

ADDRESS
TO THE
ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY
OF LONDON,

DELIVERED AT
THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING

ON THE 25th MAY, 1844.

BY RICHARD KING, M.D.,

SECRETARY.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY W. WATTS, CROWN COURT, TEMPLE BAR.

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R. W. Linnick D.D.

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WHILE other branches of Natural History are diligently cultivated, no degree of general attention, proportionate to its importance, is given to ETHNOLOGY, or the Natural History of Man. Cuvier was very sensible of the great defect of materials collected for this study; and in the most forcible language has thus deplored the indifference:—" Il n'y a pas de branche de l'histoire naturelle dans la zoologie, la botanique, la minéralogie, la géologie, au progrès de laquelle les voyageurs ne soient intéressés. Il n'y a pas de coin de la terre connu qu'ils n'aient visité, pour en faire connaître les richesses. Non-seulement ils ont décrit avec précision, mais ils ont figuré tous les êtres dans les trois règnes, depuis ceux qui échappent à la vue jusqu'à ceux d'une taille gigantesque; ils n'ont oublié que celui qui les domine tous. Ils ont presque toujours négligé l'homme, comme s'il était un objet de peu d'importance, et qui n'avait pas droit à notre attention. Dans toutes les regions de la terre ils l'ont presque toujours regardé avec indifférence, et ont rarement daigné nous représenter ses traits. Il est difficile de se rendre compte de cette insouciance; mais ce n'en est pas moins un malheur à deplorer."

Great Britain is at the present moment in communication with the uncivilized nations of the world to a far larger extent than any other power on earth: in London, therefore, an Ethnological Society will find an appropriate place. The Aborigines of the British Colonies have been estimated at 1,000,000 in the South Seas, 500,000 in North and South America, and 2,000,000 in West and South Africa; with several millions of the more barbarous tribes in British

India and its borders, and of the Eastern Archipelago and Indian Ocean; the Aborigines under Foreign rule at 16,000 in America, 60,000,000 in Africa, -200,000,000 in Asia, and a small but interesting remnant of ancient European barbarism existing in Lapland. Vast, then, is the labour which the Ethnological Society of London has undertaken.

Important and interesting varieties of the coloured races have, on various occasions, visited England; and yet, with one or two exceptions, we have been left altogether unacquainted with their natural history. In the years 1496 and 1527, American Indians were presented at the respective courts of Henry VII. and VIII. In 1594, the Indian Chief's daughter, Pocahontas, who saved Captain Smith, was presented to Queen Elizabeth. In 1599, South-American Indians were brought home by Raleigh. In the eighteenth century there arrived from America, Occum, a convert to Christianity, the elder Brant, and the Georgia and Mohawk Chiefs. From New South-Wales, Benelong; from the Pelew Islands, Prince Le Boo; from Tahiti, Omai; and from Africa, the Negro, Somerset, who was released from slavery by Granville Sharpe.

In the present century, the visits of interesting specimens of humanity have been very numerous. In 1839 it was estimated that there were, in London alone, at least 300, from all parts of the world; from which may be inferred the probable amount in Great Britain and Ireland. They find their way here as sailors; and are, for the most part, from India and the islands in the Pacific. I am not aware of any account, in a natural-historical point of view, having been given of these people. With the exception, perhaps, of a wretchedly-executed portrait of one or more of them, not even a trace of these visitors' characters has been preserved; and, to mention the first case only, there are even doubts as to whether they were Red Men or Esquimaux. The Americans, as a Government as well as a people, have ever taken advantage of the opportunities offered to them; and the portraits of the great warrior and native Red Men have now a national value. No such records exist of those Red Men who may be termed British. These losses are,

however, trifling, compared with the general view of the subject, where the opportunities for pursuing that investigation which is the object of this Society are failing and disappearing daily and for ever, which is not the case with other subjects in Natural History or General Science.

In the remotest parts of North and East Asia, remains have been discovered which prove that nearly the whole of that great continent was once occupied by human races, whose very names have perished. Some of these nations appear to have made progress in the arts and civilization. Their tombs are found spread over the countries eastward of Jenisey in great numbers, and are of magnificent construction. They contain fragments of earthen manufacture or porcelain, ornaments, and various implements of silver, gold, and copper. The learned academicians of St. Petersburg have satisfied themselves that such relics belonged to a people who must have disappeared before the light of history dawned upon these countries. Discoveries leading to a similar result have been traced through the New World, from the countries bordering on the Mississippi and Ohio, where tombs are found containing skeletons of a different conformation from that of the present native tribes, to the high table-land of Titicaca, in the Peruvian Cordillera, where are seen the supposed ancient representatives of the Flat Heads. Even in the islands of Polynesia vestiges are discovered which have been referred to a former race of inhabitants; and there are facts which indicate that extensive countries in Europe were occupied by races of a different physical character from the present natives, in times which preceded the arrival of Celts and Goths and other Indo-Germanic nations from the East.

To what agency are we to attribute this vast destruction, not only of ancient tribes, but of nations who have perished since the historic age commenced? Wherever Europeans have settled the native tribes have dwindled away; or, to use an Indian metaphor, "they have melted away like snow before the sun." The Guanches—the numerous people of the Canary Islands—now exist only in their mummies, and in the traces of those arts by which they sought to procure for the dead an eternal repose. South Africa was formerly the abode of

numerous pastoral nations of Hottentots, a peaceful and in-offensive race, who wandered about with numerous flocks in a state of primitive simplicity, and whose descendants are now found in the destitute Bushmen, who have become vermin and reptile feeders. It would be endless to recount the names of tribes and whole nations in America who have been extirpated by the Spanish conqueror of that country. When the Spanish and Portuguese took possession of the islands in the Gulf of Mexico and the territories on the main-land, little regard was paid to human life. In the course of half a century twenty millions of the inhabitants were swept away. In the islands of Cuba and Jamaica, twenty-five years were sufficient to destroy the entire aboriginal race; and to exterminate the Seminoles, 40,000,000 of dollars have been spent by the American Government.

And disease has done its part. It is stated by Humboldt that a plague prevailed among the Indian race in Mexico, in 1545, which carried off 800,000, and, in 1576, 2,000,000. In 1637, Morton, in his *English Canaan*, states, that "the hand of God fell heavily upon the natives with such a mortall stroake that they died on heaps as they lay in their houses; and the living that were able to shift for themselves would runne away, and let them dy, and let their carkases ly above the ground without buriall. For in a place where many inhabited, there hath been but one left alive to tell what became of the rest, the living being not able to bury the dead, they were left for crowes, kites, and vermine to prey upon, and the bones and skulls upon the several places of their habitations made such a spectacle, that, as one travelled in the forest, near Massachusetts, it seemed to be a new-found Golgotha."

