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Annual Bibliography of Indian Archaeology, for the year 1931.

Published by the Kern Institute - Leyden. (1935)

The present volume, which fully maintains the high standard of previous issues, contains much that is of interest to classical and oriental scholars. The account of Sir Aurel Stein's brilliant discovery of the true site at which Alexander the Great crossed the Hydaspes before his famous battle with Porus has been contributed by Dr. Fábri, who accompanied Sir Aurel Stein on this tour.

Dr. Alexander Zeiseniss, attached to the Kern Institute, contributes a note on the remarkable Śaiva sculpture which was discovered in the village of Parel near Bombay in October 1931. This article is of particular interest to students of Śaivism. A novel feature of the Bibliography is an article on Indian numismatics by the eminent authority Sir Richard Burn. The hope is expressed that some attention to this important branch of archaeological studies will be paid in subsequent issues. A note on the progress of epigraphical research is contemplated. Mr. Ghulam Yazdani, Director of the Archaeological Department of H.E.H. the Nizam's Dominions writes an account of the progress of archaeological work in Hyderabad-Deccan. Dr. G. Jouveau-Dubreuil has provided some interesting notes relating to the discovery of ancient frescoes in South Indian temples, in which the distinguished French archaeologist himself took a leading part. Mr. S. Paranavitana, Officiating Archaeological Commissioner of Ceylon, gives an interesting account of the results of the excavations at the site of the palace of Parakramabahu at Polonnaruva. An account of recent works of restoration by the École Française D'Extrême-Orient, is furnished by M. J.Y. Claeys who himself superintended that important work. Professor Krom surveys the finds of sculptural remains made in

Sumatra in recent years, and also endeavours to classify them according to the epochs of Sumatran history.

The editors of the ^{Bibliography} Journal are to be congratulated on having acquired some intensely interesting articles by distinguished authorities, and the volume is a valuable addition to current literature on Indian archaeology.

A.E. Mahon.

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THREE KINGDOMS OF INDO-CHINA. Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York.

This book is an account of the Kelly-Roosevelts Expedition to South-Eastern Asia on behalf of the Field Museum of Chicago, the object of which was to make scientific collections, particularly of mammals, from the remotest parts of South-Eastern Asia. The Expedition was headed by Theodore and Kermit Roosevelt.

The principal fields of operation were in French Indo-China and in western Szechuan along the Tibetan border.

The Expedition worked in two divisions. One covered a great deal of territory in western China, doing some original exploration, and completed its task by two months hunting in the dense jungles of Szechuan-China. This Expedition was responsible for killing the first specimen of the rare giant panda shot by white men.

The other division of the Expedition was composed of four scientists whose specific object was to make a careful study and collections of the bird, mammal, and reptile life in the unknown regions of North-Western French-China.

As the supply of pack animals ^{was} ~~were~~ limited, and trails were impassable between June and October on account of the rains, and as it seemed impossible to live on the country for long, arrangements had to be made for establishing supply dumps at three posts on the Chinese border. These stations served as bases for the Expedition.

The Expedition reached Indo-China in January, 1929, and went by rail as far north as the Chinese border. It then travelled westward by pony caravan, collecting for six months in the remotest regions.

The account of this division of the Expedition, which forms the major portion of the book, is by Harold J. Coolidge, Jr., of

Harvard Museum, with photographs by Russell W. Hendee, who died of fever, and to whose memory the book is dedicated. A special tribute is paid to this member of the Expedition in chapter VIII which is devoted to an account of his work with the Expedition.

The book is illustrated by 39 plates and 12 line cuts. The majority of the photographs are excellent. It is a fascinating story of travel, exploration and adventure written in a manner that would appeal to the casual reader as well as to those who are particularly interested in the objects of the Expedition. From the scientific point of view it would have been of greater value if contained tabulated lists of the collections. However these have been described in special reports in Vol. XVIII Nos 3 and 10, Field Mus of Nat. Hist.

