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Léon Marillier.

Hartland.

Léon Marillier. By E. Sidney Hartland, F.S.A.

The death of M. Marillier has removed one of the ablest and most learned of French anthropologists. Not France alone but science has suffered a terrible and unexpected loss. The coasts of Brittany have an evil reputation, and from time to time they remind us that their terrors have not been exaggerated. A storm one evening last summer capsized the skiff in which had embarked a joyous family party to return to Tréguier after a happy day with some friends. Nearly the whole company were drowned, and though M. Marillier himself was thrown up on the beach and was found in the morning alive, he had lost his wife and other relatives, his young sister-in-law had died at his side during the night, and the shock and the exposure and the sorrow resulted in an illness from which he never rallied. In less than two months he was laid, with the remains of those whom he had loved, to rest in the graveyard of Tréguier. Happily few storms claim a victim so brilliant, so generous, so devoted to the best interests of humanity and of science, so widely and sincerely mourned. Yet he had written no big books. His literary and scientific work was confined to essays, to the direction of important periodicals, and to his lectures in the École des Hautes Études and other educational institutions. But no one who had read his essay on *La survivance de l'âme et l'idée de justice chez les peuples non-civilisés*, his preface to the translation of Mr. Lang's *Myth Ritual and Religion* (promptly put on the *Index Expurgatorius*), or his articles on Totemism in the *Revue de l'Histoire des Religions* could fail to be struck by his learning, his acumen, and the sanity of his judgments, or to doubt that his influence must be an important power for the development of true scientific thought and enquiry, especially in his native land, though also far beyond its borders. His influence with his pupils was unbounded. His *salon* was the place where scientific and literary men, both French and foreigners, loved to assemble. An eloquent speaker, and a man of quick susceptibilities and wide sympathies, he was ever ready to travel any distance to plead for the defenceless and the suffering, to advocate the cause of temperance and the cause of peace. British anthropologists may well join their French brethren in mourning a comrade who, dying so young, has left behind a sense of loss whose magnitude is not to be measured by the work he had actually accomplished, a void that cannot easily be filled.

E. S. HARTLAND.

REVIEWS.

Mediterranean.

Sergi.

Sergi's Views on the Ethnology of the Mediterranean Area.*The Mediterranean Race.* By G. Sergi. London: Scott, 1901. 320 pp. 6s. **19**

The rarity of broad constructive work in anthropology makes this a welcome book, although probably no investigator would agree with most of the conclusions. As anyone touching such questions would certainly get the book, we only give here a brief summary, and then note some of the large questions that are raised and minor corrections that may be useful to readers.

Chapter I. is a vigorous attack on Indo-Germanism, in which the southerner fights well against the view that salvation is of the Germans. Chapter II. brings forward the unity of the Mediterranean peoples. Chapter III. is the African theory, of which more below. Chapter IV. is a useful summary of the Libyans. Chapters V. to VIII. deal with Egyptians, Western Libyans, Canary Islands, Syria, and Asia Minor. Chapter IX. deals with the south of Europe. Chapter X. is on the earliest types of man in Europe; Chapter XI. on the prehistoric North-Europeans; Chapter XII. on the mixing of races; Chapter XIII. mainly on facial types of living races; Chapter XIV. on the archæology, which is not satisfactory. A number of theses are given in the preface, which greatly help the reader. These propound that the dolichocephalic pre-Aryan people of the

Mediterranean and south Europe came from Africa, that the primitive civilisation is Afro-Mediterranean, and that the savage Aryans came in as destroyers rather than as civilisers. The large questions that are raised may be briefly commented on separately.

The uniformity of type of races round the Mediterranean is assumed to prove identity of origin. But as type is the product of conditions, there is the further question as to how far the generally uniform nature of the coasts may not tend to produce a uniform type. The hilly limestone shores, with scanty vegetation, are closely alike in Spain, Italy, Greece, Syria, and Africa, and may well induce similarity of inhabitants (p. 32). We read that "there exist about a dozen cranial forms—by me termed varieties"—common alike to all the peoples called Iberian, Ligurian, the central Italic as well as "the southern and insular Italic region, the Greek peoples, Asia Minor, ancient Egypt, and all northern Africa now occupied by the Berbers and Kabyles" (p. 36). "I am able to assert that these characters are not found among the Celtic, Germanic, Finnic, or other populations" (p. 38). This is a very serious assertion, and lies at the root of all Professor Sergi's work of classification. But what does it imply? Is it (1) that these dozen forms are separate strains incapable of fusion and persisting by different lines of descent? Or is it (2) that these forms are the standard deviations of one germ type; and, if so, liable to appear in rotation in a single family? Or is it (3) that these forms are reversions to different ancestral types which were long since mixed and fused? None of these conclusions will fit to all of the author's remarks; yet, if we are asked to believe in a dozen different forms all diffused over certain lands, but never found elsewhere, we should have some logical and definite theory of such a strange condition of things (p. 36).

