

otherwise exist. From this point of view, the marriage is undesirable.

On the other hand, from the point of view of the person born deaf, such a marriage is extremely desirable, for it will diminish the hereditary tendency in his family. In such a case, the friends of one party would probably favor the union, and the friends of the other advise against it; and the mutual friends of both could only say, "It is desirable to one, and undesirable to the other: we cannot advise; your own hearts must decide the matter."

Now, I have come before you to-night to show you that there may be something in my researches of benefit to you; I want also to assure you that there is nothing of harm. I want to disabuse your minds entirely of the idea that I intend or desire to interfere with your perfect liberty of choice. I claim the right to advise you as I would advise my own children, or any young people in whom I feel an interest. In this matter my views coincide very closely with those recently expressed by President Gallaudet through the columns of *Science*. You have to live in a world of hearing and speaking people, and every thing that will help you to mingle with hearing and speaking people will promote your welfare and happiness. A hearing partner will wed you to the hearing world, and be of inestimable value to you in all the relations of life. Not only will your own success in life be thereby increased, but the welfare of your children will be materially promoted. It is surely to the interests of children, both deaf and hearing, that one at least of their parents should hear.

I would therefore hold before you as the ideal marriage a marriage with a hearing person. Do not let any one place in your minds the idea that such a marriage cannot be a happy one. Do not let any one make you believe that you cannot find a hearing person who will treat you as an equal. The chances are infinitely more in your favor that out of the millions of hearing persons in this country you may be able to find one with whom you may be happy than that you should find one among the smaller numbers of the deaf.

I think the sentiment is hurtful that makes you believe you can only be happy with a deaf companion. That is a mistake, and, I believe, a grave one. I would have you believe that the welfare of yourself and your children will be greatly promoted by marriage with a hearing partner, if you can find one with whom you can be happy.

And now, my friends, I must thank you very much for the attentive way in which you have listened to me, and I hope that you will all dispel from your minds any idea that I intend to interfere with your liberty of marriage. I know that very grave misconceptions of my position and views have been circulated during the past few years among the deaf. I have before me to-night an audience composed of the brightest and most intelligent minds among the deaf, and I want you to help me in dispelling these ideas.

These misconceptions have arisen chiefly, I think, from too great reliance upon newspaper stories and second-hand information. The newspapers seem to know a good deal more about my opinions and views than I do myself, and I am constantly seeing items about myself that have utterly no basis in fact. Only a few weeks ago I read in a newspaper a long report of an interview with me that never took place. The substance of that article has since been copied from paper to paper all over the United States. I happened to be suffering from a slight headache when the reporter called at my hotel, and I thought this would afford a good excuse for avoiding an interview. I therefore sent my com-

pliments to the reporter, and begged to be excused. He went away, and I thought that that was the end of the matter. Alas, no! Next morning I found myself in the paper, in large capitals, giving forth opinions relating to the education of the deaf that I had never expressed.

Now, I would impress upon your minds the fact that if you want to do a man justice, you should believe what a man says himself rather than what people say he says. There is no man in America, I think, who has been more interviewed by newspaper reporters than I have, and I can assure you that I have never yet seen a report of an interview with me that was free from error.

But now I begin to be afraid of you; for you are the interviewers in this case, and I wonder how I shall be reported by you in the newspapers of the deaf. I am talking to you by word of mouth, while my friend, Professor Fay, is translating what I say into the sign-language. Then by and by you will translate it all back again into English for the benefit of your deaf friends in distant parts. You are the interviewers this time, and I fear you are just as liable to make errors of statement as the ordinary newspaper reporter. I have therefore brought with me to-night a gentleman who has taken a stenographic account of all that I am saying to you. I will look over his notes and correct them, and then it will afford me pleasure to present every member of the Literary Society with a printed copy of my remarks. Allow me, therefore, to request the correspondents of distant papers kindly to reserve their notes of my remarks until they can get my own words in black and white.

