

## III. NOTES AND NEWS.

WE are pleased to hear that Professor A. A. Macdonell has been unanimously elected to the Boden Professorship of Sanskrit at Oxford.

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WE extract the following from the *Cambridge University Reporter* for 5th December, 1899 :—

The Vice-Chancellor publishes to the University the following Report which he has received from C. Bendall, M.A., of Gonville and Caius College, to whom a grant was made from the Worts Travelling Scholars Fund (Grace, 9th June, 1898) :—

OUTLINE-REPORT ON A TOUR IN NORTHERN INDIA  
IN THE WINTER 1898-9.

DEAR MR. VICE-CHANCELLOR,—In accordance with the conditions of the grant above cited I beg leave to subjoin an outline of the tour which I have recently completed, for the information of Members of the Senate, in the hope of being able to publish, as in connection with my similar tour in 1884-5, a more detailed account later on.

I landed at Bombay on 23rd November 1898, and commenced search for MSS. by conferring with Bhagran Dās of Surat.

I next visited, chiefly for architectural study, Ahmadabad and Mount Abu. At Jeypore the Digambara Jain pandit, Cimanlāl, not only gave me a full list of his valuable manuscript library, from which copies can be made, but also presented me with several MSS. I further succeeded in obtaining some Digambara MSS. through my old friends amongst the Brahmans of the city. From Jeypore I proceeded to Delhi; whence I travelled with short stays at Agra and Allahabad to Kāthmāṇḍu, Nepal, which formed the chief goal of my journey.

Besides the acquisition of MSS. a second main object in my visit was the fuller exploration of the library of H.E. the Mahārāja, of which I previously gave an unavoidably brief account.

Among several very interesting literary discoveries in this remarkable collection, I may here select two as of special interest: (1) fragments of a Pali canonical work written in a form of the

Gupta character; (2) of several Buddhist-Sanskrit works written in or about the fifth century A.D. The writing shows a striking resemblance to some of the early fragments of Indian origin recently found in Central Asia. Many of these leaves I photographed at the time, and I am glad to be now able to add that the most interesting of them have recently been sent to the India Office Library for my use, and for publication so far as resources may allow. I am greatly indebted to the Nepalese Durbar for this mark of confidence and appreciation, and to the Government of India for their intervention in the matter.

Continuing also my work on the chronology of Nepal I noted all dates of MSS. giving names of kings in their colophons; which I now propose to publish in supplement to the list of the kings of Nepal, given in my longer Report,<sup>1</sup> fourteen years ago.

As to epigraphic work, I discovered and copied some six inscriptions of the early period (5th—9th cent. A.D.), and I have either copied or noted a considerable number more of the succeeding centuries.

It gives me special pleasure to testify my obligations to the then Acting Prime Minister of Nepal, Deb Shamsher Jang Bahādur Rāna, who showed me not only personal kindness in many ways, but special practical sympathy in two respects: (1) in borrowing rare MSS. from private owners for my perusal; (2) by presenting me with two valuable MSS., one of which I propose with his approval to make over to the University Library, while the other, a unique work of considerable importance for the history of Buddhism, I intend shortly to edit. His Excellency further expressed to me his wish that the relations between the State Library of Nepal and libraries like our own in Europe could be drawn closer by mutually making known desiderata.

The second main division of my original programme was to make archæological enquiries in the territory of H.H. the Nizam of Hyderabad.

I accordingly proceeded to Hyderabad by the East Coast route, making on the way some search for inscriptions alleged to exist at several points, especially near Vizagapatam, as to which I may publish later further details.

In and near Hyderabad I was unable, owing to the somewhat advanced date of my arrival (Feb. 17th), to do much outdoor work; but I made several enquiries, which may hereafter prove valuable. My accomplished host, Shams-ul-Ulama Syed

<sup>1</sup> "A Journey of . . . Research in Nepal and N. India." (University Press, 1886.)

