

michael (*Quibda*), Niebuhr (*Kowäbde*), Capper (*Cabda*), Taylor (*Qebda*). Plaisted and Taylor saw only a ruined village and a fort—Capper said it had been ruined by the Persians—but in the days of Della Valle it was “a town.” It seems to have been the usual “rendezvous” for outgoing caravans. Della Valle records that “an Arabian Sceich” resided there, “who receives a Gabel (*i.e.* backseesh) of the Caravans and Burdens that pass that way.” Another two or three hours led the travellers into Zubair,* where they were generally met by their friends, and escorted onwards to Basra.

Niebuhr records the stages on another route still further out in the desert, which the caravans took when the usual track was not safe. At Hammam or Abu el Fiad it bifurcated to the south-west, passing through *Bir Kdäm* (Bischoff's *Gübb Kedem*, Musil's *al Kdejim*; Suchne (Sukhne); Saraim (Irwin's *Jebel Serhim?*); *Souàb* (Wadi Suab); *El Ghara* (El Gara, the depression containing the famous wells of Mulusa, or Er Rah); *Hödsjere*, his Arabic gives Hajrah; *Mhavis*, or, according to his Arabic, Mahewiz (Muhaiwir, a Kasr on the banks of the Wadi Hauran at the point where the Hit-Damascus track crosses it); *El biddi*,? *Kteri*,? *El adtle*, or, according to the Arabic, El Athlah (*Áthelahât*, Huber—a station on Darb Zubaida); *Salmàn* (Selman, a watering on the Darb Selman, recorded by Huber as the third stage southwards from Semawa, but by Raunkiaer as two days south of Semawa, and three days north of Leina), *El Kosar* (El Kuseir), where it joined with the usual route.

THE IDENTIFICATION OF PEAKS IN THE HIMALAYA

HAVING occasion to examine the numbering of peaks on the late Captain Grant Peterkin's map, made to illustrate the work of the Bullock Workman expedition on the Siachen Glacier, we found ourselves unable to discover in the Library or Map Room of the Society any means of identifying a northern frontier peak bearing such a number as Pk. 24/52 C: a system of numbering which was adopted by the Survey of India about 1909. The well-known work by Burrard and Hayden, ‘A Sketch of the Geography and Geology of the Himalaya Mountains and Tibet, 1907-8,’ contains in Part 3, “On the Names of Certain Peaks,” a very valuable guide to the variety of names and numbers given at different times by the Survey and by individual observers to the principal peaks, with an explanation of the systems adopted in the past. “Astronomers,” wrote Colonel Burrard, “do not name the stars; in olden times they grouped them in constellations, and they now number them according to

* Zubair appears as Issabier, Zebar, Zebeer, Xebire. It is the mediæval Basra; a still older site, according to Teixeira, was Jebel Sinam or Sanam, 20 miles to the south. “It has many waters,” and is the first stage for Mecca-bound caravans.

right ascension. Colonel Montgomerie endeavoured to introduce for peaks a method resembling that of constellations, and he named the whole Karakoram region K, and its peaks K¹, K², K³, etc. . . . The nomenclature of a mountain region should not be forced; it should grow spontaneously, and we should never invent a name until its absence has become inconvenient. We cannot do better for Tibet and Turkestan than extend the simple system introduced by Montgomerie for the Karakoram; his method of constellations is more suitable for the peaks of Asia than a long series of successive numbers from west to east would be. We need not design constellations to include one whole range, and we need not follow the astronomical plan of drawing animals and heroes; we can have rectangular constellations enclosed by meridians and parallels."

This last sentence supplies the key to the principle upon which the latest system of numbering peaks is based. They are given numbers on the degree sheets, each sheet being treated as a separate "constellation." Very few of the new degree sheets, however, are as yet published, and it seemed that we had no means of identifying a peak on the north-west frontier mentioned only by its new survey number.

