

of King Charles II of Spain: in 1893, an exhaustive description of an Arab astrolabe, dated A.H. 609 (A.D. 1212-3) and made at Seville, in the scientific portion of which he was assisted by M. de Rey-Pailhade. In the following year the first volume appeared of his translation, enriched with numerous and valuable notes, of 'Abd al-Bāsiṭ's historical account of the pious foundations of Damascus. Both the last-mentioned works were reprints from the *Journal Asiatique*.

Sauvaire was Correspondent of the Institute, and took part at Paris last summer in the celebration of its centenary. So far back as 1865, he was appointed Knight of the Legion of Honour, and among his other well-earned distinctions was that of Commander in the Spanish order of Isabella the Catholic.

In a letter received by the writer in December last, Sauvaire mentioned that he was engaged in the final revision for the press of an account of the Judicial Astrology of the Arabs, extracted and translated from Ibn al-Kummi's *Madkhal* (or *Mudkhal*), a work which will without doubt add to the debt due to its author for his labours in the cause of Eastern research.

H. C. K.

IV. NOTES AND NEWS.

American Oriental Society.—This Society held its annual meeting in the middle of April last, and about thirty papers on various branches of Oriental inquiry were submitted for publication in its *Journal*. We are glad to learn that the financial position of the Society is satisfactory, and that a new issue of the *Journal* may shortly be expected. There is a good deal of first-class work in Oriental matters now being done by American scholars, who have so often received part of their training in Germany; and the prospect of help in our researches from the New World is full of promise.

Sanskrit at Yale.—Mr. Edward Washburn Hopkins, author of "The Religions of India" and "Ruling Castes in Ancient India," has been appointed Professor of Sanskrit in succession to Professor Whitney.

A Survey of Vernacular Languages.—Mr. G. A. Grierson, C.I.E., with the encouragement of the Government of India and the Royal Asiatic Society of Calcutta, has undertaken a work of considerable interest and importance in which Bombay is concerned—namely, a survey of the vernacular languages of Northern, Central, and Western India. This is intended to be preliminary to a fuller linguistic survey which may be arranged for later on if the preliminary survey be successful. The idea is, in the first place, to compile a catalogue of the name of every language and dialect spoken in India. It will surprise most people, we (*Bombay Gazette*) imagine, to hear that this is so little determined that some estimate the number at 150 and others at 250. The next thing will be to obtain specimens of each language or dialect in the shape of a translation of some one fable or other piece of English suitable for the purpose; and finally, there will be the classification of the languages according to their affinities and characteristics.—*Homeward Mail*.

Pāli and Sanskrit in Japan.—The Rev. Shaku Konen has returned from his journey to Ceylon, undertaken with a view of studying Buddhism there, and has opened a school at Kanagawa, in Japan, for the study by Japanese Buddhists of the Pāli documents of their religion.—Another Japanese, Mr. Tokuzawa Chiezo, is still studying Pāli at the Widyodaya College, in Colombo.—Mr. Sensei Murakami is lecturer on Indian Philosophy at the Tokyo University; and a Chair of Sanskrit has been recently established there, with Mr. Bunyiu Nanjio as Professor.

Study of Persian in London.—Dr. E. Denison Ross, M.R.A.S., has been appointed to the Chair of Persian at University College, London. This Chair was held for many years by Dr. Rieu, now Professor of Arabic in Cambridge, conjointly with the Chair of Arabic; but it has now been decided to separate the two Chairs.

Dr. Richard Morris.—The First Lord of the Treasury has granted pensions of £25 a year on the Civil List to each of the three unmarried daughters of this distinguished philologist, late member of Council of the R.A.S.

Wright's Arabic Grammar, 3rd Edition.—This new edition of the standard Arabic Grammar in English very modestly styles itself again "translated from the German of Caspari," although it has outgrown this till nearly twice the size of the original. We can confine ourselves to simply notifying the fact that the first volume has just appeared, whilst the second is in the press. Part of it was already prepared by the late Prof. Robertson Smith; the remainder went through the hands of Profs. de Goeje in Leyden and Bevan in Cambridge. For the numerous remarks bearing on common Semitic philology, references are made in the new edition to the author's "Lectures on the Comparative Grammar, etc.," edited, 1890, by the late Robertson Smith. The names mentioned as editors and coadjutor are sufficient guarantee for the excellence of this edition.

Indian Chronology.—The work on Indian Chronology, upon which Miss Duff has been so long engaged, is promised for publication before the end of the year. Modelled on Fynes Clinton's "Epitome of the Chronology of Greece and Rome," it aims at giving in tabular form all those dates relating to the civil and literary history of India, between the sixth century B.C. and the sixteenth century A.D., which have been established by the historical, archæological, and literary researches of recent years. As each date is accompanied by references to the sources from which it is derived, the book, besides giving a chronological register of events, will serve, at the same time, as an index to the bibliography of Indian Chronology generally; a fact which should make it useful to scholars engaged in this branch of research. An appendix of dynastic lists, arranged similarly to those in Prinsep's "Useful Tables," will be included in the work.

Indian and Oriental Armour.—The public are indebted to Lord Egerton of Tatton for a new edition of his most

interesting work on Indian and Oriental armour. The catalogue originally drawn up for the illustration of the arms at the India Museum has to a certain extent become useless by the transfer of the collection to South Kensington, and as yet neither the authorities at South Kensington nor at the British Museum have published a separate catalogue. As the "Handbook of Oriental Arms" alludes to both of those collections, its author deemed it advisable to bring out a new edition, and to add a chapter on Arab arms, with which our recent experiences in the Soudan have made us more fully acquainted. He also desired to describe his own collection, which contains some examples not found in either of our national collections, and which also exemplifies the great variety and richness of design in Oriental arms. Hence the present volume. It has been beautifully illustrated, some of the plates being in colours.

Graeco-Buddhist Sculptures.—As is well known, these sculptures, found in such large numbers in and about the district formerly included in the kingdom of Gandhāra, have only hitherto been dated conjecturally, on reasoning based on artistic grounds alone. Hofrath G. Bühler read a paper last month before the historical branch of the Vienna Academy on an inscription in Kharoṣṭhī characters found on one of the sculptures in the Lahore Museum, which he dates, on palæographical grounds, in the second century A.D. This confirms the conclusions reached, by Mr. V. A. Smith and Prof. Grünwedel, on artistic grounds. The inscription merely mentions that the statue was the gift of one Sanghamitra.

Oriental Translation Fund.—The next work to be published by the Oriental Translation Fund is Bāṇa's romance, *Kādambarī*, translated, with occasional abridgments, by Miss C. M. Ridding. A full abstract of the continuation by the author's son is added, with translations of some portions. This volume will appear in the autumn.