'Ali Bilgrāmi, Public Works Secretary to the Nizam, presented me with several Sanskrit MSS. for the University Library. Proceeding to Aurungabad in the same State, I visited, for the study of archæology, the cave-temples and monasteries of Aurungabad and Ellora. I examined carefully the chief group of caves near the first-named place, which are now somewhat neglected. As a result of my visit an important cave (No. iv), previously choked with rubbish, has now been cleared under the orders of my friend Syed 'Ali Bilgrāmi.

In Aurungabad I also found and partly examined two noteworthy libraries of Sanskrit MSS., hitherto unknown to European scholars.

After further study of cave-architecture at Bhaja and Karli I returned to Bombay. I left India on 3rd April, 1899.

I propose shortly to submit to the University Librarian a statement of the MSS. obtained and available at once or ultimately for acquisition by the Library.

I have also made a large number of photographs, which I am preparing for exhibition and for publication, according as opportunity may be afforded to me.

I remain, dear Mr. Vice-Chancellor,

Yours faithfully,

November, 1899.

CECIL BENDALL.

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## PHILOLOGY NOTES, 1899.

### I. ASIA: (1) *India.*

I. Mr. George Grierson, of H.M. Indian Civil Service, now on special duty in India for the purpose of compiling a full and complete list of the Languages of that country, has in 1899 published in London (Luzac & Co.) and in Calcutta (Thacker, Spink, & Co.) an important work, "Essays on Kashmīri Grammar," dedicated to the memory of our dear and lamented friend Dr. Georg Bühler of Vienna. These Essays have originally appeared in the pages of the Journal of the Bengal Asiatic Society for 1896-1899. The Language is of interest to Comparative Philologists, as, to use the words of Mr. Grierson, "no Indo-Aryan Language in her grammatical construction is so naked and

unashamed. A study of Kashmíri, therefore, is a necessary preliminary to any inquiry, which deals comparatively with the mutual relations of the modern Aryan Vernaculars." The Language had been previously represented by a useful little grammar from the pen of Mr. Wade, which is intended for those who seek to acquire a sufficient colloquial knowledge. Mr. Grierson's object is different, and is intended for linguistic scholars. As in other languages in North India, there are two Dialects of Kashmíri, the one used by the Hindu, the other by the Mahometan, who introduces Arabic and Persian words, which the Hindu avoids. This book illustrates the Dialect of the Hindu only, which represents a purer form of the original Kashmíri, in which all the old literature of the country is found. Two forms of Written Character prevail: the Arabic Character, modified by Persian usage, employed by the Mahometans, and the Sárada and Deva-Nágari Character by the Hindu. The Sárada is the true Alphabet of the Language, but Mr. Grierson for practical reasons has adopted the Deva-Nágari. To the 'Phonology' or 'Sound-Lore' a very large space in these Essays is consecrated, as it forms the groundwork of a rather complicated Grammar: once that is mastered, the 'Word-Lore,' and 'Sentence-Lore,' known to us as the Accidence and Syntax, are comparatively easy.

II. A letter from the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam, dated October 18, 1899, has brought to the Royal Asiatic Society a pamphlet of a few pages entitled a "Lushai Primer," called also "Mizo Zir Tir Bu." There is not a word of English in the Pamphlet, but it is printed at the Government Press, Shillong, and "by Authority."

III. By a singular coincidence, on the 11th November, 1899, I received from an entire stranger, Mr. Lorraine, a Missionary to the Lushai, a copy of a Grammar and Dictionary of the Lushai Language, prepared by himself and his colleague, Mr. Savidge. This is clearly a full and carefully prepared volume of 350 pages in the English

language, and the Lushai words in Roman character. This is also published at Shillong and at the Government Press, in the year 1898. The authors have returned from England, to which they paid a short visit, to the land of the Lushai.

