The most western group of the immigrant Melanesians are the Roro and Mekeo people of the St. Joseph River, with whom are closely related the Pokao and Kapatsi between Hall Sound and Cape Suckling. In chapters xvii.–xxxi. the social relations and family life of the Roro are detailed, with an account of the clans and village organisation of the Mekeo, and a note on Pokao. This region is characterised by the greater importance attached to the right than to the left side in ceremonial matters, and by the prominence of geometrical design in the decorative art. Among the Mekeo there are traces of mother-right, though descent is patrilineal. A prominent feature in the Mekeo village is the highly decorated *ufu*, or club-house.

FIG. 2.—Popungapi *ufu* of Rarai Village. From "The Melanesians of British New Guinea."

The Massim people of the east are more homogeneous than the western Papuo-Melanesians. Dr. Seligmann makes two divisions, the northern in the Trobriands, Marshall-Bennet, Woodlark, Laughlan, and some smaller islands, the southern in the south-east peninsula of New Guinea between the south shore of Milne Bay and Goodenough Bay, with some of the Louisiades. Each division has its distinctive features. In the north there is a higher cephalic index and cranial capacity, a hereditary chieftainship, and absence of cannibalism. Both sections are remarkable for the building and use of large sea-going canoes, and the characteristic Massim decorative art reaches its highest development in the ornamental prows of these vessels in the north. The author's account of the sociology of the southern Massim includes a collection of folk-tales. The people live in hamlet-groups, the inhabitants of which are more or less closely related by birth or marriage. There is also a peculiar form of totemism in which the members of a clan have as totems a series of associated animals or plants, as, *e.g.* a bird, fish, snake, and plant, the number and nature of these varying in different places.

The northern Massim are described in similar detail as regards the Trobriands, Marshall-Bennets, and Murua. Shorter accounts are given of the Louisiades and Mukaua on the southern and western borders.

The volume is exceedingly well illustrated. There are seventy-nine plates from photographs or native drawings. Most of the former are exceptionally good. In addition there are fifty figures in the text drawn by Mr. Norman H. Hardy, a good map, a glossary of native words, and a very useful index. Dr. Seligmann has produced an interesting, trustworthy, and scholarly work on a most interesting section of the Melanesian people.

S. H. RAY.

THE CENTENARY OF FILIPPO CAVOLINI.

THE first centenary of the death of Filippo Cavolini, the great Neapolitan naturalist, was celebrated on September 12–13, the function having been arranged by the Society of Naturalists in Naples. Citizens, as well as the scientific and the political authorities, answered enthusiastically to the appeal of the society. The municipality and the University united, formed a powerful honorary general committee, the patronage of which was assumed by King Victor Emmanuel III. The chairman of the ordinary committee, composed of members of the Society of Naturalists, was the president of the society, Prof. F. S. Monticelli. The committee published an attractive booklet, giving a *résumé* of the life and works of F. Cavolini.

On September 12 the *aula magna* of the University was thronged by delegates of the Italian and foreign universities, by members of the International Zoological Congress, and by others who had been invited. Amongst the many supporters, apart from the Italian Ministries of Public Instruction and of Agriculture, we note those of many academies and universities of Europe and America, and also the Prince of Monaco.

Prof. Pasquale del Pezzo, rector of the University,

thanked the Ministry of Public Instruction, and greeted all who took part in the commemoration in honour of Filippo Cavolini. Commander Rodino presented a welcome from the municipality of Naples, and thanked the Italian Sovereign, patron of the commemoration. Prof. Paladino spoke on behalf of the Royal Academy of Sciences and Letters, recalling at length the personality of Cavolini as citizen and man of science. Prof. Camerano, rector of the Turin University, made an appropriate speech, and Prof. Apàthy, representing the Hungarian University of Kolozsvàr, offered the greetings of the foreign men of science. Dr. F. S. Monticelli, ordinary professor of zoology at the Naples University, then delivered a speech in which, having alluded to the life of Cavolini, and summarily traced his scientific work, he concluded:—"Filippo Cavolini was a biologist in the true and modern sense of the word, both in observation and in experiment; his work marked a new direction in the study of life, a direction that has been corroborated in later times, a direction which Cavolini, in his day, professed and practised."

"The perusal of his works, which will be re-edited by the committee, fully proves that a century ago he, precursor of the present time, experimented on the same lines as those of the present day. This man, to whom, with patriotic pride, we must accord the honour of the scientific discoveries which he first revealed, well merits the remembrance of his fellow-citizens in to-day's centennial festivities, in order that they, not forgetting our ancient culture, should recollect that in times less fortunate for Italy's destiny, Filippo Cavolini, honouring his country, maintained his country's name in science."

