

Thrakians to be Indo-Keltic. They are all Turanian; while the Philistines, whom he terms Hamitic, have been shown by Hitzig to be Aryan. However, it is a thankless task for one ethnologist to be picking at another's work, since, the world over, we are all at sixes and sevens. Mr. MacLean Sinclair's book is an admirable epitome, and I shall be glad to learn that it is extensively used in a very necessary branch of higher education.

Messrs. Drysdale & Co. contribute two volumes of Heinemann's Empire Library, fine tall octavos, in red cloth binding, of barely 350 pages each. One of these, *Conventional Lies of our Civilization*, is by Max Nordau. For a book written with an ostensibly good purpose, it is about the worst I ever read. The Imperial Council at Vienna has prohibited its sale in the Austrian Empire, and, although I believe in the freedom of the press, I cannot help half sympathizing with the Council's action. Its author is learned in a way and clever. As a pessimist he shows up the bad side of modern society, and the good he does not know, or, if he does, he believes, or professes to believe, it is a sham. The chief lies he deals with are those of Religion, Monarchy and Aristocracy, Politics, Economics, and Matrimony. He points out abuses patent to any fool, gives the holiest things to the dogs, takes away the world's bread and hardly vouchsafes a stone to replace it. Listen to this pretended wise man's judgment of the Bible, and judge if he be likely to be a safe guide in regard to anything else. 'Historical investigations have revealed to us the origin and growth of the Bible: we know that by this name we designate a collection of writings as radically unlike in origin, character and contents, as if the *Nibelungen Lied*, Mirabeau's Speeches, Heine's love poems, and a manual of zoology had been printed and mixed up promiscuously, and then bound into one volume. We find collected in this book the superstitious beliefs of the ancient inhabitants of Palestine, with indistinct echoes of Indian and Persian fables, mistaken imitations of