In Italy the committee is headed by such well-known men as Professor Lombroso and Signori Enrico Ferri, Colojani, De Cristoforis, and Pellegrini (Deputies of the Italian Parliament), and Professor Sergi, of the University of Rome. Professor Bovio, the distinguished savant and patriot, whose lamented death occurred a few days ago, had accepted the position of honorary president of the Congress.

The recent successes of the Spanish Republican party have sent to the Cortès a number of deputies who have already joined the committee in that country. Among these may be mentioned Nicolas Salmeron, the former President of the Spanish Republic, Miguel Morayta, the Grand Master of the Spanish Freemasons, and Admiral Marenco (Deputy for Cadiz).

On the Belgian committee will be found the names of Professor Hector Denis and the following Deputies: M. Léon Furnémont, Paul Jansen, the leader of the Liberal party, and Georges Lorand. The office of the Federation is at 13, Rue du Moniteur, Brussels.

It may be noted that M. Furnémont is about to proceed to Berlin, Vienna, and Buda-Pesth, in order to form the German, Austrian, and Hungarian committees. Already in the various Republics of South America similar committees are being constituted.

The English committee will comprise representatives of all grades of Rationalist thought. Professor Henry Maudsley and the veteran George Jacob Holyoake will be the presidents d'honneur. The other names include those of Earl Russell, Lady Florence Dixie, Joseph McCabe, John M. Robertson, Edward Clodd, Sydney Gimson, F. J. Gould, Mrs. H. Bradlaugh-Bonner, Dr. G. B. Clark, E. Belfort Bax, J. F. Green, Charles Watts, G. W. Foote, Chapman Cohen, Victor Roger, and P. H. Thomas. Several of the above-named have intimated their intention of being present at the Congress. In the meantime the English committee will be placed in communication with the other national committees, and will co-operate with them in framing the programme of the Congress.

The secretary of the English committee, Mr. William Heaford, writes: "Let me assure the English reader that French, Belgian, Italian, and Spanish Freethought—so far as I know its literature and the men who write and speak for Freethought in those lands—is no mere anti-clerical cry of 'Down with the priest and up with the people,' but a conscious, intelligent movement, based on a wide survey of human history and of man's social and political needs, embodying a radically rationalistic view of life and duty—a movement accelerated by splendid enthusiasm and adorned by illustrious talent.

THE HIAWATHA LEGEND.

To the Editor of The Open Court:

I some time since received *The Open Court*, containing an article on Hiawatha and the Onondaga Indians, by Dr. Charles L. Henning. I published a summary of the Hiawatha legends in the *Journal of American Folk Lore* some years ago. Dr. Henning's version is much like that of La Fort's in the Thacher wampum case. Writers now distinctly bring down the date of the league to about 1600, the archæological proofs of which I have often pointed out.

Dr. Henning's Talla Lake should be Tully Lake, and there is no Tennessee street in Syracuse. La Fort's place for the council was at the corner of Warren and Genesee streets, in the midst of a former dense swamp.

But I am chiefly concerned with Hiawatha. In his League of the Iroquois, Morgan called him Ha-yo-went-hah, "The man who combs," Dr. Henning refers to my interpretation, or rather that of Albert Cusick, who has been my efficient helper for nearly thirty years, and who is a good linguist,—which Daniel La Fort was not. Mr. Cusick told me last week that he had no recollection of Dr. Henning or of any conversation with him, though he might have met him. He adheres to the interpretation given me, and thinks that if any name was mentioned it must have been Sa-go-ye-wat-ha, "He keeps them awake." This error might have occurred in a casual conversation, and the likeness and difference of the words at once appear. However that may be, he does not interpret Hiawatha as "the Awakener."

Two of the errors I have mentioned in Dr. Henning's paper are probably typographical, as are some others, and this may be notably the case with the Indian name and interpretation under Daniel La Fort's picture, neither being correct. In general the interpretations given will stand, but as a rule the Onondaga names of the clans do not contain the name of the animal which is the totem. Typographically it is a droll idea that Hiawatha should have followed Onondaga creek a long way south of Tully lake. Beyond that the waters flow south. Actually the Onondagas have always placed the origin of their clans elsewhere, and La Fort's story is a modern invention.

SYRACUSE, N. Y.

BOOK NOTICES.

The Republic of Plato is being translated anew by Alexander Kerr, Professor of Greek in the University of Wisconsin, and published in serial form by Charles H. Kerr & Co. (Chicago, 1903). The third instalment, Book III. of The Republic, which lies before us, is sufficient evidence of the translator's care and ability. Price of the fascicle, 15 cents.

Miss A. Christine Albers continues her literary activity in India. We are just in receipt of copies of two new booklets written by her, both short and both adapted for children. The titles are: The History of Buddhism and Selections from the Jatakas. They are pleasant reading, especially the latter, the selections having been made with taste and discretion.

Dr. William Lee Howard has attempted in his novel *The Pervert's* to portray the history of a dipsomaniac and his family. It is a sad story with a medical moral, slightly overdrawn in its coloring, and pressing some of its scientific hypotheses very far. But the endeavor of the author to diffuse the knowledge that dipsomania is a disease is a laudable one. (New York: G. W. Dillingham Co. Price, \$1.50.)

In pointing out the optimistic and pessimistic thoughts and tendencies in the Old and the New Testaments, Dr. Adolf Guttmacher has rendered a distinct service to students of Biblical literature. He has summarised the results of his researches, carried on with the assistance of his teacher Prof. Paul Haupt, of Johns Hopkins University, in a recently published work entitled: Optimism and Pessimism in the Old and New Testaments, and his conclusions bear out upon the whole the dictum of Schopenhauer that the spirit of the Old Testament is optimistic and that of the New pessimistic. (Baltimore, Md.: The Friedenwald Company. 1903. Pages, 255.)