The Survey of India, having allowed one personal name, Mount Everest, to stand, for reasons convincingly set out by Sir Sidney Burrard on page 21 of the 'Sketch,' have set their faces sternly against any extension of the practice of giving personal or fanciful names to peaks which have no native names, although only nineteen out of the seventy-five peaks above 24,000 feet have ascertained native names. They refuse to accept the name Godwin-Austen for peak K², believing that "The permanent adoption of the symbol K² will serve to record the interesting facts that a mountain exceeding 28,000 feet in height had not been deemed worthy of a name by the people living under its shadow, and that its pre-eminent altitude was unsuspected until it was brought to light by trigonometrical observations."

Those who travel in and write about this mountain country are therefore faced with a double difficulty: the most glowing description of scenery is damped by a strict attention to the official nomenclature of mountains. The name K² itself does not adorn a descriptive passage; but its modern equivalent $\frac{\text{Pk. 13}}{52 \text{ A}}$ would wreck the finest language. Moreover, there are of course thousands of peaks that have never been intersected and have no survey numbers. They may be unimportant in the general mass of the range; but from particular points of view they may be the chief features, and for them no method of naming or numbering is officially supplied. Hence we sympathize with the contention of explorers that they must be allowed to use descriptive or fanciful names for such peaks as they refer to frequently; and a few of these may stick; but, in accordance with the long-standing rule of the Society, we would avoid as strictly as do the Survey of India the allocation of personal names.

To obtain the latest information on the Indian official system, and especially to clear up the difficulty that the Society seemed to possess no key to peak numbers on many degree sheets, which have been allotted in some cases several years ago, we addressed a letter in November last to the Surveyor-General, from which it is necessary to print extracts only because Sir Sidney Burrard's reply refers directly to it :—

“About 1913 you started a new system of numbers relating to degree sheets, thus $\frac{\text{Pk. 15}}{52 \text{ B}}$, and this appears to be the present system. It has, at any rate for the time being, the disadvantage that the degree sheets are not published for the more mountainous regions, so that, unless all references to the peaks are accompanied by their latitude and longitude, we may be unable to identify the peak mentioned only by its new survey number.”

“A good many of the peaks of lesser importance have been given fancy names by Sir Martin Conway, Mrs. Bullock Workman, and others ; and although these names are not accepted by the Survey of India, it is very difficult to know how to refer to the peaks except by these names, since they either have no survey-numbers or we cannot discover them.

“The present survey system is difficult to print in the form in which you print it, as it occupies more than a line in depth, and involves justification of the type. It would be easier to print if you allow Pk. 15/52 B, which can be done in a line. It has, however, still the disadvantage that it is difficult to remember, and that until the whole of the degree sheets are published it remains impossible to discover where the peaks may be of which we know nothing but the official number. I do not know whether you have thought of publishing a sort of synoptical index to all triangulated peaks with their new system of numbering, in advance of the publication of the degree sheets ; it would be very helpful.

“I do not feel certain myself that the solution adopted in 1913 is the best. The problem is, as you say, very much like the problem of cataloguing stars or nebulae. It is more closely allied to the nebula catalogue because, whereas stars are distributed more uniformly all over the sphere, the nebulae, like mountains, occur in bunches. The problem is simpler in one respect than that of the nebulae because one has not to deal with precession. The nebulae of course can be identified by their places, though they are in practice mostly referred to by their number in the New General Catalogue, Dreyer. This makes a fair working system, but of course has all the disadvantages that when one is dealing with many individuals it becomes difficult to remember the numbers. I am not sure that there would not be advantages both for nebulae and for mountains in making the number give the degrees and minutes of latitude and longitude ; Peak 15/42 K is almost as hard to remember as 3734.7449, which are its degrees and minutes of latitude and longitude, but the latter plan has the advantage of giving you the position. It would also have the advantage of enabling one to interpolate into the series at any time. I do not think it is a satisfactory solution of the problem at all, but I suppose nothing but a name is really much good. We do, however, want something which enables us to identify a peak when it is mentioned, and that the present system does not do.”

