

A WANDERER IN THE WIND—AN ODYSSEY OF AN ANIMAL COLLECTOR. CECIL S. WEBB. Hutchinson. 21s.

The author of this book has qualities uncommon in any age: he shows surprisingly little interest in money and what it will buy: he is not bound by convention: although his profession often obliged him to trap and kill animals he seems never to have grown callous to their sufferings. Perhaps rarest of all is self-reliance in the deepest sense. Periods of solitude away from a man-made world, rather than human companionship and the comforts of what is called civilization, seem a necessity to him.

When, after the first world war, Mr. Webb decided to become an animal collector he chose a way of life for which he was admirably suited. The story of his travels in four continents is told with a fine simplicity, which allows the more striking incidents to make their own appeal unhampered by comment. On more than one occasion I have been reminded of certain of the great naturalist-travellers of the last century, as for example, Belt in Nicaragua or Bates on the Amazon.

This book, which is illustrated by photographs and line drawings, should give the common reader food for thought. The naturalist, professional or amateur, will no doubt find much that is new and stimulating. He may also be guilty of envy, for however much we yearn for it, not all of us have dared to pursue and win freedom.

CHAPLIN.

SHORTER NOTICE

THE PRESERVATION OF WILD LIFE IN INDIA. A Compilation. LIEUT.-COL. R. W. BURTON.

The occasion of this volume is the formation of the Indian Central Board for Wild Life. Its main purpose is to help the wild life preservation committees by guiding them to important papers on the subjects with which they will be concerned. Many articles from the *Journal* of the Bombay Natural History Society are given in full.

The book was first printed for private circulation only but a new impression will be made when the demand can be estimated. It may be borrowed from the Society's Offices.

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