

Singhalese by the Elder Śilakkhandho, and published at Colombo, 1902. It is interesting to the student of all things Hindû on account of some passages in it being in certain dialects which are mentioned in Buddhist literature and are akin to Pāli.

The publication of these books speaks well for the zeal and earnestness of these learned monks, the more so as we do not doubt that the enterprise involves a pecuniary sacrifice.

ALBERT J. EDMUNDS.

BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTES.

THE UDĀNA, OR THE SOLEMN UTTERANCES OF THE BUDDHA. Translated from the Pāli by *Major-General D. M. Strong, C. B.* London: Luzac & Co. 1902. Pages, viii, 128. Price, 6 shillings net.

The *Udāna*, or collection of utterances of Buddha, can now be had in English form. The work forms a part of the Khuddaka-Nikāya in the Pāli Tipitaka, and consists of a number of short rhythmic utterances "breathed forth" by Buddha when his heart was full of religious or moral reflections. The book also tells us when, where, and how Buddha came to utter those solemn stanzas. Like the *Dhammapāda*, it is a very short text. The translator, General D. M. Strong, gives in the Introduction a summary statement of Buddhist doctrines to help uninitiated readers to understand the text.

The following is a specimen of the "solemn utterances" of Buddha so vigorously translated by General Strong:

"To the giver merit is increased.
When the senses are controlled, anger arises not.
The Wise forsake evil.
By the destruction of desire, sin, and infatuation
A man attains to Nirvāna."

T. S.

THE FAITH OF AN AGNOSTIC; Or First Essays in Rationalism. By *George Forester.* London: Watts & Co. 1902. Pages, 278. Price, 5 shillings.

Taking as his motto the dedication prefixed by Daudet to his celebrated romance: "To my sons when they are twenty years old," Mr. Forester would fain dedicate these first essays on rationalism to his children "when they are old enough to think,—nay, to all children who are old enough to think." He thus extends his gift to children in thought as well as to children in years,—“to those grown children of whom there are so many in the world.”

After some thirty years of thought and half a century of life, the author finds he has "little faith left save that faith which 'lives in honest doubt.'" The guidance of his reason has brought him inexorably to the agnostic position, which position is not, he maintains, a merely negative position, but which is merely the ardent and profound conviction that thought and reason must be free, that inquiry must be fearless, and that all false teaching must be prejudicial to the best interests of mankind, which condemns all compromising with the truth.

Our readers are already well acquainted, from the numerous discussions which have been carried on in our columns, with the main tenets of the agnostic position, and we have only to say that these tenets have found in Mr. Forester an able and enthusiastic expounder. His is a book that can hardly be read by "children in years," to say the best of it, as it requires a knowledge of general literature and critical and scientific inquiry which can hardly be expected of one that has not

reached some maturity. We are also constrained to remark that much of the literature which Mr. Forester recommends, although of the orthodox agnostic order, and while in a few instances classical, might upon the whole have been supplemented with a list of more modern works and of works drawing their information from first, and not second-hand, sources.

GRUNDRISS EINER GESCHICHTE DER NATURWISSENSCHAFTEN, ZUGLEICH EINE EINFÜHRUNG IN DAS STUDIUM DER GRUNDLEGENDEN NATURWISSENSCHAFTLICHEN LITERATUR. Von Dr. Friedrich Dannemann. I. Band. Erläuterte Abschnitte aus den Werken hervorragender Naturforscher aller Völker und Zeiten. Zweite Auflage. Mit 57 Abbildungen, zum grössten Teil in Wiedergabe nach den Originalwerken, und einer Spektraltafel. Leipzig: Verlag von Wilhelm Engelmann. 1902. Pages, xiv, 422. Price, bound, 9 marks.

We are glad to announce the appearance of a second edition of Volume I. of Dr. Friedrich Dannemann's *History of the Natural and Physical Sciences*, of which we gave a full notice on its first appearance in the October 1896 number of *The Monist*. The work is written in German, and the present first volume contains model reading extracts from the famous inquirers of all ages, from Aristotle to Pasteur and Hertz. Here we may read in the simple and fresh language of men like Archimedes, Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler, Pascal, Newton, Kant, Cuvier, Darwin, and Helmholtz, the story of how the great edifice of science was erected stone by stone. The book is one that cannot be too warmly recommended to teachers of science, and will be especially valuable to English readers, not only on account of the rich material in it from German sources, but also for its German translations of the other foreign literature. The editor has added ten new chapters to the edition.

