Ancient Pagan Tombs and Christian Cemeteries in the Islands of Malta, Explored and Surveyed from the Year 1881 to the Year 1897 by A. A. Caruana

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commending themselves to the highest ideal of the other by loyalty to truth and to community principles" (p. 90).

Possibly, however, the women who more or less appreciated the above state of things when the Community was founded, felt, twenty to thirty years later, that more was to be said for monogamy than they had once thought possible. It would seem indeed probable—to an outsider—that, as a rule, the privileges of complex marriage would be more appreciated by the elderly men than by the elderly women, where they were not a matter of indifference or of aversion to both.

Mr. Estlake thinks that the history of the Oneida Community will one day be studied "as a handbook and guide to communism, and the pages of history will portray John H. Noyes as a prophet of the new dispensation." No communistic scheme can succeed, he remarks, in which selfishness in any form appears, and he adds that:—"The sexual relationship of communists being pregnant with influences that are antagonistic to the first principle of communism, it should be one of the first subjects to be most carefully canvassed and satisfactorily disposed of before attempting to launch a socialistic enterprise." Those who do not "fearlessly follow the sexual problem to its logical solution deceive themselves and their followers while seeking to form a community with communism left out."

In short, this book is of unquestionable interest to anthropologists as the honest account of a thorough believer in the soundness of the principles on which the Oneida Community was originally based. This gives it a value of a somewhat rare kind, and one which the work of a much abler outsider could not possess.

T. V. H.

THE ROYAL PUBLIC LIBRARY OF MALTA: a brochure by Dr. A. A. Caruana. Printed by authority of H.E. the Governor. Fcp. 15 pp., price 3d. Malta Government Printing Office, 1898. (Presented by the Author.)

This is a brief account of the historic buildings and collections of the Royal Public Library of Malta, which was founded in 1555, and continuously developed under the administration of the Order of St. John. The following extracts are characteristic: from 1800—the date of the British Occupation—to 1812, "the new edifice," built for the library and museum by the Knights of St. John, "was employed as a public coffee room for the British Officers," while in 1809 "several thousand volumes, belonging to that valuable collection, were rotting from want of accommodation" (p. 7), with the result that whereas in 1798 there were 60,000 volumes, there were only 30,000 left when Sir Henry Oakes, the Civil Commissioner, succeeded in installing them in their own building in 1812. The present collection contains some 53,000 volumes, including a considerable number of manuscripts. There is an interesting collection of local antiquities which is well worth a visit, as it includes the results of excavation in the prehistoric buildings of Hagiar Kim, etc., and the contents of a number of tombs of prehistoric, Græco-Phœnician, Roman, and Romano-Christian periods.

J. L. M.

ANCIENT PAGAN TOMBS AND CHRISTIAN CEMETERIES IN THE ISLANDS OF MALTA, explored and surveyed from the year 1881 to the year 1897; by Dr. A. A. Caruana (late Director of Education and Librarian). Printed by order of H.E. the Governor. Fcp. 4to, pp. 129, many lithographed plates, price 8s. Malta Government Printing Office, 1898. (Presented by H.M. Secretary of State for the Colonies.)

Dr. Caruana is well known for the devoted study which he has given to the antiquities of the Maltese Islands; and he is greatly to be congratulated both on the appearance of these monographs, in which the results of some part of his work are

made accessible, and on the public-spirited way in which the Government of Malta has shown its appreciation of his services, both to anthropologists and archaeologists at large, and to the education of his own countrymen.

The soft limestone of which Malta consists lends itself admirably to the excavation of chamber tombs; and though as much tomb-digging has gone on here, even in antiquity, as anywhere else in the Mediterranean, Dr. Caruana has been able to secure for the Malta Museum the contents of a number of unripped tombs, as well as a most elaborate and careful series of ground plans and sections, which are here published in admirable lithographed plates. A number of types of "Phœnician" tombs are given, varying from a simple grave of tiles (Plate IV, 3)—in one instance a body is buried in two large clay jars set mouth to mouth—to the common cave-tomb closed by a slab, and approached either by a short *dromos*, or by a vertical shaft with or without steps or footholds: in one instance (Plate II, 4) the shaft comes down through the roof of the chamber. Chambers clustered round a central vestibule are not uncommon, and often bear, in ground plan, a striking resemblance to the arrangement of the megalithic monuments of Hagiar Kim, Mnajdra, and Gigantea. The bodies lie either on a shelf, or in stone coffins; or in a grave sunk in the floor; or simply on the ground, as in Cyprus. In this "Phœnician" class Dr. Caruana includes the great cliff-face necropolis of Ben Gemma (Plate VIII), which was recklessly rifled in 1874; he does not give any account of the fragments of their contents which may still be picked up on the site, and which suggest that some at all events are of the same type as the *tombe a fenestre* of Sicily, and the cave-tombs of Chaouach and other Tunisian sites, and therefore of indigenous type, and probably of earlier date than the Phœnician settlement in Malta.

The "Græco-Roman" tombs follow the same general plan as the "Phœnician"; but are, as elsewhere, more regularly cut, and better finished. Plate XIII gives a good example, with its funeral equipment intact. There is a curious series of bell-shaped chambers, with an orifice in the summit of each (Plates XV, XVI), the type of which can hardly be that of a tomb originally. They look more like a common type of cistern or store-house, which again may be paralleled on the African coast opposite. But the three-storied example on Plate XVI was certainly used for burial.

The Christian tombs (among which probably are included some late Roman examples), develop out of the clustered-chamber type into regular catacombs with narrow-resting places and columbaria. Of these the best examples are found in and near the Roman and mediæval capital of Melita, at Citta Vecchia or Rabato (of which a useful plan is given on Plate XXI), and wander under the town for considerable distances. A few inscriptions and traces of painting occur, and are duly recorded by Dr. Caruana.

The only matter for regret is that so few detailed descriptions are given of objects found in the various classes of tombs. It is always exceedingly difficult to date rock tombs merely by their form; and a few well-drawn—or better, photographed—examples of the pottery and other tomb-furniture would have been invaluable. But perhaps we may be allowed to hope that this aid is only postponed, and that Dr. Caruana will some time be able to give us a companion volume on the contents of the Valetta Museum.

J. L. M.

THE HARMONIC STRUCTURE OF INDIAN MUSIC. By John Comfort Fillmore. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1899.

This pamphlet is an ingenious and interesting defence of a wholly untenable position. It is written with evident conviction; it is supported by examples drawn