According to the census of 1689, just sixty-two years after the settlement of Virginia, the natives of that colony were reduced, by small-pox, to one-third of their former numbers. Vicount St. Leopoldos, in his *Annals of the Province of Rio Grande*, published in 1840, states, that of the 30,000 natives existing at the time the Jesuit Missionaries were broken up, there existed, according to the statistical maps of the province, made in 1835, only 237, of whom 107

were either infirm or old. In 1837 the small-pox literally depopulated the whole country of the Upper Missouri, and converted it into one great grave-yard. The Mandans, consisting of 1600 souls, were reduced to thirty-one persons. The Minatarees, about 1000, were reduced to one-half their number. The Ricaras, about 3000, met with a similar fate. The great band of Assineboins, about 10,000, and the Crees, numbering about 3000, were almost annihilated, and 1000 lodges of the Blackfeet fell a sacrifice.

If we turn towards India, we find, in the same year, that so great were the ravages of death, that the air for miles was tainted with the effluvia from the putrefying bodies of human beings; and that the rivers Jumna and Ganges were choked up by the dead bodies thrown into their channels; at least half a million perished. The deaths in Agra, from famine, were at the rate of 10,000 a month. In 1770 half the inhabitants of Bengal perished from famine; and, throughout our Indian possessions, 3,000,000. In 1833, 17,574 persons lost their lives in a flood; and the following year 2000 more fell victims to starvation.

The natives of Van Diemen's Land, a few years since amounting to some thousands, remarkable, according to the testimony of Cook and of the French navigators in search of La Perouse, for their shrewdness, their natural sagacity, and benevolence, have been rooted out of their native country—a hopeless wreck of about seventy individuals,—and transferred to Flinders' Island, the lasting mausoleum of the Tasmanian race. In 1789, the natives of Port Jackson were visited by the small-pox, and the number that it swept off was incredible. A native, who at that time resided there, on going down to the harbour to look for his former companions, was described, by those who witnessed his emotions, as suffering the extreme of agony. “He looked anxiously into the different coves that they visited; not a vestige on the sand was to be found of human foot: the excavations in the rocks were filled with the bodies of those who had fallen victims to the disorder; not a living person was anywhere to be met with. He lifted up his hands and eyes in silent agony for some time: at length he exclaimed, ‘All dead!

all dead!' and then hung his head in mournful silence." The disease was not confined to Port Jackson. On visiting Broken Bay the path was in many places covered with skeletons, and the same spectacles were to be met with in the hollows of most of the rocks in that harbour.

However we may differ as to the means of preserving existing nations, we cannot but agree, that, in a philosophical point of view, it is necessary to obtain much more extensive information than we now possess of their physical and moral characters, and that in doing so we should lose no time. Dr. Hodgkin, in an *Essay on the promotion of civilization* written in 1817, has thus expressed himself:—"The annihilation of the uncivilized races would be an incalculable and irretrievable loss to those who cultivate the physical history of man, as well as to those who value the traditions which are still preserved amongst some uncivilized nations, and which are so highly interesting and important, as bringing strong collateral evidence to the truth of the early history of mankind, which has been handed down to us by the pen of the first inspired writer." Whole nations, since Dr. Hodgkin's *Essay* was written, have disappeared; and we are only now, in 1844, uniting with Dr. Hodgkin to excite sufficient interest to command the necessary means for preserving a record of the living, and of that which remains of the dead.

In the present state of our knowledge it is impossible to recognise a system. Every system, and every hypothesis, has been established on authorities so extremely weak, as to be fast tottering into that neglect which must necessarily await every system whose basis is not constructed on facts. The rapid progress of commerce and colonization, which so eminently characterizes the present century, it is to be hoped, will not suffer us to remain much longer ignorant of our own species, and that man will at least begin to assume his just station among the subjects of human inquiry.

I will now proceed to explain the origin, the design, the incipient labours, and the prospective efforts of this Society. Several highly benevolent individuals have been, for many years past, actively engaged in considering the condition

and claims of the Aborigines in our Colonies, and of the Coloured races generally, especially with the view of devising the means by which their existence might be preserved and their condition ameliorated. In 1837 they formed themselves into a body, under the name of the "ABORIGINES' PROTECTION SOCIETY," with the avowed object to collect authentic information "concerning the character, habits, and wants of the uncivilized tribes." As one of the earliest members of that Society, I became intimately acquainted with its labours, and witnessed, for a time, the man of science and of philanthropy acting in concert. The philanthropist, however, conceiving the wants to be sufficiently pressing to engross all his resources, preferred the more exclusive adherence to the benevolent objects of that Society. Thus the character and habits of the people no longer formed a part of his study; the Ethnologist, in fact, became disfranchised. In consequence, on the 20th July 1842, I issued the following Prospectus:—

" ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

" PROSPECTUS.

" It is submitted, that among the numerous Literary and Scientific Societies established in the British Metropolis, one is still wanting to complete the circle of Scientific Institutions, whose sole object should be the promotion and diffusion of the most important and interesting branch of knowledge—ETHNOLOGY.

" —That a new and useful Society might therefore be formed, under the name of ' THE ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY.'

" —That the interest excited by this department of science is increasingly felt;—that its advantages are of the first importance to Mankind in general, and paramount to the welfare of a Maritime Nation like Great Britain, with its numerous and extensive Colonies and Foreign Possessions.

" —That although there is a great amount of Ethnological Information existing in Great Britain, yet it is so scattered and dispersed, either in large books that are not generally accessible, or in the bureaux of the public departments, or in the possession of private individuals, as to be nearly unavailable to the public.

" The objects of such a Society as is now suggested would be—

" 1. To collect, register and digest, and to print for the use of the

Members and the public at large, in a cheap form, and at certain intervals, such new, interesting, and useful facts as the Society may have in its possession, and may from time to time acquire.

“ 2. To accumulate gradually a Library of the best Books on Ethnology—a Selection of the best Voyages and Travels—a complete Collection of Dictionaries and Grammars bearing upon the subject—as well as all such documents and materials as may convey the best information to persons intending to visit Foreign Countries: it being of the greatest utility to those who are about to travel, to be aware of what has been already done, and what is still wanting, in the Countries which they may intend to visit.

“ 3. To render pecuniary assistance, when the funds will permit; to such Travellers as may require it, in order to facilitate this particular branch of their research.

“ 4. To correspond with similar Societies that may be established in different parts of the world, with Foreign Individuals engaged in Ethnological Pursuits, and with the most intelligent British residents in the various remote Settlements of the Empire.

“ * * * Gentlemen desirous of becoming Members of this Society are requested to forward their names and address to RICHARD KING, M.D., 4 Piccadilly, Sec. pro temp.’”

At the close of the year twenty-five members only were enrolled, eight of whom subsequently withdrew. But during 1843 the importance of Ethnology was rendered more apparent, through the kindness of Dr. Hodgkin allowing periodical Meetings to be held at his residence in Brook Street, where Papers on the subject were read, which resulted in the enrolment of a sufficient number of known scientific men to demand a constitution and government for their guidance. A Meeting was therefore convened in the month of November, over which Rear-Admiral Sir Charles Malcolm presided, when the Regulations were determined upon, and the Officers and Council, who have this day tendered their resignation, were elected.