IV. Our venerated Honorary Member has in the days of his old age put forth a volume, which no one but himself could have compiled, "The Six Systems of Indian Philosophy," by F. Max Müller. The aim and scope of this work are best indicated in the author's own words as "a description of some of the salient points of each of the six recognized systems of Indian Philosophy." As he points out, the almost entire absence of any chronological data makes a historical treatment of the subject impossible. The book gives a luminous exposition of the conditions, amid which Indian Philosophy had its rise, and shows how it owes to these so many of its unique characteristics. The author then traces the genesis of philosophical ideas in the Veda—the gradual development of those conceptions destined to play so great a part in the later philosophical systems of the country. Beginning with the system of the Vedānta, Professor Max Müller next sketches the main doctrines of each philosophical system in turn. Throughout he seeks to define as clearly as possible the various terms used and to throw light on the obscurer points of Indian Philosophy generally, though readily admitting the difficulties besetting the European interpreter in this respect. In the evolution of Indian Philosophy so many links are missing, that we must give up the idea of ever being able to reconstruct it in its original form, or trace back through all its gradations the development of a single, and that perhaps the simplest, Philosophical idea. Such, broadly speaking, is the conclusion of the author himself, though it in no way weakens his conviction, that here and there careful study may lead to the solution of problems hitherto regarded as insoluble. The book is distinguished by that lucidity of style and power of graphic representation so characteristic of all the author's writings.

V. Dr. M. A. Stein, the distinguished Principal of the Oriental College at Lahore, has forwarded to me a pamphlet of seven pages entitled "The Castle of Lohára," a reprint from the *Indian Antiquary* of September, 1897. Its interest is rather antiquarian, as it is alluded to in the *Rajatarángini* by Kalhána, an annotated translation of which by Dr. Stein is now passing through the Press. A brief notice is sufficient, as copies of the *Indian Antiquary* are available in the Library of the Royal Asiatic Society.

VI. "The Great Indian Epics." This little book gives within the compass of some 250 pages a concise and graphic account of the subject-matter of the *Ramáyana* and *Mahábhárata*. A sketch like this should appeal readily to that large class of people, who, with no knowledge of Sanskrit, yet wish to have some idea of the old literature enshrined in it. The scholar is but too prone to ignore the necessity of presenting these subjects in a popular and attractive form, and to look a little disdainfully on such 'compilations' as beneath his notice. Yet, in the present day, when a knowledge of the history and literature of India has become indispensable to the number of Englishmen connected directly or indirectly with that country, it is the writer, who can popularize his subject, rather than the scholar, who will be most sought after for information on these matters. The author, Mr. John Campbell Oman, Principal of Khalsa College, Amritsar, writes with an appreciation of the Indian epics and a sympathy with Indian ideas only to be found among those who, like himself, are personally familiar with Indians, their own experience of native life enabling them to understand allusions and views, which to the stranger would appear unintelligible or grotesque. The author wisely confines himself to a simple narrative of the plot and episodes of the respective epics, accompanied by brief introductory remarks elucidating these. The theories held by various scholars regarding the origin and history of the epics are touched upon, but there is no attempt to discuss them, such being outside the scope of a work like the present.

(2) *Asia except India.*

VII. "Arabic Self-taught," by C. A. Thimm, F.R.G.S. This book has been received from the Editor for 'review.' The Language is one of supreme importance, and spoken either as the sole Vernacular or used as the literary Language of Millions. It has also merits of its own, and deserves more extensive study. I insert the description of the work supplied by the Editor: it is a mere booklet of 92 pages, and the price is 2s.

The above has been carefully revised by Professor G. Hagopian, who has made various emendations and improvements in it. The work is an elementary and practical treatise on the language, the Arabic characters being used, with a concise Grammar and an English-Arabic Dictionary, together with a correct English phonetic pronunciation of every word and phrase; the transliteration being arranged in accordance with the scheme adopted at the last Congress of Orientalists. It is a most useful adjunct to the "Egyptian Self-taught," which only treats of the language *as spoken in Egypt*, for the benefit of Travellers and others. Students, therefore, will find the "Arabic Self-taught" sufficient to enable them to obtain an accurate grammatical and conversational knowledge of Arabic.

