

that it was not designed to cover all the peoples of the earth, but only those of Adamic descent. The proper names in the tenth chapter of Genesis, he argues, are not personal, but tribal and geographical, and covered but a small part of the earth's inhabitants. From the fact that the oldest Egyptian monuments represent the black and red races as strongly differentiated as they are at present, he concludes that the accepted Biblical chronology will not give time enough for that early differentiation, even from the time of Adam, much less from the time of Noah. He quotes Biblical statements which seem to imply Pre-Adamites, as the marriages of the Adamites, the curse of Cain, his building a city, the crime of Lamech, etc.

The theological objections to the theory of Pre-Adamites the author thinks untenable. A redemptive plan retroactive from Christ to Adam might be still further retroactive, as Dr. Whedon admits; and, even as Bishop Marvin, Chalmers and Brewster agree, might have extra-mundane efficacy. Our author stoutly maintains the origin of man from a common stock, of which the Adamite is the highest development, as the Negro, Mongoloid and other races are earlier and inferior stages of development. Dr. Winchell devotes much attention to the ethnology and dispersion from a common centre—the sunken continent of Lemuria, in the Indian Ocean—of the various Pre-Adamite races, illustrated by an admirable ethnographic chart. As regards the antiquity of even the Pre-Adamites, cavemen, stone-folk, etc., he joins with Southall in refuting the demand for a very long period made by Lyell, Lubbock, and their school; though he claims, under a revised Biblical chronology, for the Adamite a period twice or thrice as long as is generally accorded.

Our verdict on the theory of this book must be that of a Scottish jury—"not proven." The claim of the title-page we think too positive. It is not to our mind a "demonstration," but rather an argument for a strong probability of the existence

of Pre-Adamite races. While strong and clear and cogent in his reasoning, from a scientific basis, he is less successful in his textual criticism of the early Oriental documents bearing on the case.

Words and their Uses, Past and Present: A Study of the English Language. By RICHARD GRANT WHITE. Cr. 8vo., pp. 467. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$2.25.

Every-day English: A Sequel to "Words and their Uses." Same author and publishers. Cr. 8vo., pp. 512. Price \$2.25.

Few subjects will better repay minute and careful study than our wonderful English speech. From words can be reconstructed much of the history of the race, as from a few fossil bones a palæontologist can reconstruct an extinct creation; or, rather, words are living things, instinct with the spirit and activity of the age. Mr. Richard Grant White is, we judge, the foremost American philologist—not in the sense of being a dull, pedantic grammarian, but in his shrewd observation of the use and abuse of words in common speech and writing. There are few who cannot learn much from his keen criticisms, whether they may at all times agree with them or not.

The success of these books may be judged from the fact that the first of them has already reached a seventh edition. The range of topics is indicated in the titles of some of the chapters, as: Newspaper English, Big Words for Small Thoughts, Misused Words, Words that are not Words, The Grammarless Tongue, *Jus et Norma Loquendi*, British English and American English, Shall and Will, Reformed Spelling, Common Misusages, The use of Cant, Slang, etc. It requires the utmost vigilance on the part of cultured critics like Mr. White to prevent our language becoming utterly corrupted by the slipshod English of penny-a-liners and interviewers, and through the slashing, dashing newspaper writing of the day. We can-