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In Malay the appearance of words of related meaning with identical initial syllables has been remarked by Maxwell, as, *e.g.*, *bu-lan*, moon; *bu-lat*, round; *bu-ah*, fruit, &c. The application of Schmidt's method to this and other languages of the Archipelago would probably lead to some interesting results, and perhaps show a closer relation between the Malayan languages and those of the mainland than is now admitted.

P. W. Schmidt demonstrates the position of the Khasi with regard to the Mon-Khmer languages by means of a long comparative list. In this many of the Khasi words with the prefix removed are shown to be the same as the Mon, Khmer, Bahnar or Stieng. Thus, of words already quoted in this notice the Khasi, *ky-pa*, father is the Khmer *pa*, Khasi *ky-mī* mother, is Mon *mī*, Khmer *mē*, Bahnar *mě*, Stieng *méi*. But this agreement in word store is not regarded by Schmidt as establishing the Khasi as a member of the Mon-Khmer family. He shows very many differences in phonology, word-building, grammar, and vocabulary, and hence comes to the conclusion that, though related to the Mon-Khmer, the Khasi yet forms a distinct (selbständige) language. The whole of the related languages he arranges thus:—

I. (a) Khasi (Khasi and Jaintia Hills).

(b) Wa-angku, Rieng, Palaung, Danau (basin of the middle Salwin River).

(c) Nikobar.

II. Semang, Tembe, Senoi, Sakei (Malay Peninsula).

III. Mon, Khmer, Bahnar, Stieng, Huei, Suk, Sue, So, Hin, Nah-hang, Anam, (Pegu, Cambodia, Cochin-China), and Bersisi (Malay Peninsula).

With this group he thinks it is also possible to connect the Kolh languages (Santhal, Mundari, Singbhum, and Kurku) in spite of their distance so far west of the Khasi.

A supplement to the first treatise discusses the dialects spoken in the basin of the Middle Salwin river, which are regarded as nearly related to the Khasi. These are dealt with in the same way as the Khasi. The phonology is discussed, and comparatives with the Khasi and Mon-Khmer are shown in a table.

P. W. Schmidt's second treatise lays the foundation for an extensive and intimate investigation of the Mon-Khmer languages. He regards these languages from their geographical position, as important links which may connect what he calls the Austronesian (*i.e.*, Indonesian, Melanesian, and Polynesian) languages with those of the Asiatic continent.

The languages analysed are the Mon, Bahnar, Stieng, and Khmer. Other related languages are disregarded, either through lack of sufficient material, or from the presence of a strong foreign element. Words are arranged according to their sounds and their changes and relationships are discussed in great detail. The industry and learning which P. Schmidt has bestowed upon this portion of his work is admirable, and in it he has laid a sure foundation for the proper comparative study of the languages of further India. The two treatises here noted are the most important which have yet been issued in this branch of philology.

SIDNEY H. RAY.

England: Ethnology.

Shore.

Origin of the Anglo Saxon Race. By T. W. Shore. London: Elliot Stock, 1906. Pp. vi + 416. 22 × 14 cm. Price 9s.

107

This book can be confidently recommended to all interested in the history of the British Isles. It is in the main a study of the customs and laws of the early English in so far as they deal with land-tenure and the rights of succession. With this is included a summary of the history as recorded by many early writers, and an

[174]

abstract of such evidence from physical anthropology as had been set forward by Dr. Beddoe.

The author shows that three separate customs of inheritance have prevailed in England from early times: "The succession of the youngest to the whole estate; the succession of the eldest; and the partible custom by which all shared alike, whether sons only, or sons and daughters." These customs Mr. Shore traced to their earlier homes on the continent of Europe, the partible custom to Germany, primogeniture to Scandinavia, junior right to the east of the Elbe. Since in early times the plains east of the Elbe were inhabited for the more part by peoples of Slavonic origin, he concluded that this custom must have arisen among them: such, indeed, was the law of the primary element of organisation in Russia, the village community or *mir*. Finding that in early times the customs of primogeniture and partible succession were prevalent in England among tribal groups of Scandinavian and German origin respectively, he concluded that the custom of junior right must have been introduced to this country by Slavs. As confirmatory evidence he points out that in the countries in which the junior right has most largely survived there is the largest representation of the syllable *mer* as part of place names. The Slavonic peoples most likely to have participated in the invasion of Britain were those living on the Baltic sea-board, of whom the most prominent were the Wends, who were called by the Scandinavians Winthr or Windr.

Hence where a place name occurs with these syllables, as Winterbourne, Winterset, Windsor, Wandsworth and the like, it has been concluded that the Wends took a part in the original settlement.

The study of custom and law is of great importance in investigating the course of migrations in former times; but, like language, custom may be transferred from one race to another, so that when conclusions drawn from their study support the evidence from other sources they have a far higher value than when standing alone. It would seem probable that junior right is a custom likely to arise among a migratory people, among whom the elder sons would most probably have taken a share of the domestic goods and started out to form fresh communities during their father's lifetime.

The evidence from physical anthropology set forward by Mr. Shore in support of his thesis is less satisfactory. He lays stress on the prognathism of certain West Saxon skulls described by Horton-Smith, pointing out that the people of the eastern coast of the Baltic were more prognathous than those further west. But as only three out of twelve West Saxon skulls described exceeded the limits of orthognathism, and but few details exist as to the cranical characters of the Esthonians and other peoples of the eastern Baltic, it is evident that, when the probable error for each group is taken into consideration, the difference from the normal West Saxon type does not exceed the limits of chance variation in a small sample. Similarly, until more material has been collected and investigated the argument that because dark traits frequently occur in areas in these islands in association with supposed Slavonic place names, and that a map of Germany indicating the degree of pigmentation of children shows the presence of a higher degree of brunetness in the area formerly occupied by Wends than in some, but not all, the surrounding districts, therefore the Wends shared in the invasion of Britain, must be looked on as hypothesis rather than demonstrated proof.

Notwithstanding these difficulties this book demands the careful attention of all students of the Anglo-Saxon race, an attention the more easily given from its eminently readable nature.

F. S.