

Explanatory.

Relations of prehistory to history and to anthropology, both physical and ethnological.

Systematic.

1. Introductory. History of the science. Sources of information, literary and monumental, with critical estimates of their values.

2. Methodical presentation. Geographical and ethnic divisions. Factors of evolution, as discovery, borrowing, alteration, descent. Special forms, as language, religion, law, family, government, clothing, food, ornament, commerce, etc.

3. Typological presentation. Models of workshops, houses, fortresses, altars, sepulchres; also weapons, tools, utensils, etc.; their use and development.

4. Historical presentation. First, with reference to natural history, the origin, races, varieties and migrations of men; second, cultural history, as the stone, bronze and iron ages; the palæolithic and neolithic periods; proto-historic culture; dawn of civilization, etc.

This scheme appears to offer a comprehensive plan for bringing the science before a class.

MIGRATION OF THE AZTECS.

The Society of Geography and Statistics of the Republic of Mexico has just issued a second edition of a work by its first secretary, the licentiate Eustaquio Buelna, entitled "Peregrinacion de los Aztecas, y Nombres Geograficos Indigenas de Sinaloa."

The first edition was published in 1887, and received a certain measure of praise on account of the new material it offered concerning the tribes and languages of north-western Mexico. This has been added to in the present edition, and in this respect it is welcome; but that the author has seen fit to expand and illustrate his theories on the pre-historic migrations of the Aztecs, is to be regretted, as he does but disseminate under the name of the society various exploded errors.

When, for instance, shall we hear the last of the "Atlantis?" Over and over again, its existence has been disproved, but it is ever rising in the minds of those who do not know what time o' day it is in science. How often

must it be shown that the name "Atlantic" has nothing to do with "Aztlan" or "Aztalan," but is a Berber word meaning "mountain." Yet Buelna repeats and adopts these eighteenth century etymologies. Our faith in his acquirements in the Nahuatl language wanes considerably when we find him (p. 323) deriving the word *nahuatl* from *nahui*, four, and *atl*, water, for it is elementary that the terminal *tl* is dropped in composition. Of course, the "Toltecs" figure largely, although their existence as a nation has been disproved.

It cannot be said that Senor Buelna has approached this part of his subject with the requisite knowledge of its literature; and one cannot but regret that he seems unacquainted with the voluminous writings of Buschmann on the proper names and languages of Sinaloa and Sonora.

NOTE ON CROTALUS ADAMANTEUS.

February 22, students while out collecting birds shot a diamond rattlesnake, *Crotalus adamanteus*, Beau., that measured five feet ten inches in length and nine inches around the thickest portion of the body. From the glossiness of the scales it is thought that it had recently moulted. There were only five rattles and a button present, which seems quite remarkable for such a long reptile. If I am not mistaken, such large animals of this species usually have more.

These animals, though once quite abundant, are becoming quite uncommon. The demand for their skins and rattles to make into Florida has done much to destroy this venomous animal. The skin is made into belts and neckties, while the rattles are used for sets on the ties and elsewhere.

P. H. ROLFS.

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