

representative and responsible government to the dominions, but there has long been wanting a book from which could be learned exactly what were the relations between Great Britain and Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the Union of South Africa in the year the war began, as regards such matters as tariff preferences, imperial defense, and diplomacy so far as it affected the right of the dominions to make their own commercial treaties. These relations and their origin are well described in *The New Empire Partnership*.

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*The Men of the Old Stone Age, their Environment, Life and Art.*

By Henry Fairfield Osborn. New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1915.—xxvi, 544 pp.

The term "prehistoric" has changed its meaning in the twentieth century, and indeed as a technical term has well-nigh lost any meaning at all. Archeologists working over the remains of the classical cultures of the Mediterranean have pushed back the confines of knowledge, to fill in the outlines of that dim past which Niebuhr and Schliemann indicated when there was little to fall back upon but a critical sense and a creative imagination. Babylonian and Egyptian archeology have given us real history for many centuries of what was prehistoric from the days of Herodotus to ours. Pit dwellings and lake- or bog-villages in central Europe and Britain have revealed the character of that northern world of which the classical authors knew so little. So the scope of ancient history is no longer bounded by the literary sources of the antique writers. It now depends almost more upon the chance remains to be found by the spade than upon the familiar texts—at least as those texts were formerly expounded. But if history has ceased to be confined by the literate sources in the classical and oriental fields, it has also begun, as it were, at the beginning, and taken up the task of deciphering the origins, not simply of nations known to the ancients, but of the earliest human life of which any traces remain. The old stone age is prehistoric if anything is; but the story of what happened in those far-off millennia is being pieced together today so that we can at least follow its broader outlines almost as definitely as those of certain aspects of antique history.

Professor Osborn's book is an attempt to present this new knowledge to the reading public. It is not a book of speculative theories or interpretations for specialists, although the story is of interest to them; but both by the quality of the text, and by the sumptuous series of

illustrations—of which there are about 270—the general reader of the more intelligent sort is to be lured into these unfamiliar fields. Unfortunately, the preparation of a text to accomplish such ends is of extreme difficulty, for the terms which must be used to characterize the different ages are entirely unfamiliar. The Rome, Athens, Babylon, Thebes and Memphis of the paleolithic period are places like Mas d'Azil, near the Pyrenees, La Madeleine, in the region of the Dordogne, Solutré in central France, and Le Moustier again in the Dordogne. These centers of the old stone life give their names to the ages in which the type of culture flourished which is particularly characteristic of the remains found there ; so that one speaks of the Azilian culture as one might speak of Roman, Magdalenian like Athenian, and similarly Solutrian, Mousterian and several others. The terms are not the product of a wilful obscuring of plain facts, as sometimes happens in the learned world, but they open up eras so new as to demand a preliminary study of old stone geography. There should, therefore, be no discussion of varying theories as to the justification of these names or of their time-boundaries in the opening chapters of a book which deals with such a difficult subject. Such scholarly discussions should go into appendices. Nor should there be too much detail which went merely to establish the facts, when they were developing out of postulates. Such matter should go into footnotes. Professor Osborn has avoided footnotes and attempted to handle the whole matter in the body of his text. The result is that although one can see evidences of much painstaking effort to compel the text to be intelligible, it is clogged, of necessity, and is therefore hard to follow, unless one is already oriented in the subject. The illustrations, of which some are, as the title-page states, by the Upper Paleolithic artists themselves, others by the author's colleagues, go a long way to add to the human interest of the story. The busts which have been modeled with such care by Professor McGregor furnish especially notable illustrations. The maps, particularly those dealing with the geological problems, and the handy tables of chronological arrangement or cultural succession make the book quite self-sufficing. One need not turn to a small library of works of reference, as is often the case in such works ; the author has included all necessary apparatus to cover the field.

The character of the book has led to a review of its form rather than of its contents. In the main the theories followed are the less extreme, but upon one essential point there is a positive statement which challenges attention. The treatment of the Upper Paleolithic man begins with this assertion : " In the whole racial history of Western Europe

there has never occurred so profound a change as that involving the disappearance of the Neanderthal race and the appearance of the Crô-Magnon race" (page 260). This cataclysmic history, which replaced "a race lower than any existing human type by one which ranks high among the existing types in capacity and intelligence," needs more evidence than the prehistoric world can well supply. The fate of the Neanderthals is still uncertain and the type of the Grimaldi skulls may yet be found elsewhere. At present the most striking fact in the Upper Paleolithic prehistory is admittedly the emergence of this Crô-Magnon "race," but the student of the later history of mankind is inclined to doubt even the most direct evidence of complete racial extermination. The Saxons certainly were long credited with the most thoroughgoing example of *Schrecklichkeit* in history, but we know now that the Celtic blood has added its humors to the English constitution. History never repeats itself; it would be doubly strange if it were to repeat prehistory. But there is a strange appeal to the imagination in the implication of Commont that the new Aurignacian culture of this gifted race retouched the primitive tools of the western peoples whom they replaced—in the valley of the Somme! Perhaps the implications lead to a sustained doubt in the prehistoric Armageddon.

J. T. SHOTWELL.

*Concerning Justice.* By LUCILIUS A. EMERY. New Haven, Yale University Press, 1914.—170 pp.

In Charleston, South Carolina, stands a statue of Calhoun, bearing this inscription: "Truth, Justice and the Constitution." These are good words, words that doubtless the General Court of Massachusetts would not hesitate to write underneath a figure of Webster on Boston Common. It seems a pity that the use of such good words should ever lead to confusion. And more's the pity that any one should write a book about these words to make confusion worse confounded. This, unfortunately, is what the former Chief Justice of the State of Maine has done. Yet his book is not wholly in vain, for its confusion drives home the folly of using tools of expression that are devoid of precision.

This, however, is not Judge Emery's purpose in writing, for he places great reliance on truth and justice. Truth, he says, is uncompromising, unadaptable and single.

It is not a matter of convention among men, is not established even by their unanimous assent, and it does not change with changes of opinion.