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Freiburg i. B., Juli 1896.

A. Thumb.

Mitteilungen.

The international Congress of Orientalists at Paris, September 5—12, 1897.

It is now a quarter of a century ago that the first International Congress of Orientalists was held; and the recent session at Paris, during the week September 5—12, was an anniversary meeting, as the present assembly was held in the city that gave it birth nearly a generation ago. The presiding officer, M. Charles Schefer, Administrateur de l'École des Langues Orientales Vivantes, in his inaugural address drew special attention to the fact that a

Frenchman, M. Léon de Rosny, of Paris, had been the most active promotor of the original plan for holding such conferences. In accordance with this design it has now become an established custom for scholars, travellers, diplomats, and others who are interested in the East, to come together at stated intervals, in order to interchange ideas or to discuss questions relating to the languages, thought, religion and life of the Orient past or present. No better evidence can be found of the wholesome growth of the spirit which is implied in such conventions, than in the present Congress, the Eleventh in the history of Oriental Congresses. No more convincing proof of the healthy development of Oriental studies is needed than may be seen in the brief summary which M. Schefer presented in his rapid glance over the progress of Eastern research during the last twenty-five years.

A congress Orientalists has now been held at least once in most of the chief capitals of Europe; and the names of the eleven presidents who have occupied the chair of office at the different gatherings are sufficiently representative and well-known enough not to require repetition here. The present assemblage was under the patronage of the President of the French Republic; and official representatives were delegated from most of the governments and the learned institutions of the Eastern and the Western World.

The formal opening of the Congress took place on the morning of Monday, Sept. 6th, when M. Rambaud, Minister of Public Instruction, welcomed the members in attendance and officially declared the proceedings of the Congress to have been begun. This general session was held in the great hall of the Lycée Louis le Grand; all the special sessions, however, were conducted within the walls of the Collège de France or of the Sorbonne. The membership on the list of the Congress was particularly large, numbering as many as 800 names; a goodly proportion of these were in regular attendance and took active part in the transactions, the ladies being fairly represented.

The seven sections into which the Congress was divided, together with the subdivisions, were constituted as follows:

I. Languages and Archaeology of Aryan Countries. (a) India: President, Lord Reay; Vice-Presidents, Hofrath G. Bühler, Professor R. Pischel and Professor H. Kern; Secretaries, Messrs. Formichi, Stickney and Grosset. — (b) Iran: President, H. Hübschmann; Vice-President, M. Essoff, of St. Petersburg; Secretaries Messrs. Mseriantz and Meillet. — (c) Linguistic: President, Angelo de Gubernatis, of Rome; Vice-Presidents, Professors Kretschmer and Oulianov; Secretaries, Messrs. M. Niedermann and N. Chilot.

II. Languages and Archaeology of the Far East. (a) China and Japan: President, His Excellency Tching Tchang, Envoy Extraordinary of the Emperor of China. — (b) Indo China, Malay and Polynesia: President, Professor H. Kern, of Leyden.

III. Mussulman Languages and Archaeology. President, Prof. de Goeje, of Leyden.

IV. Semitic. (a) Aramaic, Hebrew, Phoenician and Ethiopian: President, Prof. Ignazio Guidi, of Rome. — (b) Assyriology: Prof. C. P. Tiele, of Leyden.

V. Egypt and the African Languages. President, Prof. Edouard Naville, of Geneva.

VI. Greece and the Orient. President, M. D. Bikélas, of Paris.

VII. Ethnography and Eastern Folk Lore. President, Dr. H. Vambéry, of Budapest.

The Sections that were the more largely attended were the Indian section and the divisions of the Semitic sections. The Mussulman division and China and Japan were proportionately well represented.

The most important results, so far as general interest is concerned, may be gathered from the following items drawn from minutes of the daily transactions, or from the resolutions adopted in the combined sessions of the Congress.

In the first place, statutes were laid down for methods of procedure in conducting future congresses. Three years is to be the accepted interval between congresses, unless, for particular reasons on any occasion, a change in this interval be found advisable; in which case only two years need elapse, or the interval may be extended to four years, if more convenient.

Second, a special set of resolutions was drawn up to express thanks formally to the Government of India for the interest it had shown in preserving the monuments of Buddhist sculpture in the neighborhood of Swat and the adjacent region. Particular mention was here made of the helpful activity of Sir Charles Elliott and of Major H. A. Deane, of the India Service. An opportunity was also given for expressing the grateful acknowledgment of scholars for the encouragement and efficient help rendered by the Indian government in aiding the work of discovery relating to the birthplace of Buddha. In this matter the local government of Nepal had accorded great facilities in extending the archaeological researches made at Kapilavastu and at Lumbini. The government of Bengal had been instrumental in arranging for the establishment of an 'Asoka Gallery' in the Indian Museum.

