

BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTES.

IL PAPATO. Sua origine, sue lotte e vicende, suo avvenire. Studio storico-scientifico di *Baldassare Labanca*. Turin: Fratelli Bocca. 1905. Pp. xxviii, 514.

The author of this book which purports to be a historico-scientific study of *The Papacy, its Origin, its Struggles and Vicissitudes, and its Future*, is the professor of the history of Christianity at the University of Rome. Some-what more than a year ago, he published a book on *Jesus Christ in Contemporaneous Italian and Foreign Literature*, which was favorably received in Italy and is being translated into French and Spanish. The present work does not pretend to be a compendium of the history of the popes, for there are already enough of those, both valuable and worthless; nor has the author undertaken to write a thorough papal history on scientific lines, for the reason that too many necessary documents are impossible of access. But since it is not possible to write a long history of the popes, he proposes "to give a scientific history of the papacy, in the same way that Max Müller and Tiele wrote the history of religion, when not possessing all the material necessary for a scientific history of religions."

The first half of the book is devoted to the philological and historical study of the origin of the titles "pope," "bishop," and "pontiff," including the controversy on the subject of the papacy between the churches of the East and West, and the reasons why its influence has always been so much stronger in the West than in the East. The second half of the book has to do with the history of the papacy as divided into four periods, while the last chapter treats of prophecies for its future.

The Buddhistischer Verlag of Leipsic has issued together in one copy, the first two numbers of a new monthly called *Der Buddhist* which, as its name indicates, is devoted entirely to Buddhist literature. In the back, under the same cover, are added a few leaves containing news items in relation to Buddhist missions and propaganda, together with reviews of books of Buddhist trend. These leaves in the back of the magazine are entitled "Die Buddhistische Welt" and can be had separately.

The motto of *Der Buddhist* is the verse from the Dhammapada which may be thus rendered in English verse:

"Commit no wrong, but good deeds do,
And let thy heart be pure.
All Buddhas teach this doctrine true
Which will for aye endure."¹

In the editor's announcement the *raison d'être* of the new periodical is expressed as follows:

"*Der Buddhist* does not wish to deprive any one of his religious conviction; our heartfelt wish for all people is that they may be at peace with

¹ See *The Open Court*, Vol. XVIII, p. 625. "Three Buddhist Stanzas" done into English verse and set to music, by Paul Carus.

themselves, and we sincerely rejoice when we see that a man has found repose and comfort in his religious convictions. On the other hand we know very well that hundreds of thousands, yes many millions in Germany have withdrawn from the established religion; a very large percentage of these millions are yearning for some compensating faith; to these unbelieving hearts, estranged from God and yet thirsting for religion, our journal will offer the teaching of an undogmatic religion, and a rational world-conception."

This same Buddhist press of Leipsic has published a simple and attractive yearbook, called *Buddhistische Vergissmeinnicht*. The well-chosen collection of helpful quotations is made by Bruno Freydank. The little volume contains a detailed index, which is followed by a summary of Buddhist rules for the conduct of life.

K. B. Seidenstücker, the editor of *Der Buddhist*, has provided the German public with a German edition of a number of Buddhist works. One of these, from the English-Japanese original of S. Kuroda, *Mahayana, die Hauptlehren des nördlichen Buddhismus*, is a German translation of the *Outlines of the Mahayana as Taught by Buddha*. This book was originally written for the instruction of non-Buddhists at the Parliament of Religions in Chicago. *Das Licht des Buddha*, also by S. Kuroda, purports to be an impartial summary of the main points of the Buddhist doctrine, but it is in fact of the greater interest because of its Mahayana or north-Buddhist point of view. The others, *Dhamma, oder die Moralphilosophie des Buddha Gotama*, and *Sangha, oder der buddhistische Mönchs-Orden*, are translated portions of Professor H. Tilbe's *Pali-Buddhism*, and the editor's purpose is thus expressed in the Preface to *Dhamma*: "May this little book, which was originally intended to arm Christian missionaries in their battles against Buddhism, serve an almost contradictory purpose in this present translation: namely, to make known the teaching of Buddha Gotama in more or less Christian Germany."

Our frontispiece represents the Buddha preaching his farewell address to the *mallas*, the inhabitants of the district where he happened to be staying. It closes the series of scenes from Buddha's life made by Eduard Biedermann to illustrate *The Gospel of Buddha*, which have been furnishing the frontispiece to *The Open Court* from time to time. This series is to be included with a number of representations of typical, historical Buddhistic art products of both statuary and painting, in a *Portfolio of Buddhist Art* which The Open Court Publishing Company hopes to offer the public in a short time.