settled in Greece, introducing the Greek tongue. But we cannot postulate that these invaders practised cremation *alone* either when they entered Greece or after they settled there. Moreover, Professor Ridgeway seems to have overlooked the date of the Vedic evidence for cremation when he insists that the Hindus derived the practice from Central Europe.¹ The evidence of the *R̥gveda* cannot reasonably be regarded as later than 1200 B.C., and may well be centuries older, and the evidence for cremation in Central Europe so early is very feeble.

A. BERRIEDALE KEITH.

THE PARAMARTHA-SĀRA

Mr. Sovani's arguments may be briefly answered. We have (1) Abhinava-gupta's Paramārtha-sāra, a poem in 105 *āryā* verses, which modestly claims to be an abridgment of an older work styled "Ādhāra-kārikāḥ" and purporting to have been delivered by the serpent-king Śeṣa to an inquirer; and secondly (2) a work that has been published in four editions, viz., by Bāla Śāstri in the *Pandit*, by Kēvaldīn at the Navalkiśor Press, by the compiler of the Śabda-kalpa-druma, and by Paṭṭisapu

accepts. Probably Greeks were in Greece proper for some generations or possibly centuries earlier; Hall, *Oldest Civilisation of Greece*, went perhaps too far in ascribing to them a large influence on the Minoan culture. Burrows, pp. 146, 194, shows the evidence against the Indo-European character of the language of the Mediterranean race as derived from traces of it in Egyptian, in Welsh, and Irish as compared with Berber and Egyptian. See also Kretschmer, *Gesch. d. griech. Sprache*, and Fick, *Vorgriechische Ortsnamen und Hattiden und Danubier in Griechenland*. Conway's view (BSA. viii, 125 seqq.; x, 115 seqq.) that this language is Āryan is based on a series of improbable suppositions, and is rightly rejected by Burrows (pp. 151 seqq.) and Murray.

¹ See i, 495, 500, 503, 506, 548. He regards the Hindus as making their way into India before the beginning of the iron age, 1400 B.C., and "How much earlier who can say?" But there is no conclusive evidence to prove that the Indians came from Central Europe (the pros and cons are too evenly balanced to render any opinion useful), and there is certainly none as to the date of the beginning of the iron age there or elsewhere in Europe at 1400 B.C.

Vēṅkaṭeśvaruḍu in Madras. The latter work as presented in these four editions contains respectively 86, 89, 79, and 79 stanzas. My view, as expressed in the JRAS. of 1910, p. 708, is that the latter is mainly borrowed from Abhinava-gupta's P°, and dressed up so as to wear the aspect of orthodox Vaiṣṇava monism, though possibly it may have been based upon the lost original of Abhinava-gupta's poem. Mr. Sovani, on the contrary, has discovered that this precious tract, which in its various recensions contains, as I have said, between 79 and 89 verses, is the original Ādhāra-kārikāḥ of which Abhinava-gupta's P° (containing 105 stanzas) is an *abridgment*. On this discovery comment is superfluous. I content myself with remarking that Mr. Sovani's arguments prove precisely nothing. The commentator on the Prabōdha-candrōdaya is late (sixteenth century); the Prabōdha-sudhākara throws no light whatever on the subject; and his further observations on Patañjali are quite irrelevant.

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GINGER

On p. 169 of this Journal for 1905, Dr. Thomas expressed doubts as to the derivation of the Sanskrit word *śṛṅgavēra* = Greek *ζυγγίβερης* = German *Ingwer* = English "ginger". I think it is quite evident that the second half of it, *vēra*, goes back to the well-known Dravidian word *vēr* (Kanarese *bēr*), "a root." This derivation was first suggested by Dr. Gundert in ZDMG., vol. xxiii, p. 518, and in his Malayālam dictionary, s.v. *iṅgi*, where **chiñji-vēr* is assumed to be the original Dravidian form of the word. This reference seems to be the source of Dr. Burnell's statements in the *Indian Antiquary*, vol. i, p. 352, and *Hobson-Jobson*, p. 286.

Professor Zachariae draws my attention to the fact that the Dravidian origin of the word *vēra* as second member of Sanskrit compounds seems to have been known to