To investigate the distinguishing characteristics, physical and moral, of the varieties of mankind which inhabit or have inhabited the earth, and to ascertain the causes of such characteristics, is the especial design of this Society. The

particular labours, the limiting and defining the labours, which are involved in such a design, are embraced in Dr. Hodgkin's valuable Paper—"On the Progress of Ethnology." Co-operation only is required to give efficiency to exertions which must be abortive whilst they possess an isolated and individual character. Nature is everywhere at work effecting changes both in the animal and vegetable kingdom; and man himself, in clearing forests, draining marshes, and cultivating sterile regions, is lending a helping hand. The character of a nation will evidently be determined by their geographical position, and by the nature of the animal and vegetable kingdom at their command. They become hunters or fishers, as game or fish abound; if they are exposed to the attack of the lion or the bear, they become bold and enterprising; if their dependence for food is on the deer or the quail, they become crafty and subtle; if in the possession of the horse, they become marauders; and of cattle, herdsmen; if the dog—from its power of draught and extreme endurance, perhaps only inferior to man,—they no longer adopt the barbarous custom of using women as beasts of burden. The introduction, by accident or design, of rice and disease into America—of the pig and the potatoe and the Norway rat into New Zealand—in their results of good and evil effect great changes.

The blending of one race with another, in various proportions, has effected known changes in a physical point of view. The Negroes of Africa have been conveyed, by the Slave Trade, to North and South America, to the West Indies, and to different parts of South Asia; Malays have been transported to the Cape, there to be mixed with Europeans and Caffres, Hottentots and Negroes; the Hill Coolies of Asia have been conveyed to Australia, the West Indies, Mauritius, and Demerara. If to these migrations, and to the various changes which they have effected, careful attention be paid, the chasm which separates, physically and morally, the African from the Caucasian variety of mankind will cease to exist: the various steps connecting the two extremes will be evident. There is no illusion in all this; the fruits that I am predicting are already apparent. In proof

may be mentioned, the example that is furnished by the mixed race, resulting from the alliance of the woolly-headed Negro with the stiff and straight-haired Indian of North America, which presents a remarkable resemblance to some of the Australian natives.

It is true that a known Ethnologist is of opinion that co-operation in the study of Ethnology is not needed; but he stands, in this respect, almost, if not quite alone. A distinguished cotemporary writer observes, that it is only by studying, on a large view, the mind of many nations and races, and the moral character of mankind in all their different stages of development, that any sound philosophical theory on the nature of mental phenomena, and the elementary principle of human action, can be raised on sufficiently extensive foundations. But had the various writers on man studied their subject on a large view? Had they sufficient facts at their disposal? Most assuredly not; and their labours are, in consequence, comparatively fruitless. The posthumous work of the late William Von Humboldt—a magnificent work, raised by a great philosopher on a most extensive field of inquiry, containing the fruits of comprehensive induction—has been compared with the ridiculous theories of Harris and Monboddo, and even of Adam Smith, as a convincing proof how much more sound and philosophical are the results of actual inquiries into the facts which really exist, or can be shewn to exist, than any speculations as to what may probably have taken place under supposed circumstances. Yet even this work has been pronounced, in some degree, premature; a considerable part of it consisting necessarily of anticipations, or of reasonings from facts as yet but imperfectly known.

Most of the existing Ethnological works will, in a few years, be comparatively depreciated, from the very imperfect knowledge of the subject at the period of their publication. In the absence of the necessary facts, late writers have had to trust to compilations, and defective authorities were unavoidably their guide in the selection of those compilations. It does not detract from the merit due to the distinguished men who have hitherto laboured in this field, while at the same

time it points out the necessity of establishing an Ethnological Society; or, in other words, a depository of facts on the Natural History of Man. Lord Kaimes, "in the vigour of youth, did not think his undertaking too bold, even for a single hand; but after toiling thirty years he found his abilities no more than sufficient for executing a few imperfect sketches," which, however, comprise four volumes.

Until the Ethnological Society was formed, the working Ethnologist had no home, no patron. His MS., perhaps a valuable record of facts collected in the wigwam of the Red Man or the kraal of the Caffre and the Zoola, was refused by the publishers. His matter-of-fact knowledge was too dry, too simple in its results, to meet the pressure of startling inductions from wild theories. The Ethnological Society will supply the want; it will be a focus for travellers, where, however scanty their contributions, a permanent value will be put upon their labours. The Ethnological Society will, moreover, hold communion with all nations; it will glean facts from all quarters, and deal with those facts in a truly philosophical point of view. The Papers already read before this Society render it unnecessary to dwell further upon this head: the past will be an earnest of the future.

The inexhaustible stores of facts, interspersed through the thousands and tens of thousands of volumes of travels, have to be collected and arranged. These valuable records, the observations of men like a Marco Polo and a Bruce, who lived, in point of mind, generations before their cotemporaries, are our only guides to the nations that are extinct; and, for the more powerful existing nations, they are valuable as reference to the fact of their stationary condition or progressive movement. An examination of the works of the North-Polar travellers of three centuries with those of the present time proves that the Esquimaux have remained stationary during that entire period. Therefore the works of the nineteenth century, compared with those of the sixteenth, Ethnologically as well as Geographically speaking, are mere repetitions, and yet of the highest possible value. Other nations may be thus investigated—a field in which many labourers may profitably employ themselves.

To the Statesmen, then, this Society will lend a helping hand when studying the Colonial possessions of which he is the guardian; it will form a resting-place, where he will be able to meet the oppressor and the oppressed with their respective friends; that resting-place being a depository of facts, which the wise man of every party never refuses, although he may use them differently. The Religious and Benevolent Man will find his peculiar purposes enlarged and strengthened. The Man of Commerce will be made acquainted with the amount of intelligence he is to expect (for according to that intelligence will be the state of the arts and manufactures), and with the class of being with whom he is about to risk his life and his fortune. At the same time that the merchant and the colonial agriculturist are looking to the different varieties of mankind as remunerating consumers and efficient producers, and while the Christian and the Philosopher are contemplating them as offering the most interesting subjects of varied research and labour, he will scarcely refuse that co-operation which the most able and laborious Ethnologists have pronounced to be necessary to effect the great aim of this Society.

The progress which Ethnology has made during the past year is highly satisfactory. The Ethnological Societies of France and America have been actively engaged in collecting and diffusing information. In the Anniversary Address of the Geographical Society of France, by the Secretary, M. S. Berthelot, it is announced that Dr. Prichard's work "On Man," has been translated into French by M. Roulin, who was the first to call attention to the return of the domestic animals of the Old World, when transported to the New, to their original wild habits. The Society of Northern Antiquaries continue to pursue, with unabated vigour, their important and highly-interesting task of illustrating the antiquities of northern Europe and of Greenland. The substance of twenty-five Lectures on the past history and future destiny of the Jewish Nation, by the Rev. Frederick Dusautoy, M. A., is now before the public.

