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Thomas T Ballmer, the editor of the present volume, was not able to complete his editorial work. He died under tragic circumstances. He was young, but his scholarly career within linguistic and on its borders was marked by creative power and productivity. Both these qualities are displayed characteristically in the present volume where new approaches and connections in the study of natural languages are presented.

We are grateful for the impetus he gave to linguistic research and we will miss him as a colleague and a friend.

J.S.P. Editor of the series