The rector afterwards held a reception in the great academic hall. In the evening the Society of Naturalists received the delegates in the Galleria Vittoria. The following day the delegates and congressists were invited by the committee to join an excursion by steamer to Capo Posillipo, to the Villa de Mellis, once Cavolini's property. President Monticelli, in the presence of a large gathering, consigned to the representative of the municipality a commemorative marble tablet, which had been fixed to the house in which the great naturalist achieved his work.

JOHN WILLIS CLARK.

BY the death of John Willis Clark, on October 10, the University of Cambridge has lost one of its best known and best loved members. Failing health had quite recently induced him to send in his resignation of the office of registrary of the University, as from the end of September. The interval allowed by statute for filling up this important post is only fourteen days, and it thus happened that his successor was elected on October 12, the day before his funeral took place.

J. W. Clark was to an exceptional extent a product of Cambridge, and the circumstances of his birth and training combined to give him, from early youth, an intimate knowledge of the University. He was born in Cambridge on June 24, 1833. His father, the Rev. W. Clark, fellow of Trinity College, was professor of anatomy from 1817 to 1866. His uncle, Robert Willis, fellow of Gonville and Caius College, held the Jacksonian professorship of natural experimental philosophy from 1837 to 1875. J. W. Clark was thus brought up in an environment which made him familiar with the University at an age when his contemporaries in academic standing of later years had not yet commenced their acquaintance with Cambridge. He was educated at Eton, and from there proceeded to Trinity College, of which he became a scholar, and later a fellow, having obtained a first class in the classical tripos of 1856.

On the death of Prof. Clark, in 1866, a professorship of zoology and comparative anatomy was founded, and the first occupant of the chair was Alfred Newton. At about the same time the zoological specimens which had been contained in the museum of anatomy, some of them dating from the time of Sir Busick Harwood, professor of anatomy from 1785 to 1814, were placed in a museum of their own, reinforced by the collections of the Cambridge Philosophical Society. J. W. Clark was the first superintendent of the new museum of zoology, and he acted in that capacity from 1866 to 1891, when he resigned the office on being elected registrary. During his tenure of the superintendentship, his own efforts, combined with those of Prof. Newton and Prof. (later Sir George) Humphry, gave the museum a character which was eminently suited for the instruction of students of zoology, and made it an educational instrument of the greatest value. Throughout these years Clark was on terms of intimate friendship with Prof. (later Sir William) Flower, at that time conservator of the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons. A series of specimens illustrating the comparative anatomy of vertebrates was formed by a mutual arrangement between the two museums, of such a nature that, for instance, the limb-bones of one side of a particular animal found their way into the museum of the College of Surgeons, and those of the other side into the Cambridge comparative series. Clark was fully impressed with the importance of illustrating the structure of animals in his scheme of exhibits, and the collection over which he presided was distinguished by possessing preparations both of vertebrates and invertebrates, which placed it far in advance of the majority of provincial museums.

During the whole of his period of office at the museum, Clark had, however, wider duties to perform. He found time to act as secretary to the Museums and Lecture Rooms Syndicate, a body which is charged with the care of the buildings, and, to a large extent, with the finance of the scientific and other departments. This was a highly critical period in the history of natural science in the University, since it coincided with the remarkable growth of scientific studies which was so marked a feature of Cambridge at that time. Clark's wise and capable management of affairs, and in particular the interest he took in supervising the planning and erection of the buildings required to provide accommodation for the new studies, have earned for him the well-deserved gratitude of all who have had the scientific interests of the University at heart.

The duties in connection with the museum and with the growth of the scientific departments generally would have been enough to find full scope for the energies of an ordinary man. But this was only one side of Clark's remarkable character, and some of his most notable achievements lay in entirely different directions. His highly valued services to the University as a member of innumerable syndicates and boards must be passed over without comment. The work by which he is best known to many students was connected with the history of the University. The monumental "Architectural History of the University of Cambridge," by the late R. Willis and J. W. Clark, was published in 1886, in four large volumes. It originated in a lecture given by Prof. Willis in 1854, and it was based in the first instance on the materials which had been accumulated by him. The work was taken over by Clark at Prof. Willis's death; and the volumes, as finally brought out by him, are a mine of information in all matters con-