I must thank you very much for the attention with which you have listened to me, and in conclusion I would simply say, that, if any one here desires to ask me questions upon the subject of my address, I shall be happy to do my best to reply.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

MR. J. P. THOMSON read a paper in December last, on "The North-east Coast of British New Guinea, and some of the Adjacent Islands," before the Queensland Branch of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia, an abstract of which appears in *The Scottish Geographical Magazine* for March. He remarked on the absence of information regarding this coast before the establishment of the British authority in New Guinea, which he accounted for by the fact that this part is less accessible from Australian ports than the south-eastern coast. The mountain-ranges, when viewed from a distance, seemed to rise abruptly from the shore, leaving no margin of cultivable land, and the natives bore the reputation of barbarous cannibals. Moreover, the indentations of the coast, such as Goodenough, Collingwood, Dyke Acland, and Holincote Bays, are too exposed to afford safe anchorage for ships in stormy weather. Sir William Macgregor, therefore, could not fail to bring back a large fund of information from his expedition to this coast in July, 1890.

The Anglo-German boundary is defined on the coast by Mitre Rock, a mass of conglomerate rising upon, or near to, the 8th parallel of south latitude, to a height of 60 feet above the water, with an opening about 12 feet high and 1 yard broad extending through it from north to south. Within a quarter of a mile of this rock, Boundary Cape, so named by Sir Peter Scratchley, projects into the sea, a promontory of low forest-clad hills rising to a height of 400 to 500 feet. No natives were discovered until the expedition had advanced as far south as Caution Point, where a large village on the coast is inhabited by a powerful tribe. The men ornament their chins with false beards extending from ear to ear, and decorate their heads with cassowary feathers, shells, and fibres; but tattooing seems not to be in fashion among them. The largest tribe met with inhabits a district of hilly ground and sago swamps lying to the south of Boundary Cape, behind which

undulating country extends up to the ridges of the Owen Stanley Range. They are unacquainted with the use of iron, and, though friendly disposed towards white men, could not be persuaded to exchange their spears, adzes of jade and basalt, etc., for hardware or other articles.

The border of Dyke Acland Bay is occupied by a group of villages to which Sir W. Macgregor gave the name of Oro; but, as it was derived simply from the words used by the local guide on approaching the shore, there is some doubt whether it is a tribal name or not. These villages are situated amidst the forest and grassland sloping down from the Hydrographer's Range, the spurs of which are inhabited by a population of about 3,000. At the eastern extremity of Dyke Acland Bay lies Cape Nelson, remarkable for its numerous indentations, some of which, such as Maclaren Harbor and Port Hennessy, so named by Sir W. Macgregor, are excellent havens of refuge for shipping. Within the perimeter of this cape lie two mountains, — Mount Trafalgar, rising to a height of some 4,000 feet; and, to the south of it, Mount Victory, probably 3,500 feet high. The latter is an active volcano; for in the early morning steam was observed rising from its two crests, and from a ridge at a lower elevation, and, as the day advanced, the whole top of the mountain became obscured by dense exhalations. Whereas Mount Trafalgar is clothed to its summit with forest, the volcano is precipitous, and crowned with masses of bare rock. Another large inlet, Collingwood Bay, lies between Cape Nelson and the next promontory, which terminates in the two headlands, Kibirisi Point and Cape Sebiribiri (or Vogel).

On the western shore dwells the Maisina tribe, in villages of inferior construction. The houses hold only one family each, and their roofs project to about three feet from the ground, thus forming verandas. These natives also are unacquainted with iron and tobacco, and adorn themselves with the usual ornaments of feathers, shells, and dog's teeth. The country towards the interior is low, and densely covered with forests, in which the *casuarina* is conspicuous. Several villages stud the coast between Kibirisi Point and Cape Sebiribiri; and opposite one of them, named Kapikapi, rise two singular masses of coral, probably eighty feet high, on each of which stand about a dozen houses. These, being stocked with spears and approached by wooden ladders, removable when necessary, are probably used as strongholds.

After Cape Sebiribiri, Goodenough Bay is reached, stretching to East Cape on Ansell's Peninsula, — a district that has gained a sad notoriety from the murder of Capt. Ansell and the destruction of the "Star of Peace" in 1888. The head of the bay is interesting from the miniature plateaus, elevated about 300 feet above the sea-level, of which the land is composed, and which have been formed by the soil washed down from the ravines in the background. The climate of this part of New Guinea is probably healthy; but the absence of navigable rivers would prove a great obstacle to the cultivation of suitable lands in the interior, if such should be found.