VIII. Mr. D. G. Hogarth recently undertook the very interesting experiment of inviting a number of scholars, each of them engaged in some special branch of archaeology, to contribute essays to a work, the purpose of which was to indicate to what extent recent archaeological research had affected our conceptions of Biblical and Classical literature. This book has now been published under the title "Authority and Archaeology, Sacred and Profane," and, while Mr. Hogarth appears both as a contributor and as general Editor, the names of Professor Driver, Professor Ernest Gardner, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Haverfield, and Mr. A. C. Headlam, also appear on the title-page. The largest single contribution to the volume is that of Professor Driver, to whom was

entrusted the first part of the book, dealing with "Biblical Authority," while by no means the least interesting portion of the volume is the short chapter contributed by Mr. Hogarth, on "Prehistoric Greece." In a work of this nature, which embraces the whole field of ancient archaeology, to attempt an exhaustive treatment would naturally be quite impossible; and the contributors have wisely confined themselves to giving a sketch of the main results achieved in their various departments of study. The views expressed in the volume have not been arrived at by any common understanding, and each writer is responsible for those put forward in his own contribution; but, within its limits, the volume has successfully achieved a rapid survey of the archaeological field, and will prove a welcome guide to the general reader, who, without special archaeological knowledge, is interested in the history of ancient civilization.

IX. "Zoroaster, the Prophet of Ancient Iran," by Professor A. V. Williams Jackson, Columbia University. Few scholars have done more to elucidate the many difficult problems connected with the Zoroastrian religion and the history and date of its Founder than Professor Jackson, who has now summed up in the admirable book mentioned above the results of his long and careful studies. Trained in the German School, he has succeeded in combining German diligence and accuracy with an almost French lucidity and conciseness of exposition; and inspired by the firm conviction of his teacher Geldner as to the historical reality of the Prophet of Ancient Persia, he has made the fullest and yet most prudent use of the 'traditional school,' to whom, especially to West and Darmesteter, we are so deeply indebted for a knowledge of the Pahlavi literature. Some of Professor Jackson's results have already appeared in various articles not easily accessible to the public; amongst these his essays "On the Date of Zoroaster" (*J.A.O.S.*, 1896), "The Ancient Persian Doctrine of a Future Life" (*Biblical World*, 1896), and "Ormazd, or the Ancient Persian Idea of God" (*Monist*, 1899) deserve mention. In his larger book on Zoroaster we



find for the first time a clear, full, and convincing presentation of a personality, so surrounded with fable and myth, that many persons have regarded him as wholly legendary. Professor Jackson has the great merits of being perfectly definite in his views, of presenting clearly and fairly the often conflicting evidences, of summing up with judicial impartiality, and of using all available sources. He endeavours to show (and [in our opinion with success], (1) that Zoroaster was a real historical person; (2) that he flourished from B.C. 660 to B.C. 583; (3) that he was a native of N.W. Persia (Ādharbayjān), but that his chief successes in proselytizing were in the North-East (Bactria).

X. In the Journal of our Society for 1895, I noticed at considerable length Professor Maspero's noble and epoch-making work "The Dawn of Civilization," edited by Professor Sayce, and the work of translation excellently done by an accomplished lady, Mrs. Edmund McClure. The volume was a large quarto, with Map and 470 Illustrations. It contained the result of the most recent researches in Egypt and Chaldea.

Since that date a second volume, equal in size, entitled "The Struggle of the Nations," has been compiled by the Professor, and edited and translated by the same hands. It relates to Egypt, Syria, and Assyria.

