

"Professor Mills, who received a hearty ovation when he rose to respond, said he valued most highly the compliment they had paid him in asking him to be present at their domestic festival. He was particularly thankful for the kind allusions made about him by his friend Sir Mancherji, [the chairman of the evening].

"Professor Lawrence Mills, who was again very heartily received, in proposing the toast of the 'Parsi Community,' referred with sincere feelings to the love he bore to the Parsis and everything connected with them. He said that in proportion to their numbers the Parsis had produced more eminent men than any other community or race in the world. The Gathas contained the essence of Universal Religion in the purest form. Professor Mills then dwelt on their religious basis, and advised the members of the race to hold fast to the tenets of the Gathic religion. He expressed great pleasure in being asked to be the guest of the Parsis in England, and concluded by proposing the toast of the Parsi Community in all parts of the world."

THE PHILOSOPHER ADRIFT.

Lao-tze, the Grand Old Man of China, is most generally represented seated on an ox and accompanied by a small attendant as in our frontispiece. This tradition is based on the report of Sze-Ma-Ch'ien that at an advanced age Lao-tze left his native state Cho and departed from his home so that he might not be compelled to see the ruin of his country. No one knows where he died. It is a melancholy thought that the greatest sage of a country should feel obliged to seek a new abiding place after he has reached his eighties, and we can not help feeling sympathy with the suffering caused through the rottenness of political and social conditions which forced Lao-tze to seek his grave in strange lands among foreign barbarians.

NOTES.

Joseph Koehler, one of the leading authorities of the juridical faculty at the University of Vienna, who a few years ago received an honorary degree at the University of Chicago, has published a versified version of Lao-Tze's Tao Teh King. It is well known to those who know Professor Koehler that his interest is by no means limited to his specialty but that he studies with preference not only Oriental and Hebrew law, but also Indian and Chinese philosophy. Though the original is mostly written in prose and quotes verses only incidentally, Koehler's versified version is upon the whole very readable and reproduces very well the spirit of the original.

The University of the South at Sewanee, Tenn., the main center of Episcopalian scholarship in this country, has opened its buildings for a summer university extension session under the directorship of the Rev. William Norman Guthrie, and we will mention that the Editor of *The Open Court* gave a course of lectures there last year on comparative religion and has accepted another invitation to lecture on the religion of the German classical authors this summer, from July 19 to 23.

Perhaps the most effective means of reducing the frequency of war is brought about by the perfection of arms and the invention of more and more

formidable explosives. Even the most enthusiastic lovers of peace-at-any-price will find it hard to deny that Dr. Alfred Nobel accomplished more for the cause



DR. ALFRED BERNHARD NOBEL.

of peace by his invention of dynamite than he has done by distributing peace prizes.