

Prof. Huxley himself describes his scheme as of a tentative character, but whatever plan be finally adopted it is desirable that the real aims and objects of the Association shall be fully understood.

It is desired that there shall be one University in London which shall be a central authority to organize and improve higher education.

No reasonable person has ever supposed that the existing University of London was to be destroyed as a sort of peace-offering to its critics, or that existing colleges were to be ignored or dragooned into self-effacement. What is desired is that the Senate of the existing University should be reconstituted by the addition of professors teaching under the control of the University and by a reduction in the number of its lay members, if, with the new additions, it would otherwise be of unwieldy size.

It is desired that a share in the benefits to be obtained from the University should be given to any college only in so far as it is willing to put into the hands of the University the appointment and control of those of its chairs which might be recognized by the University. It is hoped that the advantages which would accrue from this partial fusion would be so great as to lead to the gradual voluntary "absorption" of the colleges. To make this desirable end attainable it is necessary that the College Councils should not be represented, as such, on the Governing Body of the University, but no objection would, we believe, be felt to temporary arrangements which might facilitate the inauguration of the new state of things.

The sooner it is clearly understood that the Association is the result of the labours and the exponent of the views of the "practical men" who are, according to Prof. Huxley, to be found in the professorial ranks, the better it will be for the Association and for London. Prof. Pearson's withdrawal from the secretaryship appears, under all the circumstances, to afford a sufficient guarantee of this.

IN SAVAGE ISLES AND SETTLED LANDS.

In Savage Isles and Settled Lands: Malaysia, Australasia, and Polynesia, 1888-1891. By B. F. S. Baden-Powell, Lieut. Scots Guards, F.R.G.S. (London: Richard Bentley and Son, 1892.)

THIS book contains the impressions of Lieut. Baden-Powell during a journey round the world of over three years' duration; jottings limited chiefly to his own personal doings and observations. The journey was evidently a leisurely peregrination with many divergences to places of interest off his direct route out to Brisbane in Queensland, whither he was bound to assume official duty on the staff of the governor of that colony, and an equally unhurried saunter home again through the Pacific and America. The author does not propose to look at things with scientific eyes, and it is possible here and there throughout the book to detect that he has no profound acquaintance with the *ologies*. Consequently his book does not fall to be rigidly criticized in these pages. His eyes, however, if not scientific, were kept at all events very wide open, and what came under his own observation

is clearly and accurately described in a chatty and pleasant style and with a good deal of quiet humour. It is easy to see that the "tramp" enjoyed his trip, and the reader, drawn on by his cicerone's mood, accompanies him through savage isles and settled lands with equal satisfaction. Lieut. Baden-Powell started off through the European continent *viâ* Cologne and Vienna to Rustchuk, thence across Bulgaria, through which "a railway journey is not very interesting." Nevertheless, "little picturesque villages are seen nestling in the valleys, and distant glimpses of the Balkans gained." Beyond Shumla we get through the mountains and "pass through miles of swamp, the railway almost level with the water, and reeds growing up all around, in some places so high as to cut out all view from the carriage windows. Passing along the edges of large lakes, the train starts up thousands of wild fowl, which fly around till the air is quite darkened by them, and on we go, mile after mile, with more and more duck rising from the water," evidently a sportsman's paradise. Thence our guide conducts us to Constantinople and on to Egypt, and though he takes us by well-trodden paths and tells us little that is new or wonderful, he enlivens the way with a constant flow of time-beguiling talk and anecdote. From Egypt Mr. Baden-Powell sets out for southern Australia, but he wanders as usual off his main road for some weeks into Ceylon and India to luxuriate amid their tropic scenery and ancient monuments. Of the three southern colonies of the Australias traversed on his way to Queensland he gives us a few brief notes. Of the latter colony, where he spent some years in the enjoyable and not very arduous duties of A.D.C. to Sir Anthony Musgrave and Sir Henry Norman, he has a great deal that is interesting to tell. He visited much of the country, and saw something of its aboriginal as well as of its adopted natives, and found interest and amusement in both. At a vice-regal ball at Hughenden, a town 240 miles inland, he finds himself a fellow-guest with the butler of the hotel he was staying at, and his host's housemaid, "who was quite the belle of the ball, and who, when supper was served, turned waitress again. Such is society in a Bush town." "It was in this district," he continues, "that I first set eyes on some real wild blacks. The aborigines of Australia are an extraordinary people. To look at they are quite unlike any other human beings I ever saw. A thick tangled mass of black hair crowns their heads; their features are of the coarsest; very large broad and flattened noses; small, sharp, bead-like eyes and heavy eyebrows. They generally have a coarse tangled bit of beard; skin very dark and limbs extraordinarily attenuated like mere bones. But they always carry themselves very erect. . . . They wander about stark naked over the less settled districts, and live entirely on what they can pick up. . . . If not the lowest type of humanity they would be hard to beat. They show but few signs of human instinct, and in their ways seem to be really more like beasts." Mr. Baden-Powell thus summarizes his opinions on Australia as a field for emigration (and those who know the Australasian colonies will recognize their truth): "The labouring man will find it a paradise; the professional man will find his profession overstocked; and the man with money to invest will probably be ruined. . . . My personal advice to would-

be emigrants except of the lowest [² lower] class is like *Punch's*—Don't."

