

or when enraged, which gives so marked a confirmation to the Egyptian story. We may conclude fairly enough, either that the Egyptian priests saw this red exudation, and imitated it with the practice of bleeding, or, as is infinitely more probable, that the Egyptian laity noticed the blood-coloured sweat of the great river-horse, and connected it with the practice of bleeding then in operation, by the interpolation of the sharp reed, and an inability to understand that their wise men could discover a remedy untaught.

E. RAY LANKESTER

PREHISTORIC ARCHÆOLOGY

Transactions of the International Congress of Prehistoric Archaeology, 3rd Session, 1869. Royal 8vo, pp. 419, with 53 illustrations. (Longmans, 1869.)

IN these days of annual gatherings or Congresses intended for the promotion of Science, whether Natural, Social, or Ecclesiastical, we need not be surprised at the numerous observers now engaged in different countries in the various branches of Prehistoric Anthropology and Prehistoric Archæology founding an International Congress for the discussion of questions in which they are particularly interested. It was at a meeting of the *Société Italienne des Sciences Naturelles*, held at La Spezia in 1865, that this Congress originated, with the more comprehensive than euphonious title of "Palæoethnological." With a slight change in its designation it met at Neuchâtel in 1866, and at Paris in 1867; while the Congress, the transactions of which are recorded in the volume before us, assembled at Norwich last year under the presidency of Sir John Lubbock, and with Colonel A. Lane Fox as organising secretary, contemporaneously with the meeting of the British Association. During the present year it has found a congenial home in the midst of the richly-stored museums of Copenhagen, under the fitting presidency of Professor Worsaae; has dug in the Kjökkenmöddings, and been right royally entertained by the King of Denmark; and next year the gathering is to be at Bologna, with Count Gozzadini as president. Such meetings, especially in the case of the followers of what must be regarded as a comparatively new science, serve at least a double purpose; as social gatherings they promote that intercourse and kindly feeling between those engaged in the same pursuit, which helps the onward progress of knowledge, while the discussions at the meetings tend to elicit truth from what may apparently be conflicting facts and opinions, and when too unruly hobby-horses are introduced into the arena, serve to control their wilder caracoles, if not effectually to break them in.

The success that has attended the institution of this particular Congress, which, by the way, is not to be held during two consecutive years in one country, cannot be better evinced than by the Report of its seven meetings at Norwich, which has just made its appearance, and forms a volume of upwards of four hundred pages, illustrated by more than fifty plates, for the most part presented by the authors of the papers they illustrate.

These Papers range over a wide area, both in space and time. The Pacific and South Sea Islands, the Cape of Good Hope and Southern and Western India, Japan and Algeria, as well as Spain, Portugal, France, Britain, and Ireland, all contribute their *quota* of facts; while various general questions relating to the condition, the

arts, the distribution, and other circumstances of early races of mankind are brought forward and discussed. On the whole we may congratulate the Congress on the object of its assembly having been so carefully kept in view by the authors of the papers read before it, since hardly any of them, though varying much in value, can be regarded as having been irrelevant to its general purposes.

The time and space at our command being small in proportion to that ranged over by the Prehistoric Archæologists, we cannot give more than a brief notice of some few of what seem to us the more important papers; but at the outset we must express our regret, which we are sure many others will share with us, that the excellent Opening Address of the President was not more fully reported.

First of the Papers, and among the first in interest, is one by Mr. E. B. Tylor, on the "Condition of Prehistoric Races as inferred from Observation of Modern Tribes," in which some curious anomalies in the degree of knowledge in different branches of art and constructive appliances possessed by certain tribes are pointed out; and the inference drawn that it is unsafe to attempt to fix the stage of civilisation of any given people from the rudeness of one single class of implements in use among them.

Professor Huxley's Paper on the "Distribution of the Races of Mankind, and its Bearing on the Antiquity of Man," appears to have met with more favourable criticism from those present, including Professor Carl Vogt, than the author anticipated. And certainly the connection between some of the changes which in comparatively recent times have taken place in the physical geography of the earth, and the limitation of the areas occupied by different races, such as the Negroid and Australioid, seems, if not susceptible of proof, at least possible; and, if so, Professor Huxley's conclusion that the distribution of these two races of Man affords as strong evidence of his antiquity as the occurrence of his works in the gravel of Hoxne and Amiens is in a fair way of being adopted.

Touching these early works of man, we commend attention to the excellent account given by Mr. R. Bruce Foote, of his discoveries of quartzite implements of Palæolithic types in the Laterite formation of the east coast of Southern India. We know of nothing more striking than the wonderful similarity of these implements to those discovered associated with remains of extinct mammals in the old river gravels of Western Europe. But for the difference in the material there are numerous twin specimens so like each other that they might be thought to have been formed by the same hand, and yet they occur thousands of miles apart, and under what are apparently different geological conditions, though we think that much remains to be unravelled as to the origin and age of the Lateritic deposits of Madras. Still this parallelism of type seems to afford most remarkable proof that the same wants, with the same means at command for fulfilling them, result, so far as tools are concerned, in the production of similar forms, no matter where or when the men live who make them.

