

exception to these figures. He thinks that a very large number of dogs that have bitten people, and supposed to be rabid, were not rabid, and points out several other possible errors in Pasteur's deductions.

THE UNSEEMLY WRANGLE that has been caused by the *Quarterly review* article on Mr. Edward Gosse has greatly excited the literary men at the universities. Whatever be the merits of the case, from this distance we can only see that the whole proceeding is derogatory to the dignity of men of literary reputation and culture. Journalistic quarrels are usually of no benefit and questionable taste, but it would be bad indeed if the outcome of this one should be, as one English critic insinuates, to prove that at one university is a professor who is not a scholar, and at the other, one who is not a gentleman.

THE AMERICANISTS.

THE sixth session of the Congress international des Americanists was held in September last at Turin. It may not be amiss to say that the previous meetings were held at Nancy (1873), Luxembourg (1877), Brussels (1879), Madrid (1881), and Copenhagen (1883). The sixth session would have been held last year had not the cholera prevented. The congress held its meetings in the old chamber in the Carignan palace, where the deputies of the Sardinian kingdom held their meeting, while the capital of that kingdom remained at Turin. M. Desiré Charnay opened the real business of the meeting with an address complaining that too little attention was given in Europe to the study of American history, and too much to that of the east. "Why," said he, "men care more for the discovery of a finger of Venus or a toe of Mercury than they do for the finding of a whole city in America." He instanced especially the apathy with which Maudslay's work was received in England, saying that it took the directors of the Kensington museum three months to make up their minds as to whether they would accept a monolith as a gift.

The first discussion arose on a paper read by M. Guido Cora on the Zeni Brothers. The speaker declared that the well-known map which goes under the name of the Zeni map was the best authority in the case. He recognized the Faroe Islands in Frislanda; Iceland in Islanda; Greenland in Engronelant; and portions of North America in Estotiland and Drogeo. M. Beauvois thought that the Zeni explored Newfoundland, while M. V. Schmidt argued that Engronelant

corresponded to the modern Angramanlant and Norway.

M. Jimenez followed with a very long and detailed communication on the migrations of the Carib race. In his opinion, that movement was by the Amazon and Orinoco rivers. Then M. le Baron de Baye presented a note by the Marquis of Monclar with regard to a trepanned skull from the upper basin of the Amazon, and M. Pigorini a memoir of M. Strobel upon picture-writing of South America. M. Grossi finally read a paper upon coins of the old and new worlds.

The next day M. Schmidt presented, in behalf of Dr. H. Rink, a paper describing the Eskimo tribes of the extreme west and east. He gave very detailed statements of the manners, customs, houses, dress, social order, myths, and traditions of those tribes. Dr. Rink agrees with Captain Hohn, that the Eskimos have occupied the coasts of Greenland on all sides.

A description, purporting to have come from Mr. A. S. Gatschet of the ethnological bureau at Washington, of the Maya dictionary, was then read. Without doubt it is of the greatest importance in the study of this ancient language, and the deciphering of the old inscriptions in that language. The dictionary, or rather vocabulary, forms part of the Carter-Brown library in Providence. The dictionary is in two parts, each forming a small quarto volume. Part i. contains the Maya-Spanish part; part ii., the Spanish-Maya part. It was probably composed between 1590 and 1600. It is named after the monastery where the author lived, Motul. The author is unknown, and the copy in question is not the original manuscript, but a copy. According to a somewhat minute calculation, it was estimated that the volume contained about 15,400 terms. Others have thought the number higher. It gives us the Maya tongue as it existed at the time or shortly after the conquest. A vote was passed asking the government of the United States to publish the dictionary at its own expense. The congress soon after adjourned, after providing for another meeting at Berlin in 1888.

ARCHEOLOGICAL ENIGMAS.

THE meeting of the Anthropological society of Washington on Nov. 16 was devoted to the reading of two papers bearing on the antiquity of man in America. Mr. G. K. Gilbert, chief geologist of the U. S. geological survey, described minutely the finding of an ancient hearth on the southern shore of Lake Ontario, at the bottom of a well about thirty feet deep. The formation at the base of which the hearth was discovered is one of a