NOTICES OF BOOKS.

HISTORIA DOS PORTUGUESES NO MALABAR, POR ZINADÍM.
 Manuscripto Arabe do Seculo XVI, publicado e traduzido
 por DAVID LOPES, S.S.G.L. pp. ciii, 96, 134. (Lisboa :
 Imprensa Nacional, 1898.)

In 1833 there was published, as one of the volumes printed for the Oriental Translation Fund, the "Tohfut-ul-Mujahideen, an Historical work in the Arabic Language. Translated into English by Lieut. M. J. Rowlandson, Cor. M.R.A.S., Persian Interpreter to the Head-quarters of the Army, Fort St. George." The work of which this is a translation is by Zain-ud Dīn, a writer who lived during the reign of Ali Adil Shāh, the fifth sovereign of the Adil Shāhī dynasty at Bijāpur, and gives a history of Malabar, especially during the Portuguese period down to 1586. The importance and accuracy of this work have been recognized by all writers on Indian history; and Rowlandson's translation has been often quoted. Unfortunately, however, his translation is in many places inaccurate, and his rendering of proper names is often erroneous. The late Sir Henry Yule, in the List of Books prefixed to his *Hobson-Jobson*, inserts after the title of Rowlandson's work the remark, "Very badly edited"; and after a quotation from it, s.v. 'Capucat,' he adds: "The want of editing in this last book is deplorable." A new translation properly edited was therefore a great desideratum; and such has now appeared in Lisbon, in connection with the fourth centenary of the discovery of India by Vasco da Gama. Mr. David Lopes, the translator and editor, has collated four MSS.

for this edition, one being in the British Museum Library, a second in that of the Royal Asiatic Society, and the other two in the India Office Library. He prints the Arabic text, so that scholars may judge for themselves of the accuracy of his translation. To the latter he has appended numerous elucidatory footnotes, showing where the writer agrees with (or, rarely, differs from) the Portuguese historians. In a scholarly introduction Mr. Lopes gives a rapid survey of the commerce of India down to the sixteenth century, a succinct history of Malabar, a historical sketch of the St. Thomas Christians, and another of the Jews of Cochin, a brief chapter on the Portuguese dominion as referred to by Oriental writers, and, finally, one on Zain-ud Din and his work. In an appendix are given translations of passages from various Indian writers bearing on the subject of the work. There is a good index; and the value of the book is enhanced by four maps reproduced from Drs. Bittner and Tomaschek's *Die topographischen Capitel des indischen Seespiegels Mohit* (Vienna, 1897). Our only regret is, that, being in Portuguese, Mr. Lopes's work will be read by so few English scholars.

DONALD FERGUSON.

MITTHEILUNGEN DES SEMINARS FÜR ORIENTALISCHE SPRACHEN
an der K. F. W. Universität zu Berlin. Herausgegeben
von Director, Geh. Reg. Rath. Professor Dr. SACHAU.
3 vols. (Berlin : Spehmann, 1898.)

Our distinguished Honorary Member, Geheimrath Dr. Sachau, has with these volumes commenced a series of publications which will add new lustre to the famous school of Oriental learning over which he so efficiently presides. As a sort of preface we have an account of the work of the School in 1897 and 1898. In the latter year there were seventeen professors and seven lecturers, who gave instruction in thirteen languages, and in four special subjects—hygiene, agriculture, geography, and the method for travellers of taking scientific observations. These