

cause the island of Jamaica, but little more than 100 miles distant, is without evidence of such a very recent uplift. To a certain extent the two islands have had a different geologic history.

The extreme recency, geologically speaking, of the uplift of Cape Maysi is indicated by the perfection of the terraces. They have suffered practically no sub-aërial erosion. Although the land is a comparatively steep slope, constituting a very favorable situation for erosion, no gutters, ravines or valleys were seen from the ocean, with two exceptions. Even these exceptions tell of the newness of the land surface. They are two deep narrow cañons formed by streams flowing down over the terraced slope. Where exposed on the precipitous face of one of the large raised sea-cliffs, the cañons are just as narrow at the top as at the bottom.

I am inclined to believe that the beginning of this series of unsteady or periodic uplifts of the eastern end of Cuba belongs later in the geological scale than the opening of the Modern or present period, and it is continuing at the present day. The sea is now engaged in forming a sea-cliff and narrow submarine shelf precisely like the raised shore-lines above it. In not a very long time, perhaps a few hundred years, another incipient uplift will be due and another and lower bench begun.

These few remarks have been given to stimulate the study of this eastern Cuban region, which will result in some important additions to our knowledge of West Indian geology. Undoubtedly other travelers have noticed these beautiful terraces on Cape Maysi and studied them from passing ships, as I have, but a landing should be effected on the coast and a close examination of them made, particularly of the two dark cañons above mentioned.

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JUNE 24, 1898.

#### CURRENT NOTES ON ANTHROPOLOGY.

##### ARCHIVE OF THE SCIENCE OF RELIGION.

THE second number of this journal confirms the favorable opinion created by its first issue.

Professor Siecke, of Berlin, begins a profound study of the god Rudra in the Rig Veda (the Vedic prototype of Siva), and one by Dr. Waser on the Greek Charon. Professor Steinthal discusses the associations of the toad in mythology, while the editor, Dr. H. Achelis, considers the theory of the origin of religion from social psychology. Several reviews close the number, one a note upon 'kynanthropy,' or the transformation of the human into the dog form. This is allied to the better known 'lycanthropy,' but is familiar even in American folk-lore, where the 'black dog' is still regarded as the uncanny embodiment of the Evil One. The article reviewed is by Roscher in the *Transactions* of the Saxon Society of Sciences. The *Archiv* is published by J. C. B. Mohr, Leipzig.

##### ARCHÆOLOGY OF CORSICA.

A REPORT by M. Caziot in the *Bulletin* of the Paris Anthropological Society (1897, Fasc. 5) contains new information on the archæology of Corsica.

Neither the caverns nor the fields yield traces of palæolithic man; but numbers of axes in polished stone, points of arrows and lances, scrapers and hammers show that in neolithic times the island was inhabited.

Pure native copper occurs in the mountains, and was exploited during the neolithic epoch. The quarries are still found, and many objects in pure copper must be referred to the late stone age. To this time, also, are attributed the dolmens and ancient graves where inhumation was practiced. Pottery in that epoch was scarce and rarely made.

Following the close of the polished stone age, those of bronze and of iron are dis-

tinctly marked, represented in history by the successive conquests of the Etruscans, Romans and Merovingians. Megalithic monuments and remains of ancient walled cities attest the conflicts of these possessors of the land.

#### THE RACES OF EUROPE.

DR. J. DENIKER, a high authority, gives in *L'Anthropologie* for April the results of his long and minute studies on the constitutive races of Europe outside of those who we know were historical immigrants (Semites, Finns, Lapp, Huns, Gypsies). He makes six 'primary' races as follows: (1) Blond, dolichocephalic, tall, in the north; (2) blond, sub-brachycephalic, short, in the east (Great Russia, eastern Prussia); (3) dark, short, dolichocephalic (Iberians); (4) dark, short, brachycephalic (Celts, Rhaetians); (5) dark, tall, mesocephalic (littoral of Mediterranean); (6) dark, tall, brachycephalic (about the Adriatic).

To these he would add several 'secondary' races, with the somatic criteria more or less mixed.

He does not claim that these are original types. They are all the result of admixtures of several lines; but the distinct prevalence over wide areas of the characteristics named justify the assumption of lineage.

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#### NOTES ON INORGANIC CHEMISTRY.

ATTENTION was recently called to the determination of the atomic weights of cobalt and nickel by T. W. Richards, of Harvard, in conjunction with Cushman and Baxter. The method used was the determination of the bromin of the bromids by weighing as silver bromid in a Gooch crucible. In the last *Zeitschrift für anorganische Chemie*, Clemens Winkler, of Freiberg, criti-

cises their work in three respects: presence of the oxybromid; possible presence of hydrobromic acid not removed by heating in nitrogen; use of Gooch crucible. He considers the method used by himself in his work a few years ago much less liable to inaccuracy. In this the electrolytically deposited metal was acted on by excess of iodine in presence of water, and the iodine not used measured by titration with standard sodium thiosulfate solution. Winkler's results are  $Ni = 58.86$  and  $Co = 59.51$  as against Cushman's  $Ni = 58.69$  and Baxter's  $Co = 58.99$  ( $O = 16$ ). It is noticeable, however, that while these results differ among themselves, in both cases the atomic weight of nickel appears to be less than that of cobalt, while the periodic law would seem to require the reverse to be the case.

In the same number of the *Zeitschrift*, Alfonso Cossa, of Turin, announces the discovery of tellurium in the concretions on the inner wall of the crater of Vulcano (Lipari Islands). These concretions are largely of potassium aluminate; thallium, cesium and rubidium also being present. In the same region large quantities of potassium fluosilicate are found. The amount of tellurium recovered was about 2 gm. per 3 kilos material. Selenium is present in the stalactites of sulfur, but in far smaller quantities than tellurium.

PROFESSOR LEBEAU has been experimenting on the action of the heat of the electric furnace on the emerald in a carbon tube. The experiments were carried out in some cases on as much as 100 kilos of emerald. With a current, 950 ampères, 45 volts, most of the silica distils off and there is left a melted mass with metallic luster. This is a mixture of carbids of aluminum and of glucinum, and silicids of iron and of carbon. Dilute acids dissolve the mass, giving solutions of aluminum and glucinum. If hydrofluoric acid is used, fluorid of glucinum is