

most revolting portions of raw meat. Their filthy clothing is of the most primitive sort, but they are heavily decorated with brass and copper ornaments. We are told that buttering the head is both a general and a most useful practice. One of the interesting customs is to chain together the debtor and creditor, or the accused and the accuser; which sometimes results in rather complicated situations! For sixteen hundred years the inhabitants have been nominally Christian, so that they are monogamists; but only one wife at a time is offset by many in succession. Girl babies are unappreciated and are frequently left in the forest for the hyenas.

An unsuccessful railway wanders inland from the coast for 500 miles to Addis Ababa, the leading town, where any foreigner will find much that is new to him; but we should advise him first to consult this readable volume. Apparently the only hope for the country is in interesting competent foreigners to work with the Abyssinian Government for the gradual improvement of conditions.

TRAVEL AND DESCRIPTION

UNCONQUERED ABYSSINIA AS IT IS TODAY.

By C. F. Rey. The J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia. \$5.

Here is an illuminating account of a comparatively little visited country and of its benighted inhabitants. To Europeans it is known as Abyssinia, but to the natives as Ethiopia. It is a land of great contrasts, where the ancient and modern are blended in curious confusion. Its population is unknown, being estimated by the author as nine or ten millions; and these differ greatly in race and customs. With seventy separate languages and two hundred dialects, education has hardly attempted to cope; and there are virtually no educational facilities. The natives are opposed to allowing their children to attend school, but it is suggested that this might in part be overcome by paying them to allow it. Almost no one can read or write, and few know their own age.

It is a priest-ridden country, with over a fourth of the male population, in the name of religion, doing nothing but live on the toil of the remainder. The people live in great squalor and are subject to every disease. They eagerly devour the