

Grimm and Max Müller and our own Whitney and Trumbull have placed in our hands will give occasion for mingled pain and merriment.

There is another judgment which is somewhat more personal. It is cited above, and as it is not impossible that it may be the last of its type, it is entitled to particular consideration. It reads: "The most incautious linguistic inferences, and the most uncritical, cartographical *perversions*, are presented in *Eben Norton Horsford's 'Discovery of America by Northmen.'*"

I understand this to be an opinion concerning the trustworthiness of my methods of studying geographical problems. They are disapproved.

The author of this paragraph has just completed the editing of the "Narrative and Critical History of America,"—one of the monumental works of the time. The papers of a large number of specialists, including the editor himself, have been gathered, and the authorities bearing upon the subjects discussed have been sought out, referred to, and commented on, and the whole illustrated on a generous scale. This work had been preceded by a "Memorial History of Boston," on the same general plan. Naturally enough, weight attaches to the editor's opinions; and if it were to be estimated by the volume of work he has performed, it would deservedly be very considerable, and there might be some difficulty in fairly measuring it. But he has taken the trouble to make the task a light one. He has adopted and practised a *method of geographical research* somewhat in vogue, but which, possibly, will be hereafter regarded as peculiarly his own; and its value in science can be estimated by looking at its fruit. The weight which should be accredited to his judgment of my method will be seen by a comparison of the fruit of my method with the fruit of the method the critic approves and practises.

This comparison may be easily made. I cannot avoid it; and under the circumstances it will not be unseemly in me to allude to some fruits, already published (and others in press, or in preparation for it), of the methods I have pursued. They include —