

GERMAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL PAPERS.

THE two volumes, xciii. and xciv., of *Globus* for 1908 are especially interesting for the numbers of papers dealing with South American ethnography. The more important of these are:—Dr. T. Koch-Grunberg's articles on fishing and hunting among the natives of north-west Brazil, in which the implements employed are fully and carefully illustrated; the arrow release is described, and details given of large communal fish-traps and private tackle, the blow-pipe, arrow-poison, and a variety of weapons in use on the Upper Amazon tributaries. G. von Koenigswald's series of papers on certain tribes of southern Brazil deal somewhat briefly with the Botocudos, and more exhaustively with the Cayuas, a nomadic hunting tribe of the Guarani family. Weapons, lip-ornaments, physical types, and other points are figured. Freiherr von Nordenskiöld contributes an account, with carefully executed figures, on tobacco-pipes of South America. He concludes that they occurred sporadically before the *Discovery*. The tubular pipe, the most primitive form, is discussed and compared with the North American varieties. H. Beyer gives an account of the Mexican "dragon," in which he states that the god Quetzalcoatl, who is identical with Xiuhcoatl, is represented not only as human, but as a feathered snake. He is the most important deity in Mexico. The feathered snake was probably a sign of the ecliptic or of the zodiac, and Quetzalcoatl would thus be not only the deity of time, but also, like Xiuhcoatl, the symbol of the year.

T. von Koenigswald's series of articles is continued in vol. xciv., valuable and copiously illustrated descriptions being given of the Corobados and Carayas, hunting, fishing, and agricultural tribes who have resisted European influence to a very large extent. Prof. V. Giuffrida-Ruggeri, of Naples, gives an account of Florentino Ameghino's discoveries in Patagonia, which point to South America as the home of the "half-apes." He discusses the remains of the various strata, but says that the question must now be left for geologists to decide. He defines the genus *Homunculus*, and figures the skull of *Homo pampaicus ameghinoi*.

The German colonies are represented in vol. xciii. by well-illustrated papers by Dr. R. Pösch on New Mecklenburg (New Ireland) and Kaiser Wilhelm's Land. As regards Africa, negro music and musical instruments in Togo are described in two papers by Smend, in which variations in the musical bow, primitive harp, drum, and trumpet are described and figured. An account is given by Missionary B. Gutmann of curses and blessings of the Wadshagga. Dr. H. Krauss contributes an illustrated article on the household utensils of the German East African coast negroes. Vol. xciv. contains a brief description (with figures) by Missionary C. Spiess of the secret Yevhe and Sè cults among the Evhe of the Guinea Coast. The origin of these mysterious objects, possessed of magical significance, has not yet been ascertained. B. Struck describes and figures some of the really able topographical efforts of King Ndschoya, of Bamum, West Africa. The Jabim shields of German New Guinea are described by B. Geisler, with illustrations of the method of giving a permanent warp to the shield and of the ornamentations on it. The hitherto uninvestigated natives of the Tanga Islands, off New Mecklenburg, are the subject of a short illustrated paper by Dr. O. Schlaginhausen.

Europe is not neglected. To vol. xciii. Dr. A. Baldacci contributes an account of the Slavs of Molise (central Italy), and Dr. M. L. Wagner gives notes of a trip in Sardinia (continued in vol. xciv.). An appreciation is given by H. Seidel of Robert Townson, an eighteenth-century traveller in the Tatra, Hungary.

Vol. xciv. contains a beautifully produced copy of Sebastian Münster's map of Germany, recently brought to light after long oblivion; Dr. A. Wolkenhauer gives a most interesting explanation of the astronomical devices with which the sixteenth-century topographer and astrologist accompanies his map. In the same volume Dr. V. Lazar contributes an account of marriage customs among the southern Roumanians.

As regards Asia, in vol. xciii. F. Grabowsky gives an interesting account of rice-culture among the Dayaks of

south-east Borneo. In vol. xciv. we have a description by Prof. G. Behaghel of his travels in the Chinese province of Fokien. Dr. Ten Kate furnishes further points of Japanese popular belief in regard to omens, dreams, astrology, and mythology. Dr. M. Moszkowski gives a short illustrated account of the modified Danigala and Hennebedda Veddas, and a more detailed description of the inland tribes of east Sumatra.

Among the folk-lore articles in vol. xciii. mention must be made of Dr. Emil Fischer's description of the Paparuda procession among the Roumanian peasants, which takes place on the third Tuesday after Easter or after continued drought, when girls go round the village singing the rain-song. He cites another instance of southern Slav influence in the Scaloian procession, when children, mostly girls, form a mock funeral procession about a clay figure in a coffin, singing a dirge; the Scalo, of which an illustration is given, is supposed to personify the drought which will end with its funeral. Prof. Mehlis describes the "Hexenhammer" of Dörrenbach (Palatinate) and other Neolithic implements still associated with thunder and magic by the peasants of those parts; he also alludes to the nomenclature of these objects in the Greek and Roman authors.

For Africa other than the German colonies, reference must be made to F. J. Bieber's paper in vol. xciii., on the political organisation of Kaffa, which lies in the south-west corner of the north-east African highlands, north of Lake Rudolf. With regard to Australia, vol. xciv. contains an account, by Frh. v. Leonhardi, of dog-figures of the Dieri tribe in central Australia; they are painted red and black, and are thought to represent the dogs of various tribal ancestors. These animal figures are apparently unknown among the neighbouring Aranda and Loritja tribes.

Of general interest are Dr. J. H. F. Kohlbrugge's discussion of red hair and its significance in vol. xciii. He compares the occurrence of erythrisms and albinism in mammals and man, and discusses the question of pigmentation. In conclusion, he expresses the hope that the question may be more thoroughly investigated in the future, and alludes to E. Fischer's work on the subject, published after his article was written. In vol. xciv. Dr. C. Kassner gives a number of illustrations, with brief descriptions, of Bulgarian clapping-boards, salt-mill, wells, church taper-stand, and a variety of objects of antiquarian interest. Dr. S. Weissenberg discusses the problem of growth in human beings according to age, sex, and race. Tables are given illustrating the comparative annual growth of both sexes, of Jew and Jewess, Russian boy and girl, English boy and girl, Belgians, also of annual increase in weight, height, and size according to external circumstances. In conclusion, he points out that the third period of life, from ten or twelve to seventeen or eighteen years of age, is the crucial time of development, as it is then that racial, sex, and individual differentiation sets in.

NEW CRUCIBLE SUPPORT AND FURNACE.

MESSRS. J. J. GRIFFIN AND SONS, LTD., have sent us for examination a universal crucible support. It consists of three iron rods, which pass obliquely through the legs of an iron tripod and are held firmly in the correct positions by the action of brass springs. The three rods have fitted over them quartz tubes drawn out into pointed ends. By simply pushing in or drawing out the rods can be adjusted to take either small or large crucibles—up to three inches in diameter. Quartz fusing at a higher temperature than platinum, this crucible support is very handy, and is much cheaper than using a platinum tripod. The heating of the crucible is also more uniform, as it is held in position simply by the pointed ends of the quartz tubes. There is therefore no necessity to turn the crucible about in order to make sure that the whole of its contents are completely and uniformly ignited.

We have received from the Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company a small crucible furnace heated with a Méker burner, and called the Méker furnace. We have tested the furnace and find it very efficient, as within a few minutes there is no difficulty in melting copper. The main features of the new burner are the careful and exact pro-