

ter. Preeminently throughout, the manner is one of friendliness to the student; and, as one reads, one senses constantly the author's mental attitude of regret that our accepted terminology has been confusing or that the subject can not be made even plainer than a pike-staff. In the preface we read, "... most earnest efforts have been directed to show the inherent simplicity of some ideas . . ."; and it may truly be said that these efforts have been, in the main, remarkably successful.

The publishers have done their work well, and the book is excellently produced and unusually free from *errata*. There can be no doubt that this is the best text-book in its range and field that has yet appeared.

ALAN W. C. MENZIES

*In Northern Labrador.* By WILLIAM BROOKS CABOT. R. G. Badger. Illustrated. \$2.50.

*Among the Eskimos of Labrador.* By S. K. HUTTON. J. B. Lippincott Co. Illustrated \$3.50.

These are two notable books about a little-known country, which give valuable and interesting information as to the life conditions and the racial characteristics of its aboriginal peoples. The interesting volume by the American regarding the Indians of the central inland district is well balanced and supplemented by the English doctor's detailed accounts of the Eskimos of the northern coasts.

Most readers will find specially attractive the well-written, beautifully illustrated volume by Mr. Cabot, who prefaces his experiences by a brief, admirable summary of previous explorations. While he has many times visited Labrador the book confines itself to accounts of five visits, wherein he acquired some facility in Indian speech, and became familiar with the social, domestic, travel and hunting methods of both the Eskimo and Indians.

He outlines Grenfell's great work in a sentence: "He represents the modern humanities on a coast where before they were peculiarly lacking." With artistic appreciation he writes: "The bergs are gigantic crystalline masses, pure elemental separations, the like of which neither land nor sea has to show in any

other form. In some lingers the greater design, foundation, plinth and shaft. The gods of the North had their temples and these are their fragments." Vegetation and landscape, birds and beasts, fish and mankind all appeal to his observing mind.

The illustrations from photographs are excellent, and well chosen, adequately representing the land and the people.

The data obtained on Lake Mistinipi, an affluent of George River, as to the Naskapi Indians are valuable. Tersely they are described as untamed aborigines, of the stone age, of unmodified raciality, thin-legged, wiry, with horse-tail hair. The typical photographs and ethnographic details are of special interest.

The appendix on mice will be read by scientists with pleasure. His remarks, on the intimate interrelations between the humbler forms of life and seasons of want and plenty for the higher forms, will be noted with interest. The volume is a welcome addition to our knowledge of this inhospitable land.

Dr. Hutton's hospital service of five years among the eskimos of extreme northern Labrador has enabled him to produce quite a remarkable book. With these aborigines he has "come in closest contact in their homes, in their work, in their hunting and their journeys, in health and in sickness." More than thirty reproductions of photographs, with notes, afford clear ideas of the features, dress, and life conditions of these Children of the Ice. There are interesting descriptions of weddings, seal-hunting, walrus-killing, fur-trapping, reindeer-hunting, tent and igloo life, child training, etc. An adventurous touch is given in a sledge journey wherein the author was lost on a mountain-crossing, in a violent snow storm. In short the volume is filled with information as to the present condition of the eskimos of Labrador that will be most acceptable not only to the general reader, but to ethnologists. Specially noteworthy is the account of the semi-heathen natives of Killinek, the most northerly point of Labrador, with its decrepit old chief, Tuglavi.

The Killineks "are more weather-beaten than those farther south, as they live mainly

in snow-huts and tents, without fires, cheerfully enduring the most terrible climate imaginable." They are gradually coming under missionary influences, to their marked benefit.

It is pleasant to know from such authority that the eskimos of Labrador are living cleanly and under moral conditions, that they have elected elders who control quietly and effectively the whole community. Crime is practically unknown, and the success in banishing liquor-making is a notable instance of their power of self-government. Most persons will be surprised to learn that in literacy the eskimos of Labrador surpass the people of the United States, for, we are told, every eskimo child above twelve years of age can read and write. Every year an eskimo paper is published, and from time to time pamphlets, etc., in the native dialect. They are "a kindly, hospitable people, quick to anger and quick to forgive." The Moravian missionaries have wisely urged the continuance of native methods as to dress, customs and food.

Altogether these two volumes are among the most valuable that have appeared relative to American aborigines in several years.

A. W. GREELY

*Reminiscences of the Yukon.* By the Hon. STRATFORD TOLLEMACHE. Longmans, Green and Co. Illustrated. \$3.50 net.

*The Conquest of the Great Northwest.* By AGNES C. LAUT. New ed. 2 vols. in one. Moffat, Yard and Co.

The new and cheaper edition of the "Conquest of the Great Northwest" will be most acceptable to the many desirous of possessing this vividly told story of the Hudson Bay Company, with the preliminary voyages of Henry Hudson, and the rise of the opposition Northwest Company.

The passing of the Hudson Bay Company, and the supplanting of its fur-trade by the gold-seekers of the Yukon Valley, naturally transformed the economical and human history of northwest arctic America. Well told as it is, few now take special interest in the account of the Klondike rush in 1898, the up-building of Dawson, and the extension of

gold discoveries in adjacent regions. These events marked an epoch that has been told and retold in many scores of volumes.

Mr. Tollemache has, however, made a most acceptable addition to life in the Yukon in his reminiscences of eleven years of frontier existence. His experiences on the Pelly and McMillan rivers as a trapper cover a phase of frontier life of which little has been published. His accounts of the methods followed in trapping, and remarks on the game of the country—fish, fowl and beast—are contributions to an accurate knowledge of the natural history of the Yukon watershed that will be eagerly read.

Probably the most interesting chapter in the volume, certainly so to scientists, is that on color protection and big game, though a disappointingly small part is devoted to the color scheme. The account of the Indians is discouraging to the well-wishers of the aborigines, but doubtless correct in its general features. The illustrations are of interest in their presenting methods of trapping with which most general readers are unfamiliar.

A. W. GREELY

*Sewage Disposal.* By GEORGE W. FULLER. New York, McGraw-Hill Book Co. 1912. Pp. 767.

This book is, according to the author's preface, a resumé of the progress that has been made in this country during the last quarter century by one who has been intimately associated with the work. No one could be better qualified to write such a book than Mr. Fuller and no better book on the subject has been written. Its nearly eight hundred pages make a very formidable document, but the dismay of the reader will vanish when he discovers that the material is excellently arranged, clearly printed and paragraphed, and well indexed. Brevity has been sacrificed to clearness, and repetition has been employed for the sake of emphasis. The principal reason for the size of the book, however, is that the author has, as he says, drawn fully from the writings of others and from the professional papers and reports of the firm of