Next, we have the African theory, that the long-headed race of early Europe came from the quaternary Sahara. But this rests on saying that it "could not have its cradle in the basin of the Mediterranean"; though no arguments beyond vague assertions are given. The positive fact which seems to entirely preclude this theory is the southward recession of the steatopygous race. In the cave period, late palæolithic, we find this type disappearing from South France. At the early neolithic age we find it disappearing from Egypt. In 1500 B.C. it was in Somali-land. Now it is only in South Africa. Here is the continuous southward recession of a markedly different species of man, from South Europe to South Africa; associated in the earlier cases with the close of the palæolithic age, which suggests that this was the type of the vanishing palæolithic race. To bring their immediate successors up northward in the contrary direction seems quite impossible; the steatopygous race was being pushed southward by the dolichocephalic race which lined the Mediterranean basin. There is, besides, the general law that the harder life of a northern people enables them always to push southward and overcome a less robust race; an invasion from the south is very rare, and even then is not a racial movement but only a subjugation (p. 39).

A valuable remark is quoted that in Italy blonds are found over 400 m. altitude and brunettes below that. But there is nothing to show that this is the effect of altitude on a uniform race; it may be the effect of voluntary sorting of two races according to preference, or of natural selection by climate from among a mixed race (p. 73).

Some good general remarks are to be welcomed. On p. 35, "A method which is only in appearance a method inevitably leads to errors and can produce no results," which is too true of most of the elaborate measuring of anthropologists not based on single elements of growth, and would perhaps be applied by many also to Professor Sergi's classifications of skull forms. Again, on p. 106, "Craniometry is a kind of Kabbala and will prove anything and everything one wishes; what strange things it will demonstrate is shown by Fouquet, who brings in Indians, Hottentots, Kaffirs, Bushmen, and so on, in order to interpret prehistoric Egyptian skulls. It is the sense of reality which is lost in such craniometric lucubrations." And on p. 198, "The

"numerical variation of a few units cannot constitute a difference of race; an index of 74 is in its ethnic significance the same as one of 76 or 77, and it would be absurd to suppose otherwise . . . We cannot accept the evidence of the cephalic index when that evidence is contradicted by other important facts." All this will be blasphemy to the worshipper of millimetres; but it is at least a wholesome reaction against erecting an artificial system and letting that rule all conclusions.

Turning now to errors of detail, some passages (for instance, on pp. 39, 41, 53) are absurd owing to want of thought on the part of the unnamed translator, who has also left some names in Italian form. But we must question, on p. 30, the denial of modern influence from Babylonia, when we remember astronomy, sexagesimal notation, and the Psalms and other religious expression. On p. 46 the denial of ethnic value to Egyptian sculpture is certainly unjust, and is not followed by the author on p. 60. On p. 61 the date of Amenhotep IV. should be more than three centuries later than 1700 B.C. there stated. We must demur to the pyramids being called chambered tumuli (p. 71); their development is from the subterranean tomb, and not from a raised mound. On p. 80 the presence of flint tools in the Sahara proves nothing of the antiquity of the Libyan stock, and even the age of the flint work is based on sand polish which might be due to one century or a hundred centuries. The coarser forms being further south may be due to difference of material or to degradation of race in more remote regions. None of these facts will prove the southern origin of the Libyan stock and its great age. Regarding p. 92 we must say that the Egyptians never burnt the dead. On pp. 96-7 all the marks figured are ordinary Egyptian hieroglyphs, which are perfectly understood; and on p. 99 it should be noted that the sign system is entirely separate from the hieroglyphic and was already in a decadent state before the new system of hieroglyphics broke in upon it. On p. 102 the conclusion quoted about the Nagada skulls is my own, and was never stated by Thompson and Thane. On p. 278 the late bronze of Egypt is put in opposition to the early copper of Cyprus; but Egypt had copper some 5,000 years before it was supplanted by bronze. In general the last chapter on the culture and archæology is not satisfactory, and the whole remarks and examples of alphabetic signs need recasting since the fuller lists of early signs and their comparisons with Karian and Spanish alphabets have been published (*Journ. Anth. Inst.*, XXIX. 204).

The main benefit which this work may give is the sense of the uniformity of the dolichocephalic people of the Mediterranean and Europe; and the view that the Aryan may well have been a ruder race, conquering as the Dorian overcame the Mycenæan, or the Goth and Frank subdued the Greek and Roman. A fresh standpoint and a freedom from bondage to earlier suppositions is of much value, and may well give scope to genuine growth.

W. M. FLINDERS PETRIE.

Biometry,

Galton, &c.

The Statistical Method in Biology.

Biometrika; a Journal for the Statistical Study of Biological Problems. **20**

Edited, in consultation with Francis Galton, by W. F. R. Weldon, Karl Pearson, and C. B. Davenport. Vol. I., Part I.

Physical anthropologists will give a hearty welcome to this journal, and wish the new venture a permanent success. The new statistical methods initiated by Francis Galton, and developed chiefly by Karl Pearson, have placed a most powerful means of research in the hands of students of evolution and ethnology, and promise to rescue physical anthropology from the comparatively stagnant condition in which it has remained since the time of Blumenbach and Retzius.

Biometrika, as might be inferred from its title, covers not anthropology only, but the whole field of biology. According to the editorial foreword, *Biometrika* will include (a) memoirs on variation, inheritance, and selection, in animals and plants, based