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Kacchayana's famous *Pāli Grammar* is now given to the public for the first time with an English translation. There are several Pāli grammars written by other eminent Indian pandits, but that of Kacchayana has firmly maintained its merit as the standard work on the subject. The present editor and translator, Professor Satis Chandra Vidyabhusana, of Calcutta, is an able scholar and has done much to recover old Sanskrit texts of Buddhism. The Pāli portion of the present work is printed in Devānāgarī characters and is supplied with copious notes. The English part reads easily and greatly assists the reader to a clear understanding of the original. The editor has added some lengthy introductory remarks on the history of Pāli and Sanskrit grammar. A comparative list of the Burmese, Siamese, and Singhalese alphabets, along with their English and Sanskrit equivalents, which is prefixed to this book, adds to its utility. Mr. Dharmapāla in his preface to the book appropriately states the necessity of studying the Pāli grammar in connection with the perusal of Buddhist literature. (Published by the Maha-Bodhi Society, Calcutta, India. 1901. Pages, xliii, 383. Price, Rs. 3.)

Records of the Past is a periodical published by the Records of the Past Exploration Society, at 215 Third St., S. E., Washington, D. C. The Rev. Henry Mason Baum, D. C. L., is the editor and Mr. Frederick Bennett Wright is the assistant editor and treasurer. The magazine is devoted to archæology in the best sense of the term, making a specialty of Hebrew, Assyriological, Egyptological, and kindred antiquities, but including in its scope also the folklore of our Indians and other primitive peoples. The current number contains an interesting article

on "The Ming Tombs," by Frederick Bennett Wright, another on "Excavations at Tell El-Hesy, the Site of the Ancient Lachish," also the correspondence between Abdi-Hiba, an ancient Egyptian vassal prince of Jerusalem, and the king of Egypt, which is an interesting letter throwing much light on the conditions in the Orient at the time before the founding of the Israelitic nation. Further, the number contains an explanation of "Ancient Relics of the Aborigines of the Hawaiian Islands," by Dr. Lorenzo Gordon Yates. The last article is a review of Cushing's "Zuni Folk Tales," by Dr. F. W. Hodge, with a very good portrait of the late Mr. Cushing. The price of the periodical is \$2.00 per year, or \$5.00 in advance for three years' subscription. Any one interested in Biblical archæology and folklore will find much valuable information in this new periodical.

Prof. Léo Errera, of the University of Brussels, has been publishing in the *Revue de l'Université de Bruxelles* a series of essays on *Philosophical Botany*. His conclusions regarding spontaneous generation are interesting. He believes that spontaneous generation is an inevitable postulate of biological science. Whatever failures there may have been in the past, the future is full of hope. "From the point of view of chemical synthesis," he says, "the question of spontaneous generation is not yet ripe; from the dynamical point of view we have probably not yet entered the region of labile equilibrium, but are still in the domain of metastability, where there is no prospect of attaining results. Nevertheless, if spontaneous generation has not yet been realised in our laboratories, there is nothing to prove that it will not be realised in the future." Brussels: H. Lamertin. 1900. Pages, 25.)

Dr. Isabel Maddison has compiled for the benefit of the Graduate Club at Bryn Mawr College a very useful *Handbook of British, Continental, and Canadian Universities*. This book defines the position of the different foreign universities in regard to the admission of women to their courses, and gives the particulars as to lectures, degrees, entrance requirements, etc., of these institutions. While the little volume is primarily intended for women, it will be just as valuable for men. The terms of admission of foreign students generally, the division of the year into terms, or semesters, the fees, the subjects of lectures, the degrees conferred, the names of the professors and officials, are the data given. (Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Penn. Price, post-paid, \$1.00.)

The subject of "The Psychology of Conjuring Deceptions" has been treated by Norman Triplett and printed by the *American Journal of Psychology* of Worcester, Mass. This same topic was interestingly treated some years ago in *The Open Court* (Vol. VII.), by Professor Dessoir, now of the University of Berlin. While Mr. Triplett's essay is necessarily of a somewhat technical character, his subject-matter is nevertheless so intrinsically interesting as to render his pamphlet easy reading for all. (Reprinted from the *American Journal of Psychology*, Vol. XI., July, 1900. Pages, 72.)

M. Alfred Jaulmes has written a brief and very readable sketch of the history of Satanism, sorcery, and superstition of the Middle Ages. The young and pious author has consulted the best modern authorities on general and mediæval history and sketched from the impressions which he has drawn from these works a picture of the demoniacal conditions which obtained in the Middle Ages. (Montauban: Imprimerie Typo-Lithographique J. Granié. 1900. Pages, 110.)

The University of Chicago Press has recently published a new text-book for the study of the French language, entitled *Cours Complète de Langue Française*. The author of the volume is Prof. Maxime Ingres of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures in the University of Chicago. Professor Ingres is an advocate of the theory that one must read and talk French in order to learn the language, and his book, therefore, is written entirely in French. His selections of exercises and readings are marked by much wisdom and taste, and the directions for study are practical to a degree. In his introductory remarks Professor Ingres pleads warmly for the study of the modern languages in preference to the ancient. As an instructor the author has won a wide reputation and he is meeting with eminent success not only in connection with his work in the University, but in connection with the Chicago branch of the Alliance Française as well. The book contains 314 pages and is designed for the use of individual students as well as a text-book for classes and academies, colleges and universities, and in private clubs. (Cloth, net, \$1.50; postpaid, \$1.62.)

