

Priest River Reserve, which was finished about the end of July; the second the Téton, finished about the middle of September. The Big Horn Reserve is practically completed at this date. Work in the other areas is still in progress, or was when Mr. Gannett reported.

The information obtained by Mr. Gannett's division touching these reserves relates to the condition, value and character of the timber; the density of undergrowth; the prevalence of fires in past times; the extent of cutting; the location and extent of lands more valuable for other purposes than for timber; the amount of settlement within the reserves, and the demand for timbers in their neighborhood. It is expected that the results obtained will be of value to the government in delimiting the boundaries of the reserves and in their future administration.

W. F. MORSELL.

WASHINGTON, October 20, 1897.

CURRENT NOTES ON ANTHROPOLOGY.

MAYA DAY SYMBOLS.

IN the 'Sixteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology,' Professor Cyrus Thomas has an elaborate article of sixty pages on the day symbols of the Maya year. In this study he follows the list of days as given by most authorities, beginning with *imix*. After quoting the names assigned them in five of the seven languages where this calendar was in use, he comments upon the meaning and relationship of the various terms. He departs in frequent instances from the opinions of earlier writers, but in the main agrees that in a general way there exists a connection between the terms used to designate any one day.

He has taken pains to point out in several passages some similarities in the meaning of the day-names to superstitions found among the Polynesian islanders. These

are somewhat striking, but scarcely so much so as the similarities long ago pointed out between the Mexican and certain Eastern Asiatic calendars by Alexander von Humboldt. They are such as may be found the world over when we compare early attempts to measure time for religious or divinatory purposes.

The paper is abundantly illustrated, and will prove a useful work of reference to the student of Mayan hieroglyphs.

THE VIKING CLUB.

THE voyages of the Northmen to America excite an interest in their ancient memorials among American scholars. All such will welcome the periodical issued by the Viking Club under the name of *The Saga-book*. Its aim is to concentrate the study of Norse mythology, history and literature. Especial attention is given to ancient inscriptions on stone or other material exhibiting the runic and symbolic figures of the early script. The extension of the Norsemen through Scotland and Ireland was accompanied by a large amalgamation of Celtic elements. It has been shown that this reached by transmission to Iceland, where we find a considerable number of ancient Celtic names.

The *Saga-book* is handsomely printed and illustrated and may be bought of the publisher, David Nutt, London. The club itself is founded as a social and literary society for all interested in the North and its literature and antiquities. Meetings are held in London from November to June. It aims to found a library, to present and discuss papers on Northern antiquities, to encourage the publication of documents, arrange for exhibitions, etc. The subscription is ten shillings yearly, which entitles to a copy of the 'Proceedings.' Applications may be sent, care of the publisher, 270 Strand.

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