Ethnography.—A "Dissertatio Ethnographica," by T. Lydiaca Menke, has been published at Berlin. Ethnogra-

phical Maps of Europe, and part of Asia and Africa, have been designed by Dr. Gustaf Komba of Edinburgh and M. Wilhelm Obermüller of Paris; and Dr. Prichard has produced Maps illustrative of his researches into the physical history of mankind. Great credit is due to the authors for the most diligent research; still, so much remains conjectural and uncertain that they are far from satisfying the wants of the Ethnologist.

Archæology.—Archæological discovery, in different parts of the world, has furnished a variety of interesting particulars. In Lapland and Nova Zembla several subterranean stone labyrinths have been discovered, called Babylons by the Natives, and held by them in great veneration.

A highly valuable Paper, by the Baron Clement Augustus de Bode, on a recently-opened Tumulus in the neighbourhood of Asterabad, forming part of ancient Hyrcania and the country of the Parthyans, is printed in the *Archæologia*, or *Vetusta Monumenta*, of the Society of Antiquaries.

In a Paper read before the Geographical Society, the Baron Clement de Bode has also minutely described some interesting sculptures which he found on a rock near Tenghi Soulek, in the Bachméi Mountains, and which appeared to him different from all that he had seen at Persepolis, Nakshi Rústam, Nakshi-Redjib, Bissitún, Takhtí-Bostán, Shapúr, and Nakshi-Bagram, in the country of the Mamaceni: the character of the inscriptions, likewise, differs from the Babylonian arrow-headed and the Pehlvi letters, and may only be traced, perhaps, to the old Zend, or even the Phœnician Alphabet.

In digging some foundations near the village of Menoux, on the Haute-Saône, there have recently been discovered some antique tombs similar to those which have been heretofore found in various parts of the department and in Switzerland, which antiquaries have agreed in pronouncing to be Gaulish. In them were swords, with the short broad blade, daggers, spears, and the iron head of a small axe, believed to be the ancient *Francisque* used by horsemen in battle: also some plates of giralles, one of which is of bronze, bearing the representation of some symbolical animal; others being of

iron, inlaid with silver. Besides, there are several urns of grey clay, of various shapes, some adorned with sculpture : in them were articles made of glass and small bones.

A vault, thirty inches square, supported by twelve large columns, has been discovered at Dammartin. It contained twelve cases, in stone, standing against the northern wall, resembling, in shape, the sentry-boxes of the present day: against the other three sides of the vault were similar stone cases. In an angle appeared a door walled up, apparently the ancient entrance. One of the cases contained a complete suit of armour, much corroded by rust, but all the pieces of which were still connected with thick thongs of leather. The armour, which was of an exceedingly ancient form, contained all the bones of a skeleton, except the head; from which it is supposed that the warrior was decapitated. At the feet lay a purse, made of metal rings, containing twenty-three bronze and silver medals of small size: they were all of the Netherlands, excepting one representing Charlemagne. A reliquary was also found, which apparently had been attached, by a chain, to the neck of the figure. It was of an octagonal form, and covered with chasing, still perfectly clear and well defined. The letters L. P. were discernible in various parts. A massive gold ring was also discovered, with the same initials.

The excavators of the Rouen railroad ground have discovered two antique stone coffins, one of which contained the skeleton of a female in high preservation, with the feet turned towards the west. Between the leg bones were two small rings of copper, and two bronze Roman medals; on one of which it is believed that the head and name of Constantine may be traced. At the feet were five glass vases remarkable for their dimensions and elegance, and a small vase of reddish earth.

M. Botta, the French Consul at Mossoul, after making excavations, under the patronage of Government, on the site of the ancient city of Nineveh, situated on the Tigris, opposite the present town of Mossoul, and obtaining no fruits, directed his labours to the neighbouring village of Khorsabad, where he was soon rewarded by the dis-

covery of numerous statues, some of colossal size. Many are, however, three feet high, and surmounted by cuneiform inscriptions.

On the site of the old Julia Cæsarea, in the vicinity of Algiers, a fine statue of white marble has been found, representing a youth taking a thorn out of his foot; and near it a monument of a knight piercing a soldier with his lance, and over it an inscription in tolerable preservation; and an account of the Roman Antiquities of Oran, and of the Ruins of Tiarét, in Algeria, have been published in the *Spectateur Militaire*.

Stephens and Norman's *Travels in Central America*, and Mr. F. Catherwood's *Views of its Ancient Monuments*, contain a variety of illustrations and full descriptions of the architectural remains of the early inhabitants. These publications are indeed valuable: the light they throw on the remains of a people of whose history no traces now exist, is considerable. The magnitude of these works shew that the extinct generation must have made great progress in the arts of civilization; and though it is difficult to discover the period to which they should be assigned, they bear in their general character a resemblance to the monuments of Ancient Egypt. The pyramids and idols are of immense size, the former being distinguished from the pyramids of Egypt by having a platform on the top. An interesting feature in these architectural remains is the rude approximation to the principle of the arch observable in many of the buildings. Instead of the usual crowning key-stone, these arches are finished with a flat slab in the centre, which could perform but a very imperfect binding.

Between Santa Fé and the Pacific have been discovered vestiges of ancient cities and ruined temples. Neither the Indians of the vicinity, nor the oldest Spanish settlers, can give any account of the origin of these buildings.

A complete mountain of sand on the coast at Crozon, displaced by a heavy gale, has exposed to view the remains of a village, with its church and surrounding cemetery. The oldest inhabitant of the country retains no tradition which can have reference to this sea Herculaneum.

With ancient Lycia, famed for its pastoral beauty, fair fields, and shady groves, we are made daily more and more acquainted, through Mr. Fellows, with the morals and the civilization of its people even in the time of Homer.

The Rhine Museum contains an interesting article by Dr. Gustavus von Eckenbrecher, upon the site of the Homeric Ilium. Dr. Eckenbrecher differs from his predecessors in his investigation, in removing Troy from the heights of Bunorbashi two miles lower on the plain, on the spot which, up to the present time, has been known by the name of New Ilium.

The Cave Temples of India have been explored by Mr. T. Fergusson, and the result communicated to the Royal Asiatic Society.