An important step, which has a lively interest for Aryan scholars, was taken on the motion of M. Emil Senart, of Paris, toward establishing an 'India Exploration Fund' to carry on researches in India, similar to the Egypt Exploration Fund and the Palestine Exploration Fund. A special committee on this subject was appointed, consisting of Lord Reay, Sir Alfred Lyall, M. Emil Senart, and Professors G. Bühler, R. Pischel, Serge d'Odenburg, and Comte F. Pullé.

Several other resolutions were passed bearing especially upon work in Indian archaeology, which shows the amount of interest now taken in that field of research. The Congress also expressed the view that there is a distinct need for a publication of a critical edition of the sacred books of the Jains; an expression of a similar hope was renewed that a critical edition of the Talmud may be provided for. Furthermore, a projected publication under the title 'Monuments de l'Art Byzantin' received the commendation of the Congress as a work worthy of the liberal patronage which the French government accords to such undertakings.

Particularly interesting from the Mussulman side was the adoption of a detailed plan presented by Prof. J. Goldziher, of Budapest, for delegating a commission that shall undertake the preparation of a Mussulman Encyclopaedia, or Dictionary of Islam, a work that will be one of recognized value and importance. Of like character was the elaborate project brought forward by Prof. Adolf Erman, of Berlin, to publish a full dictionary of all words found in the hieroglyphic and hieratic writings of Egypt, a *Thesaurus Verborum Egyptiacorum*. This great enterprise has already recei-

ved in a substantial way the sanction of the German government; and the commission in charge of directing the work will be composed of the Academies of Berlin, Göttingen, Leipzig, and Munich. From the scale on which the Thesaurus is laid out, it is estimated that nearly twenty years will be required for its completion, and that we can not look for the conclusion of the work before the year 1913.

There is not space here for a detailed account of the scientific communications which were made in the various sections or for the papers which were presented. The Indian section, for example, was opened by an essay in which Prof. H. Oldenberg, of Kiel, showed how brilliantly the French critic Taine had presented to the public the essential features of Buddhism. in an article published years ago, which Dr. Oldenberg proceeded further to criticise. In the Iranian division, Prof Jules Oppert discussed the Ancient Persian calendar of King Darius, which he believed must have originated more than a thousand years before the Christian era. In the linguistic department, the French philologist M. Bréal proposed a new explanation of the Greek adjective *κοφός*, the original meaning of which seemed to be 'doux'. The section devoted to Greece and the Orient listened to a contribution from Franz Cumont on the early worship of the Persian god Ormazd in Asia Minor, especially in Cappadocia. But this is merely mentioning communications at random, which is idle; reference must be reserved for printed translations when they are published under the editorial care of M. Leroux, the Treasurer of the Congress. It may be of interest, however, simply to give a list here of those communications that were made in the Aryan and Linguistic sections, but there is no place for commenting on their contents:

(a) India.

- H. Baynes. — La conception de la *Voie* ou du *Chemin* dans le mysticisme oriental.
 C. Bendall. — Notes sur le Śikṣāsamuccaya.
 C. Bendall. — Présentation du premier fascicule de la série; Śikṣāsamuccaya, fasc. I, edited by C. Bendall.
 C. Bendall. — Quelques mots sur la nouvelle série publiée par l'Académie Impériale de Saint-Petersbourg. *Bibliotheca Buddhica*.
 Francesco Cimmino. — Le théâtre indien en Europe.
 Robert N. Cust. — The new Religious Conceptions which have come into existence in all parts of the World since Anno Domini.
 Prof. Rhys Davids. — On the Culture of the Will in Buddhism.
 Rhys Davids. — Persecutions of Buddhists in India.
 Rhys Davids. — The Pali text society.
 Rhys Davids. — On Divyāradana, p. 20 and the Bhatra edict of Asoka.
 Dr. Paul Deussen. — Quelques remarques sur la chronologie des Upanishad.
 L. Feer. — Les Jatakas dans les Mémoires de Hiouen-Thsang.
 Flaridās Cāstri. — Survivances du bouddhisme au Bengale.
 Dr. Carlo Formichi. — Le dieu Brihaspati dans le Rigveda.
 Foucher. — Itinéraire de Hiouen-Thsang dans le Gandhāra.
 Henri Froidevaux. — Note sur la première carte française d'une ancienne loge de la côte occidentale de l'Inde.
 Dr. Wilh. Geiger. — Die Wāddas in Ceylon und deren Sprache.

