

civilisation. "Give us the young, and we will create a new mind and a new earth in a single generation."

Mr. Kidd died in 1916, and we do not know to what extent he was able to revise what is now published in this book. We must say that we find in it what seem to us examples of exaggeration, false antithesis, and simplicist formulation; nevertheless, it is a rousing book of unmistakable sincerity and earnestness of conviction.

FORESTRY IN CORSICA, ALGERIA, AND TUNISIA.

French Forests and Forestry: Tunisia, Algeria, Corsica. With a Translation of the Algerian Code of 1903. By T. S. Woolsey, jun. Pp. xv + 238. (New York: J. Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd., 1917.) Price 11s. 6d. net.

THIS book is provided with a somewhat misleading title, so that the reader expects a description of forests and forestry practice in France; whereas the three dependencies of Corsica, Algeria, and Tunisia are dealt with. The author, who was formerly a forest officer in the United States, visited these three countries and studied them as an expert. His detailed description of the distribution, management, administration, and protection of the forests may be regarded as authoritative. His remarks on silvicultural methods are of great interest, especially to foresters in the United States and in our own Colonies, where the climatic conditions are often similar to those in the countries here described.

In Tunisia, with 1,600,000 acres of forests, the sole trees of commercial importance are the cork oak, producing cork, and the Zeen oak (*Quercus mirbeckii*), akin to our own species and yielding an excellent timber. The annual receipts of these forests vary from 24,000*l.* to 53,000*l.* The most notable technical achievements of the French foresters in Tunisia have been the protection of the oases in the Djerid and the control of the dunes at Bizerta and Cap Bon. The oasis is usually not a mere spring, but in reality a rich date-palm farm several hundred acres in area and well worth the cost of protection against drifting sand, excessive grazing, and erosion. The descriptions of the ways in which sand fences are built and of the various methods of coping with erosion are interesting. Plantations have not been successful, as the annual rainfall is only a few centimetres, and the species to be grown must, besides, withstand the burning siroccos which blow during summer. The tamarisk has succeeded, but only in a partial degree.

In Algeria there are 7,000,000 acres of forests, which mainly exist on land too poor to be cultivated by the natives. The Government controls 4,800,000 acres, which yielded in 1910 a gross revenue of 150,000*l.* Cork oak contributes the greater part

of this total. Cedar, the most remarkable species, yields a small quantity of good timber annually. The Aleppo pine, which covers an immense area estimated at 1,500,000 acres, yielded no revenue until lately. Recent experiments show that it can be tapped for turpentine with some commercial success. The principal methods of regeneration are described, and as a rule sowing in carefully prepared spots is more successful than the planting out of seedlings.

Corsica, with a total area of 2,155,161 acres, has 431,000 acres of so-called forests, of which, however, only 347,000 acres are stocked with trees. The most important species is the Corsican pine, which attains a height of 150 ft. and yields a valuable timber. Its growth is vigorous up to 150 years old. It has been tapped for resin, but the tapping killed many mature trees or considerably slowed their growth. The Corsican pine is now worked on a modification of the selection system by which the trees to be felled are selected in groups. The small openings thus made in the stand give all the light necessary for the development of the seedlings. The areas felled, scattered irregularly over the forest, vary in size from one-tenth to one-fourteenth of an acre. The Corsican peasants are still a lawless set, and very difficult to control. Fire, excessive grazing by goats, trespass, and minor thefts are common; and the actions at law brought by the forest officers, whilst decreasing year by year, are still very numerous. Of 598 actions brought in 1911, no fewer than 314 ended in acquittal by complacent juries. The book concludes with an appendix, being a translation of the Algerian forest code, followed by statistics of Corsica and the clauses usual in a sale of timber in a communal forest.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF SURGERY.

The Edinburgh School of Surgery before Lister. By Alexander Miles. Pp. viii + 220. (London: A. and C. Black, Ltd., 1918.) Price 5s. net.

THE author, who is one of the surgeons to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, has compressed into 220 pages a great deal of interesting matter concerning the development of surgery in the northern capital from 1505 down to the period preceding Lister. The origin of this famous school may be said to date from the "seil of cause granted be the Towne Counsell of Edinburgh to the Craftes of Surrengeny and Barbouris" whereby they received permission to dissect one condemned criminal each year "quairthrow we may heif experieuce, ilk ane to instruct utheris." The principles here laid down to base surgery on anatomy and to teach the same pervades the whole history of the Edinburgh school down to the period of Syme, its greatest representative in the middle of last century.

At first the barbers were eliminated from the