Philology.—There have appeared “Philological proofs of the original unity and recent origin of the human race, derived from a comparison of the languages of Asia, Europe, Africa, and America; being an inquiry how far the differences in the languages of the globe are referrible to causes now in operation,” by Arthur James Johnes; “The Languages and Dialects of the British Islands,” by the Rev. R. Garnett; and “Evidence of a connection between the Cimbri and the Chersonesus Cimbri,” by Professor Latham. Henry Piddington, of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, has published, in the Journal of that Society, a translation of the work of M. Stanislas Julien, on the Study of the Chinese Language; H. A. E. Meyer has written a Vocabulary of the language of the Aborigines of South Australia; Governor Grey has compared the languages of the South-Eastern side of the island, which he considers comprise five dialects, apparently derived from a common stock; and from Professor Latham we learn, that by the term Negutos is meant a variety of tribes approaching in their physical characters the type of the African, and spread over a long range of islands, from the Andaman Islands west, to the Figis east, and from Formosa north, to Van-Diemen’s Land south. In the Moluccas they have the appearance of being the aboriginal inhabitants anterior to the dominant race of the

Malays. From New Guinea, eastward and southward, they were the sole occupants of large islands. Physical conformation indicated a multiplicity of races. The evidence of language has not hitherto been examined. Professor Latham appears to have established—

1. That the languages of each particular island—even to the whole extent of Australia—are radically one.

2. That the languages of New Guinea, New Ireland, Solomon's Isles, New Hebrides, and (probably) New Caledonia, are radically one.

3. That there is an affinity between the languages of Van-Diemen's Land and that of Australia.

4. That the evidence in favour of all the Neguto Languages, of which we possess Vocabularies, being allied to one another in the same way that the languages of the Indo-European tribe are allied, is quite as strong as could be expected from the scantiness and paucity of the data.

The Society of Northern Antiquaries, in its "Memoires des Antiquaires du Nord," has published a grammatical view of the connection between Sanscrit and Icelandic, by N. L. Westergaard; Dr. Forster has published his ingenious views of the Himyaritic Inscriptions found at Hadramant in Arabia; and an enterprising friend of Dr. Forster, the Rev. J. Brockman, is now on his road for a farther exploration.

Dr. John Wilson, President of the Bombay Branch of the Asiatic Society, has studied the Zend Language in conjunction with Mr. Westergaard; and he has come to the conclusion, that the Zend is a genuine language, and that it has been once vernacular in a part of Persia; but that the now existing Zend texts are not quite genuine representations of the ancient works of Zoroaster, having been, in all probability, transcribed in times when the language was no longer spoken, by persons who had traditionally learned to speak the words of the book without a knowledge of their meaning; and that this would account for many irregularities in these works, which have so long cast a doubt on their genuineness. This is now the opinion of Mr. Westergaard. That Gentleman has visited Yezd and Kirman in

Persia, and has found that the Guebres there are in possession of Zend books similar to those of the Parsis of Bombay;—a discovery quite conclusive against the supposition that these books are modern forgeries of the Parsis of Bombay, which has been suggested by some persons.

EUROPE.

The Basque Country is full of mystery and interest, from the manners and customs of the people, and their strange language, which is altogether dissimilar from that of the neighbouring nations. The volume which M. Mazure has given to the world, under the title of “*The History of Béarn and the Basque Country*, must, on this account alone, be considered as highly valuable; and its value is further enhanced by his description of the other races of the Pyrennees, more especially the Cagots and the Bohemians.

The *History of Etruria* has been commenced by Mrs. Gray, to the completion of which, from the specimen that lady has produced, we cannot but look forward with pleasure.

“*Gallus, or Roman Scenes of the age of Augustus, with Notes and Excursions Illustrative of the Manners and Customs of the Romans*,” has been translated from the German of Professor W. A. Becker of Leipsic by Frederick Metcalfe, B. A., late Scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge; and George Borrow has rendered an account of the “*Zincali, or the Gypsies of Spain, with an original collection of their songs and poetry, and a copious Dictionary of their language*.”

“*Greece under the Romans, an Historical View of the condition of the Greek Nation from the time of its conquest by the Romans until the extinction of the Roman Empire*,” is the title of a work by George Finlay. There have also been published, “*Notes and Reflections during a Ramble in the East, an overland journey from India, and visit to Athens*,” by C. R. Baynes, of the Madras Civil Service; “*Greece, Pictorial, Descriptive, and Historical*,” by Christopher Wordsworth, D. D. Second Edition; “*The History of the Manners of the Ancient Greeks*,” by J. A. St. John; “*Notes of a Tour through Turkey, Greece, Egypt, and Arabia Petræa, to the Holy Land, including a Visit to Athens, Sparta, Delphi, Cæiro,*

Thebes, Mount Sinai, Petræa, &c.," by E. J. Morris; and Larcher's "Notes on Herodotus," edited by W. D. Cooley. Mr. St. John, in his elaborate work, has produced a masterly picture of the Hellenic family, in the more attractive aspect of their social history and domestic life; and Mr. Cooley, amongst other valuable information, supplies interesting particulars respecting the identity of race between the Pelasgi and Hellenes.

Iceland and Greenland.—"The Historical Monuments of Iceland," and "The Historical Monuments of Greenland," are works of considerable ethnological interest.

ASIA.

To the progress of war in India and China are to be attributed a larger portion than usual of valuable Ethnological matter in relation to Asia.

India.—To this portion of the globe the following works refer:—

"Personal Narrative of the Campaigns in Affghanistan, Sinde, Beloochistan, detailed in a Series of Letters of the late Col. William H. Dennie, and arranged by Dr. W. E. Steele."

"Scenes and Adventures in Affghanistan," by William Taylor, late Troop Serjeant-Major in the Fourth Light Dragoons, has reached a Fourth Edition.

"Diary of a March through Sinde and Affghanistan with the Troops under General Sir William Nott," by the Rev. J. N. Allen.

"The Ameers of Scinde, in a Letter to the Court of Directors of the East-India Company from the Right Hon. Sir Harford Jones Brydges, Bart."

"Diary of Adventures and Travels in Upper India, from Bareilly in Rohilcund to Hurdwar and Nahun in the Himalaya Mountains, with a Tour in Bundelcund and the Kingdom of Oude, and a Voyage down the Indus," by C. J. C. Davidson, late Lieut-Col. of Engineers, Bengal.

"Travels in Kordofan," by Ignatius Pallme.

"Portraits of the Princes and People of India," by the Hon. E. Eden, taken during 1838 and 1839, 1840 and 1841.

“Journal of a March from Delhi to Peshawur, and from thence to Cabul, including Travels in the Punjab, a Visit to the City of Lahore, and a Narrative of Operations in the Khyber Pass,” by Lieut. William Barr, Bengal Horse Artillery.

“Personal Observations on Sindh, the Manners and Customs of its Inhabitants, and its Productive Capabilities,” by T. Postans, Captain Bombay Army. The manners and customs of the population of this country are given by Captain Postans as the result of close intercourse and continued observation. We have thus been brought into very intimate acquaintance with the Bélúchi as he appears when removed from his native deserts and rocky mountains, and seen on the fertile banks of the River Indus. We have also been made familiar with the Court of Sindh; which, from the peculiar political circumstances which surrounded it, and the insulated position of Sindh, was hitherto but partially known; and connected with which, from late events with which all are familiar, much interest, not only in India, but in this country, has been excited.

“Letters from Madras during the years 1836—1839, by a Lady,” contain abundant materials for the Ethnologist, and is much more strictly Ethnological than many works of a more pretending title.