- le comte Angelo de Gubernatis. — Le dieu Brahma et la déesse Sāvitrī.
- J. Halévy. — Le principal obstacle à l'ancienne propagande bouddhiste dans l'Occident.
- Hardy. — La légende de Khujjuttarā et de Sāmavatti dans le Manorattha-Purāṇi de Buddhaghosa.
- Miss Hughes. — On Kapilavastu.
- A. V. Williams Jackson. — Note on two Mahābhārata Passages and their Parallels in the Avesta.
- J. Kirste. — L'inversement dans la direction des écritures.
- Lavallée-Poussin. — Une pratique des Tantras.
- Sylvain Lévi. — La relation de voyage de Wang-hin-tse et l'inscription de Mahāman.
- Lüders. — Le roi Nami.
- M. Macanliffe. — On the Sacred Writings of the Sikhs.
- A. A. Macdonell. — A Vedic question.
- Maheçacandra Nyāijaratna. — La théorie de la connaissance dans les systèmes hindous.
- P. C. Mookherjee. — Excavations à Pāṭaliputra. Le Çilpaçāstra.
- G. F. Oldham. — Notes on the ancient Indian Legend of the Churning of the Ocean, by the Devas and Asuras.
- G. Oppert. — Sur les Bharatas.
- Francesco Pullé. — Tradizioni indiane, spec. *G'ainiche*, dell'altretomba comparate con quelli d'occidente, spec. dantesche.
- Francesco Pullé. — Sopra una carta antica dell' India.
- Francesco Pullé. — Présentation de son premier volume des *Studi italiani di filologia indo-iranica*.
- Lord Reay. — Deux Mémoires.
- Paul Regnaud. — Communication sur divers points d'exégèse védique.
- R. F. St. Andrew St. John. — The Position of Takkola.
- Sénard. — Sur le manuscrit Dutreuil de Rhins.
- Robert Sewell. — Some Points in the Archaeology of Southern India.
- Speyer. — Le jeu de dés dans l'Inde ancienne.
- G. R. Subramiah. — Augustine Age of Telugu Literature.
- Syām Sūnder Dās. The Hindi Literature.
- Baron Textor de Ravisì. — *Inscription murale de la pagode de Oodeypore* (sur la Nerbudda, dans le Malwa oriental); d'après les traductions contradictoires du brahme Kamala-Kanta, interprète de la Société Asiatique de Calcutta, et du R. P. Burthey de la Compagnie de Jésus, missionnaire.
- Baron Textor de Ravisì. — Souvenirs d'un ancien administrateur de l'Inde française (Karikal, 1552—1863).
- Dr. L. A. Waddell. — The newly excavated Graeco-Buddhistic Sculptures from the Swāt Valley (Udyāna).
- M. Winternitz. — On the Mahābhārata Manuscripts in the Whish Collection of the Royal Asiatic Society.

(b) Iran.

- E. Blochet. — Le texte Zend du Vaētha.
- Casartelli. — Note on a Pehlvi inscription of the Dublin science and art Museum.
- Ed. Drouin. — Contribution à l'histoire de l'Épigraphie sassanide.
- Mgr. C. de Harlez. — L'inscription pehlevie de la croix de Saint-Tomé.
- Cl. Huart. — Le dialecte de Chirāz dans Sa'di.

P. Gregoris Dr. Kalemkiar. — Die vision Enochs.
Oppert. — Calendrier des anciens Perses.

(c) Linguistic.

- L. Benlów. — Observations sur une carte manuscrite de l'Asie Mineure, dressée par H. Kiepert, prof. à l'Université de Berlin.
Paul Boyer. — Sur l'accentuation des participes en russe.
Michel Bréal. — L'adjectif grec κοφός.
Michel Bréal. — Nouvelles observations sur la Table de Bantia.
Luigi Ceci. — Sur le Messapien.
R. H. Codrington, D. D. — The Language of a savage People as shewn by a dictionary.
L. Duvau. — Syntaxe comparée.
P. G. Goidanich. — Une communication sur la phonologie litu-slave.
Samuel Kamori. — Études de philologie comparée.
A. Meillet. — Dérivation arménienne.
Mseriantz. — Notice sur le dialecte de Mouch.
Paul Regnaud. — Communication sur l'origine de quelques suffixes germaniques.

The social side of the Congress, which gives opportunities for making acquaintances, for holding informal talks, or for discussion of individual topics, was marked by the graceful charm of French hospitality. The members were formally entertained at the Ministry of Public Instruction; at Prince Roland Bonaparte's palatial residence; at the Hôtel de Ville; and there was a closing banquet at the Hotel Continental. There were numerous private invitations besides; and those delegates who came as official representatives of foreign governments were received by President Faure at the Elysée. Several occasions were given to visit places of interest or to inspect and examine notable collections of interest to Orientalists; a special afternoon was thus assigned for the Musée Guimet with its ceramic collections and its exhibition of material illustrative of the art, history, religion and life of the East. Professors Maspero and Cordier, as secretaries, had general charge of the affairs of the Congress. This international convocation adjourned on Sept. 12, to meet in the year 1900 in Italy, and Rome will probably be the place of assembling.

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A. V. Williams Jackson.

Die indogermanische Sektion auf der vierundzwanzigsten Versammlung deutscher Philologen und Schulmänner zu Dresden.

29. September — 2. Oktober 1897.

Nachdem die idg. Sektion auf den Versammlungen von München, Wien und Köln den vollgültigen Beweis ihrer Existenzberechtigung und Existenzbefähigung erbracht hatte, konnte sie in Dresden zum erstenmal als eine den älteren Sektionen völlig ebenbürtige Institution auftreten, die gleich jenen zum eisernen Bestand