

and Scotch emigrants, employed in the civil and military service or on the plantations. The Asiatics of Ceylon are the Veddahs, the Singalese, the Tamils, the Moors, and the Malays. The Veddahs are hunters, and are supposed to be the aborigines of the island. The Tamils of Ceylon belong to the same race as the Tamils of Southern India, and consist either of those who have been on the island for centuries or who are recent emigrants. They are to be chiefly found in the north-east portion of the island, and their two great capitals are Jaffna and Trincomala. Their main occupation is agricultural. The coolies are the labourers of the island. They cross over in large numbers from the continent during the coffee-season. The Singalese are the inhabitants proper of Ceylon, and range themselves under the heads of Kandians, low-country Singalese, and Rhodiahs. The Kandians are the inhabitants of the hill-country, and are a hardy robust race, never till recently intermingling with their low-country brethren. Their language is made up of three component parts.—Elu (a Singalese pure), the Pali, and the Sanskrit. They possess an extensive literature, and their religion is Bhuddism. The low-country Singalese are either Buddhists, Roman Catholics, or Protestants. The influence of Roman Catholicism is very great, and the people are divided into classes after their occupations. The Malay population of the island is small, and the inhabitants form the Ceylon Rifle Regiment. They are faithful soldiers, brave and obedient; and in their religion thorough Mahommedans. The Moors are the small traders and shopkeepers of the island.

On the Anatomical Characters of the Skull found by Mr. Duckworth.

By WILLIAM TURNER, M.B., F.R.S.E.

A description of the form and general characters of this cranium was given, one of the most interesting features connected with it being its resemblance to the much-discussed "Engis" skull, of which it might almost be considered to be a reduced copy.

On the Varieties of Men in the Malay Archipelago.

By ALFRED R. WALLACE, F.R.G.S.

In the Malay Archipelago are found two very strongly contrasted races—the Malays and the Papuans. The former inhabit the great western islands, Sumatra, Java, Borneo, and Celebes; the latter New Guinea and the adjacent small islands. The typical Malays are of a light brown colour, resembling cinnamon or lightly roasted coffee; they have constantly straight black and rather coarse hair, little or no beard, and generally smooth hairless bodies; they are of a low stature, rather strongly made, with short thick feet and small delicate hands. The face is broad, the eyebrows flat, the nose small, well-formed, with the nostrils somewhat exposed; the lips broad and well cut, the mouth large but not projecting. In character the Malay is impassive, reserved, and bashful. His feelings of surprise, admiration, or fear are not readily manifested, and he has little appreciation of the sublime or beautiful. He is somewhat taciturn, is deliberate when he speaks; he but seldom laughs, nor does he openly express his gratitude for a favour. He revenges an insult more quickly than an injury. He is honest and trustworthy in many matters, but prides himself upon his capacity for lying. His intellect is but mediocre; he is deficient in the energy necessary to acquire knowledge, and his mind seems incapable of following out any more than the simplest combinations of ideas. He is quick in acquiring mechanical arts, and therefore makes a good servant for simple routine duties.

The Papuan is, in many respects, the opposite of the Malay. In colour he is a deep sooty brown or black; his hair is very peculiar, being harsh, dry, and frizzly, growing in little tufts, which in youth are short and compact, but which in adults often grow out so as to form a compact frizzly mop, nearly a yard in diameter. He is bearded, and his arms, legs, and breast are more or less hairy. The Papuan is taller than the Malay, and, perhaps, equal to the average of Europeans; the face is elongate, and the hands and feet rather large; the forehead is flat, the brows very prominent; the nose large, long, and arched, with the nostrils hidden by the overhanging tip. The face has thus a Semitic character, which is perceptible even in

the children. The moral characteristics of the Papuan separate him widely from the Malay. He is impulsive and demonstrative in speech and action. His emotions and passions are expressed in shouts and laughter, in yells and frantic leaping. He is noisy and boisterous in speech and action, both at home and before strangers. Of his intellect less is known, but it seems at least equal and probably superior to that of the Malay. He has a love of art, decorating his canoe, his house, and almost every domestic article with elaborate carving. It must be granted, therefore, that these two races are most strongly contrasted; and if mankind can be classed at all in distinct varieties, the Malay and the Papuan must certainly be kept separate. Besides these well-marked races are the inhabitants of the intermediate islands of the Moluccas and Timor, which, though differing in some degree from both, may yet, in almost every case, be classed with one or the other of them. The Negritos of the Philippines, and the Semangs of Malacca, differ in most important characters from the Papuan races, with which they have hitherto been classed, and must be considered to have Asiatic rather than Polynesian affinities. The recent evidence of the antiquity of man, and his having survived geological changes and the extinction of many species of Mammalia, introduces a new element into ethnographical researches, and enables us to speculate more freely on the derivation and origin of races. Mr. Darwin's researches on the structure and origin of the coral-reefs of the Pacific render it highly probable that great islands, or even continents, have recently sunk beneath its waters. The present distribution of animals in the Pacific islands leads us to conclude that this subsidence is geologically recent. The inhabitants of all the Pacific islands, as far west as New Guinea and Australia, have much in common, while they differ greatly from other races. Combining these facts, and boldly following their indications, we may divide the Malay Archipelago by a vertical wavy line through the Moluccas, so that all the tribes to the west of the line will be Malayan or of Asiatic origin, and all to the east Papuan or of Polynesian origin. This division is in harmony with that which has been shown to exist in the animal productions of the same regions, and obviates the difficulties attending every theory hitherto proposed as to the affinities and derivation of the Malayan and Polynesian races.

On the Central Argentine Railway from Rosario to Cordova, and across the Cordillera of the Andes. By W. WHEELWRIGHT.

This railway commences at the city of Rosario, in the province of Santa Fé, on the right bank of the La Plata, in latitude $32^{\circ} 56'$ south, longitude $61^{\circ} 30'$ west, and about 250 miles above Buenos Ayres by the channel route, which is navigable for ships of a large size, and has a depth of 16 feet of water; it possesses a very fine harbour and all the elements of prosperity, and is the great commercial *entrepôt* of the interior provinces. Here the steamers which ply between Montevideo, Buenos Ayres, and Paraguay, and those engaged in commerce with Corrientes and other commercial points stop, while almost a daily intercourse by steamers is kept up between this port and Buenos Ayres. From Rosario the railway will pursue its course in a north-west direction over those vast and fertile plains to Cordova, the central city of the plains, 247 miles, and thus will form the great trunk line, having upon its south and west the provinces of Mendoza, San Juan, San Luis, and the interior of the province of Buenos Ayres, whose high roads all concentrate upon the line of railway about midway; on the north are the provinces of Tucuman, Santiago del Estero, Jujury, Catamarca, and Rioja, with all their roads concentrating at Cordova, and thus forming one of the most extraordinary combinations to be found in the annals of railways. The railway is a work of great magnitude, and is intended to go over mountains at an elevation of 16,023 feet.

Notice of the Discovery of Three additional Runic Inscriptions in St. Mollo's Cave, Holy Island, Argyleshire. By Prof. D. WILSON.

On the Rivers of the Interior of Australia. By the Rev. J. E. WOOD.