In the “Memoir of the Life and Correspondence of John Lord Teignmouth, by his Son, Lord Teignmouth,” some valuable information regarding the Zemindars and Ryots is given.

Captain Hunter, commanding the Mewar Bhil Corps, has furnished us, through the Asiatic Society, with a Report upon the State of the Bhils or Mountaineers of Rajputána. These mountaineers differ in almost every respect from the Hindús of the Plains. They are bound by no rules of caste; they do not follow the Brahmanical religion; they speak peculiar languages; and their usages and practices are quite distinct from those of Hindúism. There are two divisions of Bhils—the mountaineers and villagers. The latter are cultivators, more affluent than the mountaineers, and generally more humane and less reckless of their own and other

lives. The Bhils of Mewar are particularly good-looking, and many of the females handsome, and remarkable for the elegance of their form. Captain Hunter hopes to be able to furnish information on their history, customs, and character. Colonel Robertson, in a Paper at a subsequent Meeting of the Society, also gave some interesting particulars regarding this people.

Second Editions have appeared of the Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone's "History of India;" of Sir Alexander Burnes' "Cabool: a Personal Narrative of a Journey to, and Residence in, that City in the years 1836, 1837, and 1838;" of G. T. Vigne's "Travels in Kashmir, Ladak, Iskardo, the Country of the Indus, and the Himalaya north of the Punjab;" of Joseph Robats' "Oriental Illustrations of the Sacred Scriptures, collected from the Manners, Customs, Rites, Superstitions, Traditions, and Language and Arts of the Hindoos, during a Residence in the East of nearly fourteen years;" and of Elijah Hoole's "Madras, Mysore, and the South of India, or a Personal Narrative of a Mission to these Countries." "The Military Operations at Cabul, which ended in the Retreat and Destruction of the British Army in January 1842, by Lieut. Vincent Eyre, of the Bengal Artillery."

"The Theogony, Philosophy, and Cosmogony of the Hindús, by Count M. Björnstjerna," has been translated: it contains, among other views, that of India being the cradle of religions and the first abode of civilization; and hints at the discovery of a key to the migrations of nations, which may, at some future time, lead to important consequences.

The first of a series of Papers on the "Festivals of the Hindús," by Professor H. H. Wilson, has been read before the Asiatic Society.

"The History of the British Empire in India," by E. Thornton, is now complete, in five volumes.

"An Historical and Descriptive Account of British India, from the most Remote Period to the Conclusion of the Affghan War," forms three volumes of the Edinburgh Cabinet Library.

In his "Recollections of Ceylon," the Rev. James Selkirk has given a summary of the Buddhist doctrines, which con-

tains the general principles of this the most widely-spread of existing religions.

Persia.—The Rev. Justin Perkins has rendered an account of his “Residence of Eight Years in Persia among the Nestorian Christians, with Notices of the Mohammedans.”

Syria.—Lieut.-Col. E. Napier has published his “Reminiscences of Syria, and the Fragments of a Journal and Letters from the Holy Land.”

RUSSIA.

The Narrative of Captain James Abbott, of the Bengal Artillery, of his “Journey from Herat to Khiva, Moscow, and St. Petersburg, during the late Russian Invasion of Khiva and the Kingdom of Khaurisin,” contains so little Ethnological information as to render it doubtful if the mention of it be not misplaced in this Address.

Siberia.—The “Narrative of an Expedition to the Polar Sea,” by Lieutenant, now Admiral von Wrangel, contains interesting accounts of the Yakuts and Tschutchi Tribes.

CHINA.

In relation to China there are the following works:—

“A Narrative of the Expedition to China, from the commencement of the War to its termination in 1842, with Sketches of the Manners and Customs of the People,” by Commander J. Elliot Bingham, R.N.

“Ten Thousand Things relating to China and the Chinese, an Epitome of the Genius, Government, History, Literature, Agriculture, Arts, Trade, Manners, Customs, and Social Life of the People of the Celestial Empire,” by Willam B. Langdon, Curator of the Chinese Collection.

“Narrative of the Voyages of the Nemesis, comprising a complete account of the Colony of Hong Kong, and Remarks on the Character and Habits of the Chinese,” by W. H. Hall, R.N. and W. D. Bernard, Adv.

“The Jews in China, their Synagogue, their Scriptures, and their History,” by James Finn.

In the Edinburgh Cabinet Library three volumes are devoted to “An Historical and Descriptive Account of China:”

and “The Closing Events of the Campaign in China, by Capt. G. G. Loch,” contain interesting details of the manners and customs of the people.

AFRICA.

Mr. Folbe has communicated to the Society of Sciences an account of his works on the Northern Coast of Africa, with reference to Ethnography, Topography, and Archæology.

“*Egypt*, and the Book of Moses, translated from the German of Dr. W. E. Hengstenberg, by R. D. C. Roberts, Abbot Resident of Andover College, United States,” is a highly valuable record, extensively illustrated, of the manners and customs of the ancient Egyptians.

In the Transactions of the American Philosophical Society of 1844 is a Paper by Dr. Samuel George Morton, entitled “Observations on Egyptian Ethnography, derived from Anatomy, History, and the Monuments.”

On this ancient people there have also appeared the following works:—

“Arts, Antiquities, and Chronology of Ancient Egypt, from Observations in 1839,” by George H. Wathen, Architect.

“Ancient Egypt, her Monuments, Hieroglyphics, History, and Archæology,” by George R. Gliddon, late Consul at Cairo.

“The Modern History and Condition of Egypt,” by W. Holt Yates, M.D.

“Travels in Egypt, Arabia Petraea, and the Holy Land,” by the Rev. Stephen Olin, D.D.

“Ancient History of the Egyptians, Carthaginians, Assyrians, Babylonians, Medes and Persians, Grecians and Macedonians, translated from the French by M. Rollin.”

The Rev. Thomas B. Freeman has given us graphic accounts of the inhabitants of Ashanti, Aku, and Dahomi, in Western Africa; Mr. W. B. Hodson has alluded, in a small pamphlet, to the Foulahs of Central Africa; and to Major Sir W. C. Harris, well known for his adventures in Africa, and Messrs. Isenberg and Krapf, we are indebted for elaborate histories of several of the uncivilized inhabitants of Abyss-

sinia. In relation to the Cape of Good Hope and the Eastern Province of Algoa Bay, the work of Mr. John Chase may be consulted with advantage.

AMERICA.

The Government, as well as individuals of the United States, have, for a series of years, been devoting themselves to the study of the aboriginal inhabitants of America, and this year is no less fruitful than former years. Among a variety of publications on Ethnological subjects which have made their appearance in America, especial attention is called to the "Ethnological Journal" of the Ethnological Society of New York, announced by George Folsom, the able translator of the despatches of Hernando Cortez. The Annual Report of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs for 1843 and 1844 is full of most important matter.

The historical account of those individuals who have been distinguished among the North-American Indians as Orators, Warriors, Statesmen, and other remarkable characters, has been drawn up under the title of "Indian Biography," by B. B. Thatcher.

