

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1912.

AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGY.

*Putnam Anniversary Volume.* Anthropological Essays Presented to Frederic Ward Putnam, in Honour of his Seventieth Birthday, April 16, 1909. By his Friends and Associates. Pp. viii + 627. (New York: G. E. Stechert and Co., 1909.)

THIS is a spacious, richly illustrated volume, finely printed on Normandy vellum, consisting of twenty-six valuable contributions to anthropological knowledge, a noble tribute in substance and form rendered by friends and associates to a master. To the true master nothing could be more delightful than an exhibition of excellent work done by those who live in his light and follow his leading. Few and brief are the biographical and eulogistic remarks about the recipient of this magnificent birthday present, but one feels his presence throughout the book, and no formal eulogy could have been more eloquent than the last paper in the series, "Bibliography of Frederic Ward Putnam," by Frances H. Mead. In addition to very extensive "Editorial Labours," a list is given of 404 items of publications. *Si monumentum requiris, circumspice.*

The papers are formal scientific reports, and a bare list of titles and authors should serve a useful purpose:—The archæology of California, by A. L. Kroeber; ancient Zuni pottery, by J. Walter Fewkes; pottery of the New England Indians, by Charles C. Willoughby; the Seip mound, by William C. Mills; the fish in ancient Peruvian art, by Charles W. Mead; a study of primitive culture in Ohio, by Warren K. Moorehead; cruciform structures of Mitla and vicinity, by Marshall H. Saville; conventionalism and realism in Maya art at Copan, with special reference to the treatment of the macaw, by George Byron Gordon; the exploration of a burial room in Pueblo Bonito, New Mexico, by George H. Pepper; tribal structure: a study of the Omaha and cognate tribes, by Alice C. Fletcher; the dates and numbers of pages 24 and 46 to 50 of the Dresden codex, by Charles D. Bowditch; notes on religious ceremonies of the Navaho, by Alfred Marston Tozzer; certain quests and doles, by Charles Peabody; a curious survival in Mexico of the use of the Purpura shellfish for dyeing, by Zelia Nuttal; Gotal, a Mesalero Apache ceremony, by Pliny Earle Goddard; the Cayapa numeral system, by S. A. Barrett; stature of Indians of the south-west and of northern Mexico by Ales Hrdlička; notes of the

Iroquois language, by Franz Boas; outlines of Wintun grammar, by Roland B. Dixon; a new Siouan dialect, by John R. Swanton; primitive industries as a normal college course, by Harlan I. Smith; a visit to the German Solomon Island, by George A. Dorsey; the Pillars of Hercules and Chaucer's "Trophee," by G. L. Kittredge; notes on the Irish practice of fasting as a means of restraint, by F. N. Robinson; Dusares, by C. F. Toy; and the bibliography already mentioned.

It is very curious that with one exception the authors avoid the important matter of pre-Columbian periods and dates. They give excellent measures and oriented plans, with scarcely a word to show why such measures should be carefully made at all. The British archæologist thinks first and foremost of dates; in America the whole subject seems to be left very much in abeyance. About the only reasoned estimate of pre-Columbian times is given in the paper on primitive culture in Ohio. There three distinct types of culture have been made out, one of which is thought to be "at least eight hundred years old" (p. 147). The author remarks: "The natural history method applied to a study of these sites will go far towards establishing their age." This reveals "the open mind." On the whole, the restraint exercised by the writers in the matter of time-measuring is a very hopeful sign, and when Americanists will seriously consider the meaning of the coincidences and harmonies which lie on the very surface of most of the papers in this volume, their treatment of the facts will be as unhampered by badly informed traditions as that of the present facts discussed certainly is.

There are here and there some misprints, and there is one very serious defect to be mentioned. Here lies buried in Normandy vellum an encyclopædic mass of fresh facts of the utmost value, with slight hope of a resurrection. A quarto volume of more than 600 pages without an index!

JOHN GRIFFITH.

CERAMIC CHEMISTRY.

*Ceramic Chemistry.* By H. H. Stephenson. Pp. vii + 91. (London: Davis Bros., 1912.) Price 6s.

EVERYONE interested in the science of pottery manufacture will welcome the appearance of this little handbook. Mr. Stephenson is known to be a practical pottery chemist, and should, therefore, be competent to remove the reproach often made against the English that they have contributed little or nothing in the way of

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