In reply Sir Sidney Burrard has very kindly sent us this interesting Memorandum on the numbering and naming of Himalayan peaks ; with

specimens of maps and charts which may be seen in the Map Room. The letter is unofficial and not written for publication with the note; but its interest to the Society will, we hope, justify our taking leave to prefix it.

Surveyor-General's Office,

Dated Simla, 29 May 1918.

Your letter about the numbering of Himalayan peaks reached me when I was moving about. I must apologize for the delay. I had to write to Dehra Dun to get certain statements verified. My reply to you is an explanation of the system now adopted, and as it is too lengthy for a letter, I have embodied it in a note. Please make what use you like of this note; there is nothing confidential in it.

Years ago I followed the controversy over the name Mount Everest. Although I was averse to ousting this name after it had been accepted in geography for fifty years, I was much impressed by Freshfield's arguments against the introduction of English names into Himalayan geography. I adopted Freshfield's views and have acted upon them. It has frequently been my job to refuse English names (please see my note). A political officer gave the name Dufferin to the peak Mustagh Ata; and this name gained admittance to maps, but it has been deleted. Lord Minto named a range after Sven Hedin, but the latter's attitude in the war has justified the deletion of his name from all our maps. The name Godwin Austen has been pressed on us for peak K², and I have been asked recently again to introduce it; but I have refused. As far as Southern Tibet, the Himalayas, and Hindu Kush are concerned, Mount Everest is the only English name hitherto accepted. Nothing would be easier for the Survey of India than to sprinkle the map with names of English governors, members of council, generals, etc.; if once the Survey of India relaxes its rigidity, English names will flood the maps. The geography of Northern Tibet has been marred by names such as Humboldt, Prjevalsky, Nicholas, Richthofen, King Oscar. That Southern Tibet has been saved from this fate was largely due to the R.G.S., for it was the controversy over the name Mount Everest that hardened the heart of the Survey of India. I hope that the R.G.S. will maintain the same watchful attitude in the future, and will refuse to support the English names given to peaks by travellers.

S. BURRARD.

ON THE NUMBERING AND NAMING OF HIMALAYAN PEAKS.

The following maps and charts are attached to illustrate this note:

- A. Index to Sheets, scale 100000.
- B. Index to Degree Sheets.
- C. Index to Triangulation Charts.
- Bound { D. Pamphlet appertaining to Degree Sheet 42 L.
- together { E. Triangulation Degree Chart 42 L.
- F. Chart of Triangulation 52 A.

[These are placed in the Map Room.]

1. *Systems adopted 1830-1900.*—In the early days of the Trigonometrical Survey the Himalayan area was dealt with in parts and not as one whole. Many different systems of numbering peaks were introduced. In 1852 a list of seventy-nine great peaks was compiled, and these were numbered from east to west, Roman numerals being employed; Chumalhari was I., Mount Everest

was XV., Nanda Devi was LVIII. This system was soon found to be defective, for when new peaks came to be observed, they could not be allotted a suitable number. In 1856 Montgomerie introduced the system of numbering the Karakoram peaks K^1 , K^2 , K^3 , etc., and the peaks of Nepal were numbered N^1 , N^2 , etc. In 1880 Tanner adopted the plan of designating each peak by the initial letter of the observer's name (*vide* page 15, 'Sketch of Himalayan Geography'). In Synoptical Volume 7, G.T. Survey of India, the peaks of the Punjab Himalaya were classified and numbered by watersheds (page 269, 'Sketch of Himalayan Geography'). In 1885 the peaks in Gilgit were designated by letters after the initial letters of the stations of observation D.S. b. or D.S. e.c. Peaks were never numbered by Atlas sheets.