The magnificent work of Maximilian, Prince of Wied, has been translated from the German by H. Evans Lloyd. Its price is 25*l.*

Mr. T. J. Farnham has rendered an account of his travels in the Great Western Prairies, the Anahuac, and Rocky Mountains; wherein will be found valuable information regarding the Pawnees and Caws, as well as interesting matter relating to the semi-civilized Indians whom the United-States' Government have located in the tract of country extending from the Missouri to the frontiers of Texas.

The Society of Friends have rendered an account of their conduct towards the Indian Tribes in East and West Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Dr. Lund, of Lagoa Santa, has published, in Professor Jameson's Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal for January 1844, "On the Occurrence of Fossil Human Bones of the Præhistorical World in South America."

In a Paper read before the Paris Academy of Sciences, Dr.

Morton has described a skeleton of the so-called Pigmy Race of the Valley of the Mississippi, exhumed from a cemetery near the Cumberland Mountains, in White County, Tennessee. It was found in a sitting position, the shoulders and head being elevated against the eastern end, and the knees raised towards the face, incased in a coffin made of six pieces of undressed sandstone or limestone, with the usual accompaniments of cooking utensils. It had the cranium very flat and broad, and very projecting front teeth, and appeared to have pertained to an individual not over twelve or fourteen years of age. These remains were an additional and convincing proof to Dr. Morton that the so-called pigmies of the west countries were merely children, who, for reasons not yet explained, were buried apart from the adult people of their own tribe.

In the narrative of the Texan Sante Fé Expedition, by G. W. Kendall, will be found stirring and graphic accounts of the interesting and exemplary Wacoes, and the Caygüas.

Messrs. T. P. and W. P. Robertson, in their "Letters on South America, comprising Travels on the Banks of the Parana and Rio de la Plata," have alluded to the Pampa Indians, and the peaceful Guarani race.

Brazil.—Dr. Von Martius has just published a Work on the "Physical Character of the Natives of Brazil," which he announces as a preparatory work for a general history of the Aborigines of Brazil.

Mexico.—The Despatches of Hernando Cortes, the Conqueror of Mexico, addressed to Charles the Fifth, and written during the Conquest, has been translated into English from the original Spanish, by George Folsom; and Mr. W. H. Prescott, has given the Life of the Conqueror, and a History of his Conquest, in 3 vols. 8vo. These are highly valuable matter-of-fact works; especially the former, the subject of which is referred to by Robertson, but now appears, for the first time, in English garb.

Under the title of Mexico, Guatemala, and Peru, a part of an interesting geographical series, called "L'Univers Pittoresque," is a condensed and accurate summary of all that is known respecting the ruined cities of Central America.

“ Mexico as it was, and as it is,” by Brantz Mayer, Secretary of the United-States, Legation to that country in 1841 and 1842, adds another to the list of works ; and yet considerable research is wanting before we can come to any satisfactory conclusions on the various questions raised respecting the ancient monarchy of the Aztecs.

Madame Calderon's “ Life in Mexico, during a residence of two years in the country,” must not be passed over in silence.

West Indies.—The work of James M. Phillippo on the Past and Present State of Jamaica, the result of twenty years' experience from actual residence on that island, is full of information regarding the intellectual character of the Negro population ; and equal in importance is a work from an unknown author, entitled “ Antigua and the Antiguans,” containing a full account of the Colony and its inhabitants, from the time of the Caribs to the present day. Nor must I omit to mention “ Mills's Trinidad Almanac,” wherein is contained, amongst other highly valuable Ethnological information, an interesting account of the remnant of the Aborigines. They are settled at the village of Arima, under the government of a corregador named Sorzano, and are described as an indolent, harmless race, fast emerging on extinction, and in this way : they intermarry with Negroes, and produce the mixed race termed Samboe ; or with Europeans, the offspring of which are called Mustees ; or with the countless castes which the admixture between the African, European, and Indian produce ; and these new varieties, as soon as they reach the years of discretion, leave the community of pure bloods. These intermarriages are so frequent, that, for the last thirty years, it has been calculated, that out of every seven children born of Indian mothers scarcely two are of pure blood.

AUSTRALIA.

In relation to Australia, the Hon. Robert Dundas Murray has called our attention to the Natives of Port Philip, the fruits of a summer's visit ; and the Rev. W. Pridden has published, under the title of “ Australia, its history and present condition,” containing an account both of the

Bush and of the Colonies, with their respective inhabitants. James Backhouse, a Member of the Society of Friends, has produced a work of no common interest, the result of his personal observations. It deservedly takes a permanent rank among the most valuable works that have been published on that Continent, not only for the Ethnological information it contains, but for the general knowledge it will inevitably be the means of diffusing.

NEW ZEALAND.

Passing on to New Zealand, where all Europe may be said, at this moment, to be looking with some anxiety, I refer with pleasure to the able work of Dr. Ernest Dieffenbach, who was one of the first to support the proposition of founding an Ethnological Society in London, and to whom was entrusted the subject selected for the first of a series of Meetings preliminary to the formation of the Society, which was entitled the "Study of Ethnology." The manner in which he performed that difficult task is too well known to need a remark here. Dr. E. Dieffenbach's work on New Zealand deservedly takes its rank with the most valuable of those contemporaneous publications which have grown out of the rapid colonization of that country. His honest and ungarbled statement of facts, cast as they are in a truly philosophical mould, cannot fail to render it a permanent ornament to every well-selected library.

POLYNESIA.

Letters from Stockholm announce the discovery, by a Swedish brig, of several islands in the Pacific, the inhabitants of which are described of wild habits, and ignorant of the use of iron.

M. Gustave D'Eichthal has published his "Mémoire sur l'Histoire Primitive des Races Oceaneanes et Americaines."

Sandwich Islands.—James Jackson Jarves, of the American Oriental Society, has written a History of the Hawaiian or Sandwich Islands, embracing their antiquities, mythology, legends, discovery by Europeans in the sixteenth century, re-discovery by Cook, with civil, religious, and political his-

tory, from the earliest traditional period to the present time.

Society Islands.—Francis Allyn Olmsted, in his “Incidents of a Whaling Voyage,” has added Observations on the manners and customs of the Sandwich and Society Islands.

Navigators' Islands.—An abstract of a Paper on the physical character, languages, and manners of the people of the Navigators' Islands, by Mr. Heath, appears in the printed transactions of the British Association for the advancement of Science for 1843.

MALAYSIA.

A Paper, by Captain T. J. Newbold, on the Literature of the Malays, has been read before the Royal Asiatic Society.

RESEARCH IN PROSPECT.

Distinguished travellers are now at work in various parts of the world, who must, from the recent date of the formation of this Society, be still ignorant of its existence. From them we may expect much valuable information. The expedition under Professor Von Middendorff, the companion of Professor Baer to Lapland, despatched by the Imperial Academy of St. Petersburg to explore the country between the rivers Pjassida and Chatanga, is particularly instructed to devote its attention to Ethnography. This region has only once been visited by men of scientific acquirements, and that more than a century ago, which resulted in the publication of a few extracts only. In the north regions of Western Siberia, M. Sjögen, a Member of the Academy, is at work, collecting Ethnographical and Philological information.

