

tion of data, joined to the individual researches of a band of enthusiastic students abroad, as well as in our own country, that we owe this the best work on prehistoric America that has yet been published.

But whilst we thus gladly bear witness to the merits of this work, we must not forget the marks of carelessness which frequently disfigure its pages. Quotations and references are incorrectly given. Writers whose statements are more than doubtful, are given a prominence which they do not deserve; and there are assertions like the one (p. 82) as to the relative antiquity of the mounds in the Southern States, which needs proof, or that on p. 381, in regard to 'tempering' copper, which may or may not be true, depending on what is meant by the term. Finally, we must protest against the reference (p. 64) to the dogma of transubstantiation. Since that article of belief is held by rather more than half the Christian world, an offensive reference to it by the editor is not only uncalled for, but in excessively bad taste.

[The editor gladly inserts this review, written at his solicitation; but he does so without committing himself to the advocacy of the views therein expressed, which seem to maintain the identity of all peoples that ever inhabited the American continent up to the advent of Europeans. It seems to him that the progress of science demands that this should be looked upon as a question to which investigation may still be directed. While historical evidence, on which the reviewer lays such stress, undoubtedly gives the clew to recent peoples, we must certainly depend on archeological research for the data by which to decide all questions which concern the origin and relationship of those which preceded them.]

A HANDBOOK OF HEALTHY AND DISEASED MEAT.

IN Germany there is no need that an official should be ignorant of the duties he has to perform; for, no matter in how restricted a sphere he has to work, there are extended treatises covering the exact points, with which he should be acquainted. In the volume which lies before us, the inspector of meat, or the veterinarian who may be called upon to decide upon the fitness of animal flesh for human food, would find a good practical guide to the work.

Handbuch der fleischkunde. Eine beurtheilungslehre des fleisches unserer schlachthiere, mit besonderer rücksicht auf die gesundheits pflegendes menschen und die sanitätspolizei. Von Dr. ADOLF SCHMIDT-MÜLHEIM. Leipzig, Vogel, 1884. 8°.

The first part of the volume is devoted to a consideration of the morphology and chemistry of meat, with remarks on its general physiology and pathology. Then follow a practical description of the different kinds of food animals, and the various methods of killing, and of cutting up and preserving the flesh. After this is a chapter chiefly devoted to healthy meats and the changes which the different sorts undergo in digestion.

The last half of the book treats of diseased meat and the dangers of its use. In this lies the value of the work; as the special appearances, and the methods for their detection, are given in connection with each disease, as well as the disorders which may arise in man following their use as food, together with the means of prevention. Finally there is appended a digest of the laws of Germany and Austria regulating inspection.

The book is one which can scarcely be said to be of general scientific interest; and, on account of the language in which it is written, it will probably not be widely read by the class of men in this country to whom it would be of the greatest value. From a pecuniary point of view, a translation of such a work would not pay here at present; but from the economic interests which are connected with the subject, and the great protective influence which a well-maintained inspection of meat through our country would exert upon the public health, an edition in English, translated and published under the auspices of the proper department of the national government, would be of great and peculiar interest in the hands of the proper officers of our local boards of health.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MICROSCOPISTS.

THE American society of microscopists has published the account of the meeting held last August at Rochester. The volume is a neat octavo of nearly three hundred pages, with a few plates, and appears in part as a memorial of the late R. B. Tolles, whose lithographic portrait is prefixed to the titlepage. The portrait is such that its total absence will appear desirable to many. The address of the president, J. D. Cox, is substantially a review of the arrogant and ignorant attacks which Wenham repeated during so many years against Tolles's wide-angle lenses; and the contrast between

Proceedings of the American society of microscopists. Seventh annual meeting. Buffalo, Bigelow bros., pr., 1884. 4 + 300 p., [6] pl., illustr. 8°.