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MR. ALFRED C. HADDON, in a recent lecture delivered before the Royal Institute on some of the South Sea Islanders and their habits, prefaced it with remarks thoroughly suitable to the movement which the formation of the Indian Aid and Research Society was intended to promote, and which it will be well for our readers to bear in mind. He said that the comparative study of institutions and customs of various tribes has led to brilliant suggestions, and has especially thrown light upon obscure facts in our own culture, and given a new significance to observances which, because they are of every day occurrence, are passed by without comment. This field of enquiry is one which has only recently been systematically tilled; but it promises a rich harvest of unexpected results. The detailed study of a single tribe or assemblage has great interest, as it puts one in touch with such varied subjects as the physical, mental and moral characters of these people; and the tracing out of their affinities requires wide study and careful comparisons. A patient research of this kind always opens up questions of wider import than the initial enquiry. Anthropological enquiries may not inaptly be compared with the methods of the palæontologist, especially in his study of the more recent fossils. Amongst the latter we find some representatives of existing forms, others slightly different from those we are accustomed to, others again which are quite dissimilar; and often of these only disconnected fragments remain; and it requires great patience and care-