M. Beguly, who travelled through Lapland, Finland, and Esthland, for the purpose of comparing the Magyar language with the Finnish dialects, is now directing his attention to the language of the Woguls and the Ostiaks.

Mr. Charles Fellowes has again left England upon an inquiry into the Ethnological characters of the ancient tribes who inhabited Asia Minor before they were invaded by the arms and literature of Greece.

Colonel Chesney is preparing a work, geographical and historical, of the countries bordering upon the River Euphrates.

The highly-talented and indefatigable Chevalier Schomburgk has laid up a large store of Ethnological knowledge during his survey of the intricate wilderness of anastomosing streams which surround British Guayana. He has investigated the regions between the upper river Essequibo and the sources of the Corentyne: he there met with tribes of the existence of which neither Colonists nor Europeans had any previous knowledge. They are only known to the neighbouring Indians, from whom they are divided by thick forests, and rivers dangerous to navigate. They are called Pianoghottos, Mawackas, Maopityans or Frog Indians, Drios, &c., and are distinguished from other Indian tribes by wearing their hair in a queue. A marked difference is likewise observable in the formation of their head. The Drio Indians, a strong and handsome race, embellish their body by incisions, like the South-Sea Islanders, a custom observed nowhere else among the Indians of Guiana.

Chevalier Schomburgk deplotes the rapidness with which the Indian tribes approach their extinction, and of which he possesses the most distressing examples. Since he commenced his exploring tours in 1835, in Guiana, it was therefore one of his principal objects, as far as his official occupations permitted it, to collect vocabularies, and comparative measurements of different individuals; and the artist of the expedition was desired to secure portraits of the most characteristic individuals of the tribes which were visited during the survey.

He has traced a great similarity in the construction of some of the languages of the Indians in Guiana, as the Wapisianas and Macusi tribes, with the Delaware or Lenápe of the northern portion of America, and considers himself warranted in believing them to be of the same origin.

Governor Grey is not likely, from his known scientific habits, to neglect to treasure up all that his rank and position can afford.

Count Streletzky, whose explorations in the south-east corner of Australia are well known, is now here, preparing for publication the result of his observations.

From Mr. Windsor Earle we may expect interesting accounts of the Port-Essington Natives, the Malays, and the Macassarees.

From Mr. Brook we may hope for a large stock of knowledge of the inhabitants of the west and north-west coasts of Borneo. The hilly districts are inhabited by an interesting race called Dyaks, who are said to be much oppressed by a more warlike and active people called the Pangerans. Both Malays and Chinese occupy the coasts.

The contemporary magnetic observations that have been set on foot in different parts of the globe cannot fail to produce some fruits; and to the observers at Sitka and the north-west coast of America we may look with particular interest.

Baron Walkenaer's voluminous work, now in progress, entitled "*Relations des Voyages en Afriques depuis 1400 jusqu'à nos jours*," cannot fail to contain a large amount of Ethnological information. At Worgl, in the Tyrol, a Society has been formed for excavating a spot where the old Roman town of Masciacum is supposed to have stood.

M. Francisque Michel, Professor at Bordeaux, has now in the press a work on "*The Accursed Races of France and Spain*," (*i. e.* the Cagots of the Pyrenees, Capots of Languedoc, Gahets of Guienne, Colleberts of Bas-Poitou, Caqueux of Brittany, Cacous of Le Maus, Marrous of Augverne, Chuetas of Majorca, and Vacqueros of Asturia.) M. Michel has devoted several years of diligent search and inquiry to this subject: the long-disputed question of these Parias of Europe will therefore, perhaps, at last be settled.

Dr. Lepsius is doing, in the neighbourhood of the Pyramids, what Mr. Fellows has done in Lycia.

Extensive regions in Africa and America have yet to be explored, wherein primitive man lives yet undiscovered, and where, some future day, ample room will be afforded for speculation and inquiry.

Mr. Westergaard, in his Journey through Persia, has transcribed and translated a number of cuneiform inscriptions, some of which have escaped the notice of previous travellers, which we may shortly expect to be published.

Dr. Asahel Grant, the able historian of the "Nestorians, or Lost Tribes," is in Mesopotamia, watching, with an Ethnological eye, its people, of whom he has so ably written.

Dr. Alfred Dumercau is engaged on a scientific mission to the southern provinces of Brazil. He has the instructions of the Minister of Public Instruction to penetrate into the interior of the province of Chaco—the frontiers of which only were reached by M. D'Orbigny—and to travel through Cordova and the provinces of San Juan and Mendoza.

The expedition of M. de Castelnau in South America will have to pass through several most interesting and most war-like tribes.

The establishment of a Literary Society at Alten, near Hammerfest, cannot fail to be the means of gleaning and diffusing valuable information of the interesting nomadic tribes in that vicinity.

From M. Hue and M. Baldus, Missionaries in China, we may expect to be still further acquainted with the manners and customs of this remarkable people. M. Baldus has already sent home to France much valuable information.

M. V. Fontanier, Vice-Consul of France at Bassora, who has had great opportunities of becoming acquainted with the different nations of the East, is engaged in publishing, in English garb, a history of his travels. He has had great opportunities of becoming acquainted with the different Nations of the East. His work is already producing great sensation in Paris.

Dr. Robert, who has marked out for himself an extensive route in Upper India, will no doubt be enabled to clear up many points of doubt in Oriental Ethnology.

M. Sainte Croix Pajot is about to undertake a journey in South Arabia, which country he intends, if possible, to traverse throughout its whole extent between Yemen and Muscat.

M. Hue, a French Missionary, is travelling in the interior of China, and much valuable information may be expected from his adventurous undertaking.

Letters from Aden announce the important fact that innumerable inscriptions have been discovered in Southern

Arabia, fac-similes of several of which may shortly be expected in England.

To Port Essington, where Great Britain has now raised her standard, we may look with hopeful anticipation, not only with regard to the continent, both in itself and in its character of a port, but to the islands adjacent.

CONCLUSION.

To conclude, the Report of the Council shews, that, although the Society is in working order, it requires larger funds. Now, the only and readiest means for increasing the funds, and the most natural, and easy, and gratifying, is for each Member to exert himself to procure additional Members; for in proportion to the sphere of the Society's operations will be the mass of useful and valuable information it will be enabled annually to collect and sift.

It is to be hoped that a new era has already begun to dawn. One of its earliest indications is that spirit of inquiry into the subject which has been awakened in France and in America, and which has led to the formation of Ethnological Societies in both countries. This is an earnest that many valuable labourers are about to take a share in promoting the object for which we are instituted. May the mutual correspondence of the several Societies already in existence, and those which may hereafter arise, and the exchange of information, stimulate each other to press forward for the advancement of Ethnological Science!

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