

there are many features which detract from its general merits. We might point out, for example, that the description given of the important group Protracheata is insufficient, and the statement that the animals included in it are viviparous is erroneous. The classification of the Pelecypoda adopted in the text is old-fashioned and by no means the best.

The statement on p. 206 that in Ciliata there is a micronucleus is misleading. It should be one or more micronuclei. These and many other general statements are unsatisfactory. The book, moreover, is disfigured by numerous misprints. Such a misprint as *Afrida* (p. 644) may not be of much consequence, but the misprints in the names of animals, such as *Mytilidæ* (p. 367), *Chelefer* (p. 450), *Machrocheiroptera* (p. 638), *Strongylocentratus* (p. 345), *Saxicara* (p. 367), and a great many others cannot but mislead the elementary student of zoology.

*A Guide to the Antiquities of the Bronze Age in the Department of British and Mediaeval Antiquities, British Museum.* Pp. xii+159; 148 figures, 10 plates. (London: British Museum, 1904.) Price 1s.

THE members of the staff of the British Museum who are responsible for the "Guide to the Antiquities of the Bronze Age," which has just been published, are to be congratulated on having provided the public with a most excellent little manual which is not merely a guide to the collections in our National Museum, but is at the same time a convenient text-book on the Bronze age. There had long been a lack of authoritative handbooks on archaeology in English, and in this respect we were at a disadvantage compared with certain other countries in Europe. Thanks to the energy and knowledge of Mr. C. H. Read and his colleagues and to the liberality of the trustees, we are now provided with two well written, precise, and copiously illustrated shilling books which supply this deficiency for the Stone and Bronze ages, and we are glad to note that a volume on the Iron age is in course of preparation.

In the closely packed twenty-six pages of the introduction we have a succinct account of the evidence for a Bronze age and its relative chronology; the existence of an antecedent Copper age is discussed, and it is admitted that some countries do possess a distinct Copper age. The author leans to the view that bronze was first discovered in China in the fifth millennium B.C. The Aryans are treated to a brief discussion, and the position is taken "that the Aryan language was forced upon the aboriginal inhabitants of Europe towards the end of the Neolithic period by a stalwart race with short skulls and fair hair, who radiated from some point in south-east Europe . . . the new comers are sometimes known as the Alpine race."

The bulk of the little book is taken up not with a mere catalogue of objects, but with an instructive guide to the objects in the collection, and for the further elucidation of the culture of the Bronze age descriptions and illustrations are given of hut-circles, brochs, and a barrow. A considerable amount of space is taken up with objects from various countries on the Continent, and by this means the finds in our own islands can be placed in their relative position in the cultural history of Europe. The numerous illustrations in this book are carefully chosen and well executed, and the book can be highly recommended to curators, students, and the general public.

*The Care of Animals.* By N. S. Mayo, M.S., D.V.S. (Rural Science Series). Pp. xvi+459. (New York: The Macmillan Company; London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1903.) Price 5s. net.

THE agricultural reader who possesses Prof. Jordan's admirable text-book "The Feeding of Animals" will

NO. 1800, VOL. 69]

welcome this addition to the "animals" section of the Rural Science Series. The writer, Dr. N. S. Mayo, professor of veterinary science in the Kansas State College, indicates his standpoint in the following two sentences taken from the preface. "The day of the 'horse-doctor' book is passing. Prevention, sanitation, careful handling are more important than mere medication."

The first section of the volume, treating of the general care of animals, is a little disappointing. There is much common sense, but there is also a suspicion of padding. The illustrations of farm livestock in chapter i. have no particular point, and one feels that a dozen pages of illustration and letterpress transferred from the first three chapters to the chapter on veterinary obstetrics would have been an advantage. When the writer comes to his own subject, the care of sick animals, there is a great improvement, and 400 pages are filled with just the kind of information that the stock-owner wishes to have. The chapters on the indications of disease and the nursing of sick animals are excellent. The descriptions of ailments, though quite free from medical terms, are pointed and so clear that even in the absence of professional assistance the farmer is likely to be able to recognise many of the diseases. The advice given is plain but guarded. The writer does not forget that there are medicines which may do harm, and he has given special prominence to the use of simple remedies; he urges the owner of valuable stock to take no risks, and when in doubt to consult a skilled veterinarian. For those unable to do this there is a short chapter on common drugs, doses and recipes. The book is likely to be popular in the British colonies, and its usefulness for the colonist would be increased if the sections on drugs and recipes were extended. In its present form, however, this addition to our agricultural text-books deserves popularity. To the stock-owner whose province it is to "nurse" rather than to "treat" the sick animal Prof. Mayo's volume will be most useful, and should be most welcome.

*A Text-book of Ceramic Calculations, with Examples.*

By W. Jackson, A.R.C.S. Pp. xviii+67. (London: Longmans, Green and Co., 1904.) Price 3s. 6d. net.

THIS little book is designed to supply students in classes in pottery and porcelain manufacture with a collection of problems and examples to illustrate the application of mathematical and chemical methods to the solution of the problems with which the potter is constantly confronted in his work. The preliminary lists of chemical substances—with their formulæ, atomic or molecular weights, and specific gravities—and of minerals important from the potter's point of view should prove useful. The heading on pp. 12-14, "List of Elements," is unfortunate, seeing that the substances tabulated are mostly compounds. More exercises for the student to work out might have been supplied with advantage, for instance, to chapter ix. one problem only seems to be given.

*Botany Rambles.* Part i. In the Spring. Pp. iv+120. (London: Horace Marshall and Son, 1904.) Price 10d.

THE anonymous writer of this book for children gives the following excellent advice to the youngster beginning to read the little volume: "If you have not time to read this little book and go out as well, then don't read it, but go out instead." The information provided is given in clear, simple language, and is of a kind that a sympathetic adult taking a child for a ramble would strive to make the young botanist find out for himself. The photographs of trees in the book are very good.