

ican Ethnology and the American Museum of Natural History. No layman can comprehend those phonetics but they have the value of securely and accurately embalming the information until it can be extricated by other workers in the deeply technical phases of the subject. Half-tones, drawings and colored plates enhance the interest of Mr. Swanton's report.

---

**The United States as a World Power.** By Archibald Cary Coolidge. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1908.)

If one were disposed to be severely critical of this book they would be disarmed at the threshold by these two statements in the preface: "No one can be more conscious than the author of this volume how far it is from carrying out the too ambitious promise of its title;" and "This book was originally prepared in the form of lectures which were delivered at the Sarbourn in the winter of 1906-07 as the Harvard lectures on the Hyde foundation. Since then it has been entirely recast, but it doubtless still retains traces of having been first addressed to a foreign audience, the more so as I have striven to preserve a neutral rather than a specifically American attitude."

The spirit of the book is thus set forth in the introduction: "The United States may be a world in itself, but it is also a part of a larger world. There is no doubt that its power for good and for evil is very great. How that power is to be used is of consequence to all humanity."

The scope of the book may be seen from the titles of the nineteen chapters as follows: "Formation and Growth, Nationality and Immigration, Race Questions, Ideals and Shibboleths, The Monroe Doctrine, The Spanish War, The Acquisition of Colonies, The Philippine Question, Economic Considerations, The United States and France, The United States and Germany, The United States and Russia, The United States and England, The United States and Canada, The Isthmian Canal, The United States and Latin America, The United States in the Pacific, The United States and China, The United States and Japan."

From that table of contents it will readily be seen that there is much here to challenge the attention of readers in this far western portion of the Republic. Two quotations from the chapter on "The United States in the Pacific" will give the reader a hint of what to expect: "In the days when the Americans first assumed their place among nations, neither they nor others foresaw how soon they would turn their attention towards the distant Pacific Ocean, and play for a leading part on its shores."

\* \* \* \* "But the Pacific is not for any one nation to take exclusively to itself; and American boasts about domination, besides being irritating to others, are premature. Every one of the world powers has territories in this domain, and interests which it will defend to the best of its ability. Not only has imperial Britain widespread possessions in this ocean world, but it has a merchant marine many times larger than that of the United States, and a far stronger navy; and it has also great and growing children, Canada and Australia, who will have to be taken into account by their American kindred. And there are others to be considered. Both China and Japan, if in different ways, have entered into the drama of world politics, which they have already profoundly affected, and on which their further influence is incalculable. With both of these the present relations of the United States exceed in intricacy and in difficulty, when not in actual importance, those with any state in Europe."

The book is timely and well worth while.

---

**The World's Peoples.** By A. H. Keane. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1908. 434 pp.)

This is a popular description of the races of the world by a well known ethnologist who has published many important works within the fields of his special researches. The popular and captivating character of the present volume is revealed by the fact that it has two hundred and seventy illustrations from original photographs, gathered from every quarter of the globe.

The firmness with which the author seeks to deal with his large theme may be seen from this sentence in the preface: "This book therefore deals, not with faint probabilities, but with established facts, while here and there opportunity has still been taken to point out, for instance, the obvious origin of such universal institutions as tabu, or the totem, which have given rise to so much mystification on the part of speculators beginning at the wrong end."

There is no doubt that this book will become highly prized, the more it is known. In commenting on Professor Keane's larger work on Ethnology the London Academy says the author "speaks as a first-hand authority of the highest rank."