Sir W. Macgregor also visited the Trobriand, Murua (Woodlark), and Nada (Lauchlan) Islands, situated far away to the north and north-east of East Cape, between the parallels of 8° 25' and 9° 23' south latitude, and the meridians of 150° 30' and 153° 40' east longitude. Nada is a group of islets, about nine in number, forming an atoll, with a lagoon seven to twelve fathoms deep, and is inhabited by 169 natives. Murua, to the west of Nada, is about thirty-eight miles long, and possesses a good harbor. The natives have entered the iron age, and have abundance of food, consisting of yams, *taro*, and sweet-potatoes. The Trobriand Islands lie to the north-west of Murua. The whole group is of coral formation, and is densely covered with forest, and the fertility of the soil is indicated by the abundance of cultivated food. The natives also catch large quantities of fish. They were very friendly with Sir W. Macgregor's party, and very eager to trade. These islands are so much more important in extent and population than had been reported, that several weeks might be spent in thoroughly exploring them.

WALTER DAMROSCH has set Lord Tennyson's poem to music in last week's *Truth*.

BOOK-REVIEWS.

Primitive Folk-Studies in Comparative Ethnology. By ELIE RECLUS. New York, Scribner & Welford. 8°. \$1.25.

Few writers on science, and none on geography, command a more attractive style than Reclus. His vast reading supplies him with a wonderful wealth of analogy; he is never dull; and his philosophizing, which he is not shy to offer, is fresh and progressive.

In the volume before us he undertakes a study of the sociology of half a dozen "primitive" or savage nations, the avowed object being to furnish from them a picture of the condition of man in general in prehistoric ages. Of these half-dozen nations, two are selected from America, — the Eskimos or Inuits, and the Apaches, — while the other examples are from India, as the Nairs, the Kolarians of Bengal, and the tribes of the Neilgherry Hills.

The ethnography of the American portion leaves considerable to be desired. The author includes in the Eskimos the Chukchis (Tchouktches) of Siberia and the Koloschs of the North-West Coast, neither of whom are in any way related to the Inuit. He further speaks of the Kolosches as distinct from the Tlinkits, though these are merely two names for the same people. In enumerating the Apache tribes (p. 123) he confuses them with the Yumas, who belong to a wholly different stock, and again with the Pah-utes (p. 140), who are distinct from both. These unfortunate errors throw a shade of inaccuracy over his descriptions, because, though correct in themselves, they do not always apply to the peoples whom he sets out to depict.

His authorities are usually carefully selected, and his quotations highly illustrative. A tendency to force into prominence certain sociological theories is perhaps visible. Thus, the doctrine of primitive communal marriage is evidently one he holds in high esteem, and seeks to support by all the evidence possible. Much that he adduces to this effect would bear another interpretation. The observations (pp. 69, 70, and elsewhere) on the strange relations which have ever existed between the sexual passions and the religious sentiments are very suggestive, and deserve further expansion and analysis.

Of these studies, that on the Kolarians of Bengal is perhaps the most vivid, and, though it is the last in the book, the reader may profitably begin with it, in order to learn promptly the style and resources of the author.

AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

BULLETIN No. 73 of the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station is on agricultural grasses best adapted to North Carolina soil and climate.

— A novelty in periodical literature is the *Kings' Jester*, the first number of which has just appeared. It is devoted to the wit, humor, art, and advantages of advertising, and is published by Herbert Booth King & Brother, the well-known advertising agents of this city.

— Messrs. Macmillan & Co. announce as among their publications this summer a "Text-Book of the Developmental History of the Vertebrates," by Dr. Oscar Hertwig, professor of comparative anatomy in the University of Berlin, translated and edited by Dr. E. L. Mark, professor in Harvard University, fully illustrated; also a "Text-Book of the Developmental History of the Invertebrates," by Drs. Korschelt and Heider of Berlin, translated under the supervision of Dr. E. L. Mark of Harvard, fully illustrated.

— Darwin's book on "The Structure and Distribution of Coral Reefs" has been issued as one of the Camelot Series by Walter Scott of London, the New York publishers being A. Lovell & Co. The edition includes an introduction by Joseph W. Williams. As the price is low and the volume attractively made up, the book is worth examining by those interested.

— Part II. of Whiting's "Short Course of Experiments in Physical Measurements" has just been issued, and covers measurements in sound, dynamics, magnetism, and electricity. Mr.