2. *The Present System.*—When Synoptical Volume 35, G.T. Survey of India, which is a catalogue of peaks in the Kumaun and Nepal Himalaya, was being compiled in 1903–1909, the confusion arising from different systems became intolerable, and a new system was introduced which is applicable to the southern half of Asia. South Asia is now divided into areas, each of which is 1° in latitude by 1° in longitude. In each of these areas the peaks are numbered serially 1, 2, 3. . . . The method by which the several areas of one degree have been designated will be readily understood by any one who will study our index maps. The primary division of the continent is by sheets, each of which is 4° in latitude and 4° in longitude (*vide* attached Index Map, marked A), and each of which is given a simple number, 1, 2, 3, etc. The Baghdad 4° sheet is No. 2; the Delhi sheet is No. 53; the Lhasa sheet is 77. These 4° sheets are then subdivided into 16 "degree" sheets, 1° in latitude by 1° in longitude, each of which is designated by a letter A, B, C, up to P. (*vide* Index to degree sheets attached and marked B. Each of these "degree" sheets covers an area of about 69 miles by about 60 miles. The Kandahar "degree" sheet is 34 E, the Delhi "degree" sheet is 53 H, the Mandalay "degree" sheet is 93 C. Thus we have our whole continental area divided into degree sheets, 69 miles by 60 miles, each of which has a distinguishing number and letter. This system is as simple as that adopted for the International Map of the World. In degree sheets which embrace mountain areas the peaks of each sheet are numbered serially 1, 2, 3, . . . ; thus Mount Everest is 72 I/37; 72 being the primary number for the 4° sheet, the letter I being the designation of the interior degree sheet, 37 being the peak number. A preliminary sketch of this system was published on page 15, 'General Report, Survey of India,' 1907–08, and a definite description of it was given in the preface (page viii.), Synoptical Volume 35, G.T. Survey of India, 1909.

3. *Publication of Degree Charts.*—As far as surveyors are concerned the new system has worked well. But Mr. Hinks has offered some criticisms from the point of view of the public, and these I will endeavour to meet. It is stated that the degree sheets are not published; this is true of the topographical detail, but for each degree sheet a degree chart *has been* published (or is under publication; *vide* Index to triangulation charts attached and marked C), and these charts show the numbers of all observed peaks (*vide* pamphlet attached to degree chart 42 L and marked D). Any one who will devote five minutes to the study of a triangulation chart will understand the system of numbering peaks. For example, on the chart 42 L (marked E) to which pamphlet 42 L is attached, all triangulation points are numbered. These triangulation points are not necessarily all peaks; in some charts of mountain areas the triangulation points may be mostly peaks, but in other charts they may be mostly signals erected by surveyors on ranges or hillsides,

whilst in charts of flat country there are no peaks. The number of every peak is given in the pamphlet attached to the chart; the chart 42 L, for example, shows a triangulation point No. 57 (lat. $36^{\circ} 24'$, long. $74^{\circ} 57'$), and on page 10 of the pamphlet point No. 57 is shown to be peak 39 of 42 L.

It will be noticed from the list of points on pages 9 to 111 of the pamphlet that the peaks are not numbered consecutively; this is due to the fact that charts have to be constantly revised, and newly observed peaks inserted in the former lists. The new peaks when inserted are given new numbers, and the old numbers are not disturbed. The pamphlets are the latest method adopted for publication. In 1909 the charts and their data were published on sheets and not in pamphlets (*vide* sheet 52 A attached and marked F). Chart 52 A is now under recompilation in pamphlet form. This pamphlet will contain the peaks fixed by the Bullock-Workman survey (Siachen Glacier). The fact that the co-ordinates of these peaks have been taken from Peterkin's triangulation will be mentioned, but the names given to them will not be accepted for reasons explained hereafter.

4. *Other Systems of Numbering.*—All institutions who have to deal with thousands of units forsake names for numbers. The army identifies its men by numbers, astronomers catalogue stars by numbers. Human powers of memory are incapable of grasping thousands of unconnected names.

I will compare our system of numbering with the system of latitudes and longitudes suggested by Mr. Hinks. In a degree chart, 69 by 60 miles, the peaks will be numbered under our system—

31 H/17 31 H/21 31 H/44

Peaks in contiguous degree charts will be numbered as 31 E/14 or 31 G/25; the changes are simple, and no strain on the memory is imposed. If we numbered these by latitudes and longitudes, the several peaks would be (3314, 8625), (3328, 8617), (3352, 8603). This system is more complex.

