

Japan is ever widening her spheres of influence. China is awakening to the danger of this encroachment. She may shortly make the demand that both Russia and Japan relinquish their control in southern Manchuria. The Japanese lease of Port Arthur expires in 1923. This alone may be sufficient to precipitate a conflict. Recurring again to the expansion policy of Japan it is asserted that her natural course of empire lies south. This is for the reasons that rice is her most essential food, that she cannot produce a sufficient quantity at home, and that the warmer southern Chinese coasts, and the southern islands are best suited for this cultivation. Expansion in this direction involves the United States in the Philippines and France in Indo China. During the life of the Anglo-Japanese alliance, complications with these powers may involve England. This alliance is thought to have been very doubtful diplomacy. For the United States, the Philippines are an element of weakness rather than of strength. They have made her a party in the Eastern question. Japan has now the naval mastery of the Pacific. The United States is the logical contestant for this mastery. In this situation, the importance of the Panama canal becomes evident. In addition the requisites for the United States are a strong navy, fortified coaling stations, and a strong Philippine army.

The final word of the book is that "a corrective is absolutely necessary in Eastern Asia in order to postpone, if not to prevent, the inevitable struggle." No conclusion is reached, however, the present time being designated as "an ominous pause, a calm before the storm."

FREDERICK CHARLES HICKS.

*The Awakening of China.* By W. A. P. MARTIN, D.D., LL.D. (New York: Doubleday, Page and Company. 1907. Pp. x + 328.)

This volume in the Geographical Library, a series descriptive of recent geographical or political advance by persons conspicuously engaged in furthering it, is evidently designed for popular rather than scholarly consumption and is admirably well written to fulfill its purpose. Crises in the contact of western nations with China have induced so much ephemeral, hastily or ill-conceived literature from globe-trotters, war correspondents, diplomatic, consular and commercial agents or others of brief residence and limited experience in the East, that it is not only necessary but a relief to turn to the safe pilotage of such men as S. Wells Williams, Boulger, A. H. Smith, and Martin who have seen enough of

the land and the people of China to know them, and who have played no small part in their betterment. Dr. Martin's residence in China through more than half a century of her most important history, i. e. since 1850, and his services as missionary, educator, author, diplomat and adviser to high political authorities, not to mention his admission into the "highest, but one, of the nine grades of the mandarinat," and his participation in many events of historical importance entitle his opinions to the serious consideration of all interested in the progress of civilization and reform in China.

Though in the first half of the book the author carries us on a kind of "personally conducted" tour through the eighteen provinces of China, in half of which he has lived, and the four outlying territories (Mongolia, Manchuria, Turkestan and Thibet), and through the annals of Chinese history to the eighteenth century, vivifying their dry details, his real interest and contribution is in the second half, the transformation of China, to which the other portions are introductory. His aim is to explain and to aid with his pen the great social revolution which he conceives to be taking place in this "living-in-death" empire; greater than that promised in Russia because China's is not merely political but social, involving a "complete renovation" of the "Myriad People." As evidences or forces underlying this movement he points to a dozen or more recent developments; such as, the rehabilitation of the army and navy along the best lines of modern training, the nationalization of the provincial militia, educational reform destined to reconstruct the civil service and intellectually emancipate women, the appointment of modern trained men to high posts in the active mandarinat, the ascendancy of progressivists like Tuan Fang, Yuen, and Chang Chi-tung, the traveling high commission to suggest reforms, the present reform activity of the empress dowager, the revision of the penal code by Wu-ting-fang, the work of Sir Robert Hart in the customs service and postal system, the expansion of mining, railways, trolleys, telegraph, and telephone lines and the impulse toward political, intellectual and moral enfranchisement through the demand and efforts for a free press, a new alphabet, abolition of the footbinding and opium habits and the adoption of Christianity as the state religion.

