

Bibliographie.

Die Herren Autoren und Verleger werden gebeten, beim Einsenden der Bücher zugleich den Preis derselben bekanntzugeben.

Messieurs les auteurs et les éditeurs qui nous envoient les livres sont priés de nous indiquer, en même temps, le prix.

W. W. Skeat and C. O. Blagden. *Pagan Races of the Malay Peninsula.* London, Macmillan and Co., Lim., 1906. 2 vols. XL + 724 and X + 855 pp. 8vo.

For the last few years, at any rate, the aboriginal races of the Malay Peninsula have had no occasion to complain of being neglected by scientific research. After a long period during which they were the subject of quite a number of individual observations (not indeed of a very thorough-going kind), there have now appeared, close upon one another, three larger works of a comprehensive character relating to them. The first, written chiefly from the linguistic point of view, was my work "Die Sprachen der Sakei und Semang auf Malacca und ihr Verhältnis zu den Mon-Khmer-Sprachen"¹ (1901); the second, Prof. Dr. R. Martin's great classic "Die Inlandstämme der Malayischen Halbinsel" (Jena, 1905), dealt more with the ethnology but principally with the anthropology of these races. The third, which now lies before me, contributes a mass of new anthropological but particularly linguistic and ethnological material, lays the whole of the existing literature relating to these races under contribution in the most comprehensive way, and examines all the available material thus put together in the most minute and critical fashion. It thus furnishes us with an exhaustive compilation of all that Anthropology, Ethnology and Philology can tell us about these important and highly interesting races.

It must not however be supposed that we now know all that it is necessary to know of these tribes and can therefore at this stage let the matter rest. The precise opposite is the case. Almost in the same degree as the work now before me furnishes a wealth of new facts, so does it reveal to us not only how full of gaps our knowledge of the subject still is but also how extremely interesting are the matters which here still await investigation. Through the work of Howitt, Spencer and Gillen, and others, the light of research has in recent years fallen particularly strongly upon Australia. The reader who glances even hurriedly through the present volumes will, however, soon realise that we have here a field of enquiry which is not inferior in importance to Australia, while affording much greater facilities for research at the cost of less expenditure.

Of these two fine volumes, which are generously adorned with a wealth of excellent photographic illustrations, the first and half of the second deal with Anthropology and Ethnology, and are the work of Mr. W. W. Skeat. The remainder, comprising the second half of

¹ In "Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde van Nederl. Indië", 60 Volgr., deel VIII.