

among the most illustrious of recent literature—embracing Carlyle, Emerson, Holmes, Lowell, Longfellow, Bryant, Whittier, and more recent and less known writers. The criticism is sympathetic yet discriminative. Mr. Stewart is himself well known as a young Canadian writer (of St. John, N.B.) of distinguished ability.

*The Ethnography and Philology of the Hidasta Indians.* By WASHINGTON MATTHEWS, M.D., U.S. Army. 8vo., pp. 239. Washington, Government Printing Office.

The laws of language, which are also the laws of thought, are the same among all peoples. The philological affinities of the different tribes of men are among the most striking proofs of the unity of the race. Dr. Matthews has rendered good service to the cause of comparative philology by this treatise. He gives first an interesting ethnography of the Hidasta tribe, then a grammar and dictionary of their language. The verbs with their complex conjugation quite resemble the inflectional forms of the Greek language. The human mind amid the fertile vales of Attica and on the rolling plains of the Missouri follows essentially the same laws. Dr. Hayden, who has himself given much attention to Indian philology, considers this, with one exception, the most important memoir on the subject of the aboriginal languages yet published.

*Fur-bearing Animals of North America.* By ELLIOTT COUES, M.D., U.S. Army. 8vo., pp. 348. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1877.

Dr. Coues has been for twenty years engaged in the preparation of a comprehensive History of North American Mammals. In the prose-

cution of this gigantic task the author has largely enlisted the co-operation of the medical officers of the army and scientists of the Government Surveys. The present exhaustive memoir on the *Mustelidae*, to which family the most valuable fur-bearing animals belong, is a contribution to that history. It is beautifully illustrated by sixty figures engraved from photographs on wood, a method which secures absolute accuracy of outline.

*Birds of the North West.* By ELLIOTT COUES, M.D., U. S. Army. 8vo., pp. 791. Washington: Government Printing Office.

This is a large and closely printed volume on the ornithology of the North-west portion of the United States, which is largely identical with that of Canada. Dr. Coues is an acknowledged authority in this department of science and this treatise is one of the best and most thorough formal expositions of the subject. The study is a fascinating one and small wonder that Audubon, Wilson, and Coues become enthusiasts in its pursuit. The book is admirably indexed, which greatly increases its practical utility.

*U. S. Geological Survey of Wyoming and Contiguous Territories.* By Prof. F. V. HAYDEN. 8vo., pp. 511. Government Printing Office, Washington.

This is one of the earlier reports of Dr. Hayden, in which he unfolds the magnificent resources of the vast territories of the West. It is marked by the same scientific enthusiasm, picturesqueness of description and practical value which have characterized his subsequent labours in this field. The admirable engravings give additional clearness to the recorded observations and inferences.