Occasionally two prominent peaks exist within the same square mile; their numbers by our system would be simple, but under the Latitude-Longitude system, seconds would have to be introduced, and the two Masherbrum peaks, for example, would have to be numbered (353836, 761831), and (353829, 761823).

Moreover a surveyor has opportunities of entering such a number as 31 H/47 in his angle book when he is actually observing the peak, but the numbers obtained from the Latitude-Longitude system would only be available after final computation.

In numbering their peaks the Survey of India has been led to adopt a system very similar to that adopted by the G.P.O., London, for houses:

Himalayan system	31 H/43
G.P.O. system	43, Montague Street, S.W. 4

When a new house is built in a suburb, the owner asks the G.P.O. to give it a street number; similarly when an explorer wishes to have a number officially allotted to a peak, he should apply to the Survey of India, who would number it. In giving a number to a new house, the G.P.O. first ascertains its situation, and if an explorer asks for a new peak to be numbered, he should produce evidence of its position.

I agree with Mr. Hinks that it would be better in referring to peak symbols to write them in one line, such as 31 H/47 instead of $\frac{47}{31 H}$; the letter used should be a capital.

5. *Names of Himalayan Peaks.*—Very few of the higher Himalayan peaks are known to the natives by native names (*vide* 'Sketch of Himalayan Geography and Geology,' p. 15). Where native names have been given they are as a rule striking and impressive (Tirich Mir, Badrinath, Dhaulagiri); they harmonize with their surroundings and they are worthy designations for the Earth's highest points. They have indeed set such a high standard of nomenclature that difficulties have been found in inventing new names that will harmonize with the old. The native names of Himalayan hill stations, Dharmasala, Kasauli, Simla, Chakrata, Mussooree, are distinctive and characteristic; but one unconsciously feels that the two British names which have been given to hill stations, Dalhousie and Lansdowne, are out of geographical harmony. The R.G.S. is interested in books of travel in which certain Himalayan peaks have been given fancy names by the authors. But the Survey of India receives numerous suggestions of fancy names, names of men, names of women, poetic names, descriptive names. All these names appear suitable if one regards them locally, but they become unsuitable if regarded continentally.

A peak of 24,000 feet height is not an uncommon feature in Asia; to name such a peak "King George Peak" may appear suitable to those encamping at its foot, but to the geographer the name is incongruous. When a feature is unique, such as the Falls of the Zambezi, I think it right to call them the Victoria Falls, but I do not think it suitable to attach the British sovereign's name to a feature of no particular prominence. When therefore the Survey declines to adopt the names given to peaks by an enterprising traveller-author, the reason for the disagreement is simply this: the traveller is describing in his book a particular locality, and he invents names suitable for that locality and for his book; the Survey, while recognizing their local suitability, finds them unsuitable for the geography of Asia.

6. A house-owner in Maidstone may name his house Victoria Villa, and an Indian pensioner in Cheltenham may name his residence Curzon Cottage. These names do not appear incongruous to the local residents, but they would be out of place on an Ordnance Survey Map of the British Isles.

Travellers and authors give names to peaks such as "Broad Peak," "Silver Throne," "Cathedral Peak," "Pyramid Peak," but the frequent recurrence of these same names in the Records of the Survey show how limited the human imagination is. We have several so-called "Silver Thrones," we have many so-called "Cathedral Peaks," whilst such names as "Broad Peak" and "Sharp Peak" abound. It would be impracticable to accept such names for geographical maps.

7. I make the two following proposals for consideration:

(a) To give a name to each degree chart.

(b) To prepare a Himalayan peak catalogue.

The International Map Committee give a name to each international sheet *in addition* to its number. Similarly we could give a name to each degree chart, the name being taken from some prominent feature of the chart. Thus the degree chart 52 H, for example, could be named Chandra, and the chart could be designated 52 H (Chandra). Then peak 21 of this chart would have for its official designation peak 52 H/21; but it could also be known as peak Chandra 21. The name of a well-known glacier, such as Siachen, could thus be attached to a degree chart.

