

4. PTOLEMY'S GEOGRAPHY.

*Florence.**April 25th, 1903.*

DEAR PROFESSOR RHYS DAVIDS,—I see that we are going to publish Colonel Gerini's Researches on Ptolemy's Geography. The set of maps to illustrate that work, which were made *circa* 1552-78 by Ignazio Danti, still exist in the Guardaroba of the Palazzo Vecchio, Florence. Vasari states that the maps are Ptolemy's brought up to date. There are fifty-three of them, and three relate to India. Palibothra, Gaur, Bengala, Rhotasgarh, Satgaon, etc., are marked on them, and they appear to be of interest as being nearly a century earlier than those of Bleau. On one of the maps of India is the date 1575. Danti belonged to Perugia, and was a brother of the sculptor Vincenzo. He executed the maps for Cosimo, the first Grand Duke. The maps are large (Vasari says two braccia high), and are painted on walnut-wood on the panels of the wardrobe. Vasari, I believe, describes them in his book about painters, etc., published at Florence in 1568, p. 877, but I only know his account from a quotation in a book by Leonardo Ximenes on the ancient and modern Florentine gnomon (Florence, 1757, p. xliii). It seems to me that Danti's maps must be about the earliest that we have of Bengal, though of course there must be earlier Portuguese ones. There surely must be somewhere a monograph on Danti's work. Tiraboschi, I believe, has a notice of him, and he is also in the *Biographie Universelle*.—Yours sincerely,

H. BEVERIDGE.

5. "THE FAR EAST."

*Send Lodge.**May 4th, 1903.*

DEAR PROFESSOR RHYS DAVIDS,—I am very glad to see that it is proposed to bring out a periodical specially devoted to the consideration of matters of Far Eastern inquiry.