

ANTHROPOLOGY.  

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In considering the promise of anthropology as a field for work by younger men, it should be remembered that the field is a particularly broad one. Other sciences find their object-matter and their opportunity in some special class of phenomena; anthropology deals with *man*, not only in general but also as a science-maker. Partly for this reason, the research is particularly attractive and especially stimulating and broadening; and other things equal the grasp of the specialist in this science ought to be—and generally is—large and strong.

Unfortunately the opportunities either for student or worker are less in anthropology than in some other branches of science. Thus far the subject is not well recognized in college curricula, while the pressure for development in other departments tends to retard its introduction. Just now, too, state, federal, and related institutions are concentrating activity along other lines, so that anthropology may be said to be temporarily in eclipse; and although this condition can not long persist, it is a present discouragement. The chief opportunities are those

presented by museums. Of course both naturalists and educators are aware that we are in the midst of an era of museum development, and that public museums especially are multiplying in number and extent far beyond all precedent—indeed the museum is the correlative both of object teaching in primary education and of scientific and technical training in advanced institutions, and thus meets a growing demand. Now it is noteworthy that the departments of anthropology in the museums of the country are particularly attractive both to casual visitors and to investigators, and that they are growing on the average more rapidly than other departments; which means that in museum corps the opportunities for anthropologic students average well. Of the branches of general anthropology, archeology is most attractive in museums, partly because of the wide-spread intuitive interest in human relics which draws visitors and contributors, and partly by reason of the abundance of material; next follows ethnology, with its preparations and other exhibits illustrating the types of mankind and the artifacts and customs by which peoples are defined and classified. There is a current tendency toward the differentiation of museums in two primary classes, viz., museums of art, including painting, sculpture, and other esthetic productions of mankind; and museums of nature and industry, comprising objects of natural history and all those objects and products of mankind not primarily esthetic in character. While both classes of museums afford opportunities for the would-be worker in anthropology, the latter is especially promising—for the industrial development of the world is of never ending and always increasing interest, and the human artifacts are susceptible of arrangement in series serving to satisfy the instinctive desire to understand sequential development, and hence meeting a large demand.

In one respect the field of anthropology is perhaps more enticing than that of any other science. In geology, for example, the great problems seem to have been worked out in such manner as to leave no function for a Hall or a Hilgard, a Lyell or a LeConte, a Playfair or a Powell; and it may be questioned whether biology affords proper scope for a Linne or a Darwin; for while the necessities and the opportunities are continually arising, they are connected rather with sub-problems than with the primary problems of the pioneers. Not so of anthropology. This science presents today primary problems in classification, in correlation, in tracing serial development and relation, in throwing light on the most fundamental questions of human life; and for the ambitious student, desirous of enlarging the field of human knowledge, these opportunities can not fail of attraction.