This is further illustrated by the stone implements from Japan, described by Mr. Franks, nearly all of which may be matched in form by arrow-heads, lance-heads, and hatchets found in Western Europe; and what is no less remarkable, the former are by the Japanese regarded as of heavenly origin, like the Elf-bolts of Scotland, and the

stone-celts are considered to be thunderbolts—a belief so universal in historic times that it may be said to have been held *semper, ubique, et ab omnibus*. There is, in fact, no difference of opinion between the old Greek Sotacus and the Chinese Emperor Kang-hi's encyclopædist (A.D. 1662). The former informs us, through Pliny, as translated by Philemon Holland, that "there be two kinds of Ceraunæ, to wit, the black and the red," and, "that they doe resemble halberds or axe-heads." The latter that "some of the lightning-stones have the shape of a hatchet, others that of a knife, and some are made like mallets. They are of different colours; there are blackish ones, others are greenish."

The curious similarity observed among Megalithic monuments in different parts of the world may possibly be due to some analogous development of thought and feeling rather than to any intimate connection between the races who erected them. The Dolmens of Algeria, described by Mr. Flower, those of Brittany by Mr. Lukis, those of the Aveyron by M. Cartailhac, are all, more or less, closely allied to the ancient sepulchres and Pandukulis of the Nilagiri Mountains in Southern India, described by Sir Walter Elliot.

We cannot close this brief notice without mentioning one of the most carefully illustrated and important contributions to the volume,—the account of the caves of Gibraltar, in which human remains and works of art have been found, by Mr. George Busk; who, in company with the late Dr. Falconer, visited the scene of the explorations of Captain Brome, which are now unfortunately suspended, but of which the record drawn up by himself is here preserved, and additional value given to it by the commentary of Mr. Busk.

We have, we hope, said enough to show the interesting character of this volume of the Transactions of the Congress, and the reports of the meeting at Copenhagen lead us to hope that it may next year be productive of another volume of at least equal value.

JOHN EVANS

THE WORLD OF THE SEA

The World of the Sea. Translated and enlarged by the Rev. H. Martyn Hart, M.A., from "*Le Monde de la Mer*," by M. Moquin Tandon, Membre de l'Institut, &c. Demy 8vo. pp. 500, with coloured and tinted plates and numerous woodcuts, price 21s. (London: Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.)

THERE are two methods of reviewing a book, the ungracious and the gracious. One, and the easier, is to find all possible fault with it; to prove, at least to the critic's own satisfaction, how much better he could have written the book, if he too had had the time, and the money, and the will. As for the talent, the critic has that, as a matter of course; for is not a critic one who judges other men, and is therefore wiser than they? And as for the knowledge, that is not needed. He may acquire that in the very process of reviewing, from the book which he reviews. Thus, following nature in economising force as much as possible, he is at once learner and teacher; judge and—parasite? Taking another man's materials, he shows the world how much better a house he could have built with them; and so has the clear profit of all the author's work, his carrying of the bricks and

mortar, even his planning the house, beside all the expenses incident thereto, at the cost on his own part of a few suggestions which he is not even at the trouble of seeing carried out. Thus he leaves the hapless man, who has tried to do something, instead of sitting still like the reviewer, and seeing others do it, to cry *Sic vos non vobis*; and after a few more attempts to write books, to give up in despair, and take to the more easy and profitable employment (at which every lad can now earn an honest penny), of showing how books should have been written.

But the other, or gracious method of reviewing a book, is to ascertain what the book is really worth, at least to the class for whom it is written; and if it be worth anything, to recommend it to them heartily; being sure that attractiveness is no test of value, and that there is no more utter fallacy than that good wine needs no bush.

Unfortunately, this gracious and hearty method of reviewing a book is not only difficult, being contrary to the affections and lusts of the animal within, who delights to bite and devour his kin, while he is indignant at the very notion of his ancestors having been cannibals; but it is also morally dangerous; for if the reviewer begins by being gracious and hearty, he may descend to kindness, even to indulgence. He may be to the author's "faults a little blind, and to his virtues very kind;" and so fall altogether from that boasted impartiality which surely portends detraction.

For the sake, therefore, of preserving the virtue of impartiality, it is most prudent for the reviewer to begin by complaining, and to say that this very beautiful book has certain defects, which he hopes may be amended in future editions (for he must be allowed to be gracious enough to hope for future editions); that several of the most important and novel illustrations have no authority appended; that the very clever drawing of the sea-lions has not only no authority, but no description or notice in the text; that some chapters are meagre, and some of the illustrations bad—for instance, the Holothurians, of which only two very poor and inaccurate cuts occur; that the large drawing of Cuttle-fish is also very bad and wrong; and that there are many misprints and misspellings (possibly mere faults of the printers, but still faults), such as *rostro* for *rostrum*, *Ottary* for *Otary*, a *Poritidæ*, an *Alcyonideæ*, &c., which must be corrected; and that, as a whole, the latter part of the book is inferior to the beginning. It may be, of course, that this is owing to the simple fact, too common among other classes besides publishers, that the money did not hold out; or that the book, if finished in the style in which it was begun, would have grown too big to be published at a paying price. But what has a reviewer to do with excuses and with mercy?

Having thus fulfilled his duty, he has something of a right to take his pleasure; and to say—Here is a really beautiful book. It is a pleasure to turn over the pictures; a pleasure to think that it will lie on many tables, teaching folk, especially young folk, a thousand things which those of the last generation did not learn, hard as they worked, each for himself alone, simply because the works which could teach them were not yet written; nay, the microscopes which could show the facts not yet made. The text is, as is to be expected from M. Moquin Tandon, brilliant, interesting, full of feeling for that wonderful and poetic element which runs through nature, and should