

so that examples of novel, undescribed kinds may be attentively studied when discovered. Second, in the equally thorough study of the manifold types of weather and climate, so that they may be similarly treated. Third, in the equally thorough study of the various relations between earth and man—anthropogeography; or, if desired, between earth and all forms of life—biogeography; for then only can the human or organic element be stated in its geographical relations, and not simply in its anthropological or biological relations. A person who is untrained in these directions may, of course, follow known paths as a traveller, or break new paths as an explorer; but it is questionable whether he should be called a geographer.

GLACIAL ACTION AND SHIFTING DIVIDES IN THE SCHWARZWALD.

G. STEINMANN has recently discussed the glacial phenomena of the Schwarzwald (*Die Spuren der letzten Eiszeit im hohen Schwarzwalde. Freiburg Univ. Festprogr., 1896*). From ice fields above 700 m., many valley glaciers descended to 400 m. Glaciated surfaces, smoothed valleys, cirques, rock basins, terminal moraines and valley gravels are all described in evidence of ice action. The author is led to ascribe the diversion of former headwaters from the Wutach (Danube system) to the Höllenthal (Rhine system) by ice-barring. Map and profiles give clear illustration of the inferred process, which Steinmann naturally prefers to the cataclysmic explanation suggested by Fromherz half a century ago. But the width (about 1 k.) of the Höllenthal across the old divide seems too great to have been gained in post-glacial time. Furthermore, no consideration is given to the normal process of shifting divides by the more rapid gnawing at the steeper headwater (Höllenthal). This slow process is undoubtedly responsible for the repeated examples of

shifted divides between Rhine and Danube headwaters farther northeast in the Swabian Alp, where the 'cuesta,' as Hill might call it, or the 'Stufenlandschaft,' as Penck would say, becomes dominant. It therefore seems probable that normal shifting may find some application in the Schwarzwald also.

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CURRENT NOTES ON ANTHROPOLOGY.

THE INDIAN QUESTION.

IN practical sociology no question has so long worried the American philanthropists as 'What to do with the Indians.' Even the archæologists—who are popularly supposed to agree with General Crook, that the only good Indian is a dead Indian—have taken it up, and in the last number of the *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society* is an article on the subject by Mr. J. Evarts Greene.

He makes the revolutionary suggestion that our government should scrupulously keep its promises to the Indians (!) and then proclaim them minors, keep their property and spend it for them as we see fit.

This latter item we will all gladly undertake; but the former is so totally without precedent that it sounds anarchistic! Are we, because of some short-sighted promise of our fathers, to allow the savage to impede the glorious march of civilization in this great western world? Never!

In the discussion President G. Stanley Hall rather timidly advanced the suggestion that if the Indian is met 'in a sympathetic way' he might develop his own civilization. As if our noble and active youth had time to 'sympathize' with the 'gray barbarian,' when the manifest destiny of the youth is to amass a fortune and live abroad!

Independence and land in severalty form the only honorable platform, and, as we grant that to white, yellow and black citi-

zens, why draw the line at the color red? Secular education, and not mere Sunday-schooling, will teach them to use this independence aright.

ANTHROPOLOGY OF FRENCH POLYNESIA.

WE scarcely ever hear about the French possessions in Polynesia. The tri-color in fact floats over a number of coral islets and pocket archipelagoes in the benign climes of the Pacific sea. The most important spots are Tahiti and the Marquesas group. The anthropology of these islands is discussed by Dr. Gros, of the French navy, in the *Bulletins of the Anthropological Society*, Paris, of this year.

After giving a number of measurements he discusses several questions of general interest. Is the native population decreasing, and why? It is decreasing, not very rapidly, and owing mainly to mortality from epidemics, which this brown race has little power to resist. They are, moreover, great drunkards, and this predisposes them to disease.

Are they capable of culture development? Decidedly so, thinks Dr. Gros. Before the arrival of the whites they had made steady and considerable progress, and when given an opportunity readily acquire and use modern education. The teacher is the person needed in Polynesia. Divorces are frequent and social morality low. Much of this is owing to the example and influence of Europeans. The race is rapidly becoming of mixed blood from crossing with foreigners of different nationalities who visit the islands.

THE LATE DR. A. H. POST.

It would be difficult to name any writer in this generation whose conception of the science of Ethnology was so profound and noble as that of the late Dr. A. H. Post, of Bremen. He understood that science in its broadest connotation, and clearly recognized in it that branch of learning which in

the not distant future will modify all others, changing their direction and altering their contents. He saw that ethnology is bound completely to subvert the present popular *Weltanschauung*, and substitute for it another with scarcely any points of contact.

Post's especial field was that branch of Ethnology which deals with the ideas of rights and equities, the treaties and duties of man to man, in other words, jurisprudence in its largest meaning. On this he wrote a number of articles and treatises, the most important being his '*Grundriss der ethnologischen Jurisprudenz*,' published but a few months before his death. This is a work which combines extraordinary minuteness of detail with equally extraordinary grasp of principles, and sets forth the elements of Ethnology as a (one might almost say, *the*) universal science through one of its branches.

Dr. Post's friend and admirer, Dr. Th. Achelis, has just published an appreciative tribute to the departed thinker. It sets forth briefly the aim and spirit of his work and should be taken to heart by all who have learned to know this great, new growth of man's intelligence (*A. H. Post und die vergleichende Rechtswissenschaft*. Hamburg, 1896).

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NOTES ON INORGANIC CHEMISTRY.

A PAPER was recently read before the Royal Society of New South Wales by Prof. Liversidge, of the University of Sydney, on the amount of gold and silver in sea water. Heretofore it has been considered that the amount of gold present is about four grains per ton. The experiments of Prof. Liversidge show that for Australian waters this figure is too large, the amount being from one-half to one grain of gold per ton of sea water. Even this would be in round numbers about 200 tons of gold per cubic mile,