

come the advance sheets of *The Aborigines of New South Wales*, by John Fraser, B.A., LL.D., published by authority of the New South Wales Commissioners for the World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, 1893. The complete volume will be brought over by the Commissioners, and copies of it will be sent to all our principal Canadian libraries, of which the Talker has furnished Dr. Fraser with a list. It is premature to speak of advance sheets of part of a book, yet even these shew that the learned author has been at much pains and considerable research in collecting trustworthy materials, and that he has presented these in a very pleasing and popular form. Dr. Fraser also sends me *Some Folk-songs and Myths from Samoa*, translated by the Rev. G. Pratt, with introduction and meter by John Fraser, LL.D. This well printed brochure of about forty pages, published by the Royal Society of New South Wales, is a welcome addition to Polynesian Folk-lore, and Dr. Fraser's introduction is by no means the least valuable part of the tract. I could have wished that Mr. Pratt had supplied the Samoan text, for comparison with his spirited translation, but the majority of readers would probably not care to wade through its grammatical forms. Another ethnological document is *The Eighth Report on the North Western Tribes of Canada*, presented at the Edinburgh

meeting of the British Association. It is a monograph on the Kootenay Indians of South-eastern British Columbia by Dr. A. F. Chamberlain of Clark University, Worcester, Mass., with an introduction by Mr. Horatio Hale. There are 71 pages in this monograph, which does honour to Dr. Chamberlain's energy, powers of observation, and scientific description. The Kootenay's have not yet been affiliated with any of the large linguistic families of North America. The peculiarly Mexican combination *tl* is common in their speech, but the Agtu and Kootenay vocabularies are not accordant. Dr. Chamberlain is a graduate of the University of Toronto. Mr. Hale is the author of the ethnological volume of the United States Exploring Expedition under Commodore Wilkes, and of *The Iroquois Book of Rites*.

Two magnificent additions to my library have reached me from the director of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington. One is the seventh volume of *Contributions to North American Ethnology*. It is a large quarto of 665 pages, all of which are taken up with the *Dakota - English Dictionary* of Stephen Reburn Riggs, edited by James Owen Dorsey. This most elaborate and complete work, the result of long continued, patient, arduous labour, brings the once numerous and wide-spread Dakota tribes, to whom our Assiniboin