

"flaming shower and shrieking rush" of a rocket played an important part, put to flight an overwhelming force of hostile natives. The fame of this exploit rapidly spread, and he was naturally regarded as a powerful magician by the whole people of the country. Several attempts to reach the summit of the mountain failed, partly on account of the unfavorable weather, but chiefly through the superstitious fears of the natives, who could not be prevailed upon to accompany him. He was able, however, to reach the snow at an elevation of 16,315 ft., or within nearly 2,000 ft. of the summit.

In the closing chapter Mr. Johnston discusses the "commercial prospects" of this region. There can be no doubt that it offers unusual advantages to the trader or the settler. It is only a fortnight's journey from the coast, and, though but three degrees south of the equator, has in the higher portions a temperate climate. The middle mountain region on the southern slope is easily irrigated and astonishingly fertile. Besides tropical productions, all kinds of European vegetables were grown in the garden of Mr. Johnston's settlement. It is free from the pests which make a residence in other parts of Africa almost unendurable; mosquitoes, for in-

stance, being "entirely absent from most parts of the country." The plains at the foot of the mountain are roamed over by vast herds of game, which will no doubt in time give place to equally vast herds of cattle. The natives are friendly, and ready to welcome traders who deal honestly with them. They are beginning to feel the first desires after the benefits which civilization can confer. It is indeed almost with a shock of incredulity that we read that the now well-known chief Mandara, still to all appearance a mere naked savage, wanted Mr. Johnston "to open a banking account for him at Zanzibar, and he had a distinct though crude idea of drawing cheques." This chief appears to be the only one, according to late German accounts, who has as yet successfully resisted the agents of the East-African Society, which has—on paper at least—recently annexed this whole region. There were rumors of this at the time of Mr. Johnston's visit in 1884, and Mandara was especially uneasy. "His suspicions and fears" of the French and Germans, says the former, "were positively ridiculous, considering that they both ignored his existence, and had never at any time evinced the slightest wish to annex Kilima-Njaro." The savage was better informed than the Englishman, for,

not eight months after Johnston left, the annexation was announced, in which an obscure reference to Mandara leads one to conclude that a treaty had not yet been obtained from him. It only remains to say of this very entertaining book that the author's style is simple and well adapted to his subject, his account of a day's occupation, for instance, being a charming piece of descriptive writing. It may be well to mention that Professor Bonney is President of the Geological Society, not of the Geographical Society, as by a mere slip of the pen at page 328 he is termed. Some excellent illustrations and maps add much to the value of this work.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

- Allen, J. *Life of Nelson*. George Routledge & Sons. 10 cents.
 Armstrong, G. D. *The Two Books of Nature and Revelation Collated*. Funk & Wagnalls. \$1.
 Bacon, L. W. *The Simplicity that is in Christ: Sermons*. Funk & Wagnalls. \$1.50.
 Bartlett, E. T., and Peters, J. P. *Scriptures, Hebrew and Christian, Arranged and Edited for Young Readers, as an Introduction to the Study of the Bible, Vol. I. From Creation to the Exile*. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.50.
 Bax, E. B. *A Handbook of the History of Philosophy for the Use of Students*. Bohn's Philosophical Library. Scribner & Welford.
 Chancellor, E. B. *The Life of Charles I., 1600-1625*. Scribner & Welford.
 Collins, W. *The Evil Genius*. Harper & Brothers. 25 cents.

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