

A SOLDIER'S MEMORIES. By Major-General Sir George Younghusband Dutton; \$5.

It is not the fortune of everyone, General Younghusband says, "after traveling six thousand miles and arriving in time for lunch, to discover incidentally in the course of conversation that he is expected to take part in a bloody battle shortly after the completion of the meal." But it was repeatedly his own experience. Consequently he has in greater degree, perhaps, than any other writer about modern warfare the spirit of the soldier-adventurer. His reminiscences reflect an unshackled joy in adventure, and an evidently keen delight in sharing his memories to the full with his readers.

"One learns much, and sees much," is his own conclusion after his years on the Indian frontier and his campaigns during the Boer War, the Burmese War, and the Egyptian Campaign. The reader sees much, too, through his eyes, and possibly because the author is not consciously pedagogical, the reader also learns much of the feelings and the character of the men of every sort and degree that he has known. Of Tommy Atkins and his evolution there are some interesting revelations. "I myself," he writes, "had for many years served with soldiers, but had never once heard the words or expressions that Rudyard Kipling's soldiers used. Many a time did I ask my brother officers whether they had ever heard them. No, never. But sure enough, a few years after, the soldiers thought, and talked, and expressed themselves exactly like Rudyard Kipling had taught them in his stories! He would get a stray word here, or a stray expression there, and weave them into general soldier talk, in his priceless stories. Rudyard Kipling made the modern soldier."

Whether General Younghusband writes of Kitchener and Lord Roberts, of his dogs, his Indian servants, the too frequent sallies of other native gentlemen "who were out for a short road to Paradise by killing a British officer," of the long marches over dusty Indian roads, or of life in the officer's mess, he writes with appreciation of that individual difference in men that makes part of the infinite humor of life, with vigor and good humor, and care that every point in his narrative shall be well made. "Memories,"

from the point of view of interest and of workmanship, is one of the best collections of reminiscences that have recently been brought out. One is envious of the life that has made them possible.

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