more. The value of this contingent has been proved again and again. During their most recent appearance in Europe, for instance, it was the Gurkhas who won the first sight of the Dardanelles from Chanak Bair. There are, however, Gurkhas and Gurkhas, and the object of this work is to promote the selection of the best material by those who have not had the opportunities of the author for ascertaining the necessary criteria. Acquaintance with the clan and family nomenclature seems to be required besides that of the tribe, together with the names of the localities to which the best supply of the Magar, Gurung, Khas, and Thakur blood is restricted. The history of the State has also to be studied, and the compilation from recognized authorities given in the narrative portion of the book will be read with interest by students of geography and ethnology, as well as by those for whom it was more especially intended.

J. A. B.

#### AFRICA

**Le Maroc: Géographie, Histoire, Mise en Valeur.**— Victor Piquet. Paris: Armand Colin, 1917. Pp. x. and 464. *Maps*. 6 fr.

M. Victor Piquet, whose previous researches into the history of Africa Minor and the work of France in Algeria and Tunisia gained for him a deserved reputation for thoroughness and lucidity, has now written in moderate compass a clear, comprehensive and trustworthy account of Morocco. The volume is divided into three parts—geography, history, and administration and economics. The geographical section is based mainly on the labours of M. Louis Gentil and deals adequately, for general purposes, with the main physical features of the country. The history section, a *résumé* of known facts, is purposely colourless in describing political changes since the Anglo-French agreement of 1904. It includes ethnological notes, in which M. Piquet rightly insists on the importance of remembering that in Morocco the Berbers have been less influenced by Islam than in the other Barbary states. It is interesting to note that, ethnographically, he confines the term "Moors" to the