

a new bow-string; the ghost shoots arrows in the air and goes up with them.

For those who are interested in these *märchen*, less for the light they may throw on the problem of diffusion than for the evidence they contain of the beliefs and customs of the Caddo, the usefulness of the work is diminished both by the absence of notes and the lack of an index. For European readers, at any rate, there is a further desideratum, viz. some account of the tribe the tales of which are here collected; the American Folklore Society has set a good example in this respect in the volume of Skide Pawnee tales.

The seventy tales in the present volume, which is to be followed by others on the allied tribes, are largely concerned with the adventures of Coyote and other animals. The first ten are either cosmogonic or deal with origins of various kinds; we have the familiar story of the way in which death was introduced into the world, in this case by Coyote; the deluge legend is probably late, as the flood is sent as a punishment; in a parallel story the destructive animals, which lived at the beginning of the world, are destroyed by fire, mankind being saved by climbing up a rope made on earth and made fast to the sky by Crow. More familiar is the tale of the hare and the tortoise, here told by Coyote and Turtle; in these tales the distinguishing characteristic of the former is his stupidity.

*Meccanica Razionale.* By Roberto Marcolongo. Vol. i., Kinematics—Statics, pp. xii+270; vol. ii., Dynamics—Principles of Hydromechanics, pp. vi+126. (Milan: Ulrico Hoepli, 1905.) Price 3 lire each volume.

No better proof could be adduced of the general and popular interest taken in higher mathematics in countries outside Great Britain than the excellent series of manuals emanating from the firm of Hoepli in Milan. One great difficulty in acquiring a general knowledge of such subjects as analytical statics, particle and rigid dynamics, and hydrodynamics arises from the voluminous character of the principal treatises available as text-books. Most of the English standard works on such subjects were originally smallish single volumes, but they have in the course of various editions grown in size until they have reached to two large and bulky volumes. Anyone who can read Italian can now, at a cost of five shillings, obtain in Prof. Marcolongo's two little manuals a survey of such subjects as vector analysis, polhodes and herpolhodes, the ordinary and spherical catenary, planetary motion, Lagrange's equations, the theory of least action, cycloidal and compound pendulums, attractions of ellipsoids, Lagrange's and Euler's equations of hydrodynamics, and the principles of vortex motion.

*Die Vererbungslehre in der Biologie.* By Dr. H. E. Ziegler. Pp. 74; with 59 figures in the text and 2 plates. (Jena: Gustav Fischer, 1905.)

This little work represents a fairly successful effort to put in simple language the complex problems of heredity so far as they have yet been analysed. The author discusses the evidence that cytology has been able to furnish in connection with the theories of variation, and he especially deals with the views of Weismann and of De Vries as to the meaning of variation as expressed in terms of the cell. His attitude towards the mutation theory of De Vries is rendered clear by the following sentence from p. 69, "Wenn man nicht auf dem Standpunkt der 'intracellulären Pangenesis' steht, so kann man nicht einsehen, warum zwischen kleinen und grossen Abänderungen, also zwischen allmählicher und stossweiser Veränderung, eine strenge grenze gezogen werden soll." But the question here raised is not one dependent on theory or hypothesis; it is a question

of fact, and the existence of opposite opinions merely demands a more thorough investigation at the hands of persons unbiased by prejudice. Perhaps, as was formerly the case with the inheritance of the so-called "acquired characters," much of the prevalent opposition to the theory of mutation rests on a misunderstanding of the main idea embodied in the word itself.

*An Analysis of Human Motive.* By F. Carrel. Pp. viii+222. (London: Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent and Co., Ltd., 1905.) Price 5s. net.

This volume discusses the six predominant motives which influence man, viz., those of sustenance, sex, pleasure, sympathy, self-love, and religion; examines slightly the conflicts of motives, the relation of motives to moral systems, and the like; and sums up the matter in a series of conclusions which is not entirely destitute of merit.

But the work as a whole is disappointing. The sentences are lumbering and long, sometimes twelve lines long; there are no indications that the author has read very widely, nor is any remarkable insight displayed. Felicitous illustration would have lightened many a page; but of illustration there is almost nothing. The obvious has no terrors for our author, and so the satirical rogue frequently indulges in slanders like the following:—"The pleasure motive may lead persons to pass time in witnessing theatrical performances, and when the taste has been formed and the habit acquired, to spend more of their resources upon such amusements than their means justify." Split infinitives and the use of "practise" as a noun do not lead one to rank the writer as an authority on English. One statement seems defective in mathematical accuracy:—"In provincial towns the proportion of men to women (among church-goers) is twelve to a hundred. In London the proportion is two-thirds women to one-half men." It is difficult to avoid seeing a *non sequitur* in the following:—"The grief experienced at the death of a beloved relative cannot be long continued without interfering with the normal course of life and coming into conflict with its essential motives, and therefore we see that the violent acts of despair to which it tends, are not resorted to as long as the mind has not completely lost its rationality."

We gather that the author thinks much of Epicurus and of Spencer, but little of Aristotle's "Nicomachean Morals," which are, it would seem, of little more than historical interest. The writer continues:—"It was their want of precision that enabled them to be adopted by the schoolmen of the middle ages, as a basis for their ethical dialectics." That Aristotle and this author have very different views of what constitutes precision is true and obvious, but not a circumstance on which this author is to be congratulated.

*Deutscher Kamera Almanach, 1906.* Second year. Jahrbuch der Amateur-Photographie. By Fritz Loescher. Pp. viii+280. (Berlin: Gustav Schmidt, 1905.) Price 3-50 marks.

This is the second issue of this annual, and from its appearance it seems to be very hardy. The first-named title does not seem very befitting to the volume before us, as the "Almanack" portion is more conspicuous by its absence than presence. As a "Year Book" containing an excellent series of well written articles on numerous photographic subjects by recognised workers in Germany, England, France, &c.; novelties of the year; progress; exhibitions; list of German amateur photographers' societies; most important recent photographic literature, and other useful information, the book will be found of interest to those who are able to read German. The illustrations are good and numerous, and include a frontispiece, 47 full page pictures, and 107 others distributed throughout the text.