As to my proposal to compile a catalogue of Himalayan peaks, I am not sure if this would be useful. It would be merely a compilation of peak-designations.

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nations, names, numbers, co-ordinates and heights abstracted from degree charts and collected into one pamphlet.

S. BURRARD.

29 May 1918.

Thanks to the kindness of the Surveyor-General in sending us this memorandum and its accompanying documents, we are now able to put together the following notes which may be useful to those who have occasion to identify peaks by the aid of the material in the Society's collection. For the north-west Himalaya series, Synoptical Volume VII. contains a set of degree sheets on the old system of numbering, now abolished : thus degree sheet 21 covers the same area as 52 A sent with the Surveyor-General's letter. The numbers of the peaks are entirely changed : thus Karakoram No. 2 of Sheet 21 (which is not K2) bears on the triangulation chart of 52 A the number 46, and in the corresponding table reference Pk. 38/52 A. The old degree sheet chart showed in outline the principal rivers and glaciers ; the new chart shows nothing but numbers and the rays of the triangulation, which is decidedly less convenient in identification of peaks.

The charts and numbers of Synoptical Volume VII. are consequently abolished, and we have not in the collection the new charts, either in sheet or pamphlet form, which replace them. Reference to correspondence of some two years ago shows that this series has been promised to us by the Survey of India, but that its despatch has been delayed by war conditions. The Synoptical Volume XXXV., published in 1909, covers Series I. of the north-east quadrilateral. It contains the tables of stations and peaks on each degree-sheet in the new notation, and the accompanying volume of triangulation charts is in the same general form as the chart for degree sheet 52 A accompanying the Surveyor-General's note. There is, however, a little difference. The triangulation charts of this series contain the reference number of the peak, *e.g.* Pk. 8, on the face of the chart, and have not a separate and apparently somewhat unnecessary number on the chart by which reference is made to the real new number of the peak in the accompanying table. It would, we think, have added to the convenience of the new charts for the north-west series if the same principle had been followed upon them.

The necessity for this revision of nomenclature is well illustrated by the following list of synonyms. The peak K², engraved as K2 on the Indian Atlas, Sheet 44^A N.W., is Karakoram No. 13 of Sheet 21 Synoptical Volume VII., which becomes No. 21 on the triangulation chart of degree sheet 52 A, and Pk. 13/52 A in the attached table, with alternative K2, but without reference to the fact that this is "Mount Godwin Austen." Snowy Peak No. 13 of Atlas 44^A S.W. is Braldo-Shigar watershed peak of Vol. VII. ; we have not yet its designation in the new system. Snowy Peak B¹⁸ of Atlas Sheet 44^A S.W. becomes No. 2 peak Sheok-Braldo watershed of Sheet 21, Vol. VII., No. 1 of the triangulation chart

52 A, and Pk. 1/52 A of the list. It will be noted that while K² of the atlas numbering becomes Karakuram No. 13 of Vol. VII., K⁸, K⁷, and K¹³ become respectively Karakuram No. 6, No. 7, and No. 2; while a peak lettered K without index number becomes Karakuram No. 9.

On some of the Atlas sheets there are peaks referred to as, *e.g.*, Snowy Peak No. 13, and it is not clear to what series these numbers refer, as the Surveyor-General says above that peaks were never numbered by the Indian Atlas sheets.

In regard to the general questions raised by Sir Sidney Burrard, we think that the proposal to give a name to each degree chart is probably good. Experience of the sheets of the International Map of the world shows that in practice they are rarely, if ever, referred to by their sheet numbers, but always by their names. Such a nomenclature as Pk. 28 Siachen would have the considerable advantage over Pk. 28/52 A that it would give immediately some idea of its position to those who were unable to bear in mind the complicated relation of degree sheet numbers to the country, a relation made more difficult by the fact that there is no very obvious continuity in the numbering of adjacent sheets. Thus, Sheet 52 D is surrounded in the following order by these eight sheets, beginning from the north and going clockwise: 52 C, 52 G, 52 H, 53 E, 53 A, 44 M, 43 P, 43 O. The selection of an appropriate name would doubtless be difficult, since names that would go well with peak numbers should perhaps be restricted as far as possible to names of mountain groups and glaciers. And this suggests that the analogy of the degree sheet with the constellation is not very close, since constellations may be large or small, regular or irregular in shape according to the grouping of the conspicuous stars, whereas the hard and fast geometrical boundaries of a degree sheet in many cases divide the most obviously natural groups, and apportion them to separate "constellations."