The Expedition had many difficulties to contend with in the shape of climate, country, transport and personnel, but these appear to have been met and overcome by foresight, ingenuity and tact. Much of the success of the expedition was undoubtedly due to the fact that the members were experienced explorers, and had it not been for this their difficulties would have been considerably greater.

The methodical preparations before starting out and the regular camp routine that was observed will appeal to those who know the necessity for these when on an expedition of this nature.

Chapters V and VI contain interesting accounts of river travel, some of which ^{are} is of a distinctly exciting description.

Part II, which forms the account of the other division is by Theodore Roosevelt, it is an account of many vicissitudes and adventures. The writer has some interesting remarks to make on night hunting.

The book concludes with an appendix by H.J. Coolidge, Jr. in which is given an instructive account of the mountain tribes of northern Indo-China and which contains a description of some of their customs and some fascinating bits of folk-lore.

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The Dawn of Conscience. By J.H. Breasted. Charles Scribner's Sons,
New York. \$3.00

"The source of our moral heritage in the Ancient World" is the sub-title of this fascinating and extremely illuminating book of Dr. Breasted, which the author states is intended especially for the new generation. It is only in the concluding portions of this book that one realises that scholarship and specialisation today no longer qualify the ~~case~~ cramping ideas those ~~ten~~ terms once meant for some at least of us. Here is a real 'humourist' who has put all his profound meticulous reading of ancient history to the service of elucidating values, as vital and perhaps more vital to us today than ever they were before, the values of conduct and character, values not applied only to persons but to peoples. As one reads these pages where step by step we are led to note or to be instructed into the significance of our 'moral heritage' as revealed by the stones of immemorial time in the valley of the Nile we pause and ask ourselves has man today discovered any new consciousness, any new values substantial and of worth to be placed beside those found in the old Egyptian books of wisdom, of Ptahhotep, and Amenemope?

Never before have the strides which archaeology in modern times has made been so demonstrably amazing as in these 3000 years old pages now brought before our astonished eyes and which with Dr. Breasted's help we can now read as though they were written but yesterday. For us he has unveiled the pyramid texts, the books of the Egyptian seers, the thought of the world's first individualist, the sources of the wisdom of Moses and the Hebrew psalms and proverbs, and all to the end again to show that the books which we thought old were but the crowning marvel of three thousand years and more history in the evolution of creative thought.

Perhaps those portions dealing with the parallelism between the

Egyptian and Hebrew sacred books are the most revealing especially as illustrating how the Egyptologist today has worked for us nothing short of a modern miracle. That we can form a fairly accurate guess as to what a man in the streets of Memphis was thinking at the time of the pyramid builders, or if a courtier of the time of Ikhnaton, seems incredible, and yet this is what today's scholarship reveals.

The chapter on Ikhnaton is one of great beauty of interpretation and insight. Dr. Breasted points out: "It is important to notice, that Ikhnaton was a prophet both of nature and of human life. Like Jesus who - - - drew his lessons from the lilies of the field - - - and on the other from the human society about him, so this revolutionary Egyptian prophet drew his teachings from a contemplation both of nature and of human life." The author assesses him one of the most significant peaks achieved in the ancient world in the history of moral values, and one of the greatest of those astonishing Nile dwellers who discovered character to the world.

The concluding portions of Dr. Breasted's thesis deals with the salient features of Hebrew scripture in its relation to character and its importance as the most realised portion of our moral heritage. But he would have us realise very clearly also - and this would appear to be the leit motif of the whole book - "that social idealisms, built up on lofty conceptions of character, the earliest known and in that age the only transcendentalism, arose in Egypt before 2000 B.C. and the actual books containing it were being read in Jerusalem by the men who produced those writings which we now call the Old Testament."

It is on this probing fact that Dr. Breasted invites us to ponder perhaps in our too blind worship of sacred books, and ~~therefore~~/we must thank him, ~~and~~ for a book that deserves to be read and pondered wherever there are dwellers who would seek after truth in an age when truth is rather less palatable than at any time before in the world's

history in this mad scramble today of revived and sinister national hysteria.

A.E.M.

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