A. C. McClurg & Co., of Chicago, have recently issued two attractive little volumes which will be of assistance to serious readers. The first consists of a series of selections made by Walter Lee Brown from the *Meditations of Marcus Aurelius Antoninus*, the noblest and wisest of emperors and one of the noblest and wisest of men. The wealth of ethical and philosophical thought in the *Meditations of Marcus Aurelius Antoninus* is little known to the public at large, and this little book, which may easily be carried in the pocket, will form for many a welcome vade-mecum. The other book mentioned consists of a selection of passages from the writings of ten famous authors, on the choice and use of books. These authors are: Helps, Carlyle, D'Israeli, Emerson, Schopenhauer, Ruskin, Hare, Morley, Lowell, and Harrison. Their counsel is well known, and it is good that it has now been made accessible in collective form. If the reading public would adopt the advice here given, our average culture would be of an entirely different type from what it now is.

As the head of Hull House Miss Jane Addams has, for a number of years, been well known to all persons who are interested in the work of institutions and societies for the bettering of social conditions in crowded foreign districts in our great cities. In her recent book on *Democracy and Social Ethics*, Miss Addams divides her work into six chapters, which are studies of various types and groups who are being impelled by the newer conception of democracy to an acceptance of social obligations involving in each instance a new line of conduct. No attempt is made to reach a conclusion nor to offer advice beyond the assumption that the cure for the ills of democracy is more democracy, but the quite unlooked-for result of the studies would seem to indicate that while the strain and perplexity of the studies is felt most keenly by the educated and self-conscious members of the community, the tentative and actual attempts at adjustment are largely coming through those who are simpler and less analytical. (New York: The Macmillan Co. 1902. Pages, 281. Price, \$1.25.)

Dorothy Vernon of Haddon Hall is the title of the last historical romance of Charles Major, the author of *When Knighthood was in Flower*. The illustrations are by Howard Chandler Christy and are of his usual excellence. (New York: The Macmillan Company.)

The latest issue of the series of French philosophical biographies entitled *Les grands philosophes*, published by Félix Alcan of Paris, is a *Life of Benoit Spinoza*, by Paul-Louis Couchoud. The author has sought to treat his subject after the manner of Taine; he claims that there is no exclusive action of one philosopher upon another, but that the philosophical environment is more largely determinative of his doctrines. He thus examines minutely the Rabbinical and Italianising environment of Amsterdam, the theological and Cartesian environment of Leyden, and the stoic and republican environment of the Hague, in all of which Spinoza lived and had his being. The author then takes up Spinoza's works in their chronological order; he studies the theory of substance in its formation and development, the influence of Descartes, the religious doctrines and political opinions of Spinoza, and finally gives a complete analysis of the *Ethics*. (Pages, xii, 305. Price, 5 francs.)

A treatise on *The Philosophy of Fichte* and his relations with contemporary knowledge reaches us from the pen of M. Xavier Léon, the talented editor of the *Revue de Métaphysique*. Since M. Léon's interests are broad and are intimately connected with the scientific spirit of the day, we may expect an adequate and conscientious treatment of Fichte's philosophy from his hand. Fichte played an important rôle not only in the philosophy but also in the political history of Germany, and interest in him is not entirely confined to metaphysics. While M. Léon's analysis of Fichte's metaphysical system is thoroughgoing, he has not omitted to emphasise the important secular features of his character. (Paris: Félix Alcan. 1902. Pages, xvii, 524. Price, 10 francs.)

The issue of *The Bibelot* for March is: *The Story of the Unknown Church and Lindenborg Pool*, by William Morris. That for April is the *Pervigilium Veneris*, or *Vigil of Venus*, a celebrated anonymous Latin poem written perhaps in the third century of our era. It was probably the product of a brief but brilliant celebration of the old pagan religion which found popular expression about the year 300 A. D., "just before the pantheon passed from the hearts of the people for ever." It is the last echo of a dying creed. The Latin text and four translations of it by Stanley (1651), Parnell (1720), Prowett (1843), and Hayward (1901) are given. (Price, each number, 5 cents.)

The attention of the student of metaphysical ethics may be directed to a work by Dr. Alfred Hodder entitled: *The Adversaries of the Sceptic, or The Specious Present. A New Inquiry Into Human Knowledge*. The work aims "at controverting certain current, or rather dominant, theories in regard to relations, judgment, reasoning, perception, and the unit of Ethics, and to substitute others in their stead." The author's criticisms, however, are not entirely destructive. He has also made the endeavor to present positive views. (London: Swan Sonnenschein & Co., Ltd. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1901. Pages, 339. Price, \$1.50.)

Lt.-Col. A. W. Smart, R. E., has translated into English from the French, M. Desdonits's *System of Kant*. The pamphlet appears in the Brahnavadin Series. (Madras, India. 1901. Price, 2 Rs.)