

Mr. HAMILTON LANG read a paper on the natives of Cyprus, with special reference to the ancient and modern pottery, and to the survival of old customs, and the modern use of implements of a very antique type.

An adjournment to the African and Cyprus Courts then took place, where the various exhibits were more particularly described by Dr. Mann, Mr. Webb, Sir James Marshall, Mr. Joseph Thomson, the Rev. Mr. Payne, and Mr. Hamilton Lang.

OPENING REMARKS *by the* PRESIDENT.

THE Anthropological Institute has responded with much pleasure to the wishes of the authorities of this Exhibition to hold a series of conferences.

The opportunity is unprecedented of meeting men from all parts of the Empire who are familiarly acquainted with its native races, and of inspecting collections of high ethnological interest that have been arranged with cost and pains in the various courts. It will be one of our principal objects to learn the condition of the native races at the present moment, and to gather opinions concerning the value of the influence of the white man upon them; whether it has been directed as judiciously as might be desired, seeing that it has tended more frequently to degrade than to elevate—to destroy rather than to build up.

Humanity, considered as a whole, has been largely modified during the last two or three generations by our action, and its change must progress so long as the regions habitable by white men continue to be more and more filled through their expansiveness.

There are also signs, long foreseen and yearly growing more evident, that this great and recent spread of the white races of Europe may ere long be accompanied by a somewhat analogous spread of the yellow races of China.

Ancient industries and arts are rapidly perishing before the advancing flood of alien civilisation. We must therefore be prompt to study whatever is still extant of early ethnological value, and should all the more cordially welcome the opportunities afforded by this instructive Exhibition.

Our chief difficulty in the way of doing a large amount of valuable work in these conferences is due to the narrowly limited time at our disposal. Its best distribution appears to be that which we propose to adopt, namely to hear in this room from gentlemen connected with the ethnological exhibits a brief

account of the most typical specimens, together with any other ethnological remarks they may wish to make, and afterwards to disperse to the several courts alluded to in the conference of the day. There we shall hear further explanations, which I hope will be prolonged until six o'clock, so that each of us may be able to go from court to court in what order we please, while the risk of too great a crowd at any one of them will be lessened. A methodical plan for the visit of a succession of parties to the courts in turn seemed impracticable. The adjournment from this room will take place at five o'clock. We must therefore dole out the hour before us in sparing allowances, in doing which the gentlemen whom we shall have the privilege of hearing have kindly concurred. Only twenty minutes altogether can be given to the Cape Colonies. We shall then proceed with the Western Settlements of Africa, and conclude with a brief reference to the Cyprus collection. I shall not take up another precious moment of your time before we begin with our regular work.

Bantus.

Mr. Webb, of the Cape Colony, has brought to you three men who are members of one or other division of the widely-spread Bantu race. He will point on Dr. Mann's map to the homes of their respective tribes, and he has laid on the table characteristic specimens of Bantu workmanship, including baskets, earthen pots, and some pretty small vessels, chiefly, if not wholly, used as snuff boxes. Some of the old-fashioned fetich objects are also exhibited. As regards dress, the effect of the new fashion of clothing the person is shewn by the ornamented skin of new design which is now thrown over the ancient complete female dress. The sticks they are so fond of covering with ornamentation are now occasionally carved with figures representing white men.

Two of their old-fashioned musical instruments are here. One of these is especially curious, and it is extremely difficult to acquire the knack of sounding it. A strip of membrane, at the end of tightly stretched string, lies over a hole, and the sucked-in air sets it in vibration. The other is a bow with a gourd as a resonator. The string is struck with a stick.

[These instruments were played on by the natives.]

Bushmen.

I will now turn to the half-caste Bushmen, of whose race hardly any pure specimens now remain. I myself, very many years ago, have passed days encamped among them, on the

same journey in which I explored Damara land, that country which has recently passed under German protection, and I retain the liveliest recollections of their too-much-overlooked good points, and especially of their ingenuity, dexterity, and nattiness.

I do not know that their strength, which has been variously estimated, has ever been measured. So for the sake of procuring a solitary instance, I will ask Mr. Webb to persuade the Bushman to exert his greatest strength of squeeze upon the very instrument with which, during the Health Exhibition in these same courts, I had the strength tested of nearly 10,000 persons, and we shall soon see how he ranks among them.

I should say that his height has already been determined to be 4 ft. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ in., and his weight, 8 stone or 112 lbs.

[On trial, his greatest power of squeeze with the right hand proved to be 54 lbs., and that with the left to be 60 lbs. Also, his greatest power of drawing, as an archer draws his bow, was 58 lbs.]

It appears from this that the man is barely of the average strength of an Englishman, even when allowance is made for his small weight. An average male sight-seer at the Health Exhibition weighed 143 lbs; his squeeze with the strongest hand was 85 lbs., and his drawing power 74 lbs. At this rate, the half-caste Bushman who weighs 112 lbs., ought to squeeze 67 lbs., and to draw 58 lbs., whereas his performance is only 60 and 58.

REMARKS *on some of the RACES of SOUTH AFRICA represented at the EXHIBITION.*

By the late DR. R. J. MANN.

Dr. Mann, in response to Mr. Galton's invitation, said that the group of Kafirs to which he was asked to draw the attention of the meeting was that which was situated between the range of the Drakenberg Mountains and the sea. A century or so ago it consisted of a large number of small tribes, each under its own chieftain. They could hardly be spoken of as aboriginal inhabitants, as they had obviously migrated from the north in not very remote times. They were practically now distributed into five tribes, the numerous small tribes having disappeared. These were the people known as the Amatonga, most towards the north; then the Amaswazi; next the Amazulu; and finally the Amaponda and Amakoza, being most towards Cape Town. The chief type of these tribes is the well-known Amazulu. It is now a powerful group, as is