

insular and littoral peoples. These he divides into branches which are not very well defined, there being portions of a race separated geographically, linguistically, or otherwise, from other portions of the race. The branches are subdivided into linguistic stocks. This system is open to the same objection which must be made to Fr. Müller's: it is neither physical nor linguistic; and these two classifications, being based on entirely distinct phenomena, cannot be made to agree. The rest of the book is devoted to the discussion of the various races. The author sees the primal home of the Eurafian race in North Africa, whence he believes the Hamitic, Shemitic, and Aryan people derive their origin. The last he considers as a mixed race on account of the predominance of two distinct physical types. If we should apply this test to any of the better known peoples, we would have to class them among the mixed races. There is certainly no homogeneous variety of man in any part of the world. Therefore the reduction of the Aryan race to two prototypes seems somewhat doubtful. We cannot enter into the interesting sketch of the other races, but confine ourselves to the remark that the descriptions, though brief, are always striking and interesting. In a concluding chapter Dr. Brinton sums up a number of important problems,—those of acclimatization, race-mixture, and of the ultimate destiny of the races. The author emphasizes justly the close relations between ethnography and historical and political science. His work will undoubtedly greatly contribute to making this close connection better known and more thoroughly understood.

The Trees of Northeastern America. By CHARLES S. NEWHALL. New York, Putnam. 8°. \$2.50.

FOR its purpose, this book is admirable. The plan of the author was excellent, and he has carried it out well. There are defects in the book; but, as they are more of omission than of commission, they may be passed over with scarce a mention. In simple fashion and almost untechnical language, the author describes our trees, from their foliage, bark, and general appearance, so that they may be readily identified by persons without even a smattering of botanical knowledge. The trees described include all the native trees of the northern United States east of the Mississippi, as well as those of Canada. Mention is also made of the more important of the introduced and naturalized species. The work is so arranged that any given specimen can be readily found by help of a well-arranged guide. The author's chief authority for the geographical distribution of the different species is Sargent's report in the "Tenth Census;" and for the scientific nomenclature adopted, Mr. Newhall acknowledges his indebtedness to Professor N. L. Britton of Columbia College. The latter gentleman, in a brief prefatory note, says, "There is great need of such a popular work. It will do much good in supplying information to our people about some of the common things around them, and this in an attractive manner."

The method of using the book is as simple as can be desired. Provided with a leaf of the tree to be identified, the inquirer, by a brief inspection of the easily mastered guide, is referred to the pages containing a drawing of the leaf (and sometimes the fruit) and the name and description of the tree. Both the popular and the scientific names are given, together with some account of the uses of the tree, and its distribution. Photo-engravings of the leaves and fruit, instead of the somewhat crude outline drawings, would, we think, have been more in keeping with the excellent mechanical make-up of the book, and would have added much to its value.

The Antiquities of Tennessee. By GATES P. THRUSTON. Cincinnati, Robert Clarke, 1890.

THE present volume is an excellent *résumé* of the results of recent archæological investigations in Tennessee. It is amply illustrated by good photo-engravings and numerous sketches of well-selected specimens. Many of them do not differ essentially from the well-known types of this region; but others will be found to be of great interest; for instance, the tattooed face bowl (p. 94), and the image in clay showing an infant strapped to a cradle-board (p. 112). The descriptions of the finds are so full of new, valuable, and well-arranged matter, that they will repay a close study. The conclusions which the author draws from his studies

seem to be in the main well founded. He justly emphasizes the fact that the finds show no evidence whatever of a culture of a stamp different from that of the North American Indians, more particularly from that of the southern Indians as described by early travellers. He is also right in laying stress upon the dissemination of culture among the inhabitants of pre-Columbian America, which entails transmission not only of arts and industries, but also of manufactures. While in the introductory chapter of his book he does not consider the culture of the mound-builders as much higher than that of the Indians shortly before they came into contact with the whites, it seems, that, while studying the specimens, the culture of the mound-builders appeared to the author of increasing value; so that in his concluding chapter he is inclined to assume a decline of culture during the period following the "stone grave time." We believe that this decline may have been somewhat overestimated by the author, but we fully agree with his opinion that the mound-builders of Tennessee were Indians, and that the relics do not belong to any great antiquity. The author assumes that the decline in culture came about by an invasion from the north of a race which he believes he can recognize in a number of dolichocephalic crania taken from the stone graves. This proof must be rejected, as it is founded on the theory that a race is homogeneous, while actually, even in long-isolated races, we must expect to find a great variety of forms. Unfortunately archæologists do not yet duly appreciate the importance of osteological collections, a few well-preserved skulls being all that are deemed worthy of preservation. Broken skulls, and particularly skeletons, ought to be preserved as well, as only a thorough investigation of *all* the remains of a race will lead to reliable conclusions. Physical anthropology does not consist of a few cranial measurements, but is a detailed study in comparative osteology of man.

AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

THE *Jenness-Miller Magazine* for November contains another article on "Physical Culture," by Miss Mabel Jenness; and "Temperance in Food," by Burcham Harding.

—Among the interesting exhibits at the American Institute Fair in this city is a handsome showcase filled with samples of the books published by E. & F. N. Spon of this city and London.

—A new edition of No. 57 of Van Nostrand's Science Series ("Incandescent Electric Lighting") has just been issued. New papers, by L. H. Latimer and C. J. Field, take the place of those by Du Moncel and Preece in the former edition, bringing the work more nearly to date.

—Vol. IV. No. 7 of the "Studies from the Biological Laboratory" of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, contains two articles,—one, "Notes on the Anatomy of *Sipunculus Gouldii* Pourtales," by E. A. Andrews (with plates); and the other, "The Relationships of Arthropods," by H. T. Fernald (with plates).

—The Leonard Scott Publication Company, New York, announce that beginning with the November number they will in the future furnish their subscribers with the original Edinburgh edition of *Blackwood's Magazine*, printed in Edinburgh, and published by them here under authority of Messrs. William Blackwood & Son.

—The *Illustrated American* makes an offer in our advertising columns which may prove attractive to some of our readers. This weekly has certainly contained much interesting matter, unusually well illustrated, concerning the goings-on in the world, in which intelligent people are interested, and it is only to be regretted that in the recent numbers certain criminal affairs have been made prominent and served up in a style likely to entrap the unsuspecting reader into their perusal. The periodical is a new one, and deserves a careful examination at the hands of the reading public.

—Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin, & Co. have published a small volume entitled "Thoreau's Thoughts," consisting of brief passages selected from Thoreau's various writings by H. G. O. Blake. The selections seem to have been made with good judgment, except that they are too short. The editor has not included many of those passages descriptive of natural objects that so abound in