And now on December 2nd, 1899, the third volume is announced in *The Times*: "The Passing of the Empires," 850 B.C. to 330 B.C. This monumental work is, and must remain for some time to come, the most comprehensive and trustworthy account of the Ancient Eastern World, being compiled by the greatest living French Scholar in that particular branch, Professor Maspero, and edited in its English form by the greatest living English authority, Professor Sayce. I lay it upon myself to go carefully through vols. ii and iii, as I have already done for vol. i, but at the age of 79 promises are made, which cannot be kept. I only hope to contribute to our Journal the results of my perusal; for this reason I have inserted this brief notice of the existence of these important volumes.

## II. AFRICA.

XI. Grammar and Dictionary of the Bobangi Language, Upper Congo, West Central Africa; compiled by John Whitehead, Baptist Missionary, 1899.

The people, who speak this form of speech, are found along the South bank of the great River Congo, below the junction of the Kasai with the Congo, also along the banks of the Mobango River for two or three days by steamer, and in a certain other less well-known Region. It is also used by stranger tribes over a larger area, as a commonly understood means of communication. It is the most important Vernacular from Stanley Pool to beyond Bangála up-stream, and is freely used by the Authorities and Traders. Whatever literature exists, imported by Europeans, is in that Language. Attempt was made in 1888 to publish a handbook, and later on a Vocabulary and Grammatical Note; but the time had arrived for a more solid production, and this is now under our notice in the shape of a volume of 500 pages carefully prepared by the Author. A translation of St. Matthew's Gospel has also appeared.

## III. OCEANIA.

XII. The talents and the linguistic knowledge of Mr. Sydney Herbert Ray have been notified during the last year. Professor Haddon, of the Royal College of Science, Dublin, made a second expedition to Torres Straits, and was accompanied by Mr. Ray, who was thus able to strengthen his knowledge of the Languages of that Region. His knowledge of Melanesian and Papuan Languages is quite unique. The tour extended as far as Sárarak, and a considerable amount of material has been collected. Mr. Ray has already contributed to Periodicals, and learned Societies, no less than twenty-four articles, and we may anticipate a considerable number in addition. It is a pity that he is not placed in a position more favourable for his peculiar studies and capabilities than that of Master in a London Board School. More light is required in that dark corner of the globe, Oceania.

*December, 1899.*

R. N. CUST.

## Royal Asiatic Society.

### GOLD MEDAL FUND.

In 1897 the Council of the Royal Asiatic Society established a Jubilee Gold Medal, to be awarded every third year, as an encouragement to Oriental learning amongst English-speaking people throughout the world; and to meet the expense contributions were invited from those interested in the scheme.

A beautiful design was prepared, and dies engraved, by Mr. Pinches; the first Medal was awarded, on the report of a Committee of Selection, to Professor Cowell, and was presented to him by Lord Reay at a Special General Meeting of the Society, the proceedings of which will be found reported in the Journal for July, 1898.

The subscriptions (including interest on deposits) amounted to £298 13s. 6d., and the disbursements (including cost of die) to £68 2s. 7d., leaving a balance of £230 10s. 11d., of which sum £215 6s. 0d. was expended in the purchase of Nottingham Corporation 3 per cent. Irredeemable Stock (a Trustee Stock), and there is therefore a small balance in hand of £15 4s. 11d. The amount invested forms the nucleus of an Endowment Fund; but as it is estimated that the cost of providing a Medal will amount to upwards of £24, and as it is to be given every third year, the annual income required will be about £8. To produce this, a sum of £300 will be needed, that is to say, about £100 in excess of the capital already raised.

It is hoped that this amount will be forthcoming during the next few months, so that on the presentation of the Medal in the Summer of 1900 it may be announced that the entire sum has been raised.

Contributions, which will be acknowledged in the Society's Journal, will be received by the Secretary, or the Chairman of the Committee of the Medal Fund.

A. N. WOLLASTON,

*Chairman of Committee.*

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY,  
22, ALBEMARLE STREET, LONDON.  
January, 1900.

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