The suggestion to prepare a Himalayan-peak catalogue would, we think, be useful if it were a double catalogue; that is to say, if it contained first the latitude and longitude and the designations upon older systems of the peaks as numbered in series for each degree sheet, while its second part contained the same information arranged in order of longitude of the peaks, just as the stars in a star-catalogue are arranged in order of right ascension, divided often in an extensive catalogue into zones of latitude. With such a double catalogue we should be able very conveniently to discover the position of a peak from its serial number, or alternatively whether a peak of a given position had had a serial number attached; and to have the whole in one volume would be a great convenience for many purposes.

The suggestion made in our letter to the Surveyor-General that an 8-figure number composed of the latitude and longitude might be an appropriate designation, would not, of course, provide any convenient method of referring to the peak in ordinary descriptive language; but then

neither, we think, does the present official designation. It has of course a close analogy to the method of designating points on the battle front by their co-ordinates upon the grid; but we believe that the experience of the front shows that these numbers are naturally soon replaced in common use by names appropriate or inappropriate added by the temporary inhabitants of the locality to the sparse official names of the neighbourhood. In fact, the needs of the soldier and of the traveller minutely interested in a particular region are in this respect identical.

The whole question is as complicated as it is interesting, and we shall be glad to publish comments or suggestions from travellers whose experience of the detailed geography of the Himalaya has led them to any mature conclusions.

A. R. H.

REVIEWS

EUROPE

Macedonia.— **T. R. Georgevitch, D.Phil.** London: George Allen & Unwin Ltd. 1918. Pp. xvi. and 284. *7s. 6d. net.*

THIS book, which is in many respects painful reading, is definitely a piece of propaganda. The author's object is to show that the Macedonians are Serbs in origin, history, language, traditions, national character and customs no less than in national sentiment. The treatment is almost wholly historical, the numerous geographical problems connected with the subject not being discussed.

The author adopts the Bulgarian conception of the term Macedonia, as including the territory extending from the frontiers of Bulgaria to the Shar Mountains, to the river Drin, to the Gulf of Salonika and the river Mesta, but maintains that this is historically incorrect, and that strictly speaking the name should be used to include mainly the middle and lower reaches of the Vardar, the regions round the great lakes in the west, with an eastward extension to the Struma, and in places as far as the Mesta. His treatment includes an historical discussion of the larger Macedonia, and of the relation of Bulgaria and the Bulgars to it. Some of the historical chapters are of much interest. Other chapters and sections are purely propagandist, and there are a number of appendices dealing with Bulgarian atrocities, one giving a list of Serbs murdered in Macedonia by Bulgars or their agents during the period between 1881 and 1909. Throughout the author speaks with a bitterness which, though natural, is to be deprecated; for one cannot forget that, whatever changes of frontiers may occur in the Balkan Peninsula at the peace, the Serbs and Bulgars must continue to be neighbours, and there seems little hope for the future save in a reconciliation of their differences.

The relations between Bulgaria and Pre-revolutionary Russia are discussed with some fullness. In his first chapter Dr. Georgevitch ascribes Russian sympathy with the Bulgars to political motives, that is to the desire of the former country to strengthen her hold in the Balkan Peninsula through and by means of Bulgaria. In a later chapter, however, he states that in 1878 Russian public opinion was stronger than the Government, and led to the creation of the Greater Bulgaria of San Stefano which has had so much influence in Bulgaria. In this chapter he states that the enthusiasm for the Bulgarian cause in Russia was due to the fact that while refugees from Serbian