Many of the items of this catalogue, which Dr. Martin ably discusses, will be recognized as tendencies rather than positive and permanent accomplishments, and although a century of constant religious and commercial pressure of the West on China has been preparing the harvest, it requires faith to believe that it will be reaped before relapses, similar

perhaps to those of 1860 and 1900, have occurred. The hopeful signs of a movement toward constitutionalism would indicate that the Manchus had learned from the failure of their reaction to put more confidence in the leadership of progressive Chinamen, and in the example of the oriental "schoolmaster," Japan, but it is safe to say that few of the four hundred millions of China have grasped the true significance of the events of 1900. The necessity for the enlightened Chang to bow before the *fungshui* superstition and close public works at Peking, and the fact that the imperial court can only deny itself to the extent of some \$140,000 a year for schools in the entire empire while it expends some \$70,000 on a twice-a-week court theatrical troupe, and that the examiners of the old system of education are made the examiners and inspectors of the new are discouraging symptoms, and suggest that our hope for educational reform is to be placed in provincial rather than national initiative.<sup>11</sup>

The author's familiarity with court and city life has led him to concentrate upon conditions there and the fifty and more illustrations from photographs, most of them new, are well-selected toward this end. We could wish, however, that the plan of the book had permitted that the space given to a restatement of the well known facts of Chinese history and topography, attractive though it is made, might have been devoted to those omitted and little known "internal commotions" of the Chinese people that depict their real character and to the conditions and aptitudes of the village or rural dwellers, the great mass of the people, in their relation to effective social reform.

Few Americans will agree with Dr. Martin's advocacy of unrestricted Chinese immigration into the Philippines, but he shows his good judgment in his treatment of the boycott and the demand for treaty revision, recognizing the futility of the aim of China's ruling classes to secure at present a repeal of the exclusion policy and the abandonment of consular jurisdiction. He admits that China must make good through a period of probation like Japan and that three reforms that have been scarcely mentioned in China, adoption of modern costume and the abolition of the curses of polygamy and domestic slavery, are necessary before she is admitted into the full comity of nations. A well deserved tribute is paid to the contributions of Christian missions in the diffusion of secular knowledge in China. The buoyant and animated style of the author of *A Cycle of Cathay* and *The Siege in Peking* and his tendency to reminiscence, while they do not add to the profundity, do immensely to the interest, of a volume like this.

JAS. C. BALLAGH.

*Modern Egypt.* By the EARL OF CROMER. (New York: The Macmillan Company. Two volumes. 1908. Pp. xviii + 594; 600.)

The Egyptian question, wrote Lord Milner in 1892, "has one underlying defect—that it is never simple; it has one ineradicable charm—that it is never commonplace." The two volumes by the master-builder of *Modern Egypt* bear out the statement of his former subordinate. Such an account proceeding from the great British proconsul could not have been in any sense commonplace. If the subject be not clear it is surely not the fault of the present direct, clear and temperate treatment of it. Lord Cromer has that literary style which now and then men of action have developed. With him there is added an ability to make use of allusion and quotation in an apparently incidental fashion, as delightful and illuminating as it is sometimes unexpected. *Modern Egypt* is a book of transcendent importance, not only to the student of modern history and diplomacy, but to those interested in the workings of the British constitution, or in the tutelage of native peoples.

The author's object was twofold: first, to give a narrative of events in Egypt from 1876 to 1892, with an account of the reduction of the Soudan as a continuation; and second, to render a statement of the work actually done during the period of British occupation. Perhaps the greatest popular interest centers in that part of the book concerned with the first object. The narrative begins practically with the creation of the international commission of the public debt in 1876. When Great Britain finally decided to appoint a member of this commission, Lord Cromer, then Major Sir Evelyn Baring, was selected. With the exception of the period from 1880 to 1883, spent in India in administrative service, the author was in Egypt, first as debt commissioner, then as one of the two controllers, and finally, since 1883, as British agent and consul-general. The narrative falls naturally into the divisions represented by his various activities. The first part is largely concerned with the complicated financial matters which marked the failure of the khedivial government in 1876, the attempt at the reorganization of the finances by the commissioners, and the fall of Ismail Pasha. As early as 1857 Lord Palmerston had outlined British policy in Egypt: "We do not want to have Egypt. What we wish about Egypt is that it should continue to be attached to the Turkish empire, which is a security against its belonging to any European power." In 1879 England's attitude was not far different from this. While England and France were then mutually jealous, it was manifestly to the interest of each power that