From Queensland it was easy and natural for our traveller to be attracted across to New Guinea, the land of so much myth and mystery. Here he fell in with the indefatigable administrator, Sir W. Macgregor, and was able to lend him a helping hand in the skirmishing incident on the capture of the natives of some villages guilty of the murder of several Europeans. He spent some days at Samarai, the head-quarters of the south-eastern district; and we feel sure that the almost unsurpassable panorama visible from its hill-set bungalow of "mountains wooded to the peak," and green isles, spread out on every side, basking in an azure sea, and picturesquely veiled in haze as they lessen away to beyond the horizon, must have rewarded him for his visit, even at the expense of a bout of fever. His account of what he saw and did in Papua occupies some eighty pages, and contains more trustworthy and interesting information than many of the narratives of men who have spent a much longer time in the country than Mr. Baden-Powell did. The next region he visited was the Malay Archipelago. He only gazed on Sumatra, "that extraordinary island which contains probably a greater variety of big game, of useful plants, and of wonderful scenery than any other country of its size"; but he visited many of the most interesting places in Java, and the Straits Settlements, and made extensive journeys in Borneo, where he shot some of "the very extraordinary-looking proboscis-monkeys (*Larvatus nasalis*) . . . I should imagine," he remarks, "his ponderous nose would get very much in the way of his biting any one, and he certainly has no other means of defence." Our space will not permit us to follow Mr. Baden-Powell through New Zealand and the various islands of the Pacific sojourned in by him, except to note his account of the preparation of "king's cava," of which he was a witness, in Samoa:—

"This was a great event. None of the Consuls even had ever before partaken of 'king's cava.' But there was a certain amount of sham about it. First, the root was produced—genuine enough, I dare say. Six men then sat in a row outside the house, the nine-legged cava bowl before them. Each man was then given some water to wash his mouth out, and a packet of cava wrapped in a bit of leaf was given to each. I shuddered at the awful thought of what was about to happen. In true native fashion these nasty old men were undoubtedly going to chew the root, and I . . . would have to swallow the nauseous stuff! I watched very carefully and was much relieved when I saw the packets collected again and put in the bowl. It was ready prepared [outside in a less orthodox and less disquieting fashion] and the little ceremony was only to represent formally the mode in which it ought to be done, the cava being 'taken as chewed.' Then the bowl was solemnly brought into the house and put on the floor at the end opposite the king."

This is an interesting instance of the evolution of what might have been as meaningless a ceremonial as are many of those survivals of abandoned customs which are familiar to us in many other parts of the world.

From Samoa Lieut. Baden-Powell made his way home by the usual route *via* the Sandwich Islands and through the States.

"In Savage Isles and Settled Lands" is a book we can heartily recommend. It is elegantly got up, is illustrated by

excellent wood engravings, and has a map of the author's route. Nearly every page presents in a few words some bright vignette that will please and inform those who have never had the opportunity of visiting those lands and isles, and will set the home-come traveller a-dreaming with grateful satisfaction of delightful days that are past, and help him to live them over again more delightfully still in the present.

H. O. F.

PROPERTY.

Property: Its Origin and Development. By Chas. Letourneau, General Secretary to the Anthropological Society of Paris, and Professor in the School of Anthropology. (Walter Scott, 1892.)

LESS than a generation ago the history of early civilization was summed up, if not in the three words hunting, pasture, and agriculture, at least in the formula of Sir Henry Maine: "Society develops from family to tribe, and from tribe to State." Recent inquiries have discredited both of these formulas, and taken us back to the genesis of the family itself, and beyond civilization to barbarism and savagery. If we listen to Prof. Letourneau (to say nothing of Morgan and MacLennan), we may reconstruct the evolution of society in all its stages out of savagery by the "ethnographic method," "looking upon existing inferior races as living representatives of our primitive ancestors" (Preface, page ix). It must be remembered that in using this ethnographic method we assume that the order of progress has been substantially identical in all cases, and also that the simplest forms come first in time (p. 70, cf. 126). Both assumptions would need justification before the results of the new method could be finally accepted.

Prof. Letourneau had applied the method with great learning and ingenuity in his earlier book on the evolution of marriage. In the volume before us he applies it to property. He begins with a chapter on property amongst animals; ants and bees, as we might expect, are shown to be more highly developed in this matter than many men, and they have many of the vices of men. They provide for the future. Their property is that of a community; but one community wars on another for pillage. There are not only parasites, but idle aristocrats among them. The amazon ants, who cannot even feed themselves, but depend on their black slaves, are well known from Huber's description, and are a standing refutation of Solomon's high opinion of ants. On the whole, among animals, property is due simply to the instinct of self-preservation; and Letourneau ascribes it to the same origin in the case of men. Among the "anarchic hordes," which come first in his series (p. 23), and of which the Fuegians are a specimen, there is collective property. If union is strength it is weakness that first leads to union (cf. p. 368). But there is no personal property except in tools and weapons, "the immediate result of personal labour" (p. 39). Provision for the future is unknown. In the second stage (among the "republican tribes") the union is more highly organized; there is tribal government, with minute regulation of conduct in regard to the dealings of individuals with the necessities of life. The most remarkable example is perhaps that of the people of Paraguay